

**SUBJECT: REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** April 3, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Town Hall Community Room

**PRESENT:** Mayor Krampitz, Councilman Zagurski, Councilwoman Murawski, Councilman Goodwin, Councilwoman Scoville, Councilman Sekorski.

1. Call Meeting to Order – Mayor Krampitz called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Krampitz led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of the March 6, 2007 Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes – MOTION: Councilwoman Murawski moved to approve the March 6, 2007 minutes. SECOND: Councilwoman Scoville. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
4. Liaison Reports – Councilman Sekorski reported that Inland/Wetlands enforcements issues have gone down since the last report from 9 to 3. The first draft of the regulations has been completed and the second draft will be reviewed at their next meeting. Planning and Zoning had three new items and had several special permits. The WPCA was requested by the BOF to fund a new position in the tax office and the WPCA voted to fund one-third of that position. Councilwoman Scoville had no report. Councilman Goodwin reported that the Human Services Commission is working on their Easter basket program for under-privileged children in the community. They are also planning for family night for June 6 th. Parks and Recreation discussed the search process for finding a new director and they have gotten a proposal for a new bocce and horseshoe court located at Lake Winfield . EDC approved Uniprise Company's expansion of 7,200 sq. ft. and are looking at new ways to market Phase III . The Retirement and Pension Oversight Board has been looking at the plan with ING . One thing that came out was in March of 2005, the Mayor at the time lifted the cap on the pension for the highway union and the town's share went up and it was stated that it could cost the town millions of dollars. Councilwoman Murawski reported that the Police Commission did not meet but did submit their budget to the BOF and that budget included two new police officers. The BOE approved their budget with a 5.8% increase and presented it to the BOF which has not cut it back so far but will be discussing it next Monday. The Housing Authority is still looking at two-way radios and a new computer. Councilman Zagurski reported that the new school construction is 63% complete. The Public Works department has been patching holes, replacing stolen stop signs, cutting and chipping brush, picking up broken curbing around town, installing new signs and has been sweeping streets by the churches. The public works director is still conducting mechanic interviews and has been involved with the Canal St. project. He also coordinated the 262 Main St. demolition, received catch basin cleaning and sweeping bids, presented the budget to the BOF and received a proposal for the transfer station trailer.
5. Council Rules and Procedures – MOTION: Councilman Zagurski moved that under Section 4 add item (g) Any Council member wishing to add an item to the Town Council meeting agenda shall send a written request, letter or email, to the Mayor's Office at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. The request shall be put on the agenda. Agenda items can still be added the night of the Council meeting by a 2/3 vote of the Council. SECOND: Councilwoman Scoville. MOTION: Councilman moved to amend the motion that if an item is under negotiations that it not be added to the agenda if it regards

personnel, union matters or negotiations that would put the town in jeopardy. SECOND: Councilwoman Murawski. A discussion took place concerning what should be part of public discussion at meetings. MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to move the question. SECOND: Councilman Zagurski. Mayor Krampitz explained that if this motion passed, all discussion on the amendment would end. Councilman Zagurski – no, Councilwoman Murawski – no, Councilman Goodwin – yes, Councilwoman Scoville – yes, Councilman Sekorski – yes. MOTION PASSED. Mayor Krampitz called for a vote on the amendment. Councilman Zagurski – no, Councilwoman Murawski – yes, Councilman Goodwin – yes, Councilwoman Scoville – no, Councilman Sekorski – no. MOTION FAILED. Mayor Krampitz stated that discussion could now be held concerning the main motion. Councilman Sekorski wanted clarification on the main motion vote to add to Council Rules and Procedures. Did this need a simple majority or a super majority and the Mayor told him a simple majority. A discussion took place concerning the Mayor's authority and the Town Council's ability to discuss issues. MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to move the question. SECOND: Councilman Sekorski. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Mayor Krampitz called for a vote on the main motion. Councilman Sekorski – yes, Councilwoman Scoville – yes, Councilman Goodwin – no, Councilwoman Murawski – no, Councilman Zagurski – yes. MOTION PASSED.

6. Resignations and Appointments – MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to reappoint Jeanette Davey to the Parks & Recreation Commission with a term to expire November 5, 2009 . SECOND: Councilwoman Murawski. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to reappoint Raymond A. Pelletier to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term to expire February 19, 2009 . SECOND: Councilwoman Murawski. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Mayor's Report - Mayor Krampitz read a proclamation for The Week of the Young Child and presented it to Peggy Wunsch on behalf of the Plymouth Early Childhood Council. Mayor Krampitz then reported:

- The Municipal Facilities Committee still needed two more names before that committee is appointed.
- Mayor Krampitz stated that the town received good news from an application that we filed with the Connecticut Rural Development Council and Plymouth is one of two towns selected to participate in a Community Assessment Program. This will help with the Municipal Facilities Committee.
- The Mayor reported that the amnesty disposal at the Transfer Station begins on Saturday, April 23 and will end May 5. There will not be any charge for residents to bring bulk items such as appliances, tires, couches, mattresses, and box springs to the transfer station.
- The Brush and Leaf Facility will open Saturday April 14 at 7 a.m. That facility's hours will be Saturdays 7 – 1 and Wednesdays 7 – 2:30.
- Town Hall and the Transfer Station will be closed on Good Friday. The Transfer Station will be open on Saturday April 7.
- Mayor Krampitz said that the Board of Finance continues to work on the next budget. She encouraged all residents to attend those meetings so they could

become fully informed on the process.

- There was an interim monitoring meeting by the Dept. of Econ. And Community Development last week and the Mayor stated that the town met all requirements. If residents still want to apply for funds from the Small Cities Grant they can do so by picking up an application from the Mayor's office.
- We have received a letter from our electrical contractor Mafco Electrical Contractors. This letter publicly thanks the Town, BOE, School Building Committee, Design Team and Industrial Construction Company for professionalism, short turn-around for payments, and consideration on the project.
- The Mayor stated that on January 8 the labor unions agreed to meet to arbitrate over the medical insurance issue. But all agreed-upon dates for arbitration with our seven unions were canceled by the unions: February 26, March 6, 7 and 14. They have not offered any medical insurance plan or proposed contract for the Town to consider. The unions have once again refused to meet and have chosen to negotiate thru our local media. Anyone who cancels scheduled union negotiation meetings and all for binding arbitration dates clearly indicates a lack of wanting to negotiate in good faith.
- Mayor Krampitz appointed Steve Mindera to the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency's Transportation Committee. He attended last week's meeting where Rt. 6 & 72 and North Main Street/Agney Avenue projects were highly ranked by staff. The next step is to bring those recommendations to DOT.
- The structure at 262 Main Street has been demolished and finishing work is still on-going.
- The Mayor attended the new voting machine demonstration by the Secretary of State's office in Harwinton. Our new voting machines have arrived and their future use is being discussed by our registrars.
- The Mayor attended the Manufacturers' Expo on March 14 where our local manufacturers displayed their products.
- Mayor Krampitz attended the Fire Department's annual awards dinner on March 23.
- The Mayor attended the Academic Quiz Bowl held at Bristol Eastern High School . The following Terryville High Students represented us well: Poetry: Anna Plotnikova, and Stephanie Batters who took first place. Public Speaking: Zakary Ewen. Music: Eric Dolecki and the panel of Quiz Bowl Team: Michael Malloy, Michael Budnik, Rebecca Wilcox, and Sean Begin. It was a very enjoyable afternoon and will be on cable.
- The Town has taken several different approaches to try to solve the numerous issues with a few residents on Ridge Road including a visit by myself and Chief Karen Krasicky. The Police Department has been actively involved with many officers investigating complaints and meeting with the same few residents numerous times. I want to thank Police Chief Krasicky, Officers Betancourt, Griffin , Ferguson , D'Angelo, Rogozinski, Reney, Biernacki and St. Onge, and Sgt. Luba, Captain Lausier, and ZEO Ron Mormile for their assistance. The residents have refused mediation and one in particular has sent erratic emails and left harassing voice mails when our office is closed. These few people have taken each other to court and have not been able to peacefully coexist. The Town of

Plymouth cannot solve all problems for all people. Unfortunately, these people have civil matters against each other and must deal with these issues themselves.

Our Board of Finance has met twice a week since February to give the townspeople a budget to vote on for the next fiscal year (starting July 2007 – June 2008). They heard a presentation last night by our insurance broker CBC about our medical insurance costs and plans and they did set the Annual Budget Town Hearing for Monday, April 30 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at Town Hall.

8. Take action to refund property taxes to: Ryan or Krista Wagner \$169.62; Robert A. Fortunato \$75.79; James E. Dedeko \$16.60 – MOTION: Councilman Goodwin moved to refund property taxes to those as presented. SECOND: Councilwoman Scoville. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
9. Take action to set Joint Meeting immediately following the Public Hearing on the Budget and schedule FY 2007-08 Budget referenda – MOTION: Councilwoman Murawski moved to schedule the Joint Meeting of the Town Council, Board of Finance, and Board of Education on Monday, April 30, 2007 in the Community Room following the 7:00 p.m. Annual Public Hearing for FY 2007 – 2008 Budget. SECOND: Councilman Goodwin. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MOTION: Councilwoman Murawski moved to schedule a referendum to vote on the FY 2007 – 2008 Budget on Wednesday, May 9, 2007 from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Town Hall Community Room. SECOND: Councilman Goodwin. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to schedule a second referendum if needed to vote on the FY 2007 – 2008 Budget on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Town Hall Community Room. SECOND: Councilwoman Murawski. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
10. Discuss the creation of a skateboard park – Mayor Krampitz recognized Officer Kevin Sulek and asked him to give an update and answer questions. The Mayor also informed the Town Council that some funding could come from a Neighborhood Assistance Program. Officer Sulek reviewed the work that a committee did back in 2001 and indicated that land behind town hall could be used for the skateboard park. He stated that many area towns have them and that it was a good way to get the kids in one place to do these activities instead of all over town. Officer Sulek finished his history of the project and then took questions. Councilwoman Scoville asked about a grant that the committee had at one time. Officer Sulek said that they had a \$10,000 grant but the state did not give it to them once the project died. Councilman Goodwin asked about supervision and lights. Officer Sulek said lights would be part of the project and the supervision would be tied into the community service time that is required of high school students and there would be hours of operation. Councilwoman Murawski thanked Officer Sulek for his efforts and asked what it was that stopped this project back in 2001/2002. Officer Sulek said that the major roadblock was that unfortunately the Parks and Recreation Director did not want to take it under her wing and be responsible for it. Councilman Goodwin asked about the cost of the park. He was told that the estimated cost in 2001 was \$100,000 and it might be double now. Mayor Krampitz said that funding for this project can be accomplished by donations and grant applications. Sue Sheehan, 107 Fall Mt. Lake Rd. – said that the people who complain about the kids skateboarding in town should donate to the cause.

Her children go out of town to use skate parks and focus on their skills so she supports the parks because it will keep kids out of trouble. Nick Arroyo, Robin St. – stated that THS students can donate to something they believe in. The Mayor thanked everyone for coming to support the skate park.

11. Take action to re-adopt Fair Housing Resolution and Policy Statement – Mayor Krampitz stated that this resolution is required yearly in order to support our Small Cities Program and/or future application requests. The Mayor also indicated that the Policy Statement would not need Council action. Mayor Krampitz read the resolution aloud: WHEREAS, All American citizens are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

WHEREAS, State and Federal Fair Housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, age, mental or physical disability, lawful source of income, sexual orientation, familial status, be given equal access to rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Plymouth is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Plymouth hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to endure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase and obtain financing for adequate housing of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, of the Town of Plymouth or his/her designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practice in the Town of Plymouth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to sign, execute and/or endorse those policy statements and documents necessary to reaffirm the Town of Plymouth's commitment to Fair Housing, including a Fair Housing Policy Statement and Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Jan A. Krampitz, Mayor of Plymouth, do hereby set my hand and cause the Seal of the Town of Plymouth to be affixed this third day of April 2007. MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved that the Fair Housing Resolution be adopted as read. SECOND: Councilman Goodwin. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. Discuss and take action to amend the charge of the Capital Improvements Committee – Mayor Krampitz explained that in discussions with the BOF that all the requests that they have had over the years and with the reactivation of the CIC, it was determined that adding “worth at least \$5000” would help to prioritize the needs by various departments.

The Mayor stated that the charge was submitted with the proposed change. MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to amend the Charge of the Capital Improvements Committee by adding the words “worth at least \$5000.” at the end of Section 5. d). SECOND: Councilwoman Murawski. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. Discuss Public Works Commission Ordinance – Mayor Krampitz stated that based on other ordinances pertaining to this subject, this proposed draft of an ordinance is submitted for our town and legal review will not be possible until July. The Mayor introduced Public Works Director Tony Lorenzetti to answer questions. Mr. Lorenzetti stated that he was in favor of a commission because it would bring continuity to public works. Elected officials change but a public works commission could give programs more stability. Departments with far less money have commissions but public works has none. Councilman Goodwin thought it would be in the best interest of the town if a commission was formed because policy would not be set by new people always coming into office. Mr. Lorenzetti submitted a copy of minutes from the City of Bristol ’s Board of Public Works and Mayor Krampitz informed the Town Council that copies would be given to them. Councilman Zagurski asked why the Mayor can select alternates under the organization section but the Town Council approves regular members under the terms section. Mr. Lorenzetti responded that the set-up can be done in many different ways. Mayor Krampitz stated that the EDC has it that way. Councilman Zagurski also asked about the items that this commission would be reporting about. Mr. Lorenzetti felt that they should focus on public facilities.
14. Take action to raise insurance limits on street excavation ordinance Sec. 14-27 (a). – Mayor Krampitz explained that because the ordinance was written many years ago, the required insurance limits are no longer adequate. The ordinance allows for higher limits by vote of the council. MOTION: Councilman Goodwin moved to set Chapter 14 Article II. Excavations Sec. 14-27 (a) Insurance Requirements of Contractors Street Excavation Permits Limits as: A. Commercial General Liability: Each occurrence: \$1,000,000, Personal Injury: \$1,000,000, General Aggregate \$2,000,000, Products, Completed Operations Aggregate \$2,000,000. B. Automobile: Combined Single Limit for Bodily Injury or Property Damage \$1,000,000, Bodily Injury – Each Person \$1,000,000, Bodily Injury – Each Accident \$1,000,000, Property Damage – Each Occurrence \$1,000,000. SECOND: Councilwoman Murawski. It was noted from the discussion that this would take affect immediately. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MOTION: Councilman Sekorski moved for a short recess at 8:31 p.m. SECOND: Councilwoman Scoville. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. BACK IN SESSION AT 8:35 p.m.
15. Public Comment – Linda Konopaske, 36 Orchard St. – stated that she wanted to clear up some misunderstandings about funds raised for the police dog. As the President of the Lions Club, she wanted to assure the Town that her club is holding on to the money and it will be held for the Town until the Town is ready to accept the donation earmarked for the dog or the Town decides that a dog is not feasible. She then asked for the community to continue to support Lions Club events, especially the Fair. Rich Whitney, 183 Lake Plymouth Blvd. – stated that if the BOF does not come in with a Budget of 3% then it will fail twice. Melanie Church, 328 Main St. – stated that ordinances should be avoided and another charter revision commission should be established.
16. Other Business – MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to be able to read the

Firefighters’ Prayer in memory of Jeff Wunsch and for all firefighters. SECOND: Councilman Zagurski. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Councilwoman Scoville read A Firefighters’ Prayer. MOTION: Councilman Zagurski moved to place on the agenda the firefighter incentive proposal. SECOND: Councilwoman Scoville. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Councilman Zagurski said that this proposal was worked on a while ago and he wanted to distribute it so that everyone could look at it and do something with it next month. Mayor Krampitz asked if it was part of the study and Councilman Zagurski replied that it was not. The proposal dated April 13, 2006 was distributed. Councilman Goodwin stated that he could see the volunteer ambulance people being included also. MOTION: Councilman Zagurski moved to discuss a letter he received from the Mayor on direct supervision. SECOND: Councilwoman Scoville. Councilman Zagurski – yes, Councilwoman Murawski – no, Councilman Goodwin – yes, Councilwoman Scoville – yes, Councilman Sekorski – yes. MOTION PASSED. Discussion took place regarding a memo sent to the Town Council on March 7, 2007 by the Mayor regarding Chapter III Section 8 of the Town Charter.

17. Adjournment – MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. SECOND: Councilwoman Murawski. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Submitted by: David M. Denis, Council Clerk