

SUBJECT: REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 2, 2007 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Town Hall Community Room

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

1. Call Meeting to Order – Mayor Krampitz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Krampitz asked Councilman Sekorski to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of the August 28, 2007 Public Hearing Minutes and August 28, 2007 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes – MOTION: Councilwoman Murawski moved to approve the August 28, 2007 Public Hearing Minutes. SECOND: Councilman Sekorski. VOTE TAKEN: Councilman Zagurski – yes, Councilwoman Murawski – yes, Councilman Goodwin – yes, Councilwoman Scoville – abstained, Councilman Sekorski – yes. MOTION PASSED. MOTION: Councilman Goodwin moved to approve the August 28, 2007 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes. SECOND: Councilwoman Murawski. VOTE TAKEN: Councilman Zagurski – yes, Councilwoman Murawski – yes, Councilman Goodwin – yes, Councilwoman Scoville – abstained, Councilman Sekorski – yes. MOTION PASSED.
4. Liaison Reports – Councilman Sekorski reported that an item concerning PZC and WPCA is that there is a conflict between the State's plan of conservation and development and the Town's plan that deal with rural land. The issue is whether these lands can have city sewers. The Town will have to request that the State plan be amended which will require action by the Mayor and the Town Council at a future date. The PZC also discussed the proposed sidewalk ordinance. Councilwoman Scoville reported that none of her commissions met last month but that the Library was on the agenda tonight. Councilman Goodwin reported that the Human Services Commission met with their two new members. The back to school program was successful. They changed the name of the Holiday Christmas aid program to the winter program due to the influx of non-denominational participants. They are looking into a discount card for seniors to use at local businesses. Parks and Recreation met and it was the best attended meeting. The members were concerned about the posting of the director's position and the programs being run. EDC talked about a proposal from a grant sourcing company. A new company is looking to move into the south side of the old Arthur Industries building. The attraction of the site is that it had rail car capabilities. The town received another deposit for a lot in Phase III so that is four lots in that phase that are under deposit. Councilwoman Murawski reported that the BOE has approved the hiring of six new teachers and is purchasing new science and math books. An introductory German course is being taught. Windows are being replaced at Fisher school as money allows. Mary Rimcoski, from Plymouth Center School, was named teacher of the year. Alert Now, an automated system is being used to inform staff and parents of cancellations and other important events. The Police Department has two new officers at the academy and another scheduled to start October 15 th. The former SRO officer had his shift changed and will not be able to be assigned to the high school. The Chief is hoping to get him into the school on a part-time basis. The 25 mph signs have been approved for all of North Main St. because most of that is a

school zone. The Housing Authority voted to have roof repairs done at Gosinski Park . Councilwoman Murawski did attend the last two PZC meetings and wanted to mention that they are reviewing their regulations so people should let the PZC know if they want to give them any input regarding the regulations. They also sent a letter to the School Building Committee reminding them that sidewalks need to be installed in the area of the new high school as indicated on the approved site plan. Councilman Zagurski reported that the School Building Committee is 80% complete with the new high school. They are going out to bid with the refurbishing of the old high school shortly. The Public Works Director said the Canal St. project is moving along. GASB34, OSHA and quarterly transfer station report information was submitted. A new trailer is now in place at the transfer station. Stormwater Committee meetings were held and Inland/Wetlands is very interested in attending. Interviews were held for a truck driver and an assistant mechanic position. Capital Improvement and LoCIP plan were submitted. Metal reimbursement for July was \$1,930 and for August was \$2,837. The highway department has crack sealed, mowed, replaced damaged signs and swept various roads. They reclaimed, regraded and paved Ives Lane , Ives Crossing and a section of Old Waterbury Rd. They chip sealed Sandra Ave. , Ellen Dr. , Stevens St. , Lynn Ave., Elko Dr. , Hoyer St. , Town Hill Rd., So. Eagle St. and Washington Rd. Tumblebrook Rd. and a section of Hillside Ave. were paved. The Fire Department received their new brush truck.

5. Council Rules and Procedures – No action taken.
6. Resignations and Appointments – MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved the Mayoral reappointment of Donald Souza to the Housing Bd. of Appeals with a term to expire September 4, 2010 . SECOND: Councilwoman Murawski. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MOTION: Councilman Goodwin moved the Mayoral reappointment of Joyce Relihan to the Human Services Commission with a term to expire October 1, 2010 . SECOND: Councilwoman Scoville. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
7. Mayor's Report –
 - Mayor Krampitz reported that we have received notification that \$99,800. in LoCIP funding will be coming to the Town for road improvements.
 - The Mayor recently signed a grant for EMT -B classes in the amount of \$2990. from the Office of Emergency Medical Services. This will be a class to train fire fighters next year by our PVAC.
 - The Mayor attended the celebration for Connecticut 's Outstanding Teen, Karen Link, who went on to National Competition in July.
 - Mayor Krampitz signed a tentative agreement with union representative Anthony Bento for the Public Works, Town Hall and WPCA unions on August 13th. The agreement dealt with a wage and benefit package for the employees.
 - The Mayor was happy to report that the October 1st Fall Mt. Water Referendum passed with 297 voting yes, 98 no. The Mayor talked today to Area Director Mary Grasso of USDA Rural Development and she too was pleased.
 - Mayor Krampitz recently toured the new high school site. She also had a meeting with Industrial Construction, Bill Allread, our building official Clarence Atkinson and Business Manager Gerry Perusse to request that they look into ways to fit sidewalks into the existing budget by including the offsite perimeter sidewalks in

the upcoming bid package.

- The Mayor attended the Read-assaince Faire at the Terryville Library where over a hundred readers celebrated their summer of reading with balloons, prizes and petting of miniature horses.
- It was the Mayor's pleasure to be part of the opening of the Terryville Fair and the grand opening of Thomaston Valley Village .
- Mayor Krampitz stated it was her honor to recognize Councilwoman Scoville for her eight years of service to the Town Council and she read and presented the Councilwoman with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of her dedicated service.

The Mayor thanked Comcast, Fireman Jim, Connecticut Water, Terryville Lions Club, Terryville Library, Terryville Fire Department, the National Guard, Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, Bristol Resource Recovery Operating Committee, Councilwoman Murawski, Councilman Goodwin, Plymouth Ambulance Corps, Plymouth Police Department, Plymouth Public Works Department, and the Plymouth Bd. of Education for helping to make the Back to School Children's Parade a success.

- Mayor Krampitz spoke at the Daughters of the American Revolution meeting on September 27th.
- At the invitation of First Selection Dick Crane, the Mayor toured, with our local senior leadership, the new Woodbury Sr. Center.
- Mayor Krampitz toured the new addition at Elm Press and met with the manager of Terryville Chevrolet.
- The Mayor attended the official christening of the new Plymouth Fire Company brush truck.

8. Take action to refund property taxes to: Anna or Karl Seitz \$261.30; Jared J. Griffin \$388.29; William C. Brown III \$11.05; Keith G. Golnik \$26.49; Anthony or Joanne Basile \$13.94; Barbara or William Petke \$46.96; Edward Banatoski \$32.71; Stephen J. Fennessy \$190.83; MMCA Lease Ltd. \$106.53; Keith Gandarillas \$51.47; Christopher E. Kamens \$78.56; Colleen or Mark Maller \$105.35; Michael S. Lundie \$86.39; Gary N. Wojewoda \$14.03 – MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to refund property taxes to those as presented. SECOND: Councilman Zagurski. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
9. Discuss and take action concerning Code Compliance Library Construction Grant – Ms. Lynn White, Library Director, was asked to give a brief history of the project and grant. Ms. White stated that there were some fire code violations that needed to be taken care of and this grant would help to do that. There were two parts that the Town Council had to approve. One was to apply for the money and the other was to empower the Mayor to do so. MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to approve the application for the Code Compliance Library Construction Grant in the amount of \$16,773 and to empower the Mayor to apply for said funding. SECOND: Councilman Sekorski. Councilwoman Scoville stated that this is a good project that involved a lot of effort on the part of Lynn, the Library Board, the Fire Marshal and Mr. Lorenzetti. Councilman Goodwin said that \$13,000 is being spent for architectural plans and schematic drawings for the door and the

sidewalk going out the back door. Ms. White said that they will also process all of the paperwork with the state and Councilman Goodwin was pleased that they were including clerking the project. Councilman Zagurski asked if this was strictly a code upgrade grant and was told that it was and that is why only one-third of the costs were eligible. Councilwoman Murawski asked if the northwest fire access needs a cement walkway now. Ms. White said that it opens to a gravel path now and it needs a sidewalk by code. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Discuss and take action concerning Chapter 7, Article IV. Blight Abatement ordinance – Mayor Krampitz indicated that the Town Council had the current ordinance language with them as well as side-by-side comparisons with several towns that were provided by Town Attorney Tom Conlin. The Mayor indicated that this would be the initial look at this ordinance and that next month more towns will be provided for the Town Council to review. The Mayor then asked Attorney Conlin to remark on the information provided and said that the Town Council would then look at each page and earmark sections that they would like to consider for future discussion in a draft of the Blight Ordinance. Attorney Conlin began by saying that it is important to have a policy statement and our ordinance does that in section 7-60 with the purpose. The Town may want to update that depending on what we decide our final policy will be. Section 7-61, definitions, is where the most complaints come from because it is subjective in their applications. It is universally the trouble area because of the flexibility needed in enforcement. Attorney Conlin suggested that the Town Council meet with the Building Inspector to get his opinions on the strong and weak points of the ordinance. The definitions should also distinguish between abandoned and inoperable motor vehicles. In section 7-63 enforcement, we should name who that is from beginning to end in the process and strengthen the exemptions on enforcement. 7-64 for appeals and hearings should refer to the State Statute 7-152(c) so that there is no doubt on what the appeal process is. Judgment liens will be handed out by the court. It should also state what happens to collected fines. The Town Council also has to decide what to do with the blight list. Should it be published? Should people get certified return receipt mail? Some ordinances also hold occupants as well as owners responsible. Mayor Krampitz suggested to the Town Council that they look at each town provided and go page-by-page and decide by consensus what they would like to see in a proposed draft. The following table contains the language from the towns that the Town Council wanted included in a proposed draft for future discussion.

TOWN	SECTION	INSERT LINES	PAGE	DESCRIPTION
Ansonia	13-48	59-60	2	depreciation
“	“	36-66 & 37-48	3 & 4	definitions
“	13-52	60-63 & 37-40	6 & 7	Change 30 to 45 days
“	13-50	50-64	7	Spec. consideration
“	13-51	47-50	8	Fines s/b per building
Bristol	5-46	55-61	1	policy
“	5-48	55-63,36-63,37-66,37-63	2,3,4 & 5	definitions
“	5-49	46-57	7	applicability

“	5-56	37-50	8	Declaration of blight
“	5-50	50-61	13	Higher standard prevails
“	5-51	39-45	14	Compliance w/ ordinances
“	5-52	62-67	14	Duties of owners
Derby	60-6	63-68 & 37-57	6 & 7	Hearing procedure
“	60-6	37-64	9	Change to 45 days
“	60-6	48-66	10	Statutory process
“	60-6	37-58	11	retroactive
“	60-7	44-50	12	Separate account

MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to recess at 8:31 p.m. SECOND: Councilman Goodwin. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. BACK IN OPEN SESSION AT 8:40 p.m. The Town Council felt that it had enough to work with to begin a draft and asked the Mayor to include Fairfield in next month's packet with the other communities.

11. Public Comment – Jim Murdock, 44 Minor Rd. – was concerned about industrial park comments made at the previous meeting and wished that the referendum could have been held during the election. Mayor Krampitz explained that the funding for the referendum project expired on October 22 nd so it could not wait until the November elections. Karen Zagurski, 125 Washington Rd. – said she was speaking for the Parks and Recreation Commission as its Chairperson and was confused about a letter she received regarding the appointment process of the director. She did not know that the job had been posted. Mayor Krampitz said that she had called and left a message for Ms. Zagurski once she heard her voice on the answering machine. Ms. Zagurski said she was going by the charter language and did not know that what she had received was a legal opinion. Mayor Krampitz explained that it was on letter head from the Town's labor attorney and signed along with a memo from Mayor Krampitz explaining it was a legal opinion and what the commission had to do next. The labor laws in this case supersede the charter language because of the union contract. Mrs. Zagurski also said that programs were being organized out of the Mayor's office and she looked in the minutes and did not see where the Town Council gave the Mayor the authority to be the acting department head. Mayor Krampitz explained that Ms. Zagurski was referring to section 3. Appointments and terms in the charter and that section does not apply to union department heads. The Mayor read the section “the terms of all such appointees shall terminate on the same date as the term of the mayor...” and that the Parks and Recreation Director's position would not fall under that category. The Mayor asked that the commission follow the requests of her memo. Kathy Kosak, 201 Harwinton Ave. – was a member of charter revision and questioned why we have a charter any more. Linda Kazmierski, 20 Joseph St . – as a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission she wanted to know why they could not get a legal opinion. Mayor Krampitz responded that Ms. Zagurski asked for a legal opinion, it was explained in April and now money was expended to put it in writing and nothing has changed. The Mayor explained that she will not violate labor law. Pattie DeHuff, 20 Lynn Ave. – suggested that Public Comment be put closer to the beginning of the agenda. Melanie Church, 328 Main St. – said that the Town Council is the only ones that can regulate the hours at town hall. Jim Mozalak, 18 Carriage Dr. – claimed his wife

sent the town a letter concerning a legal question concerning her BOE pension and wanted to know its status. Mayor Krampitz told him it was on the agenda for the next Retirement Pension Oversight Board meeting. Susan McDonald, 61 Maple Ave. – stated that there seems to be so many conflicts between the charter and labor laws that the charter should be revised to eliminate the confusion. Jeanine Jandreau, 34 S. Main St. – suggested that when the Town Council is going to work on something lengthy like a blight ordinance that it should be done in a workshop. Karen Zagurski, 125 Washington Rd. – said that she and Nancy Santorso would be on the personnel committee and that Mayor Krampitz would have a letter stating that on her desk in the morning. Mayor Krampitz thanked her. Jim Murdock, 44 Minor Rd. – thanked Mayor Krampitz and Councilman Goodwin for their attendance at the EDC meetings and keeping themselves informed of the issues of economic development. He also commended Craig Stevenson and Bill Kuehn.

12. Other Business – No action taken.

13. Adjournment – MOTION: Councilwoman Scoville moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:29 p.m. SECOND: Councilman Goodwin. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Submitted by: David M. Denis, Council Clerk