

1. The Special Meeting of the Town of Plymouth Town Council, **January 20, 2009** was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Vin Festa in the Community Room, Town Hall. In attendance: Councilwoman Jacqui Denski, Councilman Peter Giancesini, Councilwoman Jeannine Jandreau, Councilman David Sekorski, Mayor Vin Festa, Robin Gudeczauskas, Council Clerk.
2. Fire Exits – Noted for the record
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items
 - a. Jim Deutsch, 34 Orchard Street, quick question to the Mayor, (a) stating recently there was a state law passed in regards to information posted on web site and seeing sporadic information on agenda, minutes, etc. Can you give me progress on what you see happening in the future? Realize Cathy is part time web administrator. Do you see in the future the town progressing where list all agenda and meeting minutes? Mayor Festa responded we are in the process of doing that and notification to boards and commissions to get material in, hours Cathy is available, money we have available, and are making strides to get it all in. (b) You do not see town shutting web site down? Mayor Festa stated depending on financial situation and at this time the town and state is in dire straits with money and do not know what we can do to expand web site, and get up and running and keep as current as possible. (c) Any thought about the web site administrator doing training for town staff? Mayor Festa responded nothing in that particular venue but have talked about the possibility of a couple of extra hours put in by Cathy and whether that can happen is another story and are looking at a complete computer pack on how delivery works on that system and we may be moving in some direction to expand in that area. Situation is where more and more people are computer literate and there are more homes with computers and see more and more people using in terms of applications for Parks & Recreation and hopefully permits will enhance that component. In regard to that situation we do need to evaluate that service and how to enlarge and expand on. Councilman Giancesini stated he read in the newspaper about meetings in Hartford where there is a possibility that some unfunded mandates will be held in bay and revoked and that would solve the problem right away if law gets rescinded.
5. To Discuss And Take Action On The Following:
 - a. Local Vendor Preference – Mayor Festa stated there was material in packet on this item and he tried to provide Council with as much information as possible and opened for discussion.

MOTION: To discuss Local Vendor Preference by Councilwoman Jandreau, second Councilwoman Denski and the vote unanimous.

Councilwoman Jandreau stated she does not like this ordinance as she feels it shuts out people from out of town because no matter what they bid the preference would go to local vendor and for naught. It would not be worthwhile for people out of town to bid. Local vendor can still get the bid for their project if out of town was lower. Not fair and does not help the town. Councilman Giancesini stated although not documented, in different lines of work it is easy to set up store front with an address as the owner and he can bid on contract, bring subs in that may or may not be qualified and that will drive competition for quality out. Can we guarantee giving work to local vendor that will do good work is not always the case. From past meetings, Mr. Murdock and a few others gave reasons why

and he is a local person who talked on why we should not do it. Councilman Sekorski stated he respectfully disagrees with council member's that spoke against it and thinks like any law or ordinance there is room for improvement. He knows some questions this document was voted on and approved by previous Council and questions on whether language modified. Did try to look through his paperwork and did not find a copy that was different than one the Mayor provided and thanks him for providing detail. The reason he has no issues with it is because there are two things, one, the spirit of which this was intended and it had to deal with bidding process itself and spirit suggested and passed; two, from the way he reads it, not too crazy about statement "shall be awarded the contract provided such qualified and registered local vendor agrees to accept the award at the same price as the lowest qualified bid or quote received" and disappointed the ordinance did not pass giving Council the opportunity to be more flexible. Reviewed bidding process and need to award the low bidder in almost every circumstance he contracts under this situation; no problem with quality issues of low vendor because more than likely we take low bidder and always at risk in taking low bidder. The language he does not like is contract shall be awarded as long as local vendor matches low bid as he does think this is difficult to administer. If there is a motion to cancel this ordinance we can discuss further at that time. Councilwoman Denski stated she likes it because we want to keep town money in town and especially as things are now to keep money as much as possible and has the same feeling it needs to be softened to have opportunity as to making mandatory to local vendor. Instead of making it mandatory that local vendor gets bid, giving them the option but not making mandatory but still weighing options. Councilwoman Jandreau asked why have it at all as that is the point of whole thing is to give to local vendor, if not more than 5% higher than outside, the job. That is fine to a certain extent but will get to the point where outside vendors will not bid and local vendors get job and wiping out competition. Those outside make low bids and others don't have to worry because they will get it anyway. Many times those outside have more qualifications to do job and we are tying hands with this. This is not the one and we need to work out another vendor preference. Former Councilman Zagurski submitted a vendor preference which was different from this one, does not know how different and did not print it out. She asked him to send her a copy of his. Does not think it was very much different but the point is you need competition and why have bids and if you are wiping out half the field because giving local vendor preference why have bid; just give to local vendor. Councilman Sekorski asked (a) if our bidding process is still sealed and Mayor Festa responded it is. (b) It still keeps everyone honest but am sure people talk and have idea what bids are. Councilwoman Jandreau stated we are tying hands and in end may not get anything from this because we end up with people who do inferior work and because local vendors and within 5% of lowest bid they get the job. Councilwoman Denski asked (a) what if there is more than one local vendor. Mayor Festa noted Section 2-124 (b), lowest bid gets it from local vendors. (b) if someone outside is lowest, the lower of two local gets opportunity with Councilwoman Jandreau responding yes. Mayor Festa stated he has concern relative to comments made on qualified and registered local vendor and called upon Mr. Lorenzetti for a brief response when looking at particular ordinance Section 2-122, Qualified and Registered Local Vendor, it gives terms for qualified and registered and doesn't actually say anything about how notified of qualifications of vendor in particular. When we do bidding do we ask for specifications on background and qualifications for job

bidding on. Tony Lorenzetti stated it would depend on nature of the bid and this ordinance deals with things down to lowest dollar amounts; and for larger projects they definitely would. This ordinance the way written could go down to \$10 items theoretically. Councilwoman Jandreau noted there is nothing here that states qualification to have a place in town and fill out registration form and says nothing about if qualified, quality of work and nothing in here. Tony stated other things generally done are references are checked which are qualifiers. Councilman Giancesini stated speculative, if you want to put something out to bid for a few miles of road, and local guy bids that does driveways and parking lots, and he puts in and obviously has equipment and people with skills, does that mean he is qualified to do road work vs. Tomasso. Tony stated things like bonding and insurance are separate from ability to do work and larger projects require larger bonding and insurance levels. He thinks this ordinance deals with smaller projects with limit of \$500,000 and looking at lower level things. A road project is millions of dollars and bonds and insurance go with size of project. Councilman Sekorski stated also what comes to mind is recent small to mid size projects had, demolitions, clearing, and details of qualifications as qualifier is in bid specification package and assume he can put in bid packets.

MOTION: To remove the Local Vendor Preference Ordinance, by Councilwoman Jandreau; second Councilman Giancesini. Discussion: Councilman Sekorski stated (a) an addendum along the same lines it wasn't clear to him when some ordinances were put in place if fall within jurisdiction of Charter Revision. This ordinance as written becomes part of the Charter under Chapter 2 Administration. Councilwoman Jandreau stated an ordinance is not in the Charter. Mayor Festa noted it comes within auspice. (b) in some other research ordinances are described in the Towns section of the Charter and one says they need to be voted on by town and another says they go through Charter Revision. His concern is legality. Councilwoman Jandreau stated Attorney Vitrano said if in a public hearing we could vote it out after and we had a public hearing on it. Councilman Sekorski stated, yes, there was a hearing on it. Mayor Festa, correct. Councilwoman Jandreau stated she is not saying we don't need one but does not like this one and we should do something different. Councilman Giancesini stated you hate to get it in great detail but do need more specifics as far as amount it goes up to and qualifications. In one hand we all support local business and would like to see them get work and in similar matter, you have the prevailing wage that is a conflict with and do you want to base cost on union labor or just what general contract comes up with. Having high paid people helps the community in that it stimulates economy, they spend money but creates burden to taxpayers. In this case he does not think it is that critical because for relatively small expenditures and we have to look at local vendors and it is good for them. Again, not against but maybe more tightening on it would help. Mayor Festa questioned raise relative to discussion for what he is hearing and it seems that Council is looking at a local vendor preference ordinance but more details; so are you looking for mainstay of amending the ordinance vs. revoking, is that the intent? Councilman Giancesini stated he would personally think that could be done but right now do not know exact verbiage and would have liked more people at that hearing as we are doing a lot of assumptions as to what local vendors would or not do. He noted the school building with big projects and bids go out and subcontracts get involved and you find a person well qualified but they don't do the job because they either overextend, don't have right equipment and only thing looking at. Vote: Councilman

Sekorski, yes; Councilwoman Jandreau, yes; Councilman Giancesini, yes; Councilwoman Denski, yes. Motion carries.

b. Sidewalk Ordinance –

MOTION: To discuss the proposed Sidewalk Ordinance, by Councilman Sekorski, second Councilwoman Jandreau and the vote unanimous.

Councilman Sekorski stated (a) he submitted questions to counsel on this and such a long time he could not find if responded to and does not have information. This dates back to his time as liaison on Planning and Zoning and reminds everyone of what the spirit of this was intended to do. The genesis of the ordinance is to help promote sidewalk conductivity through the town as defined in the Plan of Development. At that time the concern was no one knew how the sidewalk fund was being administered and Planning & Zoning group was distraught that monies were going in the sidewalk fund and did not know what happened to it and now straightened out. Mayor Festa stated, correct, there is a sidewalk fund and monies appropriated credited. (b) That issue resolved and the other part of spirit was so many sidewalks are in disrepair, in front of private properties and intent that it would provide vehicle for those who want to fix some kind of recourse or reimbursement. One was a draft on 50/50 proposal and that was not part of the ordinance; and only part was Section 14.3 and if you have reference to that you will see it doesn't get into actual vehicle of replacement program and how it should work. Two problems, (a) is this an ordinance and what power does Council have, and is this an amendment to Charter and do not have counsel's opinion. (b) in light of the fact resolved funding issue around sidewalk fund, some other issues of ordinance are taken care of. Since not enacted until we have more clarity around issue this Council does not need to move on this and can have new zoning official discuss it or have representation for Planning & Zoning come before Council and discuss in open meeting. That invitation was from previous Council and extended but because of lack of communication from Mayor's office and Planning & Zoning, that meeting did not take place. Do not think Council can do anything with this at this time. Councilwoman Jandreau stated she is under the impression Planning & Zoning was in control of the sidewalk fund. Mayor Festa asked when you say "in control of", in terms of developing plans and allocating funds? Councilwoman Jandreau responded the amount of money that can be pulled or goes in from contractor. What she thought from listening, is they seem to think they are in charge and can allocate funds to do work on sidewalk, or are they. Mayor Festa stated he is not quite sure Planning & Zoning has the authority to allocate dollars and there is a process to take place relative to planning of particular subdivision including Public Works, Planning & Zoning, Economic Development if affected, etc. Most of the money set aside in the fund is used for purpose of repair work throughout town and from completion of a form coming from Council relative to approving expenditure from a line item. Tony Lorenzetti stated his department puts together an approximate price for estimate per linear foot for development and in terms of expending money, he has not been involved since being back, going to 3 years. As far as the actual expenditure, he is not sure of procedure. Mayor Festa stated there is a link missing in terms of process from all departments or boards in terms of plan and connectivity throughout the community. Tony Lorenzetti stated in terms of discussing, discussion exists between Public Works and Land Use regarding sidewalks and he had talked with Bill Kuehn on 50/50 in terms of how expenditure works, not clear on

who has authority. He can certainly find a spot if everyone so chose. Councilwoman Jandreau referenced a letter to Mayor Krampitz from Day Pitney dated July 3, 2007 and read the second paragraph into record, "The Town currently has a Sidewalk Fund into which, pursuant to Town Subdivision Regulations, subsection 5.04(3), deposits are made as required by the Commission of subdividers in lieu of installing sidewalks. All monies so collected are to be used exclusively for the construction of new sidewalks in areas necessary for pedestrian safety. I understand from our discussions that the auditors have informed the Town that the existing Sidewalk Fund is a special revenue fund that may be expended by the Town without further appropriation. I further understand that it is the current practice, reviewed by the auditors, for such funds to be disbursed for municipal sidewalk construction projects defined by the Public Works Department and approved by the Mayor. Municipal sidewalk construction projects are referred to the Commission for a report as to conformance with the Town's plan of development, to the extent required by Conn. Ge. Stat. subsection 8-24.", stating this is just for new sidewalks and evidently this new ordinance is not going to be for new but repair and replacement. She noted on the next page he suggested she does not pass this ordinance because it "would limit the use of funds to the repair and replacement of sidewalks; use of fund in the existing Sidewalk Fund is limited to new construction". Councilman Gianesini stated there has been progress with at least a line item for money to be parked and light shining and makes it more difficult to be used for other things and decision as to whether new or existing repairs is based on logical and urgency of the particular instance. A few years ago the sidewalks were replaced in front of the library and a grant that came in and thinks this fund should be able to receive money from a contractor in lieu of doing it. In addition, when and if the town and budget process puts money in for sidewalks either new or replacement, or a grant comes in, this is a place for money to get parked. Need to decide as a new sidewalk becomes old and in need of repair and would prefer ordinance that covers sidewalk in general, repair, replacement, new, where funding comes, how parked and who makes decision, is it public works because there is danger of people falling and the town getting sued and there are different pressures as to where and how a sidewalk should go or be replaced and no logical mechanism to decide how it gets done. Councilwoman Jandreau read from the letter, "If the town wishes to alter the use of existing Sidewalk Fund to permit funding of repair and replacement program, amendment of Subdivision Regulations subsection 5.04(3) to accomplish that end might be a simpler approach, as even if the proposed ordinance were adopted amendments would be required to subsection 5.04(3) in order to implement program. The Town might also consider amending subsection 5.04(3) to more clearly reflect the Town's current practice regarding the approval and expenditure of projects to be funded from the Sidewalk Fund." It could go back to Planning & Zoning for subdivision regulation to accomplish. Tony Lorenzetti stated the argument behind 50/50 is they took a look at the sidewalk he could use replacement for money sitting there and thought we could get public/private partnership to take care of costs. Councilman Gianesini stated the other point is generally for sidewalk sitting there, get a surface crack and if tree growing too close and growing big, you cannot pour new sidewalk as you need to take care of tree because it will ruin again. It could be fairly expensive. Tony Lorenzetti noted the other thing to consider is code upgrades, requirement when doing work and types of things theoretically if repair you do that too. Councilman Sekorski questioned right now in terms of how do you handle request for replacement or repairs/new sidewalk, does

it go on punch list. Tony Lorenzetti stated more or less and gave example ones on Rt. 6 forced to do when DOT did work on Rt. 6 and we convinced them to continue pavement to side roads and once they did that needed to repair sidewalk. Few capital projects on sidewalk replacement and still in capitals. Generally sidewalks other than work related are not targeted for replacement and would love to have money to do that. Mayor Festa stated isn't it also correct that a contractor does not have to provide a dollar amount if he provides material and labor to do sidewalks. Tony stated he has not been involved in a program being administered that way. Mayor Festa noted we have had several contracts i.e. Judd Road, that were waived and sidewalks put in other places, where they did handicap access by Prospect Street and High Street; and another development had sidewalk on Main Street in lieu of monies to the fund. Tony stated he was not involved in those cases but there are possibilities where developer can offer to Planning & Zoning and Public Works would be involved overseeing; Tony noted he would also be involved in looking at engineering. Also, if a developer came in and did not want to put sidewalk in and proposed another location he would get involved. Councilwoman Jandreau stated the Council should table and invite Planning & Zoning and maybe something can be done with regulations and we do not need to do ordinance at all. Mayor Festa noted understanding this is repair and replacement ordinance and would not affect what is currently in Charter relative to Public Works being responsible for overseeing, Chapter 7. Tony Lorenzetti stated he does not have it in front of him but there is a sidewalk ordinance that talks about responsibility on existing sidewalks and puts response on abutting property owner to take care of. In terms of town public right of way, Public Works is responsible because in town right of way.

MOTION: To table this until discussion can be held with Planning and Zoning, by Councilwoman Jandreau, second Councilman Sekorski. Discussion: none. Vote: unanimous.

c. Code of Ethics

MOTION: To discuss Code of Ethics, by Councilman Sekorski; second Councilwoman Jandreau and the vote unanimous.

Councilman Sekorski stated need for clarity on where this stands. Mayor Festa stated relative to there is an ethics board provision within the Charter and discussion as to whether or not to change or leave as is; if not broke don't fix until such time need to see change in terms of establishing board of ethics committee. Councilwoman Jandreau stated she can only tell that Charter Revision discussed and they feel what we have is fine. Her concern is it is about when people violate the Charter and when government officials violate the Charter and a common person like herself has no recourse except to hire a lawyer and she cannot afford a lawyer and it comes under ethics. Charter Revision feels nothing can be done. To her this does not cover anything or goes anywhere, no teeth. They have discussed it and good enough and nobody else has a better one. Councilman Sekorski stated the way written is the Town Council becomes pseudo ethics board to review and read from Charter Subsection 5 "until such a board of ethics and code of ethics have been established, complaints from any person or any alleged violation of the public ethics or conflict of interest provisions or subsections 3 and 4 of this section shall be forwarded to the office of the town clerk. This complaint must then be forwarded to the mayor for inclusion in the agenda for the next regular council meeting with written notification

forwarded to the named individual (s) by certified mail, return receipt requested. If the town council cannot resolve the complaint, or if the complaint is against any member (s) of the council, the council shall appoint an ad hoc board of ethics to resolve the particular allegation (s).” Councilwoman Jandreau asked who is going to call a board of ethics against themselves. Councilman Sekorski, there is, regardless of that potential conflict of interest, at least a process. If a citizen filed a complaint there is at least a defying course of action. Councilwoman Jandreau noted the town had complaints filed against a former Planning & Zoning member and they had a board of ethics who met to resolve or investigate the complaint, does not know results. This is a bit vague, we all know that, the charter is a piece of paper because there have been violations back and forth and nobody does anything about it. There are no teeth to regulate, no teeth to stop a person from violating. Reading “When the investigation is completed, the board shall file its decision with the town council, to include the opinions of all members, both assenting and dissenting. The town council, with all members present, shall vote, with the majority rule prevailing, on the approval or disapproval of the board’s decision. If disciplinary action is required in connection with the results of the board’s investigation on the alleged violation, the town council shall take such action which is within its power as outlined elsewhere in this charter.” Commission can give a decision and council can say forget it. She does not know if anything can be done or anything different from what we have, told they have investigated this and no one has anything different from what we have. Councilman Giancesini stated if you need code of ethics you are getting into something fairly complex. Like the BOE if hearing involving a teacher, they have to have the right to have an attorney present and to question people to testify against. Personally unless really prepared to have something 20-30 pages we should leave the way it is now. None of us have legal expertise to say it will hold up. There could be lawsuit for defamation if someone wants to get even with somebody. There are a lot of towns who went around for year before passed something, they had no problem and someone wanted to work on it. Councilwoman Jandreau, stated the Town of Plymouth Board of ethics and code of ethics do we have code of ethics. Mayor Festa, public ethics is part of code, government official, behavior of our office, Section 5, page 54-55 of Charter, Chapter 9. Councilwoman Jandreau stated no code of ethics perse; Charter Revision reviewed and felt we should leave the way it is. There is not too much that can be done about it. Mayor Festa noted this is an opportunity to look at state statute relative to language needed or necessary. Councilman Giancesini stated at one point if we do pursue looking into, think one of the most important sources of information that ethics have been violated is that word has to get out and in government it is whistle blowers and someone within department would report illegal or ethical took place. Anywhere in charter is stuff on ordinance restrictions as to illegality of going after person that reports what they report to be some violation of ethics, etc. Very important to allow people to come forward if feel something has happened without fear of retribution. Again, we saw that here with public works and mayor that said no access to attorney and only town attorney could be used and she has power over that. Somewhere we have to look into some sort of access for boards or commissions to be able to when they get to particular point to decide on own. This came to life in previous administration and if violation of charter somebody has to pursue it and if necessary winds up have to go to court and need court order to get change. The average person cannot finance a legal battle. In present circumstance that council made up of

everybody from same party, politics sometimes enters into things and they could say they will not approve that. Councilwoman Jandreau stated it is the council policing the council. That is a charter change and not an ordinance and we can bring to charter revision. Mayor Festa asked if it is pleasure to submit to charter revision for review; Councilwoman Jandreau responded it is done in their schedule as she had requested it as a council member and they feel what we have is adequate. Councilman Sekorski stated he feels we do not have to do anything; no action required on this. Councilman Giancesini noted what requires effort to do something and far more reason for action on developing or modifying sidewalk motion that doing something like this. In all honesty no big scandals but not to say it won't happen in future. We do have existing problems with sidewalks and area to try and concentrate on. You only have so much time to devote to get valid ordinance that can be useful. He tends to agree and let's leave this one alone. Councilwoman Denski, if charter revision was put in charge of going over and looking and we need to trust their decision.

MOTION: To take no action on code of ethics, by Councilwoman Jandreau; second Councilwoman Denski and the vote unanimous.

d. Public Works Commission – in place but not enacted.

MOTION: To discuss Public Works Commission, by Councilwoman Jandreau; second Councilwoman Denski and the vote unanimous.

Councilwoman Denski (a) noted this was discussed before but would like it made clear why we need to have a public works commission. Tony Lorenzetti stated there are a lot of communities with this board or commission and Plymouth has boards /commissions for smaller departments than public works. The advantage for a public works board would be for people to support projects for public works on certain issues that does not exist now. The process is we present our budget to board of finance and then go alone. There are lots of things to be done and reasonable people can come up with choice of things and we will have a board to support standards and goals as well as continuity as people in his position come and go. It is also good for people to understand rules and regulations, continuity of plan and approach, and support what is going on. (b) How are other towns doing this. Tony Lorenzetti responded it is all over the place as some have and some don't. Some bigger community's have and some smaller but not all. He finds some situations where boards are not something that oversees public works but helps with priorities or discuss what public works does at other meetings, but if important to do so at other meetings maybe it should be discussed in a public works commission. (c) Feel he can make decision as do you want to put them in charge in making decision on priorities of jobs in town. Tony Lorenzetti, no, talking about continuity on what happens in organization as different people have come and gone in his department and keeping same focus on what developed when someone leaves is important. If he were to leave tomorrow does not know who would carry things forward. There would be a place for things discussed re public works vs. discussing at other boards and commissions. (d) What do you want to see in this discussion. Tony stated he wants what the town wants for itself. We can sit and talk about signs that should or shouldn't be done but obviously there are public works needs in community. Sidewalks, we do not have the ability to pay for or repair and looking for funding and alternatives. There are a bunch of things we need and discussions held such as solid waste transfer station, garbage collection. The commission

would have the ability to carry things forward and do not know if the commission would have ability to take care of things other commissions discuss. This ordinance is not written the way other towns have written theirs and not the same as in other towns and not prepared to compare tonight but can get other towns ordinances. Other towns have a paving committee as just one example. Councilman Giancesini noted (a) when Ralph was predecessor, then Tom, he remembers they had a project to build salt shed, got wood and for one reason or another, never got completed and stuff thrown out. What is the function as you are responsible to the Mayor, you are a Professional Engineer and have experience. What do you think in that instance as public works director, would you feel comfortable with people on board saying don't do this or provide guidance. There are a number of instances where the director feels the town needs something and people don't; it could hinder the public works director if you get an active board and duties will be defined. You want a board that could be supportive and constructive, and what you would like to see; you cannot create a board and throwing a monkey wrench into it. You are in a unique position, you are in Inland Wetlands, Planning & Zoning, WPCA and essential to a lot of things in town, even the library. In those cases the board could not work because it is too cumbersome; you are a key person. By putting a board together it will slow things down and makes things more tedious. When he was on board of finance, you came with a budgetary request; everyone argued about snow removal, you have black and white numbers of trucks, pay loader, mileage and if you don't replace it will be like a Thomaston and same thing with requirements for training or replacing people. Two come to retire in two years, you need a guy who can operate plow. Speaking for himself, people respected your opinions and if you have bunch of council members it would not make difference. People, if culvert backed up they know public works will come fix it. We have to be careful if we put a commission in it will not make things better and if do something it would be good idea to get examples of other towns and something that is workable. Personally, table this as far as not putting in effect but not throw away; concept may well be valid but need more on what to do and makeup. Tony responded he will give a negative and exactly why it does not bother him. It is one more board to report to and one more thing to be prepared for but continuity, if not there, allows for something else for someone to follow. Internally there are things he can do to continue to upgrade when he leaves. The thing that happens is there is a lot going on and to keep focus on individual problems or things working on. Walked into things predecessor was working on and needed to learn, no continuity. (b) That is true, and philosophical difference among public works director where one comes in and has engineering and wants to get auto cad out to design and something might satisfy them, but job also to manage public works department and support other stuff and in some aspect it is more efficient to hire a Professional Engineer to do that work so you can concentrate on other things. A board would stick their 2 cents in and might be good or bad to voice opinion and could be source of conflict with the public works director. Tony Lorenzetti responded that even other items talking about, the fact that Councilman Sekorski knows what happens in the past helps to bring information to this Council. It is one of those things making sure information gets transferred from group of people to group of people. Found most issues appear to be issues that show up again. In a lot of situations no knowledge of what happened and keep record of things that go on, decisions made and why. (c) Things that came out good/bad and reasons which is wisdom. Tony noted this Council has minutes you can go back to to

see what was discussed, why and what was done. There is none of that. Councilman Sekorski stated this is near and dear to your heart to some extent and discussion either side, his issue is it is a good idea and not practical in this point in time and we have commissions for agency in town that can afford to keep lights on and some bigger items if administered differently, i.e. capital projects and example of committee that is important for long term planning but now that schools are implemented at this point we are worried about keeping lights on and we will be in that mode. We are struggling with maintenance plans for building and commission could help with items of that type; your staff knows how to do this best. Plan of Development, there are big projects that would take precedence over anything this commission can come up with. At this time it would be a bigger roadblock and one more thing he would have to do and know he is already stretched. Timing is not appropriate for where we are now.

MOTION: To revoke the establishment of the Public Works Commission as dated August 20, 2007, by Councilman Sekorski, second Councilwoman Jandreau and the vote unanimous.

6. Public Comments

7. Council Comments

Councilwoman Jandreau – went to lovely dinner at fire department that was great and guys and ladies are great time and thank them very much for invitation. Also we have new president, yeah.

Councilwoman Denski – commend Mayor for man of word and keeping budget in tact by recycling, both sides of every paper.

Councilman Sekorski – look forward to better time where we can worry less about keeping lights on and do things like we talked about tonight and establish permanent ethics board. We have a lot of people working hard to do right thing and important part. Hope we have enough money to do things need to do and get Tony commission.

Councilman Giancesini – had article in newspaper on contract settled for teachers and the Mayor did a lot of contract negotiations; people in unions getting retro pay and why certainly saying they do not deserve what doing, they should look around and read newspaper see enormous number of people losing jobs, family and future uncertain and their company went down tubes. Today he got downsized and fortunate he can retire. And know people in 40-50's and have severance pay and then gone and no health insurance, and people being paid and have medical benefit and accruing benefits should go and thank their lord for having job. Too many people today have that they are owed something. Think as get in budget project this and next year it will be enlightening experience and how things turn around and will have tremendous effect on county, family and individuals.

Mayor Festa – discussion this evening on ordinances and will continue to work to get information on particular items discussed for future review and readdressing of issues; will get to Planning & Zoning for appointment with meeting as quickly as possible. Relative to particular straits in relative to finances and budget process, a number of town hall employees have been giving back time relative to issue at hand, closed down town and in light of closing they have been offering hours of work with no compensation to make up for time lost. Appreciate effort of employees for doing that. Have been getting message across on situation in and if things continue as are and at state level we can look at serious problems for potential layoffs. Do be aware that people are giving as best as they can and

if move in that direction do what we can not to have layoff. We know Pete's plight today with golden handshake, our employees are thankful to townspeople for what they have and stress that everyday and it is getting worse for those suffering. State and congress is told CT is last to see bottom of this and last to see employment issues and reports to come in on finalization. If you have any ideas send them to Hartford, call Bill Hamzy and Tom Colapietro and offer suggestions and ideas. Nothing short of any idea will help us through this unless you offer it.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjournment by Councilwoman Jandreau; second Councilwoman Denski and the vote unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Gudczaskas, Clerk of the Town Council