

Town of Plymouth
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Plymouth Town Council
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Minutes

May 13, 2014

Call to Order: Mayor David V. Merchant called the scheduled May 13, 2014, Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present were Town Councilman William Heering, Town Councilwoman Susan Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski, Town Councilman Gary Wyszynski, and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also in attendance were Director of Finance David Bertnagel Town Attorney William Hamzy and Skate Park Committee Chairman Marty Sandshaw.

Fire Exits Notification

Mayor Merchant noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Merchant led the Plymouth Town Council and the Public Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Rules and Procedures

No report.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Peter Worhunsky, 19 Coral Drive, Terryville, stated that he wanted to speak about the OZ Gedney foundry and tax abatements and provided a brief history of his work on 100 South Riverside Avenue. He further stated that the tax abatement that he thought he had been approved for, during the previous Administration's term, had not come to fruition and that he did not understand what had happened. He further stated that he would not pay any more taxes on the property.

Vinnie Klimas, 5 Coral Drive, Terryville, stated that he would like to strongly recommend the Town Council open their meetings with a prayer after the Pledge of Allegiance was said, noting that the US Supreme Court now allows prayer at meetings and briefly gave his reasons for this request.

Vinnie Klimas questioned what the Charles Street Project was about and questioned if there had been any Public meetings to talk about it.

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Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items Cont'd.

Mayor Merchant stated there was no existing Charles Street project and invited Vinnie Klimas to come to his office to talk with him further.

Mayor Merchant stated that because the Council Meeting was a Special Meeting the Town Council could not respond to Vinnie Klimas recommendation on prayer.

Attorney Hamzy stated that the reason Public Comment on Non Agenda items could not be discussed this evening was based on State Statute; a brief discussion followed.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, stated she had attended a Public Works Advisory Commission meeting and questioned where the money for the work being done at the Structus property was coming from. Melanie Church named the projects that were covered by the Bonding money and noted that anything over \$50,000 had to go to the Council and then to the Public and that she was frustrated by it.

Melanie Church stated that she was still waiting for stuff from FOI and only gets half of what she asks for and will take it to FOI, noting she wanted the bids for Phase 2 for the Highway Garage. She further stated that road money was going to be used to put in parking lots and had problems with that use.

Michael Ganem, Chairman Economic Development Commission and Parks and Recreation Director, noted that the Structus Property was a blighted property and needed to be cleaned up and that the Economic Development Commission felt it would be in the best interest of the Town to do the work. He further stated that any potential buyer would have to run environmental studies and that could not happen without the debris being removed. Michael Ganem thanked Mayor Merchant for his assistance in getting the work completed enabling the property to be sold and put back on the tax rolls. He further stated that setting a good example begins with the Town.

Michael Ganem stated that the Community Garden was ready to begin, noting that there were pictures posted on the Parks and Recreation's Department Facebook page.

Michael Ganem thanked Town Council Liaison Wyszynski for taking the time to come by and view the pictures.

Michael Ganem stated that he also wanted to thank the collaborated work of the Mayor's Office, the Public Works Department, the Board of Education, and the Parks and Recreation Commission for getting everything ready. Michael Ganem stated that they were ready to till and that the United Way Day of Caring had volunteers that would be at the garden this Friday and would be measuring and assigning plots.

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To discuss and take action to refund the following Property Taxes: Barbara Miner Irick \$184.20; Corelogic \$691.88; Kevin M. Therrien \$57.71; Clements Hodkoski \$134.06; Casey M. Cmiel \$611.10; Richard DaPonte \$142.86

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to refund the following Property Taxes: Barbara Miner Irick \$184.20; Corelogic \$691.88; Kevin M. Therrien \$57.71; Clements Hodkoski \$134.06; Casey M. Cmiel \$611.10; and Richard DaPonte \$142.86. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action to set May 28, 2014, 7:00 p.m. as the date and time for the Town Meeting for the Skate Park

Town Councilman Wyszynski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Murawski, to discuss and take action to set May 28, 2014, 7:00 p.m. as the date and time for the Town Meeting for the Skate Park. A lengthy discussion followed.

Vote: Town Councilman Heering/yes; Town Councilwoman Murawski/yes; Town Councilman Pajeski/yes; Town Councilman Wyszynski/yes; Town Councilman Zagurski/yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Councilman Zagurski thanked David Bertnagel for the good job he did explaining the LoCIP monies.

Town Councilman Heering stated that he wanted to second Town Councilman's comment to David Bertnagel.

Marty Sandshaw stated that as Chairman of the Skate Park Committee he wanted to thank the Council members for keeping an open mind.

Marty Sandshaw stated that he also wanted to thank Mayor Merchant for the countless hours he spent on the project and David Bertnagel for his assistance, noting that it was a worthwhile project.

Executive Session to discuss land acquisition and sale of properties

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Wyszynski, to move into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss land acquisition and sale of properties. This motion was approved unanimously.

Present for the Executive Session were Director of Finance David Bertnagel, Town Attorney Hamzy, Town Councilman Heering, Mayor David Merchant, Town Councilwoman Murawski, Town Councilman Pajeski, Town Councilman Wyszynski, and Town Councilman Zagurski.

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Executive Session to discuss land acquisition and sale of properties Cont'd.

Mayor Merchant called the Plymouth Town Council Special meeting back into regular session at 8:50 p.m.

Take action, if necessary, from Executive Session

No action taken.

Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilman Wyszynski provided his Public Works Liaison Report.

Town Councilwoman Murawski provided her Fire Commission, Planning and Zoning and Water Pollution Control Authority Liaison Reports.

Town Councilman Zagurski provided his Economic Development Commission Liaison Report.

Town Councilman Pajeski provided his Housing/Gosinski Park Liaison Report.

Town Councilman Heering provided his Police Commission Liaison Report.

Council Comments

Gary Wyszynski stated that he wanted to thank the Volunteer Fire Department for their recent assistance with a work vehicle that he had which had a gas leak. He further stated that a large number of volunteers showed up to his call and that he wanted to encourage everyone to donate to the Volunteer Fire Department when they could, noting that they deserve all the credit they can get.

Mayor Merchant stated that Rodney Houle, who recently passed away, was a volunteer Fireman in Town for the better part of his life and that his service to the Town had made a difference. He further stated that Rodney Houle was Chairman of the Capital Improvements Committee and would be sorely missed; noting that he worked with him and that Rodney had been very excited about some of the current projects the Town was working on.

Mayor Merchant asked for a Moment of Silence in honor of Rodney Houle.

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Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Pajeski, to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary