

**Town of Plymouth**  
**80 Main Street**  
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**Plymouth Town Council**  
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**Minutes**

**July 9, 2014**

**Call to Order:** Mayor David V. Merchant called the scheduled July 9, 2014, Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., in the Community Room, Town Hall.

**Roll Call:** Present were Town Councilman William Heering, Town Councilwoman Susan Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also in attendance were the Director of Finance David Bertnagel, Director of Parks and Recreation Michael Ganem and Public Works Engineering Technician Charles Wiegert.

### **Fire Exits Notification**

Mayor Merchant noted the Fire Exits for the record.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Vin Klimas led the Plymouth Town Council and the Public Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Merchant stated “May God Bless America” and May God Bless the Town of Plymouth” for the record.

### **Council Rules and Procedures**

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Herring, to remove Agenda Item No. 9 “to discuss and take action on the Main Street Community Foundation Inc., Field of Interest Fund Agreement with the Town of Plymouth, Connecticut”. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Herring, to remove the Eagle’s Nest Restaurant and Triem Industries, under Agenda Item No. 10, from the Agenda Item, as the word “Abatement” was incorrect; they were actually Economic Development Funding. This motion was approved unanimously.

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**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Merchant provided his Mayor's Report; a brief discussion followed.

**Public Comments on non-agenda items**

Vin Klimas, 5 Coral Drive, Terryville, stated that a draft copy of his request for a Prayer before each Council Meeting had been distributed to the Town Council Members. Vin Klimas thanked the Mayor for stating the generic prayer of "God Bless America."

Diane Reed, 5 Chidsey Terrace, Terryville, questioned if the blighted property list been brought forward for certification by the Code Enforcement Committee since November 2013. Citing from the Charter Diane Reed briefly elaborated on her question.

Chris Simo-Kinzer, 52 Old Farm Town Road, Terryville, thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for the Summer Program. He further stated that the Route 72 project had two sets of traffic lights and noted that there were two Police Officers present during the day that were sitting around doing nothing or talking to locals and questioned why they were there when there was a traffic light in place and if they were collecting overtime.

Pattie DeHuff, 20 Lynn Avenue, Terryville, stated that she wanted to thank the Mayor for saying God Bless America and the Town of Plymouth.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, stated she was delinquent in her taxes but did pay them off noting that her lis pendes was late in coming to her in the mail, and briefly explained the problem. Melanie Church stated that there was a book in the Town Clerk's Office that wasn't updated. Melanie Church stated that she had been accused of not registering her car in Town. Melanie Church stated that she had a picture, and distributed it to the Council members, noting that it was a safety problem and briefly explained her issue. Melanie Church detailed OSHA requirements. Melanie Church stated that jobs had to be advertised, citing nepotism was wrong. Melanie Church stated that she would report the Town for OSHA violations with the next picture she received and that OSHA would fine the Town. Melanie Church stated that bids were not going out citing the North Street dam as an example.

Michael Kennedy, 11 Overlook Terrace, Terryville, stated the he had received a tax bill for his automobiles and that he was over assessed for the value of his truck. He further stated that he would not be paying his taxes on the truck and he was done with it. Michael Kennedy stated that if he didn't sell his house in the next couple of months it would go back to the bank and the Town could fight the bank for his taxes, noting that he was done paying his taxes and briefly explained his reasoning.

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**Public Comments on non-agenda items Cont'd.**

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that the Town had a Board of Assessment Appeals and that if Michael Kennedy didn't agree with his bill he could set up an appointment to meet with them and discuss the issue.

Michael Kennedy stated he had been down that road and wouldn't waste his time again.

**To discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund the following Property Taxes: Kaitelynn L. Blethen \$164.53; Ally Financial Louisville PPC \$165.80; John J. Bolduc \$192.42; Eric A. Cabiya \$97.99; Donald Rasmus \$28.05**

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to refund Property Taxes to Kaitelynn L. Blethen in the amount of \$164.53; Ally Financial Louisville PPC in the amount of \$165.80, John J. Bolduc in the amount of \$192.42, Eric A. Cabiya in the amount of \$97.99 and Donald Rasmus in the amount of \$28.05. This motion was approved unanimously.

**Appointments/Resignations: To appoint George Castle as a Regular Member to the Planning and Zoning Commission; to appoint Jolene Dutkiewicz from an Alternate Member on the PVAC Board of Directors to a Regular Member**

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Murawski, to appoint George Castle as a Regular Member to the Planning and Zoning Commission. This motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor Merchant stated that Jolene Dutkiewicz had not submitted a Boards and Commission application because she was unaware that she needed one when she was told she could move from an Alternate to a Regular Member position, noting that this appointment could be tabled until the next meeting of the Council.

Town Councilman Pajeski made a motion to appoint Jolene Dutkiewicz from an Alternate Member on the PVAC Board of Directors to a Regular Member. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Heering, to table the appointment of Jolene Dutkiewicz from an Alternate Member on the PVAC Board of Directors to a Regular Member. This motion was approved unanimously.

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**To discuss and take action on the following Tax Abatements: 100 South Riverside Avenue, LLC**

Town Economic Development Consultant Craig Stevenson explained and provided the history for the Tax Abatement for 100 South Riverside Avenue, LLC at length; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilman Heering made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Pajeski, to abate the Tax on 100 South Riverside Avenue, Pequabuck. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To set a Public Hearing date for an Ordinance for the Town of Plymouth to join the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments**

Mayor Merchant stated that because this was an Ordinance a Public Hearing would be required, and a date would have to be set. He further stated that this Public Hearing could be held at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Regular August meeting of the Plymouth Town Council; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Pajeski, to set a Public Hearing date for a Public Hearing for an Ordinance for the Town of Plymouth to join the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments on August 5, 2014, at 6:30 p.m., prior to the Regular Town Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

**Discuss and take action on the Recycling Facility Contract**

Mayor Merchant stated that the Council had a copy of the Recycling Facility Contract.

Mayor Merchant requested that Charles Wiegert provide a brief background for the Recycling Facility Contract.

Vin Klimas questioned if this contract had gone out for bid and if so, when.

Charles Wiegert stated that Murphy Road was the only bid received for recyclables and that a RFP had been published online in the Hartford Courant.

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Murawski, to enter into an Agreement with Murphy Road Recycling, LLC, for recyclables. This motion was approved unanimously.

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**Discuss and take action on the MMA ConnDOT Contract**

Mayor Merchant stated that this was a contract for projects funded through the State or the Federal Government and were administered through the Department of Transportation.

Mayor Merchant stated that the State of Connecticut was trying to have one Master Agreement with all of the communities verses each specific project, i.e. Safe Routes to School, Fall Mountain Project, Bemis Street, the Waterwheel and all ongoing projects.

Charles Wiegert provided further information on the MMA ConnDot Contract.

After a brief discussion, Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Pajeski, to enter into the MMA ConnDot Contract and read the Agreement into the record. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel issue regarding the Director of Public Works position**

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Heering, to enter into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss Personnel issue regarding the Director of Public Works position. This motion was approved unanimously.

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

Mayor Merchant stated that Charles Wiegert, Chairman Public Works Advisory Commission Richard Lyga, Public Works Advisory Commission Member Peter Giancesini, and Public Works Advisory Commission Member Joe Carey would be invited into the Executive Session if necessary.

Mayor Merchant called the Plymouth Town Council back into Regular Session at 8:11 p.m.

**Take action on Executive Session if necessary**

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to approve Charles Wiegert as the Interim Public Works Director. This motion was approved unanimously.

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### **To discuss and take action on a Facilities Manager/Safety Coordinator position within the Public Works Department**

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Heering, to table Agenda Item No. 16, to discuss and take action on a Facilities Manager/Safety Coordinator position within the Public Works Department. This motion was approved unanimously.

### **Financial Report**

David Bertnagel provided his Financial Report; a brief discussion followed.

### **Town Council Liaison Reports**

Town Councilwoman Murawski provided her Liaison Report on the Water Pollution Control Authority and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he had nothing to report on at this time.

Town Councilman Pajeski provided his Liaison Report on Gosinski Park

Town Councilman Heering provided his Liaison Report on Inland-Wetlands Commission, the Plymouth Police Commission and the Board of Education.

### **Council Comments**

Town Councilman Heering stated that he would be looking into Diane Reed's questions/comments.

Town Councilman Pajeski stated that he sat on the Housing Board of Appeals, noting that the Chairman had passed away, and that he would be looking into Diane Reed's questions/comments. He further stated that he had noticed blighted houses on Main Street and thought they would fall under the Building Inspector's job.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he felt the Blight list was not official until it came to the Town Council and that that the members should be receiving it. Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he saw a lot of potholes in Town and questioned if the Town has been able to use the shared Pothole machine, noting he didn't know where the machine was currently being used.

Mayor Merchant stated that he was unsure of where the machine was, but that he would find out for Town Councilman Zagurski.

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**Council Comments Cont'd.**

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that she would also like to see something happen with the Blight issue.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town made a motion, seconded by Town Council to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary