

**Town of Plymouth**  
**80 Main Street**  
**Terryville, CT 06786**  
**www.plymouthct.us**

**Plymouth Town Council**  
**Telephone: (860) 585-4001**  
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**Minutes**

**August 6, 2014**

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

**Roll Call:** Present were Town Councilman William Heering, Mayor David Merchant, 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, Executive Director Council of Governments Central Naugatuck Valley Samuel Gold, and Town Attorney William Hamzy.

#### **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.

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

#### **Reading of Legal Notice**

**Legal Notice (Bristol Press):** Notice is hereby given to the legal voters and qualified taxpayers of the Town of Plymouth that the Plymouth Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 5, 2014, at 6:30 p.m., in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall, 80 Main Street, Terryville, CT, to give citizens an opportunity to hear and or/make oral or written recommendations regarding the adoption of an Ordinance for the Town of Plymouth to join the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments

David V. Merchant, Mayor

Dated this 22nd day of July, 2014, Plymouth, CT

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**Reading of Legal Notice Cont'd.**

Mayor Merchant read the Legal Notice into the record.

Mayor Merchant stated that the Council had previously agreed on joining in on creating the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments and that the Council would be deciding this evening whether or not to adopt the Ordinance.

Mayor Merchant stated that the Town wasn't just jumping into this with a blindfold on, noting that the Town had researched it. Citing the \$2.2 million that the Town had already received in Transportation monies for Bemis Street, Mayor Merchant stated that the Northwest Hill Council of Government's big downfall was that they did not have Transportation monies available because they didn't have did not have a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

**Public Comments/Written recommendation regarding the Proposed Ordinance authorizing the adoption of an Ordinance for the Town of Plymouth to join the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments**

Pattie DeHuff, 20 Lynn Avenue, Terryville, stated that she was speaking as a citizen and taxpayer of Plymouth, not as a Board of Finance Member. Pattie DeHuff questioned if the Mayor or Council Members had read the 120-page Council of Government Plan of Development document; a brief discussion followed. Pattie DeHuff stated that she wanted to talk about Regionalism and elaborated at length.

Executive Director Council of Governments Central Naugatuck Valley Samuel Gold stated there was no plan as referred to by Pattie DeHuff; and explained the NVCOG organization in detail; a lengthy discussion followed.

Paul Gabriella, 148 East Plymouth Road, Terryville, questioned what type of benefits did the Town hope to gain by joining the NVCOG; Paul Gabriella questioned if the Town would have access to these funds if it weren't a part of the NVCOG and what type of research had the Town done on the NVCOG organization; Paul Gabriella questioned if the other seven (7) towns that Plymouth was in a region with were also joining the NVCOG; a lengthy discussion followed.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, questioned where Litchfield, Harwinton, Sharon, Winsted, Harwinton, Colebrook, New Hartford, group was with and maybe the Town would be better off going where these towns went and noted that the COG's get a an administration cost portion of whatever a town receives; a brief discussion followed.

George Franek, 75 Allen Street, Terryville, questioned how many towns had accepted/approved an Ordinance, how many were pending, and were part of the COG.

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**Public Comments/Written recommendation regarding the Proposed Ordinance authorizing the adoption of an Ordinance for the Town of Plymouth to join the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments Cont'd.**

George Franek stated he was shocked that Bristol would go to NVCOG and that things weren't read and homework wasn't done; a brief discussion followed.

Michael Ganem, Chairman, Economic Development Commission, Town of Plymouth, stated that the Economic Development Commission had discussed this issue for several months and wasn't new to the Commission. He further stated that the Commission was thrilled because this COG lined up with the Route 8 Corridor where the Town was very successful with their marketing.

Cathy Kosak, 201 Harwinton Avenue, Terryville, questioned if the Town were to go with this area group and found out it wasn't working out for the benefit our Community would the Town be able to go in with another group; a brief discussion followed.

Rob Wilcox, 155 South Main Street, Terryville, questioned how funds within the COG were distributed, including prioritizing; a brief discussion followed.

**Council Comments**

Town Councilman Heering stated that he had no Council Comment at this time.

Town Councilman Pajeski stated that he had no Council Comment at this time.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he had no Council Comment at this time.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that she had no Council Comment at this time.

Town Councilman Wyszynski stated that he had no Council Comment at this time.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Town Council Public Hearing, Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Heering, to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Submitted,

Recording Secretary