

Town of Plymouth
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Plymouth Town Council
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Minutes

April 21, 2016

Call to Order: Mayor David Merchant called the scheduled April 21, 2016, Plymouth Town Council/Board of Finance/ Plymouth Board of Education, Special Joint meeting to order at 9:03 p.m., in the Community Room, Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present were Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey, Mayor David V. Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also present from the Town of Plymouth were Director of Finance Ann Marie Rheault and Director of Public Works Charles Wiegert. Present from the Board of Finance were Vice-Chairman Vicky Carey, Board of Finance Member Pattie DeHuff, Board of Finance Member Jay Dorso, Board of Finance Member Jim Zalot and Board of Finance Chairman Ralph Zovich. Present from the Board of Education were Plymouth Board of Education Member Gerry Bourbonniere, Plymouth Board of Education Member/Chairman Melissa Johnson, Plymouth Board of Education Member Michelle Lucian, Plymouth Board of Education Member Roxanne McCann and Plymouth Board of Education Member Anthony Orsini. Also present from the Plymouth Board of Education were Plymouth Board of Education Business Manager Phillip Penn, and Plymouth Board of Education Superintendent Dr. Martin Semmel.

Fire Exits Notification-CT General Statutes, Public Act 03-231, Sec. 29-381

Mayor Merchant noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Merchant led the Plymouth Town Council, the Board of Finance, the Plymouth Board of Education and the Public Audience, in the Pledge of Allegiance

To allow the Board of Finance members to present the recommended Budget and by a majority vote of its members* make, if necessary, changes to the Budget to be recommended at the Town Referendum (*a quorum of the Board of Finance members must be present)

Mayor Merchant stated the Board of Finance, and Ann Marie Rheault (Director of Finance) had done a great job putting this Budget together, noting they had done tremendous amount of work. He further stated it was a good, and true and honest budget and briefly elaborated.

Board of Finance Chairman Ralph Zovich stated the Board of Finance had a quorum for the record.

When questioned by Town Councilman Gentile, Mayor Merchant stated that the Town had received an 80/20 reimbursement for the Napco Bridge from the Federal Bridge Program for the repair of that bridge (the Town being the 20) and briefly elaborated.

Charles Wiegert, Director of Finance stated looking at the Federal Bridge Program monies in the Budget, \$300,000 has been allocated and that \$60,000 (20% of the total fund) would be for the design work of the Napco Bridge. He further stated the total \$1.3 million is based on cost estimates of what would be done to potentially fix the bridge. Charles Wiegert stated this amount included all phases of the project, i.e., advertising, legal expenses, right of way, design work construction, inspection (and included in the \$1.3 million figure) and briefly elaborated. Charles Wiegert stated this bridgework would probably be constructed in 2018/2019.

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Charles Wiegert stated the \$240,000 is reimbursed as the project goes and on a monthly basis. He further stated it would go through all of the proper channels (i.e. Capital Improvements Committee, etc.) and would receive all the approvals and permits that go along with it.

Board of Finance Chairman Ralph Zovich stated he had received a request from the Melissa Johnson, Chairman of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Martin Semmel, for an additional \$87,000 to be added to the Plymouth Board of Education's Budget to bring it up and equal to what they were projecting to spend on Special Education Outplacements and questioned if any Board of Finance Members wanted to entertain a motion for this requested item.

Board of Finance Member Pattie DeHuff stated she wanted everyone to think about the bridge at the corner of Route 6 and Route 72, noting it was \$1.2 million bridge and questioned if it seemed logical that the Napco Bridge would cost more than the complicated Route 6/Route 72 Bridge.

Mayor Merchant stated only half a deck was replaced for the Route 6/Route 72 Bridge, not the entire bridge and briefly elaborated.

Charles Wiegert stated the Route 6/Route 72 bridge was not the Town's, noting it was the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation and that it had \$250,000 in Change Orders alone. He further stated the project came to \$1.5 million dollars for a half a deck replacement and briefly elaborated.

When questioned by Board of Finance Member Pattie DeHuff, Charles Wiegert stated the pipes under the Napco Bridge were rusted, noting he had seen the pictures.

Board of Finance Member Pattie DeHuff made a motion to cut \$60,000 out of the Capital Project General Fund/Taxpayers Funded column for the design work for the First Phase of the Napco Bridge. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Board of Finance Member Dan Murray made a motion, seconded by Board of Finance Member Vicky Carey, to send the proposed 2016/2017 Budget of \$40,227,126 for the General Fund Budget to the Town Council for a Referendum vote on a date set forth by the Town Council. This motion was approved unanimously.

To move to schedule a date for the annual Budget Referendum for the purpose of adopting a Budget

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Councilman Zagurski, to move the Budget recommended by the Board of Finance to a Referendum on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, from 6:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m., at the Plymouth Town Hall. This motion was approved unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Gentile, to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.