

Town of Plymouth
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Plymouth Town Council
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Minutes

March 1, 2016

Call to Order: Mayor David V. Merchant called the scheduled March 1, 2016, Plymouth Town Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present were Town Councilman Daniel Gentile, Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey, Mayor David Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, and Town Councilman John Pajeski. It was noted for the record that Town Councilman Tom Zagurski had an excused absence. Also in attendance were Real Estate Committee Member Michael Ganem, Town Attorney William Hamzy and Director of Public Works Charles Wiegert.

Adoption of the Agenda

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Pajeski, to adopt the March 1, 2016, Plymouth Town Council Agenda with the following changes: Under Appointments/Resignations to show Tracy Dupont and Sally Bain-Picards's re-appointments as being to the Human Services Commission; to add Public Comment on Agenda Items as Agenda Item #11a. This motion was approved unanimously.

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.

Invocation

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

Acceptance of Plymouth Town Council Meeting Minutes February 2, 2016

Town Councilwoman LeGassey made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Gentile, to accept the February 2, 2016, Plymouth Town Council Regular minutes with the following correction: On Page 10, Town Council Liaison Reports, "*Town Councilwoman LeGassey* stated the Economic Development Commission meeting had been cancelled" not "*Town Councilwoman Murawski*" as typed. This motion was approved unanimously.

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Mayor's Report

Mayor Merchant provided the following: Update on the remodeling work being done in the Assessor and Tax offices; update on the new signs directing the public to the appropriate Town Hall offices; update on the new generator which is expected to arrive tomorrow; update on the Bemis Street Project, noting it should go out to bid this month; update on meeting with DOT regarding the Federal Local Bridge Program; and update on the Emergency Communication Repairs.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

No report.

Appointments/Resignations: To reappoint Tracy Dupont to the Human Services Commission with an ending term of October 2018; to reappoint Sally Bain-Picard to the Human Services Commission with an ending term of October 2018

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Gentile, to reappoint Tracy Dupont to the Human Services Commission with an ending term of October 2018. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman LeGassey, to reappoint Sally Bain-Picard to the Human Services Commission with an ending term of October 2018. This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and take action to set the terms of the Housing Authority Board Members

Mayor Merchant stated over the years the dates for the Housing Authority members and terms had been mixed up, noting the Board had five-year terms. He further stated Attorney Hamzy had worked extensively to correct the terms, and the Council members had received the Plymouth Housing Authority Research report in their packets from Attorney Hamzy. Mayor Merchant stated he was in agreement, noting Attorney Hamzy had spent a lot of time researching this issue and that he was very pleased with the current member's work.

Attorney Hamzy outlined his report in detail; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilman Pajeski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Gentile, to approve the term ending dates for the current members as follows: Beth Reese-08/2015 (Tenant), Heidi Caron-08/2016; Michael Drozdick-08/2017; Harold Sturgeon-08/2018 and Vinnie Klimas 08/2019. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Gentile stated Attorney Hamzy had done a good job on the report.

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Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund the following overpayment of Property Taxes: William Madore \$123.74; Lawrence or Joyce Darrell \$426.93; Jacqueline or Gary Lancioni \$265.74; JP Morgan Chase \$314.16, \$126.95; Scott Pelletier \$205.14

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman LeGassey, to refund the following overpayment of Property Taxes: William Madore \$123.74; Lawrence or Joyce Darrell \$426.93; Jacqueline or Gary Lancioni \$265.74; JP Morgan Chase \$314.16, \$126.95; and Scott Pelletier \$205.14. This motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment

Bridgett Waldron, 32 West Lakeview, Plymouth, stated she may or may not have an opportunity to discuss real estate matters this evening, noting she was the winning recipient of a property proposal and had put together an informational packet for review and briefly elaborated.

Mayor Merchant stated Bridgett Waldron would probably end up bringing the packet to the Real Estate Committee, noting she would know at the end of the Executive Session this evening.

To discuss and take action to authorize the Mayor through Resolution to sign the Second Amendment Agreement between the Town and Covanta Bristol, Inc.

Mayor Merchant stated the Town of Plymouth currently takes its solid waste trash to Covanta Bristol and that this Agenda item was about the Amendment to the Agreement.

Charles Wiegert introduced Mark Bobman, Executive Director of Covanta, noting he oversees the solid waste movements through the 14 Town Region, which Plymouth is a part of, and briefly elaborated.

Mark Bobman briefly explained the Amendment to the Agreement, noting it had established a cap on the amount of residential waste that could go to Covanta Bristol. He further stated the maximum was 180,000 tons and then the number dropped to 163,000 tons, so the purpose of the second Amendment would be to eliminate any cap on the residential tonnage that the Town of Plymouth collects (or any of the 14 Towns in the region) at the Transfer Station or of any future curbside residential waste; a brief discussion followed.

When questioned by Town Councilman Gentile, Mark Bobman stated the original tipping fee was \$60.00 per ton (the cost of disposing trash at Covanta Bristol), noting every year it could escalate by 1.75 percent up to a max of 3.25 percent. He further stated the current amount was \$61.05 per ton and would probably go up to approximately \$62.30 for the contract year beginning July 2016 through June 2017; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilwoman Murawski read the Resolution out loud for the public audience.

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To discuss and take action to authorize the Mayor through Resolution to sign the Second Amendment Agreement between the Town and Covanta Bristol, Inc. Cont'd.

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Gentile, to approve and authorize the Mayor through Resolution to sign the Second Amendment Agreement between the Town and Covanta Bristol, Inc., as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated the Public Works Advisory Commission meeting had been cancelled due to inclement weather. Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated three EMT's needed recertification and the PVAC wanted to do them all together, noting they had passed their inspections. Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated 17 PVAC youth had gone camping in Winsted in the zero degree weather and wanted to give kudos to the chaperones, noting everyone had a great time. Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated the Economic Development Commission had discussed their budget, noting Economic Development Consultant Craig Stevenson was working on two additional businesses for Town. Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated the WPCA was disappointed they hadn't been included in the Bond Package. Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated the WPCA had completed their Pump Project and were working on their numbers to start the payback. Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated the WPCA were working on policies, which would be available to the public.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Board of Finance was presented with a rough draft of the 2013/2014 Audit. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Board of Finance had begun their budget for the next fiscal year. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Board of Education requests would be presented to the Board of Finance on March 17. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Communications Commission had a presentation done by Northwestern Communications regarding the Service Agreements and problems they found with the towers, noting the issues were the same as what Marcus Communications had found. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated discussion had taken place about changing Communication Commission Membership to include representatives from the WPCA, the Highway Department and the Fire Marshal, noting this was because they all used radios. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Communications Commission would now meet monthly on the third Monday at 5:00 p.m., instead of only quarterly. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Police Commission had approved a set of bylaws and were considering a request from the Parks and Recreation for a crosswalk at the corner of Route 6 and 72. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Fire Commission had reviewed communications issues. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated discussion had taken place concerning Police Officers directing traffic at roadwork sites. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Human Services Commission meeting had been cancelled.

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Town Council Liaison Reports Cont'd.

Town Councilman Pajeski stated members of the Plymouth Housing Authority had toured various housing projects in the State that had been completed by different Architects who were submitting offers on the design of the remodeling of Gosinski Park, noting it was interesting to see the different materials, the rent prices, etc.

Town Councilman Pajeski stated the Plymouth Housing Authority Board had approved Quisenberry Arcari Architects of Farmington, noting the Park would look outstanding when the work was completed. Town Councilman Pajeski stated the Real Estate Committee, by State Statute, had received approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission to sell Town-Owned properties.

Town Councilman Gentile stated he wanted to thank Joe Barlow and Joe Deutsch for volunteering their time to film the Town Council meetings, as well as Rich Trudeau, Connor and the IT Department. Town Councilman Gentile stated he had discussed putting Town Agendas online with the Town Clerk and it shouldn't be a problem. Town Councilman Gentile stated the Charter Revision Commission had good members who were very diverse, noting they meet the first and third Wednesday of every month. Town Councilman Gentile noted the State of Connecticut had cut the Vo-Ag Budget from \$11 million to zero and outlined the effects it would have on the Board of Education's budget, encouraging everyone to call their State Representatives and let them know they are not happy with these cuts. Town Councilman Gentile stated the Board of Education was working on their Policy 9000 (Bylaws) in case anyone was interested in being involved and briefly elaborated. Town Councilman Gentile stated the Board of Education had put their budget forward to the Board of Finance. Town Councilman Gentile stated there were eight to nine properties, which would be posted on the Town's Website and also with Select Realty if anyone was interested in the properties that were just released.

Town Councilman Pajeski stated the property information could also be found on Zillow or Realty.com

Town Council Comments

Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated the Terryville High School students were working very hard on their upcoming play "Little Shop of Horrors" and asked everyone to come out and support them.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated she had no Town Council comments to report on at this time.

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

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Town Council Comments Cont'd.

Town Councilman Gentile stated he had no Town Council comments at this time.

Executive Session to discuss Real Estate

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Gentile, to move into Executive Session at 7:40 p.m., to discuss Real Estate. Present for the Executive Session were Real Estate Committee Member Ganem, Town Councilman Gentile, Town Attorney Hamzy, Town Councilwoman LeGassey, Mayor Merchant, Town Councilwoman Murawski, Town Councilman Pajeski and Director of Public Works Charles Wiegert.

Mayor Merchant called the Plymouth Town Council back into Regular session at 8:30 p.m.

Action, as may be necessary, from Executive Session

No action taken.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman LeGassey, to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.