

1. The Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Town Council was called to order on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 7:02 p.m. in the Plymouth Town Hall Community Room by Mayor Vincent Festa, Jr. Members in attendance: Councilman Martin Sandshaw, Councilwoman DiAnna Schenkel, Councilman David Sekorski, Councilman John Wunsch, Councilman Tom Zagurski and Mayor Festa. Also present: Robin Gudczauskas, Clerk of the Council; Attorney Sal Vitrano.
2. Fire Exit Notification
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Acceptance of Minutes

- a. Regular Town Council Meeting Dated January 5, 2010

MOTION: To accept the Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2010 by Councilman Zagurski; second Councilman Sekorski. Discussion: None. Vote: unanimous with Schenkel abstaining.

- b. Special Town Council Meeting Dated January 13, 2010

MOTION: To accept the Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2010 by Councilwoman Schenkel; second Councilman Wunsch. Discussion: None. Vote: unanimous.

- c. Special Town Council Meeting Dates February 8, 2010

MOTION: To accept the Special Town Council Meeting Minutes dated February 8, 2010 by Councilman Sekorski; second Councilman Zagurski. Discussion: None. Vote: unanimous.

- d. Special Town Council Joint Meeting with AD Hoc Committee on Blight dated February 17, 2010

MOTION: To accept the Special Town Council Joint Meeting Minutes with Ad Hoc Committee on Blight dated February 17, 2010 by Councilwoman Schenkel; second Councilman Wunsch. Discussion: None. Vote: unanimous.

5. Council Rules and Procedures

6. Mayor's Report

*Budget preparation for FY 10-11 – that continues to have weekly meetings with the BOF and will be adding additional meetings for their continuation of formulating their budget. The 28th the auditors will be in and we will let you know about that so you can be in attendance as well so they can give their particular report. I presented to you tonight a copy of the auditor's report that you can take a look at and any discussion you have at the next meeting will be addressed.

*Spending/hiring freeze activated and continues.

*Furloughs/lay-offs

*Golden Handshakes/contract negotiations have begun/consolidations/re-organization as part of the contract negotiations will be occurring next week and we will also be looking at the potential of elimination of positions if in fact as we move forward and find that the State and the town are in distress. We will be doing this relative as we are watching the state's budget very closely; being concerned about what is taking place and whether or not there is going to be any additional cuts made to either the Board of Ed side or the town's side.

*Unanticipated emergency expenditure needs (roofs) – The unexpected emergency anticipation of expenditures for roof replacement. We do have 4 roofs that have come to our attention; the roof at the town garage causing structure damage (actually the highway garage to be more specific), the roof at Eli Terry Middle School is in dire need, the two fire houses, Harwinton Avenue and Plymouth fire houses again are in serious need of replacement. So we are trying to come up with a ballpark figure, what it is going to be costing to address these particular issues. In many cases the roof cannot be just repaired but actually has to be replaced, so we are taking a look at all the particulars and making sure we cover all the bases to get the best possible program for our money in that regard.

*Bonding proposal presentation update – moving forward addressing boards and commissions on the bonding proposal and doing presentation and moving forward with that and will eventually be doing a presentation to the Council and also to the general public with public hearings.

*State budget issues remain a major concern

*Back tax collection efforts moving forward – There is going to be an absolute tax auction with some of the properties which will allow people to come in and do bidding on the particular properties. That will be addressed and noted when so scheduled.

*Continue to monitor current/back tax collections to make sure that we met the obligation of the budget rather than just the percentage set by the Board of Finance.

*2006 IRS tax penalty is going to be removed. That is good news. I have had discussions today with the tax advocate. However, we still have other issues relative to the 2006; the penalty of the \$400,000 that is being removed is for the non compliance of filing the W2's. The remainder of the 2006 returns relative to penalty has to do with the 941's.

*2007/2008 errors noted/need to be addressed – Are still in discussion and we are doing reports back and forth to IRS and Social Security on those issues. I did receive 3 pieces of correspondence today relative to and the 2009's. We had a report that was missing from the actual presentation and submitting of our reports and that will be taken care of tomorrow morning. We do have some issues relative to over taxes to the tune of \$190 being applied to the penalties. Once that is straightened out we will be on better ground and hopefully all the 941's will be taken care of. And to resolve that issue we are doing some training in that area to make sure that the individuals responsible for addressing the IRS issues at the end of the year have a better understanding on how to equate to and monitor the 941's and report them the way they should be reported.

*Code enforcement ordinance meeting – that will be scheduled between this Council and the ad hoc committee. It will be a one item agenda for a meeting that will be scheduled and you will be notified when that is scheduled.

*Award notification: As you well know and Chief Krasicky is here with us this evening. She has been named Chief of The Year for the State of CT and we are very proud of the fact that she is representing Plymouth in that particular award and we send our deep thank you's for that, for doing your job that you uphold and respect. Chief Krasicky noted it is Officer of the Year. Also this coming Thursday, Henry Raymond who has been very active over the many years of his service to veterans, is being honored by the Charter Oak Division of the American Red Cross. There is a breakfast in his honor Thursday at the Marriott in Farmington. I will be attending that particular event as a special invitation by Henry himself. He is very proud and pleased to be receiving this award on behalf of all the work he has done for veterans and he has been an asset to this community for the veterans that live here as well as those in the general Bristol area.

*Brownfield's grant application update – I am very pleased and happy to report to you this evening, and the reason why I was a little bit late getting here, that the Historic Property Commission is meeting upstairs as well and I let them have the good news as well. We have received notification that we have been approved the \$200,000 grant application that we submitted on behalf of the waterwheel project and the property there. So we are well on our way in taking care of those particular issues. We will have information forthcoming from Mr. Art Bogan who represents the Valley Cog which has been responsible for helping us get this application grant into the process and moving it forward.

*Harwinton Avenue Road project is moving forward. We have had some discussion or discussed some of the issues with Mr. Lorenzetti and clarified some of the issues relative to this particular project and will be in contact and letting you know exactly what is taking place and transpires as the information comes forward from the federal level.

7. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

8. Appointments and Resignations

a. To appoint Zachary H. Lyga as an alternate member of the ZBA; three year term which expires February 19, 2013

MOTION: To appoint Zachary H. Lyga as an alternate member of the ZBA; three year term which expires February 19, 2013 by Councilman Sandshaw; second Councilwoman Schenkel. Discussion: None. Vote: unanimous.

9. To Refund The Following Property Taxes: Toyota Motor Credit Corp., \$348.35

MOTION: To refund property taxes to Toyota Motor Credit Corp., \$348.35 by Councilman Wunsch; second Councilman Sekorski. Discussion: none. Vote: unanimous.

10. To Approve The Following: Job descriptions for the position of Detective Sergeant and Animal Control Officer/Police Officer

MOTION: To approve the job description for the position of Detective Sergeant by Councilman Sekorski; second Councilwoman Schenkel. Discussion: Mayor Festa, At this point in time I ask Commissioner Tuleja to come forward and Chief Krasicky to come forward as well to give a brief description and clarification of the issue. Councilman Sekorski asked for a quick description of the Detective Sergeant position and why it is being brought forward generally speaking or is this just a clarification or extension of; I thought we approved the Detective Sergeant position before and am confused. The position is in place this is just a description of the duty. Chief Krasicky stated it is a temporary 90 active position and extended until the job description and general orders were approved by the Police Commission members and they were approved by the Town Council members. Mayor Festa, it is part of union negotiation as the position needs a job description and the job description must be approved by the Town Council and verified and submitted to the Town Clerk for authorization as part of the union contract. Councilman Sekorski, this is already a negotiated position, right. That is where I was confused on difference of what we already approved and what was brought here tonight. Thank you. Councilman Zagurski, I noticed in the job description that part is overseeing the evidence room and I was hoping to get more clarification on what was meant by overseeing the evidence room; it just didn't mean a lot to me on overseeing and I guess I want to know what it is they have to do. Chief Krasicky, the Detective Sergeant would oversee or supervise the evidence room. Right now we have to be in compliance with the State, there are court orders on evidence that has to be either returned or destroyed plus at this time we have a lot of evidence that has been sitting there for numerous amount of years that has not been dealt with, either returned or destroyed. So that happens on a regular basis and somebody has to oversee and somebody's name has to go down on the State form as who was in charge of that per the State directives. The Detective Sergeant will be in charge of that evidence room and supervising the Detective that works with him as well and they will work on this together. Ann Tuleja, there also needs to be two of them at one time so the detective division is going to take over the evidence room. So before we use to have the first shift sergeant help out with the detective, now it is only going to be the two detectives. The Detective Sergeant will oversee that with the detective so that we will not have to take a patrol sergeant whether it was on straight pay or overtime and sometimes it was on overtime and pay them to be able to do that job so they will be on straight pay to do that. Councilman Wunsch, it also says that he is a supervisor for the SRO, why, who does it now and why would the Detective Sergeant do that. Chief Krasicky, he will oversee the school resource officer and youth officer and both of these departments will come under a youth bureau or a detective bureau because we are not large enough to have separate divisions. In most departments the youth officer would come under youth bureau. Some departments have an SRO that strictly does that and we are combining two positions to get most bang for the buck. We wanted someone on day shift to readily supervise, schedule. The first shift supervisor has his responsibilities out on patrol and on the road. It is a better situation to put SRO under the Detective Sergeant and the police commission agreed to have monitored on a regular basis. The patrol shift sergeant on the day shift works a floating schedule, a 4 – 2 schedule, where the SRO does Monday through Friday as do the Detectives and

there is more continuity in the position as well. Ann Tuleja, we do not want to overburden any one of the sergeants, and we as a Police Commission had added positions on top of the police department and in doing that, they were reporting to three sergeants so when the detective sergeant came on he should have some responsibility. So that in taking over the SRO is for that reason, and one of the reasons so that we were not burdening just one sergeant or two sergeants but we were making sure they have equal amount of people underneath them. So the Police Commission was in total agreement that the SRO should be brought to the detective part for that reason. So that the first shift sergeant does the scheduling and also his patrol; the detective sergeant is a working sergeant also and does the evidence which is part of his job anyway so he should have SRO which we added on to his responsibility. Councilwoman Schenkel, as their liaison I know that this is not something that was just put together and a lot of work by this commission and Chief Krasicky, and thank you for your hard work. Mayor Festa, any other questions. Vote: unanimous.

MOTION: To approve the job description for Animal Control Officer /Police Officer by Councilwoman Schenkel; second Councilman Wunsch. Discussion: Chief Krasicky, once again we are a small town and do not have a lot of money. The best way I do believe to go is the animal control/police officer. I think other departments in the state have gone with this position. We have had a lot of complaints that we are getting during the week, Monday through Friday 7-3, when our part timers are working their full time jobs and this is the best route to go by having an officer there and not for just that reason. A lot of times the Animal Control Officer will go out, get conflicts from the citizens, they have to give a ticket and have no power or authority to arrest other than for what they have under the auspices of the state for animal control issues. For safety reasons, there are other problems and issues which are encountered or other legalities and the police officer can take care of as well. He is not only acting as an Animal Control Officer but a Police Officer. We have a lot of complaints as everybody knows here, of motor vehicle violations, speeding, cell phone use, not obeying stop signs, not obeying traffic control signals, he will be doing that as well; also code enforcement if needed. If code enforcement and blight goes forward the officer will also be assisting Dave Elder to go out. I can go on and on. If an extra officer is needed with a serious motor vehicle or a serious crime it becomes a one crime department with three officers and a lot of times they are all tied up and this individual can be out for officer safety, citizen safety to assist. He will be a very busy individual when not doing animal control officer duties. We are trying to do this so you can get the most bang for your buck and get the most service out of your members at the least amount of cost. Councilwoman Schenkel, is there currently someone who is willing to train for this position or this a new hire. Chief Krasicky, I put a notice out and three individuals applied for it. There is going to be a testing procedure which we will have a full board examination put together by the State Animal Control Officer and they have two other animal control officers for a town not bordering Plymouth to give a professional oral board examination and as we did for the part time ACO. Councilwoman Schenkel, so there will not be a need for another head to replace this person; this is just a person who is advancing the duty

within the department, if they are chosen from the three. Chief Krasicky, there will be a backfill. This person is not going to be part of minimum three man minimum but above and beyond outside of that and because even if handling animal control issues and something else happens in town, he obviously cannot drop what he is doing to go and do other things for the town, this is something separate. Ann Tuleja, this position bridges the animal control division with the police department. It has always been a separate division and its' always been a civilian and so the part timers will stay that way but the first shift will be a police officer. It was never a part of the police department and now it is and so it then combines that division with the police department. I think it makes it for a better continuity especially for calls. We have gotten a lot of complaints about there not being anyone during the day available to handle them. We do have monthly calls that we look at every month and how many we get and a lot of them occur during the day when part timers cannot come in. We did have a thirty-two hour position at one time that had left but they weren't a police officer and this is the best way we thought we could handle both the department needs to be able to have a backup, having a police officer but also take over the animal control issues and to make him oversee those other part timers to make sure there is continuity between the shifts. Councilman Sandshaw, we have 3 people that have posted for this position, police officer slash animal control officer. What happens if some time in the future all three of these people determine they do not want to have this position. What do we do then. Do we go back to part timers, it could happen. Like you said, this person is going to be busy. Chief Krasicky, I would say we would have to renegotiate because it is a negotiated position. If it came to that point, if there was another position open, we would have to hire and strictly put out we were hiring for an animal control/police officer position so that the new hire coming in would know that this is exactly what it is or we could go by reverse seniority and still would have to be negotiated. Councilman Zagurski, procedural question, this animal control/police officer is on first shift and he is going to be probably trying to oversee people on second or third shift, the part timers. How is that going to work or is he going to set up a schedule on first shift for the part timers to come in and do duty on weekends. Chief Krasicky, right now the part timers are on per diem basis; they are on an as needed call basis. If there is no animal or anything be housed and he will not have to come in to clean and feed. If a call comes in we go down list and check their schedule to see who might be available. If a call is coming on the day shift and he handles the call, he might have to defer to the second shift to have the part timer come in and it is a lot cheaper to pay a part timer on their per diem salary than to pay an officer on an overtime basis to do follow up calls and just to make sure their paperwork is being turned in but the Animal Control/Police Officer and part timers are still going to be under the general supervision of the shift sergeant or shift supervisor and under a sergeant supervision. He is somewhat like the middle man to make sure that the paperwork is brought forward and given to sergeant and anything delegated down to them. Councilman Sekorski, my question is more along the animal control line and I think you answered them. There are a couple of major discrepancies, number one, as we were not responding fast enough to animal control issues so Chief or Commissioner Tuleja with this position of a full time person, day shift, and with your explanation that they are not having a supervisory

responsibility but will have some responsibility to make sure that off shift business will be taken care of, right. So do you think this will solve that particular issue of dealing with the animal control stuff. Chief Krasicky, definitely, it will definitely improve. As many times during the week we defer to Thomaston or Bristol as we had no animal control officers at all, and the officers can only handle so much of an animal control call, they are not trained to handle animals such as trap them or snare them, etc. So if it is a barking dog, yes, we can have an officer go out. There were times at which nobody was available and we were very fortunate that we did not run into liability issues. Councilman Sekorski, in particular there was an attack situation as I recall a couple of years back but the police could not adequately respond to that, right. Chief Krasicky, right. Councilman Sekorski, the second thing is you mentioned supervisory so there was a, do we need to do anything about the current description of the animal control officer because I thought it was in the Charter. Councilwoman Schenkel, it was changed. Ann Tuleja, that is when the Mayor put the animal control officer in the police department. Councilman Sekorski, o.k., so the issues on supervision falls completely under the police department and all calls now are still filtered through regular police dispatch; how about the evening or off hours, that will still be handled the same way by however is available, part timers would be called first on off shift and no change to that arrangement. Chief Krasicky, correct. Ann Tuleja, also the animal control/police officer is not a supervisor because they have a sergeant who is dealing with them and the shift sergeant is still the supervising sergeant. Mayor Festa, any other questions.

Vote: unanimous.

11. To approve the following: General Order #10-23, "Promotional Procedure To The Rank Of Detective Sergeant And The Duties And Responsibilities Of A Detective Sergeant

Chief Krasicky stated the General Order expounds upon the job description and gives a breakdown of the process and qualifications needed. On page 2 it gives duties and responsibilities and more in depth than the job description and also at the very last page are additional job duties because he is a working detective sergeant and who refer back to General Order. This expounds more on the hiring process and procedure and job duties and responsibility. Mayor Festa, question or concerns. Councilwoman Schenkel, I like format you used because you talk methodical on this is the purpose, this is the policy, this is what the qualifications are, this is how you test and then this is what your duties and responsibilities are. This is very clear, anybody can pick it up and look at it and realize what it takes so that any new officer who wants career as a detective sergeant knows what they have to do. I like that open idea that anyone can pick it up and read it and go for that job.

MOTION: To approve the General Order #10-23, "Promotional Procedure To The Rank Of Detective Sergeant And The Duties And Responsibilities Of A Detective Sergeant by Councilman Sekorski; second Councilman Zagurski. Discussion: none.

Vote: unanimous.

General Order #10-22, "Animal Control Operations" (Revised)

MOTION: To approve General Order #10-22 “Animal Control Operations (Revised) by Councilwoman Schenkel; second Councilman Wunsch. Discussion: Mayor Festa, if the Chief would review this. Chief Krasicky, again this just expounds on the job description and I had done this a few years ago and added to it to incorporate the Animal Control slash Police Officer addition so that is really the only change. There is a detailed breakdown of what the animal control officer and the police officer duties and responsibilities are. Questions: Councilwoman Schenkel, on the policy it seems that your first statement is that all departments’ personnel should be familiar with the laws and ordinances related to animal control and sounds like the entire police force will have a basic understanding of what the minimum is. Then have it where if the Animal Control officer or Animal Control slash police officer is not available you have a hierarchy of this person can’t be contacted than this person kicks in. If this person can’t, then this person can and eventually an average police officer would be the final and it seems you have provisions in place that in the event of weddings, vacations, illness and everything else there would always be somebody who is going to at least address some kind of level of response. Chief Krasicky, exactly. Mayor Festa, any other questions, comments, discussions. Councilman Sandshaw, how will you get information about the training that is involved and it sounds like all personnel will be familiar and will they have booklet or will there be formalized training. Chief Krasicky, they already do all know the basic and in this was in the original general order a few years ago. They know the general operations and the new officers will be trained by Bristol animal control officer and Chief Divinere has been very helpful and he will help us in any way he can at no cost to us. Mayor Festa, any other questions. Vote: unanimous.

12. Liaison Reports

- a. Councilman Sandshaw - no ZBA meeting because of snowstorm. He and DiAnna attended a special EDC meeting re streetscape and very informative, great presentation and good comments from audience and good job and look forward to it going forward.
- b. Councilman Wunsch – Attended Housing meeting at Gosinski Park and 15% of units are non occupayble at this time. There was not a list of what needs to be done and in process of compiling list of unit needs to get to that and have single and double units ready for when people apply for them. Fire Department doing recertification stuff, working on budgets and as the Mayor mentioned there are leaks at Plymouth and headquarters roofs. They are planning for 100th anniversary in2011 and in this year June will have wine tasting to raise funds for doing 100th anniversary event and in May 2011 is when they will have big 100th anniversary ball. SBC missed due to special Council meeting and this morning met with Public Works. On Friday they were down 5 guys, one retired, two out on workers compensation and another on bereavement and one called in sick so they had to close the transfer station and pull that indivual for plowing. Did find out a notice was put on Channel 30 that the transfer station will be closed and trying to get on other stations. Used up salt allocation for year and working in deficit on that. Do not know where to bring this up but would like to talk and since at a few meetings with public works and feel they need a town board to oversee and give direction. They are the only body in this town which absorbs quite a bit of financial money not overseen by a commission or board

and relying on Jimmy Schultz and Tony Lorenzetti on what roads to do and what way to go and nobody in town backing them as far as a commission or board to lead, and would like to find out if there is a point where we could discuss that. Mayor Festa, we can put that on the agenda for the next meeting.

c. Councilwoman Schenkel – attended EDC streetscape meeting with Marty and well attend, very nice presentation and gave the public many positions and good guidance as to where goals could be and project to be done in one quick swoop. Workable. Liked how open for all kinds of comments. BOF meetings are twice per week on the budget and good things going on and auditors will show up later this month.

d. Councilman Sekorski – attended meeting of WPCA on Feb. 22 and a long meeting; Mayor and Comptroller addressed WPCA to discuss current fiscal situation and WPCA is quasi agency of the town and operates under the State. Its' fees go directly to WPCA and they are in good shape and working on their budget over next couple meetings to determine fee structure. They have a lot of infrastructure issues and that plant is celebrating 22nd anniversary and are faced with different maintenance issues and will be over the next several years and because not official agency of the town they have different state funding and vehicles they can go to and they will do that. They also held election of officers and George Andrews was reelected chair; Phil Armbruster, vice chair and Jim Deutsch the secretary. A lot of discussion on this organization and they are in constant battle with state regulations especially with discharge and they pay a fee to the State because we cannot meet State nitrogen discharge requirements. Concern I am passing on after they are waiting response from our town planner and have concerns about subdivision regulations and put in some request and as planning & zoning write sub division regulations they have requests on what property owners should be doing re WPCA.

d. Councilman Zagurski - not able to attend BOE; Library board did not meet; Planning & Zoning schedule has been slower and did request that the streetscape people present application to planning and zoning and concerned they had not come to them. They are picking up on enforcement issues and Dave Elder doing a good job on enforcement issues; will hold public hearing on sidewalks and can voice concerns on how we should handle sidewalks in town.

e. Mayor Festa, relative to planning and zoning and streetscape looking for 8-24 and the Town Planner needs to relay back to planning and zoning chairman that this is preliminary. Thank you

13. Public Comments

a. Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, I have a couple of questions. (a) One, it was mentioned the backfill of one officer; what about for these extra sergeant, is there going to be another police officer. Mayor Festa, none. (b) You were mentioning streetscape and that, what I saw in the paper and read on line, there has been quite a bit of blogs on Bristol Press and said they were looking to start and you people were present at the meeting and why are we going to start at waterwheel. Councilwoman Schenkel, no start site determined. Mayor Festa, map outside relative to potential starting points, preliminary was discussion to starting points and how much money is available and how much property would be done within confines of that particular amount of money. Councilman Wunsch, think what happened was the Chair said

start at waterwheel but it goes from other side of Benedict Street down to Pavalock's so he said waterwheel meaning Benedict Street not in front of waterwheel. Think that is where confusion was. Benedict to Allen. (c) Suggestion possibly maybe we could have like City of Bristol where all meetings are posted outside city clerk's office on the wall the way you have your little one for council meetings. Maybe we could look at getting something so people coming in and out of town hall can see where meetings are. Mayor Festa, that is available to post meetings; you are talking about bulletin board within. Melanie Church, that way all meetings would be listed and if you do not know where a meeting is and good for the public; just a suggestion. (d) And John brought up public works commission about their being one. That was brought forward I believe three times and voted down by your Council and just bringing that up. Councilman Wunsch, I did get somewhat of a history and again in the few months meeting with Mr. Lorenzetti and Mr. Schultz it seems we have a lot of roads that nobody would argue are all in need of something. We are relying on two people to make decision than that is it. Even the library has a group overseeing and we have a group in charge of a lot of resources and money and now that I am in it we need to readdress and they would have commission to guide them. They will do any road you tell them to and now we are putting a lot on employees of town to make decision and they get a lot of grief and we talked about that this morning.

14. Council Comments

a. Councilman Sandshaw – spoke with Mr. Allread today and he asked him to remind Council that he has volunteered to upgrade our public address system to do repairs as long as the town would pay for materials. Mayor Festa, discussed this with Mr. Allread on three occasions and waiting for him to come back with particular piece he needs about \$100 and waiting for him to come back and he also indicated there is a problem with electrical outlets on the town green and due to the weather it is on hold. I am waiting for a response from him on equipment and what he needs to upgrade this particular system.

b. Councilman Wunsch – attended streetscape also and it was a very nice presentation but I want to make sure that is grant money doing this section. I really hope that and read blogs and all the nameless people with all the answers; I hope that, this money could dry up next year and we don't know, there is no guarantee we will get another dime after this and I hope that people will look, and you can do something or you can do nothing and you've got to start somewhere, so I hope that in time even if that money dries up we do not end up with 700 feet of sidewalk done. I hope that the town thinks far enough ahead that somehow, and again smarter people than I can figure out the how, we can continue this whether we get grant money or not because it is going to be a shame to do this wherever they choose to do it and have 700 feet of wow, that is nice in front of this dumpy building and five years from now we still have 700 feet in front of a dumpy building. Mayor Festa, you are correct relative to grant money coming out of the STEAP program and for a number of years we have been fortunate to receive the STEAP grant money to do various things including the waterwheel, pump station in industrial park, expand a lot and property that could be used for manufacturing purposes and businesses. The important thing is we keep reminding people that ultimately the STEAP money can dry up especially in this

economy. And we are fortunate that this particular year the Governor did allow for the STEAP money to be allocated, we are not sure next year and we are going to make application for next year. But you are absolutely correct and people have been looking forward to a dress up of Main Street for many many years. STEAP has been the start of the sidewalk project and if that money does dry up, we are going to have to be very creative in finding ways to continue because you say, 700 feet of sidewalk will do nothing down the road if we don't plan for something in regards to money drying up at the State level. Councilman Wunsch, question, on Harwinton Avenue and what is the next procedure that would go through, a public hearing or for the balance of the money. Mayor Festa, Mr. Lorenzetti can address that and I have already spoken with him earlier this week relative to information coming from the federal level relative to description of the project itself and I was a little bit concerned about the fact that it mentioned Route 6 from Holt Street all the way down to Armbruster Road which kind of caught my eye and my attention and I went to see Tony for an explanation on it. So if you can clear up the issue that John has brought forward as well as the project itself, Tony. Mr. Lorenzetti, the project itself lets just go back a couple of month. It has plans that were put together, specifications set to go out to bid in April, We have 90 days after the bid to decide how much of the project we choose to do. There is an estimate put together that includes construction cost, contingency, and administration on the project, base bid and three different alternates if funding is available. Base bid includes a portion of the road beyond Holt Street and a test strip further up the road to see if the remainder of the road could be reconstructed by particular methods. Three options: typically mill and overlay; pavement reclamation where you actually grind up existing pavement for the base and lay over it; or whether we would have to do a full depth reconstruction. The bids have been prepared with those options in there and the town option to decide what the town wants to do. In terms of funding the project, the bid includes the project as a capital project in our budget and that was presented this year to the mayor's office. There are a couple of different ways you could possibly do funding in the budget or a meeting to come back for additional funding for the project. Mayor Festa, for clarification, two issues because it is very important the taxpayers know why Harwinton Avenue was selected as there are other roads in the community in more dire need of repair than Harwinton and Tony can expound on the reason and how the stimulus package comes into play here. Tony Lorenzetti, the projects that we selected for the ARRA funding had to meet certain criteria in terms of time frame and shovel ready construction. The Town of Plymouth had no shovel ready projects for roads. In terms of getting the project ready we had to look at collector type roads (Preston Road, Allen Street, Harwinton Avenue) and the roads that we chose were not able to have right of way impact where you would have to get right of way from the property owners, they were not able have _____(could not hear tape) and we would not have to acquire it; we were not able to have drainage submission and DOT review which needs time. We needed to find a project that could be put together basically by this March, I don't remember the exact date, but CASME initiated through DOT to the Federal Highway Administration by early spring and this was the road chosen because we can reconstruct or do work within existing right of ways, no geometric issues, didn't need a new drainage design and we can meet deadlines. There are roads

in worse shape but they need right of way acquisition, new drainage and they did not meet criteria to apply. We had \$307,000 allocated for the Town of Plymouth to use and there was also negotiation/discussions with DOT that had to be put together just to get Harwinton Avenue approved. I initially thought we could mill and overlay road but after discussion with DOT they acquired required us to do samples in the field and required areas to be reconstructed. That is more or less the history of it. Councilman Wunsch, since I sit with these guys and talk once a month it is very eye opening the amount of time Mr. Lorenzetti ends up spending with the State on how many policemen you need and things normal people would probably think is a waste of time and the State thinks is important. Back to what I was originally trying to find, when we first talked about the project it was \$260 something, we were about \$100,000 short of doing that first up past from Rt 6 the street. We ok'd the project that extra money, \$100,000, where does that come from. Am I understanding you saying that in your budget for next year. Tony Lorenzetti, as part of all the capital projects we showed that project, that was an option and again I am not quite sure which options, I did not see how budget transpired once it left our department to go to the BOF. Mayor Festa, that \$100,000 would be within the capital improvements issues from what I understand. But more importantly if I understand this correctly, we are not sure what the price is until such time as the bids come in and whether or not we accept those bids and we go forward with project. That is the ultimate issue relative to that. We do not have assurance of anything until such time the bid process and the only way we can find out is going through the bid process which is not going to cost us anything except finding out exactly what the costs are and if we can afford to do it even with the federal money. Tony Lorenzetti, what we had to provide DOT was estimates based upon previous jobs from curbing, to reset basin tops, manholes, traffic control, painting lines in road after done and we did base bid estimate with alternates on project. With State requirements, the only numbers we were required to do is to put a notice in the paper which we did. Mayor Festa, relative to the amount of money this project may cost ultimately it would have to go back to a town meeting. Councilman Wunsch, if funded in the budget as a capital improvement you would not have to. Mayor Festa, no that would be exactly where it would come from in the outlay. My concern is first and foremost is I am not exactly sure how much of the hand that DOT has in this project because we have learned from our earmark going from the federal government for completion of Fall Mountain that DOT received the money from the Federal government and we are waiting to hear which we found it was up at DOT for a number of months already, sitting there, and before they released the money to us they had to review our plans again, which were already reviewed and approved, but in doing so they picked a nice hunk of change out of that money received from the federal level just for their second signature. My concern here is based upon what we are hearing from DOT's involvement there could be additional costs coming from them as well which is going to up our ante just to have them say yes, okay, after we have done what we have done initially. There is a great deal of expense and maybe unknown at this point in time and the only way we will know is to go forward with bid process and then come forward to the town in terms of letting us know exactly what the price is out of our pocket. Am I correct or is there something I am missing Tony from our discussions. Tony Lorenzetti, the Town -

State agreement presented did have values that the State was looking for in terms of administration costs and you are absolutely correct, the actual bid price you do not know until you go out to bid and with the climate now we could get good bids. Mayor Festa, as a word of caution, as you know the South Main Street project is moving forward, Garber's corner, and one of the things the state has come up with is a demand payment. Something that is brand new relative to the issue as I understand that correct that we have to put our money up front. Tony Lorenzetti, there has always been that but I think the fact that they are actually asking for it. They always had the procedure in place but not requested you make payment and this time around they want payment early on so the Town makes the match quickly. Other projects they tend to wait until a further point in the project to ask for money.

d. Councilman Sekorski, thank you Mr. Lorenzetti, just a point of clarification on your announcement about contacting Public Works over the website. Obviously folks have the option still of calling you. Tony Lorenzetti, we actually will enter the information and it's just a way that people can track, referring to service requests. Mayor Festa, we also have a new phone service for service request. Tony Lorenzetti, it is on line system that people can go on line from anywhere and it comes in to town hall but depending on request some go to me, some to highway and different locations things go to. Mayor Festa, in the past calls would come to town hall and had a difficult time getting from town hall to Jim and he now gets calls right to his computer. Tony, yes; in past verbal request did not stay the same request and when people request we know exactly what they are requesting. Councilman Sekorski, know all tentative and thanks for explanation on Harwinton, wondering with project like that if substantial project and need to resurface do we have a process in place where notify local utilities. Tony Lorenzetti, all already done as part of design process and we had to have utility meeting with all utilities and WPCA from our standpoint. Water, gas all notified. Councilman Sekorski, if water main needs to be replaced and while dug up, barring emergencies, and the reason I bring it up, remember by Scott Road and we did it and then 3 months later dug up to run fiber optic line and wondering if a task list is in place to make sure we can avoid potential fix in road and dig up. Tony Lorenzetti, you can never avoid that. In terms of what we are doing is simply doing upper layer of roads and not reconstruction. It comes down to something we will have to take a look and project is not full reconstruction and goes into the whole scenario of what a lot of towns call mill and overlay and really what this funding is being used for.

e. Councilwoman Schenkel, most of us attended the Sweetheart Ball and it was a wonderful evening, great band, great company and an auction and a success. One other thing, pet peeve of mine and I ask the Bristol Press reporter to give a message to the editor. I would like to see in blogs that you must use email or name, to limit and all for freedom of speech but like Waterbury paper as it limits people from being able to post hearsay, outrageous comments and then you are required to follow up on. When I post I put my full name and please ask your editor to add as upgrade to blogs, thank you.

f. Councilman Sekorski, question on Mayor's report, do we know if section of Eli Terry because 5 years ago we did Eli Terry roof and do we know in more detail. Mayor Festa, have not heard follow up but being there to inspect with principal and

building inspector at second floor level, there are 17 buckets lining the hallway and dumpsters, 3, two section of particular class closed off because of ceiling panels and two classrooms closed down and roof soft and afraid of drop through. It looks like the entire roof needs to be replaced. Councilman Sekorski, hope there is recourse. Councilman Wunsch, we did do parts of that roof over but not the whole roof. Bill Allread or Industrial Construction should have information and know where sections were that we did. Councilman Sekorski, we made decisions rapidly in order to capitalize on dollars available and do not seem like that long ago. Mayor Festa, from what I know and observed, looking at exterior from the hillside there were areas holding 3' of water and pressure and snow had to be a concern relative to collapse and working with school department. Councilman Wunsch, I believe there is internal drains. Mayor Festa, part of the problem is drains are higher than roof itself. The week before the school maintenance took 25 gallon buckets of tar onto the roof to seal the area and it did not hold as well as they thought.

15. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn by Councilman Sekorski; second Councilman Wunsch and the vote unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Gudeczauskas
Clerk of the Council