

Town of Plymouth
80 Main Street
Terryville, CT 06786
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Plymouth Town Council
Telephone: (860) 585-4001
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Minutes

September 7, 2010

Call to Order: Mayor Vincent Festa, Jr., called the scheduled September 7, 2010, Plymouth Town Council Meeting to order at 7:48 p.m., in the Community Room, Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present were Mayor Vincent Festa, Jr., Town Councilman Martin Sandshaw, Town Councilwoman DiAnna Schenkel, Town Councilman David Sekorski, Town Councilman John Wunsch, and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also present were David Bertnagel, Director of Finance, Rodney Houle, Chairman Capital Improvements and Municipal Facilities Committee, Town Engineer/Director of Public Works Anthony Lorenzetti and Attorney Salvatore Vitrano.

Fire Exits Notification

Mayor Festa noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Festa led the Plymouth Town Council and the Public Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of Minutes

Town Councilman Wunsch made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to accept the August 3, 2010, Town Council Minutes as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Council Rules and Procedures

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Wunsch, to move Agenda Item Number 15 to the Agenda Item Number 11 slot, with the remaining items following in subsequent order. This motion was approved unanimously.

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Council Rules and Procedures Cont'd.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorsi, to table Agenda Item Number 13, "to discuss and take action, as may be necessary, on the proposed ordinance concerning police traffic duty", based on the feedback from the Public Hearing (prior to this evenings Town Council Meeting) allowing the Police Commission to take the necessary time to consider the comments received. This motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Ernest Pickhardt, 3 Burger Road, Terryville, stated he wanted to make an appeal for something be done to take care of Lake Winfield before the Town loses the lake completely, noting that it was filling up with cattails along the shoreline. He further stated that although this is one of the items be considered in the long-term Bonding Proposal, the Town should take a short-term look at what could be done at the present time to keep it from deteriorating any further. E. Pickhardt stated that the Town was looking at purchasing another reservoir in Town and requested that a long hard look be taken before the Town has another Lake Winfield on its hands, requesting that the associated long-term cost for caring for another water property be carefully examined.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Festa updated the Town Council on the Historic Property Commission regarding the Waterwheel and Brownfields. Mayor Festa stated there had been a change in the regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), relative to the mediation program causing a re-discussion of the issues with EPA personnel. Mayor Festa stated the project was now moving forward with a contract in place and noted that local engineers would be on board shortly to begin the remediation process to test the soil and slabs on the Hart property, etc. He further stated that those results would be forwarded to the DEP and the EPA, and that it was looking very favorable at this point in time.

Mayor Festa stated that work was moving forward with Milone and MacBroom and the BL Companies, to tie in the Route 6 Streetscape Project with the Waterwheel Project. Mayor Festa stated this would ensure cohesiveness of the sidewalk bricks and/or amenities which would follow, such as street lamps, park benches, etc. with the two engineers and architects from both companies.

Mayor Festa stated that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Main Street School have been ongoing and that a request for a two-week extension had been granted. Mayor Festa stated that the presentation would go before the Town Council for consideration.

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Mayor's Report Cont'd.

Mayor Festa stated that the Town and Anthony Lorenzetti/Public Works Director, had received notification that the Bemis Street Bridge reimbursement had been closed out and the monies would be received shortly (if not already), relative to the project. Mayor Festa stated it had taken four-five years, through the State of Connecticut, to complete the reimbursement process.

Mayor Festa stated that the Board of Finance, relative to the budget process, had requested a recall of unnecessary Town cell phones and that a list was being generated of necessary cell phones for various employees within the Public Works Department, for safety reasons. Mayor Festa stated that the Town was examining purchase TracFones for other individuals (at a lesser cost) that would have the option of add-on minutes, as necessary.

Mayor Festa stated that the Terryville High School Class of 1960 would be holding their 50th anniversary of their graduation class. He further stated that it was brought to his attention that the class had been denied extra curricular activities due to budgetary reasons. Mayor Festa read their letter into the record (see attachment). Mayor Festa welcomed the class on behalf of the Town of Plymouth, and noted he would make sure that this omission of extra curricular activities would never happen to another future class due to budgetary reasons.

Mayor Festa stated notification had been received from the Social Security Administration noting another problem exists from 2008 with an imbalance of the 941's and that he had been in contact with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), as well as with Social Security. Mayor Festa stated that because of a two to three year back-log with the IRS, in association with what Social Security presents to them, the Town was in the process of examining the total employee figures from 2005 to 2010, to get an accurate count of the W-2's and what was missing and not reported. Mayor Festa stated that employees have reported that their wage statements were incorrect with what they were actually paid in wages.

Mayor Festa stated that the Connecticut Water Company would be holding two Open Houses at the reservoir property located at 170 North Street, Plymouth, on September 18 and September 26, 2010 (see attachment) and stated that notices had been sent out by CT Water Company to residents living in the general vicinity to view the property. Mayor Festa stated that an application was on file with the State of CT DEP, for consideration of purchase of the property by the Town. Mayor Festa stated that CT Water Company was required by State law to offer the property to municipalities, prior to going public with any sales. Mayor Festa stated that should this particular piece of property go into private hands, it could be developed for 40 lots on the site.

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Mayor's Report Cont'd.

Mayor Festa stated that the Connecticut Water Company had decided to place the Lead Mine Brook property on the open market, as well.

Mayor Festa stated he had spoken to the First Selectman of Harwinton and that consideration was being given to a regionalized purchase of the property by the Town's of Harwinton, Plymouth and Thomaston. He further stated that monies from the State were being researched for the purchase of this particular piece of property, to keep the land as an open preserve.

Mayor Festa stated that discussion had taken place at a Board of Finance Meeting and concerns were expressed regarding the zoning regulations in the Plymouth Historic District and also the fee schedules with which the Town charges for various permits, etc. Mayor Festa stated that permit fees had escalated, noting the State was keeping the majority of the permit fee, citing an example of a \$70.00 fee with the State keeping \$60.00 and the Town of Plymouth receiving only \$10.00. Mayor Festa stated some of the monies kept by the State for the fees were used to educate, train, and re-train Building Inspectors within the various Municipalities within the State. Mayor Festa stated he was moving forward with zoning review requests received from various contractors within the Town and would be organizing a Review Committee for the purpose of examining the zoning regulations and fee schedules. Mayor Festa stated this Review Committee would be reporting back to the Board of Finance and/or the Town Council, as well.

Mayor Festa stated the Stand Down 2010 Veterans event would be taking place on Friday, September 10, 2010, from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. (see attachment) at the Connecticut Veterans Home in Rocky Hill, CT. Mayor Festa stated that anyone knowing of a Veteran in-need to should come forward and notify the Mayor's Office, who in turn would contact the veteran and take steps to inform and assist her/him with the Stand Down event.

Appointments/Resignations

To Re-appoint Conservation Inland Wetland Commission Members

Town Councilman Sekorski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to re-appoint the following members to the Conservation Inland Wetlands Commission with expiration dates as shown: James Benway-term to expire 9-1-2013, Joy Stregowski-term to expire 9-1-2011, Scott Gray-term to expire 9-1-2013, Sean Doran-term to expire 9-1-2012 and Katherine Peterson-term to expire 9-1-2011. This motion was approved unanimously.

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Appointments/Resignations Cont'd.

Mayor Festa noted that all of the re-appointments had been previously recommend and approved by the Chairman, James Deutsch.

To Re-appoint Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency Members

Town Councilman Sandshaw made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to re-appoint the following members to the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency: Stephen Mindera-term to expire 3-1-2012 and Carl Johnson-term to expire 3-1-2012. This motion was approved unanimously.

Take action to refund property taxes

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to refund property taxes to Francis Pernal, amount \$30.54. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Sekorski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to refund property taxes to Robert T. Jabs, amount \$102.73. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Wunsch made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to refund property taxes to Everett B. Thompson, amount \$49.67. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to refund property taxes to Richard Baldwin, amount \$108.44. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Sandshaw made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to refund property taxes to Shane A. Bartlett, amount \$118.68. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Sekorski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to refund property taxes to Mark/Maryann Grodecki, amount \$106.19. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to refund property taxes to Cab East LLC, amounts \$115.74, \$295.85, \$194.45, \$311.30 and \$116.88. This motion as approved unanimously.

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Take action to refund property taxes Cont'd.

Town Councilman Wunsch made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to refund property taxes to Paul/Julie Landeg, amount \$25.31. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Sandshaw made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to refund property taxes to Daimler Chrysler Srvs., amount \$258.21. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to refund property taxes to Boyd Simonin, amount \$2.57. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to refund property taxes to Yves/Susan Nadeau, amount \$45.10. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to refund property taxes to Honda Lease Trust, amount \$165.05. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Sekorski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to refund property taxes to Deborah Ouellette, amount \$16.60. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Sandshaw made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to refund property taxes to Al Simmons Co., Inc., amount \$57.63. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to refund property taxes to Gerald A. LeMieux, Jr., amount \$2.16. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to refund property taxes to Stephen/Susan Mine, amount \$206.23. This motion as approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Sandshaw made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to refund property taxes to Victor Rinaldi, Jr., amount \$363.45. This motion as approved unanimously.

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Take action to refund property taxes Cont'd.

Town Councilman Sekorski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to refund property taxes to Susan Clark and Bradford Butler, amount \$15.76. This motion as approved unanimously.

To Discuss and take action on report from the Municipal Facilities/Capital Improvements Committees regarding the “level debt service” bonding proposal.

Rodney Houle, 16 Frankie Lane, Terryville, Chairman of Capital Improvements Committee and Municipal Facilities Committee, explained at length, the Capital Improvements Committee’s charge and function for the Town of Plymouth and how their Capital Improvements Project Priority Listing (see attachment) three-phase plan for the recommended Bond Proposal came about. R. Houle detailed the process of refinancing and mature bonding, noting this was the plan that the Board of Finance, along with the Capital Improvements Committee, had come to consider and recommend for moving the Town of Plymouth’s Capital Improvement Projects forward without increasing the Town’s tax base by one dollar. R. Houle stated that the Capital Improvements Committee and the Municipal Facilities Committee were requesting the Town Council’s approval to move forward with the Bonding Proposal, schedule at least one Public Hearing, and then place it for a vote on the ballot for the November 2010 election.

David Bertnagel, Director of Finance, explained the process for using mature bonding for the Capital Improvements Project Listing and detailed the Board of Finance Policy Statement. D. Bertnagel stated there were approximately 43 projects on the listing that would be covered under the five-year bonding proposal (Phase One) and that the Town could complete 14 million dollars worth of the projects thereby eliminating 67% of the outstanding projects in the Community. D. Bertnagel stated that if the Town tried to accomplish the projects independently, without the bonding proposal (as was done in past years), each project would have to come under a separate referendum. D. Bertnagel stated that special interest groups come out and support their project and that working the listing in this manner could spike the debt level and increase the mill rate. He further stated that by using the five-year bonding proposal, the Town would be working to keep the debt level steady with a minimal impact to any one tax payer. D. Bertnagel stressed that the Town might not borrow the entire proposed 19 million because all grant avenues would be pursued, as well as any other funding source(s) that might arise. D. Bertnagel reviewed the Capital Improvements Committee’s listing by each line item and explained the reasoning for the item being on the listing.

R. Houle thanked D. Bertnagel for his input and noted the Committee wanted to hire a Grant Writer to help find monies for the Town through State and Federal funding.

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To Discuss and take action on report from the Municipal Facilities/Capital Improvements Committees regarding the “level debt service” bonding proposal Cont’d.

R. Houle stated the Committees were requesting a small amount of money from the General Fund to create signs for the major thoroughfares in Town, in an effort to make the public aware of the vote on the ballot for the November election.

R. Houle stated that by refinancing the bonding for the Town of Plymouth, D. Bernagel saved the Town \$900,000.00 that the Town otherwise would have paid out and applauds him for that savings.

R. Houle stated that regionalizing some of the projects would bring in State and Federal funding.

Ralph Zovich, 4 Knight Lane, Terryville, stated the Town Council was being asked to consider the bonding resolution to go forward to Public Hearing and noted it was called the level debt service. R. Zovich stated that the Board of Finance Policy Statement was a joint effort of the Capital Improvements Committee and the Board of Finance, which adopted the policy in July 2009, and sent it to the Town Council for approval. R. Zovich stated the Policy Statement was basically the blueprint dictating how the project would function. R. Zovich outlined the Financial Policy Statement in detail and explained the objectives contained within the document. R. Zovich stated that it was crucial to educate the public and garner public support in order for the public to realize that this bonding proposal would not cost them one dime in additional taxes. R. Zovich explained the prioritization process in compiling the listing and how it would work over the five-year plan, detailing the construction cycles of the projects in question, and stressing the fact that the Town would not be issuing the entire 19 million dollars at one time. R. Zovich briefly stated that the bonding would pay for the 19 million and would follow the same scheduling of the project(s) construction. R. Zovich stated the high school project bonding was not issued at one time, and the Town just finished paying the last five million at .4 percent, noting inflation was at 2 percent, and basically that was free money. R. Zovich stated the Town was able to do this because Municipal Bonding was tax free, the market pays virtually nothing on savings instruments, so the Town pays less than 1%. R. Zovich stated that the present cost of bonding is at a historical 50-year low.

R. Zovich briefly explained that the debt level service was another objective of the bonding proposal and referencing the general fund budget, passed at the May referendum, listed and explained the outstanding bonds in detail. R. Zovich stated that as the current interest rates fall and D. Bernagel refinances some of the outstanding bonds, the proportionality would change (not the total).

To Discuss and take action on report from the Municipal Facilities/Capital Improvements Committees regarding the “level debt service” bonding proposal Cont’d.

R. Zovich emphasized that going forward issuing bonds for these projects, the Town would not authorize more than 3.3 million dollars in debt payment. R. Zovich stated this meant that the projects would have to be prioritized, scheduled and the bonds would have to be issued so that as the old bonds retire, the new funding would come in. R. Zovich stated the Town would balance out the total with future interests rates so there would be no impact on the mill rate (1 mill being \$820,000.00) and would be built into the bonding as protection. R. Zovich stated that the shorter the bond, the lower the interest rate and explained bond maturity in detail in relation to the bonding proposal. R. Zovich stated because of the two historical events occurring at the present time, low interest rates and the Town retiring most of its debt over the next few years, the Bonding Proposal was a golden opportunity to enable the Town to address its infrastructure deficiencies, roads, buildings, and drainage, that the Town has been putting off for so many years.

Town Councilman Zagurski questioned what would happen to the projects if the interest rates were to climb in future years and would the projects be pushed out or not completed.

R Houle stated the Town would attempt to do as many of the projects as possible and utilize as much of the local talent as feasible to keep residents working; a brief discussion followed.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, R. Houle explained how the Capital Improvements Committee determined the numbers shown on the listing.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, R. Houle stated everyone involved would determine which properties would be purchased under the Bonding Proposal.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that the Town has continued to grow, however the Fire and Police facility have remained in the same square footage and continue to provide excellent service for the expanded community. She further stated that centralizing the Fire Department location would make the radius of response time more equidistant and everyone would benefit from that move.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Schenkel on what would become of the Harwinton Avenue Fire House, R. Houle stated that had not been determined as yet, however grouping departments together in a building such as the Harwinton Avenue Headquarters would save the Town monies and that discussion was still ongoing.

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To Discuss and take action on report from the Municipal Facilities/Capital Improvements Committees regarding the “level debt service” bonding proposal Cont’d.

Town Councilman Sandshaw made a motion to set a date for a Public Hearing on the level Debt Service. There was no second to the motion and Town Councilman Sandshaw withdrew his motion.

Pattie DeHuff, 20 Lynn Avenue, Terryville, stated that after listening to R. Houle and R Zovich, she recognized that she had heard similar comments made in regards to the school issue when it was being considered. She further stated that the bonding package for the school issue was supposed to take care of all of the educational needs, but the recommended Bonding Proposal listed the Board of Education as requesting an additional \$642,500.00. P. DeHuff stated that the current Bonding Proposal would not care of the needs listed. P. DeHuff stated that she hoped the Town Council was cognizant of the fact that the Town, the State of Connecticut and the Federal Government were all in debt and the Town needs to be practical and aware that there was no free money. P. DeHuff stated that she appreciates the volunteerism and applauds members of Town Committees and their willingness to donate their free time and the world done to prioritize the needs of the Town. P. DeHuff stated she is very concerned about the concept of the level debt service stated this evening and requested the Town Council consider the concept of “owing no man anything” and “the borrower is a servant to the lender” and briefly explained the concepts. P. DeHuff stated she was strongly urging the Town Council to proceed with caution with the sales pitch that was presented this evening to them and recognize that it was full of holes, and move to not go forward with the Bonding Proposal.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, stated that operating costs come with no guarantee and questioned where the extra monies would come from, and further, that she believed it would be coming out of the taxpayer’s pocket. M. Church stated that when the new high school was built, the Town’s people were told it would only cost a cup of coffee a week, \$2.50 extra per person, and that figure was incorrect, adding that the Town was still paying for the project. M. Church stated that unborn children are so far in debt because the Federal Government was giving out stimulus monies and the State was also giving out money and was in deficit. M. Church stated there were no guarantees on how much the proposed bonding would actually cost and explained her reasoning at length. M. Church stated that grants require prevailing wage and that would cost the little guy more money, but paying cash would eliminate prevailing wage. M. Church urged the Town Council to look long and hard at the proposed bonding so they would know what they were asking the Town residents to be indebted to and if the vote was no, they would understand the reasoning.

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To Discuss and take action on report from the Municipal Facilities/Capital Improvements Committees regarding the “level debt service” bonding proposal Cont’d.

Warren Brayton, 47 South Street, Plymouth, stated he completely understood what P. DeHuff and M. Church were stating and had the utmost respect for both of them. W. Brayton stated he pays \$930.00 per month in house taxes and that when he built his home the taxes were half of that amount. W. Brayton stated the unemployment rate quoted this evening does not include the under-employed and those people that were struggling with lesser jobs. W. Brayton stated that the level bonding was nice, but the reason for the .4 percent rates was because the economy was so bad. W. Brayton stated that if the Town continues to bond projects the mill rate would rise and briefly explained his reasoning.

Hildegard Siemiatkoski, 249 East Washington Road, Terryville, urged the Town Council to support the recommended Capital Improvements Committee/Municipal Facilities Committee’s proposed Bond Proposal.

Town Councilman Sandshaw made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to set a date for the Public Hearing on the level debt service. This motion was approved unanimously.

Discussion: Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated we need two (2) dates where we should allow the public a lot of opportunity to think and talk about it. Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated we could hold the Hearings on Monday, October 4 and Monday, October 18. Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated she was looking at the wrong calendar month. Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated she meant Monday, September 20, 2010 and Monday, October 4, 2010.

Town Councilman Zagurski questioned what the Town Council would have to do in order to get the question on the ballot; what was the drop-dead date to get on the November election. Mayor Festa stated we should double check with the Town Clerk, but he believed we could make the November election. Town Councilman Zagurski questioned if we would have enough time and was it within the time frame of putting it on the ballot.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to amend Town Councilman Sandshaw’s motion and her second, to set the Public Hearing dates tentatively for Monday, September 20, 2010 and Monday, October 4, 2010. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Sekorski questioned if the Town Council needed to accept the recommended Bonding Proposal. D. Bertnagel stated that the Town Council would need to accept the Bonding Proposal.

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To Discuss and take action on report from the Municipal Facilities/Capital Improvements Committees regarding the “level debt service” bonding proposal Cont’d.

Town Councilman Sandshaw questioned if the Town Council need to act on the request made by R. Houle for signage at the present time. Mayor Festa stated it would be in order to make a motion for that particular item at the present time. Town Councilman Sandshaw made a motion to approve \$1,000.00 from the General Fund for signage for the Referendum on the proposed level debt service.

Town Attorney Salvatore Vitrano stated the Town Council should take action on the main motion which was on the floor. He further stated he was unsure if the Town Council could create a budget item for funding signage per R. Houle’s request.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to accept the Capital Improvements Committee’s Report regarding the Level Debt Service Bonding Proposal. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to refer the Capital Improvements Committee to the Board of Finance, to consider if there was budget to allow their request of \$1,000.00 for signage at this time. This motion was approved unanimously.

To set a date for workshop meeting with Ad Hoc Blight Committee

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to set the date for the joint workshop of the Ad Hoc Blight Committee and Town Council for September 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room. This motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor Festa requested that Don Souza notify Barbara McClellan, Chairwoman, Blight Ad Hoc Committee, of the date set for the joint meeting with the Town Council, enabling her to follow-up with her Committee members.

Discuss and take action on the resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute and deliver documents to the State of Connecticut Department of Homeland Security on behalf of the Town of Plymouth (FFY 2010/2011)

Town Councilman Sekorski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Wunsch to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute and deliver documents to the State of CT Department of Homeland Security on behalf of the Town of Plymouth FFY 2010/2011, (see recorded resolution attachment). This motion was approved unanimously.

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To discuss and take action on resolution authorizing, issuance and sale of general obligation refunding bonds not to exceed \$10,000,000.

Director of Finance, David Bernagel, stated the Town had another opportunity to refinance several bonds which would require authorization and would save the Town a large amount of money.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, D. Bernagel stated he had saved the Town \$900,000.00 the last time he had refinanced and noted it would not be that high an amount this time, however it would be a large savings.

Town Councilman Wunsch made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to authorize the issuance and sale of general obligation refunding bonds not to exceed \$10,000,000, (see recorded resolution attachment). This motion was approved unanimously.

Executive Session to discuss the following: Pending litigations Town of Plymouth contract negotiations/AFSCME Local 1303-151 #4

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to move into Executive Session at 9:28 p.m. to discuss the Town of Plymouth's pending litigations and Town of Plymouth contract negotiations/AFSCME Local 1303-151 #4.

Present for the Executive Session were Mayor Vincent Festa, Jr., Town Councilman Martin Sandshaw, Town Councilwoman DiAnna Schenkel, Town Councilman David Sekorski, Town Councilman John Wunsch, Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, and Town Attorney Salvatore Vitrano.

Mayor Festa called the Town Council Meeting back into regular session at 10:16 p.m.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to amend the Town Council's Agenda to add "to take action, if necessary, from Executive Session, as Item 16." This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sekorski, to accept the settlement of Chris Carr Realty LLC, litigation in a settlement payment amount of \$3,550.00. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to accept the settlement M.J. Osowiecki LLC litigation in a settlement payment amount of \$6,000.00. This motion was approved unanimously.

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Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that he had attended the Economic Development Commission Meeting and noted that the Nutmeg Spice Company would be moving into the Industrial Park. Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that there were several different companies interest in the Industrial Park, as well. He further stated that the Economic Development Commission had discussion concerning the Route 6 Streetscape and the Waterwheel. Town Councilman Sandshaw stated he had attended a Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting and that there was one applicant who had been approved for a variance.

Town Councilman Wunsch stated that he had attended the Housing Authority Meeting (Gosinski Park) and noted that Barbara Orsini was stepping down as Chairwoman, effective in a week. Town Councilman Wunsch stated that the Fire Department had handled the large fire on East Plymouth Road and that they had done a phenomenal job of keeping the fire from burning down the church section of the house. Town Councilman Wunsch stated that the new high school track was coming along, and that the new roof on the Eli Terry Jr. Middle School continued to progress. Town Councilman Wunsch stated that he had missed the Public Work's Meeting, but noted he had been informed that a 75-yard section of Harwinton Avenue had been milled.

When questioned by Town Councilman Wunsch, Mayor Festa stated that Public Works would begin the process of moving forward on Harwinton Avenue once the compression test results were received.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that the Human Services Commission would begin meeting later this month and had not meet during the summer. Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she had not been informed that the Police Commission meeting had been canceled and had shown up for the meeting. Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she was unable to attend the Economic Development Commission. Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that the Board of Finance had scheduled the Town Auditor, Blum Shapiro, as a guest speaker next week.

Town Councilman Sekorski stated that all the news regarding the Capital Improvements Committee had been previously discussed earlier in this evenings' meeting. Town Councilman Sekorski stated he had been unable to attend the WPCA meeting and noted that they had canceled their last one. He further stated that the WPCA keeps a light schedule during the summer months and expected them to begin meeting regularly from this point forward.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that the Board of Education would begin meeting again for the school year and noted they were prepared for opening day at all of the schools. He further stated that the Board of Education had hired a couple of new teachers.

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Public Comments

No report.

Council Comments

Mayor Festa thanked volunteer William Kron for taping many of the Town Meetings and noted this would be W. Kron's last night. He further thanked W. Kron his volunteerism and for bringing the news to the Plymouth residents.

Mayor Festa thanked Town Councilman Zagurski, as well as all the Lion's Club members and volunteers, for another wonderful Terryville Fair, and noted that the Terryville Fair puts the Town on the map.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to adjourn at 10:25 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Acting Recording Secretary