

Town of Plymouth
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Plymouth Town Council
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Minutes

July 11, 2011

Call to Order: Mayor Vincent Festa, Jr., called the June 7, 2011, Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting to order at 7:06 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 John Wunsch, and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also present was David Bertnagel, Director of Finance, Salvatore Vitrano, Town Attorney, and Ralph Zovich, Chairman-Board of Finance.

Mayor Festa noted for the record that Town Councilman Sekorski was not in attendance.

Fire Exits Notification

Mayor Festa made note of the Fire Exits for the Town Council and the Public Audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Council Rules and Procedures

No report.

**Mayor's Report-Correspondence/Discussion on various items: CCRPA,
Recreational Trails Funding Application**

Mayor Festa stated that Francis Pickering (Senior Planner) of Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (CCRPA) had previously presented the Town Council with an application for Recreational Trails funding relative to applying a grant application towards the purchase price of the Reservoir on North Street, Plymouth, CT.

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**Mayor's Report-Correspondence/Discussion on various items: CCRPA,
Recreational Trails Funding Application Cont'd.**

Mayor Festa stated that Francis Pickering was proceeding to put a grant in for the amount of the total value of the property minus the State Grant that we already had been awarded, noting that if the grant does come through, the Town would have a good opportunity to be picking up the recreational land and keeping it out of the hands of private development.

Mayor Festa stated that according to this particular Recreational Trails funding, he had requested Francis Pickering to move forward and take a look at private companies, people who were on private land, noting that this grant application could be utilized by those individuals who were looking to provide some kind of trails, some kind of program on private property. He further stated that he was in the process of talking to one particular individual in Town who may benefit from this kind of application if they so desire to move forward in that direction.

Mayor Festa stated that notification had been enclosed in the Town Council's packets, received from Diane Ciano-Beautification Committee, relative to holding the Discover Plymouth Walks.

Mayor Festa stated that there was a schedule of events that had taken place and that the next walks would be held on August 7, September 4, October 2 and November 6.

Mayor Festa stated that they would be walking and hiking trails, relative to different areas in Town, where the walkers would be provided access to the natural resources within the Community.

Mayor Festa stated that he had been at a meeting with the Green Jobs Innovation Funds Committee, who were involved in developing this funding source through the United States Department of Labor.

Mayor Festa stated that an announcement had been made that 39 million dollars in grants had been awarded through the funding to the City of Bristol.

Mayor Festa stated that some of that money would be donated to surrounding communities of Bristol and that he had a meeting scheduled (next week) with Bristol's Mayor, Art Ward. Mayor Festa stated that this meeting would cover the impact the money might have on Plymouth relative to creating some green job activities.

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To refund the following property taxes: Matthew P. Silansky \$95.32; GMAC \$214.07; Nissan Infiniti, Ltd. \$122.19; Jeffrey Festa \$219.56

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Wunsch, to approve the refund of the following taxes: Matthew P. Silansky \$95.32; GMAC \$214.07; Nissan Infiniti, Ltd. \$122.19; Jeffrey Festa \$219.56. This motion was approved unanimously.

Appointments/Resignations: To appoint Scott Poulton to the Ad Hoc Committee on Public Works Commission

Mayor Festa stated that this would be the last appointment to the Committee and that the Committee would now be able to move forward with their work as an Ad Hoc Committee.

Town Councilman Wunsch made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to appoint Scott Poulton to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Public Works Commission. This motion was approved unanimously.

To authorize the Mayor to enter into the following contracts:

- 1. Tire Contract with Don Stevens-A. Lorenzetti**
- 2. Demolition Materials Contract with CWPM**
- 3. Recycling Contract including Bucket Purchase with CWPM**

Public Works Director, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that he had previously provided information to the Town Council for the Solid Waste Bids, noting that the base period was for 23 months, plus three years, in an attempt to get the contracts equal with the fiscal year.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the first contract was the Tire Contract with Don Stevens and noted that he was looking for authorization from the Town Council to enter into the contract with him.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that Don Steven's gave a fixed price \$1,000 per trailer, noting that roughly 700 tires fit into a trailer and that this was a fair price. He further stated that Don Stevens was the only person to bid on the contract.

Town Councilman Wunsch made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to authorize that the Town of Plymouth to enter into the Tire Contract with Don Stevens.

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To authorize the Mayor to enter into the following contracts: Tire Contract with Don Stevens, Demolition Materials Contract with CWPM, Recycling Contract including Bucket Purchase with CWPM Cont'd.

Discussion on the motion as follows:

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, as to why the Town would be hiring the tire company, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that it was because the Town had to dispose of the tires.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that it would be tragic if the Town had a tire fire at the Transfer Station.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that there was always a potential for a fire, however the tires were kept in a separate trailer unit at the Transfer Station.

Town Councilman Sandshaw questioned if the Town gave approval for the purchase of a horse (truck), would the Town then be able to haul its own tires to Don Steven's facility.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the question could be looked into further, but the trailer that was currently at the Transfer Station belonged to Don Steven's. as they supply the trailers for their customers.

Town Councilman Zagurski questioned if the length of the contract would be for 23 months, plus three years. Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he was happy with the contract as presented, however the Town Council would need to modify and amend the aforementioned motion.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that it was a fixed rate, five years, minus the month.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she did not have a problem with five years. Town Councilwoman Schenkel withdrew her second to the motion; Town Councilman Wunsch withdrew his motion.

Town Councilman Wunsch made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to authorize the Town of Plymouth to enter into a 23 months, plus a three-year contract with Don Stevens for tire removal. This motion was approved unanimously.

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To authorize the Mayor to enter into the following contracts: Tire Contract with Don Stevens, Demolition Materials Contract with CWPM, Recycling Contract including Bucket Purchase with CWPM Cont'd.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the Demolition Materials Contract with CWPM was a fixed price for the first twenty-three months and an escalation of approximately two percent and change for each of the subsequent three-year period.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the contract was based on per pull and per ton of demolition material in the container.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the contract was for 23 months with a two percent change for the next three years and further noted that the bid, which had come in, was basically the same amount as what the Town was presently paying (\$77.00 per ton at \$142.00 per pull).

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to enter into a contract with CWPM for the removal of demolition material where there would be a period of 23 months with a two percent increase for the following three years, each year. This motion was approved unanimously.

When questioned by Town Councilman Sandshaw, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the Town also collects monies from residents, which slightly supplements the costs for demolition materials.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that only All Waste and Don Stevens bid on the Demolition Contract. He further stated that even with the three alternate years out extension out, All Waste was \$18.00 a ton higher and \$5.00 more a pull.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that CWPM was the low bidder all the way out.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that fuel surcharges were not built into the contract.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski if the Town could haul its own demolition material, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that it came down to containers.

James Schultz, Highway Superintendent, stated that it would be two different types of vehicles.

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To authorize the Mayor to enter into the following contracts: Tire Contract with Don Stevens, Demolition Materials Contract with CWPM, Recycling Contract including Bucket Purchase with CWPM Cont'd.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that he was uncertain what the exact price of a container would be, but felt the Town could get a used one if it so desired.

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that he understood what James Schultz was saying, noting that the Town would have to get a vehicle to lift the containers, not just back into them.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the Town had received two bids (All Waste and CWPM) and that CWPM's bid was a slight increase on what the Town was presently paying. He further stated that CWPM's bid was for two percent per year for three successive periods. He further stated that the recycling collection would include Town buildings, noting that currently, the Town did not have that service.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that CWPM had brought in a sample of the recycling bucket, noting that it was on display upstairs (standard blue with the Town's logo) in the Town Hall. He further stated that CWPM's bid was price per month over the five-year contract and that the figure was basically at their cost, and that the containers could be readied in the range of six plus weeks.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that presently, the Town hauls its recycling to the Town of Berlin, noting that there were alternate locations, i.e. Hartford, Willimantic, etc.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that CWPM would have an additional cost of \$.81 a month should the Town decide to take the buckets. He further stated that All Waste provided a bid of \$.85 on the containers.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel questioned if the Town were to go with the single, stream with the bigger bucket, was it the hope that the Town would fill up its tipping/each load more, resulting in a cost savings.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that if the Town decided to go with the buckets they would become the Town's property after a five-year period and that buckets had been provided a few years past. He further stated that replacement buckets would need to be dealt with at some point in time.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the Town would have to agree to the entire contract in order to purchase the buckets.

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To authorize the Mayor to enter into the following contracts: Tire Contract with Don Stevens, Demolition Materials Contract with CWPM, Recycling Contract including Bucket Purchase with CWPM Cont'd.

When questioned by Town Councilman Sandshaw, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that he thought if the Town were to purchase the buckets from CWPM, they could be used with another hauler after the five years had passed.

When questioned by Town Councilman Sandshaw, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the buckets were pretty much standard buckets.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel questioned if this bid contract had previously gone before the Board of Finance.

Ralph Zovich, 4 Knight Lane, Terryville, (Chairman Board of Finance) stated that the Board of Finance had received the same packet of information that the Town Council currently had before them and that the Board of Finance had asked a few questions. He further stated that the Board of Finance had no problems with the legitimate five-year bid cycle. Ralph Zovich stated that Anthony Lorenzetti had gotten the best proposals that were out there, noting that the two-percent per year was reasonable and less than the cost of inflation.

Ralph Zovich stated that the single stream recycling was being utilized by a lot of towns in the area and that the more the Town recycled the less the Town would pay in the back end of the tipping costs, noting that they were getting excessive.

Ralph Zovich stated that the Town of Plymouth was not doing as well as other towns with its recycling so why not make it more convenient for the Townspeople to recycle.

Ralph Zovich stated that the Board of Finance did not have any problems with the other contracts, which Anthony Lorenzetti had requested approval on; however the truck request required further comment.

Town Councilman Zagurski questioned if Anthony Lorenzetti had looked into purchasing the buckets himself and asked if they cost \$60.00 per bucket.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the buckets cost \$47.79 per bucket.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the smaller buckets, shown on the pamphlets, were not intended for discussion with this subject, noting it was the larger buckets that were in question.

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To authorize the Mayor to enter into the following contracts: Tire Contract with Don Stevens, Demolition Materials Contract with CWPM, Recycling Contract including Bucket Purchase with CWPM Cont'd.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that if someone did not require the 95-gallon bucket, there were some 32-gallon containers that might be available for senior citizens.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that the \$47.79 price per bucket was a very reasonable price.

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, for the Town of Plymouth to enter into a three-year contract, plus 23 months with CWPM and that the Town also purchases the large recycle containers. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that if the Town could encourage recycling and reduce the Town's tipping fees for \$.81 per month, the Town should go for it. He further stated that the size of the bucket itself would allow people to do more recycling than with the present five-gallon pail.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that currently the Town pays \$64.50 a ton to dispose of solid waste and \$20.00 a ton to dispose of recyclables.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that it was recyclable pick-up day on her street, today, and that her neighbors had made many makeshift containers to hold their recycling. She further stated that going single stream would be a huge asset to the Town and that she felt many residents would appreciate it.

To discuss and approve a Bid Waiver for the purchase of a truck to haul Town trash

Mayor Festa stated that depending on the outcome of this agenda item, the Town Council would have agenda item 10 to contend with, as well, and requested that the Town Council members keep both issues at hand, in mind.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the Town had talked about hauling its own solid waste to Bristol for some time now, noting that it would save the Town monies. He further stated that the hauling bid came in at essentially the same current price, which was \$17.21 per ton.

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To discuss and approve a Bid Waiver for the purchase of a truck to haul Town trash

James Schultz, Highway Superintendant, stated that he had called three International Truck Dealers and three local vendors, within the State, for pricing, and noted that the current Solid Waste Hauling Contract with CWPM would be ending on July 31, 2011. He further stated that the new truck would need to be retrofitted with an extended capacity 100-gallon plastic hydraulic tank to be able to work with the Town's present trailers at the Transfer Station. James Schultz stated that two of the three vendors were unable to meet the deadline for the necessary retrofitting (one month past). He further stated that Marola Motors stated that they would be able to meet the August 1st deadline.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel, noting that the Town crew was down to bare bones, questioned if anyone had looked into who would be designated to do this and how much time would be involved, would there be a new hire and what were the insurance issues that might be associated with the purchase.

James Schultz stated that there would be no new hires, that at least six Town employees had their Class A CDL license, which would allow them to haul. He further stated that Greg Cody, the current Transfer Station Operator, also had a CDL license and that he would be able to haul with someone covering his job.

James Schultz stated that the average time involved would be seven to eight hours per week to haul the garbage to Bristol.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, James Schultz stated there was no special insurance required; it would be covered by the same fleet insurance.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Schenkel if there would be any increase in the Worker's Compensation as a result of this change, James Schultz stated that he did not believe there would be, noting that it was no different than driving on the roads with the trucks that the Public Works Department has now.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that this would be a different type of vehicle on a regular periodic basis.

James Schultz stated that he believed the present insurance would take care of this issue.

When questioned by Town Councilman Sandshaw, James Schultz stated that he did not believe a worker would need a Hazmat license to drive the truck.

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To discuss and approve a Bid Waiver for the purchase of a truck to haul Town trash Cont'd.

Town Councilman Sandshaw questioned how many miles per year the truck would be traveling; asking if it would be 20 miles 3-4 times per week, 60 miles per week, and travel 3,000 miles and questioned the purchase of buying a brand new truck for 3,000 miles.

James Schultz stated that they had looked at used vehicles, noting that a 2008 with 500,000 miles on it (not in this area) would not be able to be retro-fitted to make the time frame and be ready by August 1st.

When questioned by Town Councilman Sandshaw if there was a line item in the Public Works budget for the truck, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that there was a line item for Contract Services and that the Department pays CWPM to haul to Bristol for the Town.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel questioned what the annual cost savings would be for the Town to contract out, verses buying the truck.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that in terms of savings, he felt that the Town could haul for a lot less than the \$40,000.00, which the Town presently pays CWPM to haul.

Town Councilman Wunsch questioned if the proposed truck would be utilized for more than just hauling trash to Bristol.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the truck would be utilized and that their current 1980 vehicle had a bad transmission and further, that they had put a lot of money into it and it was not fit for the road at this point.

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that he certainly would want the Town to have a road-worthy truck before entering into a contract, noting that safety was a priority, however it seemed that \$100,000.00 to haul trash three times a week to Bristol was a lot of money when maybe we could take \$50,000.00 for a truck and use the other \$100,000.00 and start patching some roads.

James Schultz stated that even if the Town used the truck to drive another 20 miles per week hauling equipment, which seems impossible, that would only be an additional 6,000 miles more per year, and noted that the trucks were built to go hundreds of thousands of miles. James Schultz stated that either way, the Town would still have to pay on contract services.

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To discuss and approve a Bid Waiver for the purchase of a truck to haul Town trash Cont'd.

David Bertnagel, Director of Finance, stated that he had done an analysis in regards to the whole project. He further stated that Anthony Lorenzetti was correct and that between \$40,000.00 and \$50,000.00 would be saved, per year, with the Town hauling its own garbage to the Bristol Resource Recovery facility. David Bertnagel stated that cost savings figure was based upon the tonnage amount presently collected at the Transfer Station.

David Bertnagel stated that the payback would be in approximately 3.5 years if the Town were to purchase a Capital Expenditure truck. He further stated that there would be an increase (approximately \$15,000.00) in the Operating Budget for fuel cost and other incidentals for the vehicle.

David Bertnagel stated that due to the timeliness of the issue. they looked at various funding avenues to assist with the purchase and stated that there was a nonrecurring Capital Projects Fund which had a contingency account within it of approximately \$225,000.00-\$250,000.00. He further stated that the Town Council could recommend a transfer for \$100,000.00 for the purchase of the vehicle, and further, noted that the monies would have to be replenished at some point in time.

Ralph Zovich stated that the Board of Finance had a very spirited discussion regarding the purchase of the truck, and noted that the vehicle was not in the General Fund Budget for 2011-2012.

Ralph Zovich stated that at the time the information was presented to the Board of Finance the Town would have had to strip out monies from other departments or forego \$100,000.00 worth of road paving to make the purchase.

Ralph Zovich stated that the Board had decided to table the issue with the understanding that the David Bertnagel would come back to the Board of Finance and the Town Council and explain if there was an alternate source of funding. He further stated that the excess of monies in the Capital Projects Fund would only be a loan, and that the Board of Finance did not have the legal authority to take \$104,000.00 in Capital Projects and spend it as they pleased, as previous administrations had done.

Ralph Zovich further stated that the present Board of Finance had promised the Town transparency, whereby it would be visible to see where the money was coming from and going and they would keep that promise.

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To discuss and approve a Bid Waiver for the purchase of a truck to haul Town trash Cont'd.

Ralph Zovich stated that the good news was that the State of Connecticut had restored the Town's Manufacturer's Pilot funding, noting that when the Town's budget had been passed at Referendum (this year), the Board of Finance, not knowing what funding the State would cut to municipalities, had taken the Manufacturer's Pilot funding out. He further stated that if the \$104,000.00 were taken out of Capital Projects, the Town would have an unanticipated \$90,000.00 and that when it was returned it would mean a net transfer of only \$14,000.00. Ralph Zovich stated that if the Town Council waved the bids and used the quotes that James Schultz presently has, there would be a net savings and presumably, it would continue to accrue. Ralph Zovich stated that since David Bernagel had come up with the alternative source of financing, it made sense to go forward with the savings.

Ralph Zovich stated that the over-the-road tractor trucks have long lives and that there would be a very high residual salvage value, perhaps as much as 50 percent, at the end and noted that no one wanted to buy a truck with 500,000 miles. He further stated that a future Council could decide to return to contracting the service out. Ralph Zovich encouraged the Town Council to read the entire minutes from the Board of Finance meeting to get the whole gist of their meeting.

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that he felt the chances of reselling the truck, after five years of use, for \$50,000.00 were slim to none.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel questioned why she should support the truck purchase, noting that she had a lot of residents coming to her with concerns about a lot of little jobs in Town that were never fixed. She further stated that they did not cost near the \$100,000.00. Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that prior to supporting the purchase, she needed to know that there would be some sort of a plan whereby the Town would begin (in a forward, orderly fashion) addressing the smaller projects for the Town residents who had been waiting patiently.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that some sort of communication could also be created with the residents so that they are not left in limbo and that a perception existed that things were not getting done in Town.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that there were a lot of needs for the residents and that the Department tries to address as many requests as they can. He stated that it would be one man, one day a week, and that was a lot of Public Works resources that would cause a small percentage of something else not being attended to.

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To discuss and approve a Bid Waiver for the purchase of a truck to haul Town trash Cont'd.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the reason for contracting items out was because of the lack of resources to handle the issues, ourselves.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that the recent failed Referendum would have fixed a lot of things, but the taxpayers were nervous about their tax dollars being used for things, which they don't view as being important to them.

Vincent Klimas, 5 Coral Drive, Terryville, stated that he was concerned about the bid waiver, noting that it presented a picture that the Town was not doing the best for the public. He said in his past employment he had to deal with millions of dollars and he did deal with vehicles (not trucks) and he always did a public bid and always received thousands of dollars in different prices for the same vehicle and was able to get them cheaper.

Vincent Klimas stated that he was opposed to any bid waiver, particularly on a \$100,000 vehicle. He further stated that he was also concerned about the fact that the Town Council would be taking a vote on this issue after the Board of Finance tabled the item and that would be a double dimension that something was wrong here, noting that he realized the Town Council was only hearing the arguments.

Vincent Klimas stated that this bid process was very late and should have been done six months ago so that everything could have been done in a proper format. He further stated that the Council and the public should not be penalized by eliminating the bid waiver because the project wasn't done on time, noting that was a Management issue.

Vincent Klimas stated that he wanted to encourage the Council to go against waiving the bid process, noting that he was very uncomfortable with that and felt it was something the public would not want in today's hardships.

Vincent Klimas stated that as an individual citizen he was struggling and noted that he went to various grocery stores in the area to check on the price of Cheerios and that he has to figure out what was the cheapest box costs, noting that was his bid process and emphasizing that the public was struggling and that searching out the cheapest price for cereal validates his point.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, stated that she had a problem with this and questioned why it wasn't put into the budget previously.

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To discuss and approve a Bid Waiver for the purchase of a truck to haul Town trash Cont'd.

Melanie Church stated that they knew it had to go out to bid this year, why didn't they put out the bids earlier saying that they would have taken effect on such and such a date and gave it to the public at the Budget Meeting. She further stated that the Town could have said this is how much it will cost and this is how much it will save and that these kinds of things were consistent over the last two years or maybe three bid waivers which had been going on.

Melanie Church stated that she had gone to the Comptroller because the chip sealing had not been put out to bid.

Melanie Church said that there had been a price in the budget for an excavator and then the next thing you know it was going to be two excavators,

Melanie Church stated that the public was not getting the true figures, you want us to vote for budgets, you want us to vote for things and it's all the time something different and that adding this in and it's not in the budget (as Chairman Zovich stated), but now you want to add this, and that to her that was not coming truthfully forward, transparent because otherwise it would have been in the budget.

Melanie Church stated that there were lot of trucks out there, maybe not an International, but she knows the Town could do a better bid than what they were getting now.

Melanie Church questioned if the other truck was so old what about trading it in for this one to lower the price.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the third option would be to go with the 23-month contract with CWPM.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated the idea for the truck came up late, but that it was to save money and to look at the Town hauling the trash. He further stated that they had hoped to be able to bring this idea forward to the Town Council two weeks ago and that they did not have a lot of time between the Board of Finance meeting and the Special Town Council Meeting to try to get something out for a sealed bid.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that they could look at used vehicles and was something that could be talked about. Anthony Lorenzetti stated that he would take the responsibility for not getting this information out sooner, but again; they were only trying to save money for the Town.

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To discuss and approve a Bid Waiver for the purchase of a truck to haul Town trash Cont'd.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she did not doubt Anthony Lorenzetti's integrity regarding the lateness of the information.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that older vehicles come with problems and if this was going to be a successful program, she leaned more towards a vehicle not full of damage, noting that the Town would not know the history of the used truck.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski as to why the Town wasn't going after the lease agreement, noting that would save a lot of money from the Contingency Fund, David Bertnagel stated that an appropriation would still be needed to enter into a lease agreement that was approved by the voters at a referendum with \$70,000.00.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, David Bertnagel stated that if the Town were to decide to spend \$100,000.00 for the truck as an additional appropriation, it would have to go to a Town Meeting, because it would be over the \$50,000.00 threshold. However, if it were to come out as a transfer from the Contingency Fund, it would only need approval from the Board of Finance and the Town Council.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, David Bertnagel stated that \$225,000.00 was the balance in the Contingency Fund.

Richard Lyga, 58 Curtiss Road, Terryville, questioned if any local Contractors had been approached, noting that they had horses/trucks already and that it would reduce the cost in a tough economy. He further stated that it would give the Town Council and Public Works more time to think about it, instead of being pushed into make a fast decision. Richard Lyga stated that the local Contractors were also taxpayers and wanted the Council to think about his statements without being rushed into a decision.

Vincent Klimas stated that this was a new acquisition over \$50,000.00, and that it had to go before the voters for a Town Meeting and a Referendum.

Ralph Zovich stated that it would have to go before the voters for a Town Meeting if the Town were to increase the General Fund Budget and then request a supplemental appropriation.

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To discuss and approve a Bid Waiver for the purchase of a truck to haul Town trash Cont'd.

When questioned by Vincent Klimas, Ralph Zovich stated that the monies would not be coming out of Undesignated Funds, they would be a temporary borrowing out of Capital Funds and then would be replenished with a State reimbursement so there would be no net increase in spending. Ralph Zovich stated that he would defer the question to the Town Attorney.

Vincent Klimas stated that the Charter says "purchase" not net increase. He further stated that legal opinions can be wrong, noting that he wanted the wording examined by the Council because it was an acquisition over \$50,000.00 and the Charter specified "any acquisition over \$50,000.00."

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski as to why All Waste was eliminated from the bids received, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that All Waste misunderstood the bid; they thought it was one package and that after speaking to the Town Attorney, he accepted their resignation from the bid.

Mayor Festa stated that the item had been defeated for the lack of a motion.

To authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with CWPM for Solid Waste Hauling, as may be necessary

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that there had been two bids (see attachment), and that the Town had decided to go with the short-term option for 23-months with the current company, CWPM and noted that it had been a small increase in the current price of only 2 percent.

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 23-month Waste Hauling Contract Agreement with CWPM. Discussion as follows:

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that he did not approach CWPM to ask if they would be willing to extend the contract by a few months. However, if the Council wanted to add that request to the motion, he would be willing to do so.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he tended to agree with Vincent Klimas, noting that the Town probably had to go to a Town Meeting for a \$50,000.00 appropriation.

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To authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with CWPM for Solid Waste Hauling, as may be necessary Cont'd.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he did not like bid waivers and wanted to see the Town to extend it by three to four months and go out and get the bids in a proper manner.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he agreed with Town Councilwoman Schenkel, in that the Town should look for a new truck and noted that it would hold a lot more value at the end of five years.

Melanie Church stated that she wanted the Town Council to hold off on the purchase and to put the request into next years budget and then bring it forward again and that would show transparency and would be sold to the people as part of the budget and extend the contract out until next July, one year.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel withdrew her second; Town Councilman Zagurski withdrew his motion.

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with CWPM for Solid Waste Hauling as maybe necessary for a term up to 23-months. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action on the Energy Audit Program

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that he had previously submitted information to the Town Council (at their last Council Meeting) for their review and noted that this item was part of the Energy Block Grant Program. He further stated that the energy audit, which had been performed, was the first phase of the program, and outlined the results.

Town Councilman Sandshaw made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Wunsch, to schedule a Town Meeting and invite Anthony Lorenzetti, CL&P, Yankee Gas and New England Energy, Inc., to come to the Town Meeting and describe what the Town would be getting into for items one and two, (which includes all the Town buildings with a payback of 2.7 years and it being a self sustaining program) as described in their Comprehensive Executive Summary. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that this was a great idea.

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To review and take action on the report presented to the Board of Finance by the Ad Hoc Committee on Blight

Mayor Festa stated that the Board of Finance had approved and made a motion for this agenda item to move forward, as received from the Ad Hoc Blight Committee (see attachments) and noted that the Connecticut General Statute 7-148 was the issue at hand.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Wunsch, to accept the report as presented by the Ad Hoc Blight Committee to the Town Council. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Attorney Salvatore Vitrano recommended a second motion, as previously agreed; to amend the Blight Ordinance, Section 7-70, subsection A, to add the Comptroller as a member of the Code Enforcement Committee.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, in accordance with the Code Enforcement Ordinance, to amend Section 7-70, subsection A, to add the Comptroller to the Code Enforcement Committee. Discussion as follows:

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Mayor Festa stated that the Comptroller was added to the Code Enforcement Committee because it was part of a three-step motion process regarding the General Statute 7-148, in terms of what they were charged with and setting up the Blight properties, etc., at that his title was actually the Director of Finance.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel amended her motion, seconded by Town Councilman Sandshaw, to substitute the words "Director of Finance", in place of the word "Comptroller", in the original motion. The amendment was approved unanimously.

Main motion (see above) passed unanimously.

To review and take action, as may be necessary, on the following items: 1. Level Debt Proposal; 2. Curbside Trash Pickup

Mayor Festa stated that there had been a number of calls and visits by individuals to the Mayor's Office expressing their serious concerns regarding the outcome of the Level Debt Bonding Proposal. He further stated that he explained the outcome was democracy in action; however residents were still insisting that the issue be broken down into segments where people could vote on the individual projects, as opposed to a complete listing in one package.

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To review and take action, as may be necessary, on the following items: 1. Level Debt Proposal; 2. Curbside Trash Pickup Cont'd.

Mayor Festa stated that the residents had also asked if the Town Council would consider visiting the Curbside Trash Pickup issue, again.

Town Councilman Wunsch stated that many of the projects on the Level Debt Bonding Proposal would have to be done at some point in time and that he honestly felt that the Town Council should request that the Municipal Facilities Committee and the Capital Improvements Committee revisit and make another presentation. He further stated that the Committees should consider the comments, which had been made over the last three to four Public Hearings, and make another plan and presentation. Town Councilman Wunsch stated that if they do get back together, he would want the meetings to be publicized better so that people could go and have discussion on the ways that they would like to see the projects addressed.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she was in agreement with Town Councilman Wunsch and that she wanted the Committees to make a very structured process of how each proposal would be addressed. She further stated that she wanted to see who they planned on sending the project proposal information to, i.e., to the Board of Finance first, then the Town Council and then a Referendum, etc. Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she wanted to see the Committees get some kind of a cost analysis for all of the proposed projects, as well.

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that he believed the projects would have to be addressed, again, whether individually or collectively, and that it sounded to him like the general public wanted to be involved in each major expenditure and recommended moving forward with the issue.

Vincent Klimas stated that these comments were what a lot of people had asked for, that these were excellent recommendations, that it was the people's tax dollars and that they wanted their vote on each individual project. He further stated that he fully concurred with the recommendations to go to Referendum, per project, and that he would support many of the projects if they were listed individually, noting the Town could move forward with the issue. Vincent Klimas stated that he agreed with, and also wanted some basic feasibility studies performed, citing the new high school as an example. Vincent Klimas stated that he urged the Town to perform full disclosure on the interest, citing an example of purchasing a car for \$15,000.00, with the (principle) interest shown, which would provide full disclosure, noting these were not small Capital items. He further stated that although the law may not require it, ethics should compel the Town to show full disclosure.

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To review and take action, as may be necessary, on the following items: 1. Level Debt Proposal; 2. Curbside Trash Pickup Cont'd.

Vincent Klimas stated that he would offer his own volunteer services to the Committees, as a member, and that he would give his resume to the Council and to the Mayor for consideration.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she agreed that the proposals could be individual projects, however she also said that it could be bundled as a group of projects, as well.

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that he was in agreement with Town Councilwoman Schenkel, in that it could be a group of projects.

Ralph Zovich stated that the Board of Finance had put through and adopted the Board of Finance Policy a year and a half ago, noting that it showed the bar graph and interest payments. He further stated that the Board of Finance had been trying to smooth out all future debts payments. Ralph Zovich stated that in the past, when the Town had bonded a new fire truck, the PVAC, the Pump Stations and the new high school, the principal and interest would spike and then drop down and it would and cause havoc in the budget and the Town would have mill rate increases because of the principal and interest due. Ralph Zovich stated that the Level Debt Service Policy was made and adopted to maintain 3.3 million in principal and interest in the General Fund budget. Ralph Zovich stated that he felt if the ballot had been multiple choice projects, listed in eight (8) separate ballot questions, it would have been better, however he did not want to have eight (8) separate referendums, only one.

Ralph Zovich stated (regarding V. Klimas' comments on transparency) that the Town would take the prevailing interest rate and that the Director of Finance would tell the Town if he would be using the 5-year, 10-year, or 15-year bonding term and then the interest could be projected, noting the longer the term the higher the interest rates. He further stated that the Referendum was the authorization to bond the principal only; the Town would have to make an estimate based on prevailing interest rates.

Ralph Zovich stated that Town Councilman Wunsch was correct in saying that the Town's needs would not go away, and that the more information given out would help everyone out, Town website, etc.

Ralph Zovich stated that David Bertnagel had projected what the bonding costs were today, and that twenty years out, if the Town were to spend no more monies, the Town would just be paying off its bonds earlier.

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To review and take action, as may be necessary, on the following items: 1. Level Debt Proposal; 2. Curbside Trash Pickup Cont'd.

Ralph Zovich stated that some people were under the misguided impression that the Town would be giving back a tax rebate, noting that was untrue and that the money had to stay in the budget. He further stated that no one on the Board of Finance wanted to rescind the policy and have spikes, and that the Debt Service would remain constant at nine (9) percent of the General Fund budget.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel questioned if the Committees could come to the Board of Finance for feasibility studies and where would the monies come from for the studies.

Ralph Zovich stated that the Town Council could make a request, in the form of a Resolution, to the Board of Finance stating that they wanted a Supplemental Appropriation for engineering, feasibility studies, etc.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Wunsch, that the Town Council ask the Capital Improvements Committee and the Municipal Facilities Committee to reconvene and propose a revised Town Capital Improvements Plan, which would include the comments made by the Town Council and a copy of this evenings meeting minutes, in an effort to determine if we would be able to address the needs of the Town's projects. This motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor Festa questioned if the Town Council felt that the Town needed to revisit the Curbside Trash Pickup issue.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she had always been in favor of the agenda item.

When questioned by Town Councilman Wunsch, Anthony Lorenzetti stated that it had been three years since the agenda item had been addressed.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to request that Anthony Lorenzetti obtain a bidding process to determine if Curbside Trash Pickup was feasible at this time. This motion was approved unanimously. Discussion as follows:

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that when he was a past Town Councilman, he had been against the item, however he was always open to reexamining what was out there and available and more than willing to listen to cost factors.

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To review and take action, as may be necessary, on the following items: 1. Level Debt Proposal; 2. Curbside Trash Pickup Cont'd.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he was concerned about the Town looking to purchase a tractor and now it was looking at Curbside Pickup.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that it was two separate issues, noting that there would still be people going to the Transfer Station.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that the Town had gone out three different times and that there were a lot of different ways to look at the issue. He further stated that the last time they went after bids, one vendor had questioned him if it was "real" because of the multiple solicitations for services, noting that there was a cost involved to the vendors.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that his Department receives a lot of inquiries as to why the Town does not have the service and that he would like to see it work, if possible.

Melanie Church stated that if the Curbside Trash Pickup became a reality, she wanted to suggest that heavy items from attics, etc., be included in the bid and that it occur three times per year.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel requested that the vendor from Naugatuck be approached, noting that they were a top notch company who had been very interested in working with the Town.

To authorize the Mayor, by Resolution, to enter into and execute and deliver to the State of Connecticut and the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Plymouth

Mayor Festa stated that the Resolution before the Council this evening (see attachment) was a yearly procedure that the Town goes through. He further stated that the Resolution would authorize the Town to enter into an agreement with DEMHS, whereby the Town would be accepting equipment, material and supplies that were offered by DEMHS and that the Town, as the caretaker, would provide necessary approaches to ensure that the material given to the Town (under grants) would be kept in good repair.

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To authorize the Mayor, by Resolution, to enter into and execute and deliver to the State of Connecticut and the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Plymouth Cont'd.

Town Councilman Sandshaw made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to authorize the Mayor, by Resolution, to enter into and execute and deliver to the State of Connecticut and the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Plymouth and read the Resolution into the record (see attachment). This motion was approved unanimously.

Liaison Reports

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he had no report to submit at this time.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she had no report to submit at this time.

Town Councilman Wunsch stated that he thought Barbara Orsini might be resigning from the Housing Authority Board for Gosinski Park.

Mayor Festa stated that he had not received anything formal to-date from B. Orsini to confirm her resignation.

Town Councilman Wunsch stated that the Fire Department had recertified the Tower and the Pump Testing.

Town Councilman Wunsch stated that there were potholes in the driveway at the new Terryville High School and questioned where that issue should be directed.

Mayor Festa stated that issue would be directed to the Board of Education, noting that the property fell to their jurisdiction, now. He further stated that there was some resolution being developed relative to the work for that particular driveway.

Town Councilman Wunsch stated that the Public Works Board had met last week and that other than what was discuss at this evenings meeting, there was nothing new to review.

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that he had attended an Inland/Wetlands Commission Meeting and noted that the members were doing a great job working with applicants to move forward by allowing people to do what they wanted to do within the allotted 100 feet of wetlands.

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Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that he wanted to see the Town Staff provide recommendations on how the Board members should go about addressing regulations, noting that and which would expedite and assist the Town volunteers greatly.

Public Comments

Peter Worhunsky, 19 Coral Drive, Terryville, stated that he wanted to discuss the foundry on his property at 100 South Riverside Avenue.

Peter Worhunsky distributed two copies of his concept drawings for foundry, noting that the most important part of the drawings were the outside pictures, noting they were of the 1847 Andrew Terry foundry. He further stated that there was not much left in Town and he wanted to restore the buildings and turn them back into something that the Town could be proud of. Peter Worhunsky detailed the drawings at length, noting his plans to reconstruct the buildings to look like the original 1847 buildings that they once were and that it would go back onto the tax roll. He further stated that he has had an uphill battle with all of his work and that it was disheartening to read in the newspapers that other towns were begging people to clean up Brownsfield sites, citing Winsted and Bristol, among others, as well as providing monies for the work. Peter Worhunsky stated that he didn't want monies, however he felt he had been wasting his life for the past ten years on his passion. He further stated that across the street from his property, on the corner of School Street, the property was being turned into a steam shovel/bulldozer scrap yard and that it wasn't what he wanted people to view from his vision of a top-shelf restaurant, which he planned on putting on his property. Peter Worhunsky stated that there would be a Public Hearing at the Zoning Board on Thursday and that if the Town Council was concerned about what the Town looked like, they should attend the meeting.

Melanie Church stated that the Town Council just heard Peter Worhunsky's frustration and she suggested that the Town Council members attend the aforementioned meeting, noting that he was doing all of the work on his dime, not the Town's. She further stated that he wasn't asking for money, just support.

Council Comments

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that some months back the Council had discussed putting together a workshop to talk about Peter Worhunsky's project (with Peter Worhunsky present) and his vision, however it was never done. He further questioned if the Town Council could do that now.

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Council Comments Cont'd.

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that he felt it would be important to have the workshop now and it would let the Land Use Boards know what was being envisioned for that portion of Town. He further stated that some of the Land Use Board members have told him that they had no idea of Peter Worhunsky's vision, which he admitted was hard to understand, but would like to have a workshop now.

Mayor Festa stated that he had spoken to Peter Worhunsky on three separate occasions noting that the meeting did not materialize because of particular issues, noting that he would follow through on this issue, as well.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that the Town Council should be polled to ensure that a quorum would not be present at Thursday's meeting and that perhaps a notice should be posted if everyone wanted to be in attendance.

Mayor Festa stated that because of the State Statutes governing the Land Use Boards, the Town Council needed to be careful in terms of the zoning issues.

When questioned by Town Councilman Sandshaw, Mayor Festa stated that all of the Town Council members could speak at the aforementioned meeting as private citizens.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, Mayor Festa stated that Council members would be meeting as private citizens; however he would legally double check the question of a Town Council quorum being present.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that Harwinton Avenue was recently crack-sealed and questioned why that had occurred.

Anthony Lorenzetti explained that the road had been cracking through the base and that was the reason for the minimum sealing and that the work had not involved any overtime or any cost to the Town.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he had heard that the Brush Dump was closed on Wednesdays, noting that as a Council, it had been voted to keep it open on that day of the week.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that his budget had a reduction, which did not allow the Brush Dump to remain open on Wednesdays. He further stated because of lack of use during the summer, the Town might consider leaving the Brush Dump open on a seasonal basis only.

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Council Comments Cont'd.

Town Councilman Sandshaw stated that he remembered the Town Council voting unanimously to keep the Brush Dump open on Wednesdays.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he had heard rumors that the Transfer Station would be closed on Mondays.

Anthony Lorenzetti stated that discussion had taken place, however the Transfer Station would remain open on Mondays.

Mayor Festa stated that the Board of Finance had discussion, but noted that it was a contractual item that would need to be negotiated, noting that negotiations were currently going on.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Mayor Festa stated that the Town Council would be able to vote on accepting the contract and noted that nothing could be done until changes, if any, to the contract were made. He further stated that contrary to the issue of the recommendation by the Board of Finance, the question of the Transfer Station remaining open on Mondays would still have to be discussed.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he would like to see some data from Anthony Lorenzetti showing that the Brush Dump was not used on Wednesdays during the summer months. He further stated that he would be looking up the voting issue in the past minutes.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she found it not surprising that comments had been made this evening, as if people were Monday morning quarterbacks, regarding the Referendum. She further stated that if anyone failed the referendum it was two things; failure for the public to get involved, and as hindsight, the Town not offering enough structure way back when the project started over five years ago. Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that if people do not want to educate themselves, like with anything that comes before the Council every month, the Council cannot go into their living rooms and sit there beg them to understand; they have to take responsibility.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that the comments made this evening were very much appreciated, however the comments needed to be directed at the Capital Improvements Committee and the Municipal Facilities Committee. She further stated that the Council was only present to offer guidance and that the Council had allowed the Committees to go back and resubmit another proposal.

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Council Comments Cont'd.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she hoped that the public comments made this evening were actually taken seriously, that they do participate in the process, rather than sabotage it at the end.

Mayor Festa stated that he had an opportunity to be discussing the Energy Audit issues and had been informed about the marvelous work that Town Councilman Sandshaw had been performing within the school system. Mayor Festa congratulated Town Councilman Sandshaw for all of the monies that he had saved the school system through his work on the Energy Audit process.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Acting Recording Secretary

attachments