

**Town of Plymouth**  
**80 Main Street**  
**Terryville, CT 06786**  
**<http://www.plymouthct.us>**

**Plymouth Town Council**  
**Telephone: (860) 585-4001**  
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**Minutes**

**August 12, 2013**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Vincent Festa, Jr., called the scheduled August 12, 2013, Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Town Hall.

**Roll Call:** Present were Mayor Vincent Festa, Jr., Town Councilman Richard Foote, Town Councilwoman Susan Murawski, Town Councilwoman DiAnna Schenkel, and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also present were David Bertnagel/Director of Finance and Paul Pronovost/Interim Public Works Coordinator.

#### **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.

#### **Council Rules and Procedures**

No report.

#### **Mayor's Report-Letter from Mr. Spies re. North Street Reservoir; Final Report Meeting 8-12-13; Bond Road Projects costs reported/D. Bertnagel, Waterwheel Project/Clover Construction; AT&T "No Text While Driving Day"; 9-19-13 GFOA/D. Bertnagel**

Mayor Festa stated he had included correspondence in the Council packets from Mr. Spies regarding the North Street Reservoir and that he would be forwarding a copy to the next appropriate Committees, Public Works and Parks and Recreation. He further stated that the North Street Reservoir Ad Hoc Committee was holding a meeting this evening on their Final Report and that Chairman Wunsch would be forwarding their meeting report to the Mayor's Office. Mayor Festa stated that he would then forward Chairman Wunsch's report to the Council.

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**Mayor's Report Cont'd.**

Mayor Festa stated that David Bertnagel would be reporting on the costs of the Bond Road Project later this evening.

Mayor Festa stated that Paul Pronovost had reported that everything was going well with the Town roads and that there were a number of projects currently happening in Town due to the Bond Proposal. He further stated that if any of the Council or Board of Finance members were interested in viewing the current projects, he and the Public Works Department would arrange for a bus tour, noting that anyone interested in this offer should let him know this evening or tomorrow at the latest.

Mayor Festa stated that the Waterwheel Project had experienced a stall; however the generator portion of the project was no longer an issue thanks to David Bertnagel's involvement.

Mayor Festa stated that the Town was moving forward to award the alternate bids, relative to Clover Construction, to begin Phase II of the corner piece on the other side of the Waterwheel.

Mayor Festa stated that he had included information from AT&T regarding texting in the Council's packets. He further stated that AT&T had requested that the Mayor's Office issue a Proclamation for that particular day, noting that he would and stressed the importance of getting people who text while they drive off the roads.

Mayor Festa stated that this was the third year in a row that David Bertnagel had received an award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for document reporting on his budget process. He further stated that both he and the Council applaud David Bertnagel for this award, noting that the award would be forthcoming in approximately eight weeks.

**To take action to refund Property Taxes: Sylvia Narciso \$286.32; Mark Viacek \$549.21; Rebecca or Paul Craighill \$18.18; Robert or Sandra Wolowicz \$15.03; Bradley Carhart \$62.04; George or Dale Miller \$18.62; Bernice Lukasewski \$104.70; Raymond or Janet Narciso \$35.30**

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Foote, to approve and authorize Property Tax Refunds to the following: Sylvia Narciso \$286.32; Mark Viacek \$549.21; Rebecca or Paul Craighill \$18.18; Robert or Sandra Wolowicz \$15.03; Bradley Carhart \$62.04; George or Dale Miller \$18.62; Bernice Lukasewski \$104.70; Raymond or Janet Narciso \$35.30. This motion was approved unanimously.

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**Appointments/Resignations: To take action to re-appoint the following individuals:  
William Milish to Hillside Cemetery, term to expire 7-1-2017**

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski to re-appoint William Milish to Hillside Cemetery with a term to expire on 7-1-2017. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To review/take action, as may be necessary, regarding a Tax Abatement Ordinance/Public Hearing Date**

Mayor Festa stated that Craig Stevenson, Town Economic Consultant, had not arrived as yet to speak on this Agenda item, but hopefully would be present later this evening.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Foote, to table this Agenda item until later in the meeting. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To remove from table to discuss and take action on Employee Handbook**

Town Councilman Foote made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to un-table discussion and taking action on the Employee Handbook. This motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor Festa stated that this Agenda item had been sitting around for quite a while and that the last conversation on this item had come from the Town Assessor relative to the language that she felt was inappropriate for the word "thong".

Mayor Festa stated that the issue at hand would be if the Council were ready to move forward, accept the language and questioned if there were any other outstanding issues.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he had presented a number of issues that he had with the Handbook at the April 2013 Meeting and that he did not believe the questions had ever been addressed. He further stated that as an example one of his questions had concerned the definition of a full-time employee and a part-time employee.

When questioned by Mayor Festa, Town Councilman Zagurski stated that according to the wording it sounded as if every Town employee could be considered to be a part-time employee.

Mayor Festa stated that this issue would be taken care of.

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**To remove from table to discuss and take action on Employee Handbook Cont'd**

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that she had a problem with the section that stated it was not appropriate for some employees that belonged to a Union and that there were some parts that applied to them and some parts that didn't and she thought that it should be changed to a body that applies to all employees and that certain parts could be clarified to differentiate that certain parts didn't apply to this Union, and that it was just too vague for her.

When questioned by Mayor Festa, Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that she hadn't reviewed the section she was referring to since April, but that she remembered Mr. Bellotti saying that a certain part didn't apply to this Union and another part didn't apply to that Union.

Mayor Festa stated that there was an issue relative to the Classified Service, noting that they were exempt because they were not a Union and that they abided by a different set of rules and regulations.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that it wasn't spelled out at all.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he couldn't read a lot of the last two pages because it didn't copy properly and requested that new copies be sent out to the Council.

Mayor Festa stated that there should be better quality pages and that he would take care of this request.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that the Council could examine the Dress Code section, as well.

Town Councilman Foote made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to leave the Agenda item on the table for further review. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To discuss and take action, as may be necessary, regarding Tax Incentives for the following: Northeast Fasteners Corporation; Precision Inspection; Reach for the Stars Dance Academy**

Mayor Festa stated that each of the listed Agenda item companies had gone before the Tax Incentive Committee and the Economic Development Commission and had received their blessings for a Tax Incentive, noting that this information had also been included in the Council's packets for discussion this evening if the Council so desired.

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**To discuss and take action, as may be necessary, regarding Tax Incentives for the following: Northeast Fasteners Corporation; Precision Inspection; Reach for the Stars Dance Academy Cont'd.**

Town Councilwoman Schenkel made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Foote, to accept the Tax Incentives as presented.

Discussion:

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that being on the Tax Incentive Committee she knew a lot of businesses that wanted to stay in Terryville and that this was one of the tools that the Town used to keep businesses in Town. She further stated that the Town valued its businesses and that it made sense to approve these abatements.

Pattie DeHuff, 20 Lynn Avenue, Terryville, stated that she wanted to propose that the Council not do this tax incentive because what it was doing was it would force the homeowners to have more taxes put on their backs. She further stated that she guessed she would say that she, as a homeowner, would like a tax incentive in some way or a tax abatement in some way. Pattie DeHuff stated why don't we think in terms of lowering taxes across the board so that companies would not have to come and ask of the homeowner to help support them. She further stated that if we were to seriously look at cutting the budget, and that she knew that we were beyond the budget season, we could have gotten policies that would be more favorable to lowering taxes across the board for everyone and that she thought that would be a better thing. Pattie DeHuff stated that she was concerned that the Town would have many businesses come before the Council and that they were setting a precedent here and the businesses would be "I want one, I want one" and that would make the homeowners have to bear an even greater burden and that she hoped the Council would vote no on this.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that what Pattie DeHuff said sounded good, but the reality of the situation was that other towns would give the businesses tax abatements and the Town had to be competitive or at least keep up.

Mayor Festa requested that David Bertnagel provide a little education relative to the Tax Abatement Program.

David Bertnagel stated that the Tax Abatement Program was basically a program that the Town offered to businesses that wanted to relocate or expand.

David Bertnagel stated that these businesses were adding a tax base to the Town and were not taking away from the current levy or assessment and that the Town would be increasing the assessments of the Town.

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**To discuss and take action, as may be necessary, regarding Tax Incentives for the following: Northeast Fasteners Corporation; Precision Inspection; Reach for the Stars Dance Academy Cont'd.**

David Bertnagel stated that the Town was abating those companies based upon what the State Statutes allowed and that it allowed the businesses to come in and build additions and that it would make the Grand List go up later on and that secondly, it afforded people the opportunity for jobs in the Industrial Park through these businesses.

Mayor Festa questioned Mrs. DeHuff if David Bertnagel's explanation helped.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that it was his opinion that a business really didn't cost the Town anything extra in taxes and that it only added value.

David Bertnagel stated that was where he was coming from, that businesses only add value to the Town, which was a positive thing and that was why the State Statutes allowed it.

Town Councilman Foote stated that he had been living for 14 years on the corner of Burger and Preston Road, which looked out over the Industrial Park. He further stated that he could see two factories (one currently going in) from his home and that he felt anything the Town could do to encourage further development should be done, noting that it brings money into the Town. He further stated that if the Town doesn't do, as Sue stated, the businesses would go elsewhere.

Cathy Kosak, 201 Harwinton Avenue, Terryville, stated that she understood the competitiveness of what the Council was saying. She further stated that the Town was talking about businesses already in Town and questioned what the Town gains tax-wise with a dance studio and that she wondered what the abatements they would be receiving.

David Bertnagel stated that Northeast Fasteners was receiving 50 percent of the increase assessments so basically they would be paying taxes on 50 percent of the increased assessment with 50 percent abated for a period of three years.

David Bertnagel stated that Precision Inspection would be receiving a 50 percent of the increased assessments due to improvements of all approved properties for three years so they would still be paying more in taxes and that they were increasing their evaluation.

David Bertnagel stated that Reach for the Stars Dance Academy wanted to build a new building, which wasn't there currently, and would be receiving a 50 percent of the increased assessment for the period of three years and that they would also be receiving a direct grant for relocation.

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**To discuss and take action, as may be necessary, regarding Tax Incentives for the following: Northeast Fasteners Corporation; Precision Inspection; Reach for the Stars Dance Academy Cont'd.**

Mayor Festa stated that new jobs would be created by the companies that were expanding and that the Town hoped to see at least another eight Town individuals hired.

Mayor Festa stated that it was always important to work with the Industrialists in the Town and that the Town was moving forward to meet with two other companies within the Park looking for expansions next Spring, as well. He further stated that this was due to the abatements that the Town was giving which helped with their ability to grow.

Mayor Festa stated that there seemed to be a surge coming through on the Real Estate and job market end and that hopefully, the Town would be a part of that and not be left in the dust because the Town might be hind sighted rather than foresighted.

Vote: This motion was approved unanimously.

**To discuss Public Works Updates Report/Paul Pronovost**

Paul Pronovost stated that the work was going good and everyone could see that if they traveled around on the Town streets.

Paul Pronovost stated that Bushnell Avenue had been completed with reclaiming and repaving and that there were still some driveway aprons that would need to be repaved.

Paul Pronovost stated that Matthews Street had been completed with paving and that curbing and aprons would need to be installed.

Paul Pronovost stated that micro-surfacing was a small protective coating and had been done on Altair Avenue, North Harwinton Avenue, Fairmount, and that Eagle Street and Tunnel Road should have been done today. He further stated that this process would also be done on Town Hill, Schultz Street, High Street and the upper half of Elm Street.

Paul Pronovost stated that the milling had been completed on South Main Street and that the Paving Contractor would be repaving it

Paul Pronovost stated that Greystone Road was being taken care of with cold in-place recycling. He further stated that this process used the material already there and added some stone to it, ground it up, added new oil and then put the road back down as a base coat.

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**To discuss Public Works Updates Report/Paul Pronovost Cont'd.**

Paul Pronovost stated that the road could either be paved or could have a surface treatment done to it. He further stated that originally, there had been talk of adding 1.5 to 2 inches of pavement to the road, but that the process had produced high quality work and that as a result they would be double chip sealing the road instead. Paul Pronovost stated that this process was done regularly and that a common double chip seal verses asphaltting over it would save money for other Town roads on the list. He further stated that down South, where there is no freeze/frost cycle, the road would be left as it was, now. Paul Pronovost stated that this work was scheduled for the end of August or the beginning of September.

Paul Pronovost stated that work continues on Adams Drive Project, noting that this was part of the Road Project (in the normal Operating Budget) not the Bond Project.

Paul Pronovost stated that the crew was working on Schroback Road under drains to try to take care of some of the surface water.

Paul Pronovost stated that Burr Road/Harwinton Avenue was scheduled to be paved soon.

Paul Pronovost stated that the work was going smooth and that the Public Works employees were paving in some of the catch basins that had been raised by the Contractors to save some money and keep the projects moving forward.

Paul Pronovost stated that he had distributed a spreadsheet to the Mayor, David Bertnagel and the Capital Improvements Committee that showed the complete amount of material being used on every road right down to the last brick and that when the road was completed the spreadsheet would show the complete cost of every road.

Paul Pronovost stated that like the Mayor had said, everyone should take a ride around Town, noting that there was a lot of good work being done.

Town Councilman Zagurski requested that Paul Pronovost explain the spreadsheet a little bit.

Paul Pronovost stated that the Tunnel Road item on the spreadsheet showed the work being done, the quantity of whatever was used (in the first row), the unit cost and at the end the total spent for the unit cost and what had been spent so far.

Paul Pronovost stated that as invoices came in he would be updating the spreadsheet and would be sending out monthly updates.

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**To discuss Public Works Updates Report/Paul Pronovost Cont'd.**

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Paul Pronovost stated that \$3,900.00 had been spent on Tunnel Road to date. He further stated that they had finished the micro-surfacing today and that the cost would be added into the monthly update.

Paul Pronovost stated that one of the bigger roads, such as Adams Drive, was three pages, it was down to catch basin bricks and that inventory was taken every day. He further stated that a Public Works employee checks with the Contractor and that he himself goes out to check on the work being done so that everything would be reported on and the Town would know what had been used for the program, noting that was how he had done it in Thomaston.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Paul Pronovost stated that CB stood for Asphalt Curbing Treatment, CL was for no curbing, CW was for Windsor and CM was for an open back, noting these were all codes and that anything that said top was a catch basin top.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, stated that she couldn't believe in all this time all these catch basin tops needed to be replaced. She further stated that she noticed after they were replaced that the old ones were just left sitting there. Melanie Church stated that someone told her and that it was on the Police Reports that the Town had some stolen because of the steel. She further stated that with them sitting there and nobody watching and not removing and people were taking it was costing us money and questioned what the criteria was before you replace.

Melanie Church stated that another question she had was you go down some of these roads and you look at the catch basin tops some were up high and some were down low and where was the grading, who figures out how much they need for grading or for bricks or whatever and do we have Engineering in this Town to approve these things because otherwise it's going to come back and it's going to bite us. Melanie Church stated that she feels that very, very strongly. She further stated that if you checked with Bristol and Bristol says okay we're going to do Willis Street, Willis Street will be worked on for three weeks, completed, and they have a company come in and the company does the whole thing and they're bonded so they're responsible for a year after that and when you're having this done in piece meal by this person, this person, and this person, in the end who's responsible. She further stated that it could be filled in improperly which causes the problem and all that's going to do is open us up for lawsuits and she doesn't understand.

Melanie Church stated that some of these catch basins that she sees being replaced were replaced a couple of years ago.

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**To discuss Public Works Updates Report/Paul Pronovost Cont'd.**

Melanie Church stated that the one's over by the High School were replaced and we replaced them again and questioned how many times we were going to replace them, noting that they were supposed to last 20 years. Melanie Church stated that some of the catch basins that just water that rains comes in hits them and one was on Preston Road across from Dick Foote's house and that the only water that hits it is the water that comes down out of the sky, not the rain that comes down the street. She further stated that across the street you need one because you got a puddle there and questioned who is looking at these, noting that she believed we had two Engineers in this Town and nobody was looking at them and you are having a Foreman run out and take a look at these and this wasn't how we should be doing things, they should be done properly and organized otherwise this is nothing but a blank check and we are going to have to redo these roads. She further stated that she hadn't been over them all but she could tell you that people aren't happy out there and you go down and see them up and down and it's something serious. Melanie Church stated that she suggests the Council does take a ride and get out of their cars and take a look.

Melanie Church questioned why we were doing only part of one road and part of another and that was not fixing things. She further stated that to her you take your worse roads and you fix those and then people see because they were driving over something smooth and good and it would last not temporary Band-aid fixes and that was what you claimed you didn't want with this. Melanie Church questioned how many people do we need for this, how many people do we need.

Melanie Church stated that if you read the Charter what does Public Works do; Maintenance, maintain the roads, maintain the trees on the side of the roads, maintain the side of the roads, that's what they do. She further stated that they might want to be a Construction Company, but that's not what our Charters says; we really need to look at this seriously and we need to bid stuff out normally. Melanie Church stated that it's crazy the way stuff is being done in this Town, noting that we were ordering material and that it should all be priced in and that they could do it cheaper than we could, and that we were not even pricing all this stuff and all we were doing was making work for an extra person in the Highway Department.

Melanie Church stated that we got a person upstairs that's the Secretary to the Public Works Director and questioned if she couldn't be doing this stuff and that this was the stuff that she used to do.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he was extremely surprised at how many catch basin tops that the Town had replaced and questioned Paul Pronovost if they were all part of the Bonding Package.

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**To discuss Public Works Updates Report/Paul Pronovost Cont'd.**

Paul Pronovost stated that they were going by the list of road the people had asked for, which the Town had hired a firm to do the Road Survey.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that the Bonding Package had specific roads that were supposed to be done.

Paul Pronovost stated that Town Councilman Zagurski was correct and that those were the roads from the Bonding Package that they were doing; the roads from the Bonding Package, not from the Road Survey.

Paul Pronovost stated that they also went around and checked the condition of the catch basins, noting that if the grate was rotting out or the catch basin had a chip on it from a plow, the Town would want to replace them because when the Town was doing the road it would want to get it all done so that five years down the road when the catch basin collapses the Town wouldn't have to dig up the brand new road.

Paul Pronovost noted that on State projects they usually change 99 percent of the catch basins.

Paul Pronovost stated that the reason that some catch basins were up high and some were not depended on the process that was used. He further stated that a micro-surface or chip seal process did not require the catch basins to be adjusted because that was only 3/8 to 3/4 of an inch so the catch basin wouldn't be lower. Paul Pronovost stated that if it were a mill or a reclamation process, the Town would want to raise it to a proper pitch and get the proper height of the catch basin throat so that the water would go into it. He further stated that this was all common, everyday construction practice and that he had done this for 25 years at his previous job and that it was done every day by construction people.

**To discuss and take action, as may be necessary, on proposed Ordinance on Department of Human Resources**

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Schenkel, to discuss and take action, as may be necessary, on the proposed Ordinance on Department of Human Resources. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he had sat down with the Comptroller and had discussed the Ordinance and had created it together.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that because the time was so close to the elections he thought that maybe it would be better to table the item until after the election.

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**To discuss and take action, as may be necessary, on proposed Ordinance on Department of Human Resources Cont'd.**

Mayor Festa stated that it was fine with him, but that it was up to the Council.

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Foote, to table the Agenda item until November after the elections. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To review and discuss Financial Reports as presented by Finance Director**

David Bertnagel stated that he previously distributed copies of a report with the Project Budget to date in regards to the Town of Plymouth Projects 2013 as of August 7, 2013.

David Bertnagel stated that the report provided an explanation of all the major Capital projects that were currently ongoing and detailed the report item by item as follows:

Burr Road/Harwinton Avenue Waterline: Budget Allocation \$1,200,000.00, Amount Expended to Date \$683,583.83, Encumbered \$303,224.53, Project Balance \$213,191.64

Town Garage: Budget Allocation \$425,000.00, Amount Expended to Date \$201,053.64, Encumbered \$57,705.86, Project Balance \$166,240.50

Bemis Street/Beach Avenue Studies: Budget Allocation \$400,000.00, Amount Expended to Date \$16,667.00 (the Tri-Town Contribution for the Grant Match, noting additional one's would be coming in for this piece), Encumbered, \$105,800.00 (noting that Engineering Studies were underway for this project), Project Balance \$277,533.00

North Main Street Bridge Project: Budget Allocation \$1,600,000.00, Amount Expended to Date \$28,292.06, Encumbered \$34,978.61, Project Balance \$1,536,729.33

Seymour Road Project: Budget Allocation \$3,000,000.00, Amount Expended to Date \$62,303.82, Encumbered \$67,317.48, Project Balance \$2,870,378.70

Road Works and Projects: Crack Sealing, Budget Allocation \$100,000.00, Amount Expended to Date \$21,509.80, Encumbered - , Project Balance \$78,490.20

Chip Sealing/Micro-surfacing: Budget Allocation \$950,000.00, Amount Expended to Date \$80,708.25, Encumbered \$120,000.00, Project Balance \$749,291.75

Milling/Overlay: Budget Allocation \$1,100,000.00, Amount Expended to Date - , Encumbered \$272,500.00, Project Balance \$827,500.00

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**To review and discuss Financial Reports as presented by Finance Director Cont'd.**

Base Rehabilitation: Budget Allocation \$2,650,000.00, Amount Expended to Date \$122,347.03, Encumbered \$1,544,146.17, Project Balance \$983,506.80

Totals: Budget Allocation \$4,800,000.00, Amount Expended to Date \$224,565.08, Encumbered \$1,936,646.17, Project Balance \$2,638,788.75

Total Projects Cost: Budget Allocation \$4,800,000.00, Amount Expended to Date \$11,425,000.00, Encumbered \$2,505,672.65, Project Balance \$7,702,861.92

David Bertnagel stated that all in all the projects were on schedule, under budget and on time. He further stated that Capital Improvements Committee member George Castle had provided the Council with a presentation a couple of months ago and that his Gantt Chart had been posted upstairs in Town Hall and included the timeline for the projects and that people were encouraged to look at it and online, to see when their roads would be completed.

David Bertnagel stated that he had been cautiously optimistic about a surplus in the General Fund. He further stated that there would be a surplus and that it was approaching \$100,000.00, that everything looked very good, noting that this was the fifth year in a row with a budget surplus.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, David Bertnagel stated that the catch basins would be under the Mill and Overlay or Base Rehabilitation depending on what the project was originally (Overlay or Rehabilitation) and would be part of the Encumbered Amount and Expended Amount.

David Bertnagel stated that he had the ability to show sub-categories, moving forward, if that was what the Council wanted.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he was just curious because Paul Pronovost had stated that the micro-surface roads and catch basins were included and he didn't see it spelled out on the report.

David Bertnagel stated that he could break it down further in regards to materials and actual contracted labor.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that as long as he knew where it was he could talk to David Bertnagel.

David Bertnagel stated that he could absolutely always talk with him.

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**To review and discuss Financial Reports as presented by Finance Director Cont'd.**

Melanie Church stated that she wanted to know where the Police Officers coming out of the bonding for the traffic and the overtime for the Highway Department workers that start after three o'clock and questioned where that was coming out of the bonding money and was that in the amount there that had been done. She further stated that the Town had two flagging companies and in one breath you say gee we want to give Tax Incentives. Melanie Church stated that when it came down to vote that just the Police were going to get everything you people didn't pass it and yet it seems the only ones that do it are the Police and then at three o'clock, because they have to come here for eight hours, then the Highway Department does it, but it's not good enough to put it out for bid to the traffic companies that we have in Town so you're telling them to go ahead and move out of Town because we don't want you. She further stated that she thought it was a serious problem especially when we're allocating all the overtime to our Town employees and heck with the businesses.

Mayor Festa thanked David Bertnagel for his report.

**Liaison Reports**

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he had nothing to report at this time.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated the Police Commission meeting had been cancelled. She further stated that the Town Council meeting had been scheduled for the same night so that was a good thing for her.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that Human Services Commission was off for the summer.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that the Board of Finance was gearing up for next year's audit and were starting to discuss what dates the audit would be delivered to them for their review.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission's Skate Board Park Hearing, which had been scheduled for July 25th had been cancelled due to the lack of a quorum and that Board Member Emma Johnson had resigned which contributed to the quorum issue. She further stated that they had scheduled a Special Meeting for August 22nd.

Town Councilman Foote stated that the Fire Commission had just purchased a new pick-up truck.

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**Town Council Liaison Reports Cont'd.**

Town Councilman Foote stated that D'Amato Construction would be working on the leaky roof at Headquarters, noting that it had been a big concern for the past couple of months.

Town Councilman Foote stated that there would be a new policy on social media, i.e., Facebook, etc., regarding pictures being taken at fires.

Town Councilman Foote stated that the Fire Commission had noted they were about \$6,000.00 over budget due to building repairs.

Town Councilman Foote stated that the ladder truck was 14 years old and was starting to cost more money to repair and that money would be transferred from the Contingency Fund.

Town Councilman Foote stated that the Fire Marshal had several inspections and burning permits.

Town Councilman Foote stated that there was a dry hydrant, down by where Iseli used to be, in a building near the pond and that only way it worked was for someone at Iseli to turn the pump on and they would get water for fighting the fire. He further stated that the Iseli building was going to be demolished and questioned if the Town wanted to take responsibility for the hydrant. Town Councilman Foote stated that the consensus was that if a fire happened and the Fire Department didn't get there before the house burned to the ground, because the hydrant wasn't working, they would be blamed for it so it would be better to leave it alone and let it be demolished with the rest of the factory.

Town Councilman Foote stated that the main concern about the building and grounds was getting the roof fixed, noting that they were also going to get the driveway sealed along with some of the Town's work.

Town Councilman Foote stated that David Bertnagel had spoken about grants and allocations at the Historic Property Commission and that progress of the Waterwheel Project was discussed, i.e., the new fence, plantings on Benedict Street, etc. He further stated that possible contacts would be made to see about park benches etc., and that there were several organizations in Town who were interested in possibly doing something in that regard.

Town Councilman Foote stated that he had received information from the Housing Authority today and that he would present that information at the next Town Council meeting.

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**Public Comment**

Melanie Church stated that she wanted to bring up some issues on stuff and that she didn't know if we were leasing it and maybe David Bertnagel could bring light to the Council and that was an L90 Volvo Loader and an attachment to it and questioned if that was coming out of the Bonding money because there was nothing in the Capitals for it. She further stated that we bought a mulcher, a side thing and what were we going to do with this and you know we're buying stuff that we never ever needed and all of a sudden this stuff was appearing.

Melanie Church stated that another question she had for you as the Council, she thought Capital Improvements was an Ad Hoc Committee and she thought you as the Council needed to approve the bids and the things that were going on. She further stated that she had been here for over a year and she hadn't heard anything come forward to you except for one thing, so who's falling lax on their job, noting that you really need to look at this because again, things were not being followed.

Melanie Church stated that you were given a list on what she was going to call Property Maintenance, no pictures, you did not approve it and that wasn't what the Ordinance said, you people made the Ordinance, you have it in there, you said gee we want to have a say, bring them to us to see if they're legitimate, has that been done, no they send you a list, that's not what's supposed to be happening. Like she said there's stuff that nobody knows, who's bidding, what's being done, who's in charge. You know we have a foreman trying to be an Engineer it just cannot be, you need to start making accountabilities of the people that we have and as I said you have two Engineers and they should be out there approving that stuff, that's who should be watching them, we don't need ten guys out there watching them and if we had put it out for bid we wouldn't be paying that overtime, how was that being cost effective. Like she was saying to you people we need to cut back, we need to look at things, and don't be sitting up there and saying oh we want businesses to come to Town and you don't even use them. She further stated that if you just want the Town employees be open about it, run on that, because that was sure what it sounded like to her.

Victoria Carey, Greystone Road, Plymouth, stated that Iseli Screw Machine Company took out all of their electricity and their telephone so that the pumping station would not work anyway, noting it was null and void and doesn't do anything.

Victoria Carey stated that she lived on Greystone Road and had witnessed all of the chip seal and construction work and that she wanted it known that not one Town employee was working on it and that it was all flaggers so she took exception to the comment that only employees and Town workers were doing the flaggers.

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**Public Comment Cont'd.**

Victoria Carey stated that the flagging crew had been hired on by one of the Contractors who was doing work on the road.

Pattie DeHuff stated that she noticed on the Agenda this evening that there was no "Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items", that it was disappointing and that she felt it should always be there even if it was a Special Town Council meeting.

Pattie DeHuff stated that back in December she had made a recommendation to the Council that they put the check register on line and that apparently the Council didn't agree with the proposal because she hadn't heard anything from the Council and there hadn't been an Agenda item for that item.

Pattie DeHuff stated that when we talk about taxes she felt that the more people that were watching our money the more we could learn where we could save money and she didn't think that anyone out there was saying gee I can't wait to take the money out of the pockets of these people. She further stated that you had things that you wanted to accomplish and establish priorities and you think that something may be good, and may be it is good, but maybe it was not necessary. Pattie DeHuff stated that if we put the check register online you would have the entire Community who had access to the Internet to be watching what was going with our money. She further stated that she would strongly urge the Council to consider it for the next Town Council meeting.

**Council Comments**

Town Councilman Foote stated that with the large amount of construction going on throughout the Town he would like to revisit the discussion from almost two years ago; that being the flagging people for construction sites. He further stated that the original Ordinance, made by the Police Commission, was to have a sworn Police Officer and he was against it back then.

Town Councilman Foote stated that one of the last things that the former Town Councilman Sandshaw had said was that in any situation like that the first choice should be the Construction company flag people and if they didn't have them or for some reason couldn't use them then go to a private Flag company and the Police Officers come, unless it's an absolute emergency, the Police come as the third choice. He further stated that he would like the Police Commission or the Council to revisit this sometime within the next month or so because it was getting to the point where there was construction all over the place and he didn't see Police Officers doing any different a job than a flag person and that sometimes he thought the flag people were more akin to what was going on around them and they cost a heck of a lot less money and that was his suggestion.

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**Council Comments Cont'd.**

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that she had no comment at this time.

Town Councilwoman Schenkel stated that she had no comment at this time.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he had no comment at this time.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Foote, to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary