

Town of Plymouth
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Terryville, CT 06786
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Plymouth Town Council
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Minutes

September 23, 2014

Call to Order: Mayor David V. Merchant called the scheduled September 23, 2014, Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m., in the Community Room, Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present were Town Councilman William Heering, Mayor David Merchant, Town Councilwoman Susan Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski, and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also in attendance were Town of Plymouth Animal Control Officer Cesar Beiros, Director of Finance David Bertnagel, Plymouth Board of Education Chairman Ray Engle, Town Attorney William Hamzy, Town of Plymouth Police Chief Karen Krasicky, Town of Thomaston Police Chief James Campbell, Capital Improvements Committee Vice-Chairman Matt Tellier, Attorney Salvatore Vitrano and Town of Plymouth Assistant Police Chief Robert Wright.

Fire Exits Notification

Mayor Merchant noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Council Rules and Procedures

No report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Merchant stated he had nothing to report at this time because it was a Special Meeting.

Public Comments on non-agenda items

Rob Wilcox, 155 South Main Street, Terryville, stated at the most recent Board of Finance Meeting, Mr. Bertnagel had stated that the previous bonding for the first part of the Streetscape was for two grants for \$600,000 and then we recently approved the \$500,000 for a total of \$1.1 million.

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Public Comments on non-agenda items Cont'd.

Rob Wilcox stated that the Streetscape looked great, that he loves the pavers and questioned if anyone had dictated that the Town had to use the pavers and the fancy light posts and whatnot and that it would seem more feasible if we paved a lot more sidewalk with just concrete for that \$1.1 million dollars.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, stated she had gone to the Board of Finance and didn't get any answers. Melanie Church stated that Ted Smith collected \$973,751.73 over the budgeted amount and questioned where the money was, noting the people would like to see that for tax relief. Melanie Church thanked the Tax Collector for a record collection.

Melanie Church stated she ran into Town Councilman Zagurski who said he went to the Highway Garage and told her that the money to pave the Highway Garage was coming out of Town Aid to Roads and when you ran you said we needed all this money for roads and now it was being transferred to do a parking lot. Melanie Church stated that there was cement cast being put up and we don't do that on the roads, bollards were put up and no one went to Planning and Zoning for the excavation by GH Kelly and none of it went out to bid and it was over \$5,000.00.

Appointments/Resignations: To appoint Debra Desautels to the Fire Department Building Committee; to appoint Paul Schwanka to the PVAC Board of Directors; to reappoint Verne Wagner to the Fire Commission Board with a term ending 11/04/2017

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to appoint Debra Desautels to the Fire Department Building Committee. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to appoint to appoint Paul Schwanka to the PVAC Board of Directors. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to reappoint Verne Wagner to the Fire Commission Board with a term ending 11/04/2017. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund the following Property Taxes: Gary A. Klimkoski \$52.52; Richard J. Lyga \$16.80; McCue Mortgage \$500.00; Toyota Motor Credit Corp. \$315.57; Amanda J. Cavalari \$86.78; Nissan Infiniti LT \$32.72; Financial Service VEH Trust \$159.16; Jacquelyn M. Parrott \$14.95

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Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to refund the following Property Taxes to Gary A. Klimkoski in the amount of \$52.52; to Richard J. Lyga in the amount of \$16.80; to McCue Mortgage in the amount of \$500.00; to Toyota Motor Credit Corp. in the amount of \$315.57; to Amanda J. Cavalari in the amount of \$86.78; to Nissan Infiniti LT in the amount of \$32.72; to Financial Service VEH Trust in the amount of \$159.16; and to Jacquelyn M. Parrott in the amount of \$14.95. This motion was approved unanimously.

To review the Charge, discuss and take action for the formation of a Town Hall Annex Building Committee

After a brief discussion, Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to move to Agenda Item No. 12 and to come back to Agenda Items No. 10 and No. 11 when Matt Tellier Vice-Chairman Capital Improvements Committee arrived at this evening's meeting. This motion was approved unanimously.

To consider and act upon the Amended and Restated Solar Power and Sale Agreement with EJ Terry Solar 1, LLC

Attorney Salvatore Vitrano, 135 West Street, Bristol, provide a detailed history on the amended and restated Solar Power and Sale Agreement with EJ Terry Solar 1, LLC; a lengthy discussion followed.

Vinnie Klimas, 5 Coral Drive, Terryville, stated that there was a lack of performance by the company and that they were not doing their job. He further stated that the Subcommittee had voted to move forward and questioned if the Board had voted to move forward.

Board of Education Chairman Ray Engle stated that the Board had questions and then voted to move forward with the company.

Vinnie Klimas stated that the Council should ask for a presentation by the company, at the very least. He further stated that he was stunned and he that he would recommend that the Attorney and the Board of Education should ask for a presentation to alleviate any concerns they might have as a result of the presentation.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated that the wording for the Resolution should read the Mayor, not the Board of Education Chairman, would be entering into the Contract.

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to approve the Resolution for the Amended and Restated Solar Power and Sale agreement with EJ Terry Solar 1, LLC, and read the Resolution out loud for the Public Audience. This motion was approved unanimously.

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To review the Charge, discuss and take action for the formation of a Town Hall Annex Building Committee

Matt Tellier, Vice-Chairman Capital Improvements Committee, 238 Preston Road, Terryville, gave a brief history on the Town Hall Annex Building Improvement Project, noting that the Committee was trying to kill two birds with one stone. Matt Tellier stated that the Main Street School Building was examined and detailed the current use of the building. Matt Tellier stated that the Building Committee was formed so that they could present to the Council the improvements that needed to be made and to come up with a figure for the cost.

Vinnie Klimas stated that conceptual drawings were very sound and thoughtful and encouraged the Town Council to approve the Board of Education and the Police Department building project, noting that there were many renovated schools in America. He further stated that it was a good idea, he supports it, and requested that the Committee gets good numbers, and then go to Referendum with a reasonable number and description so it wouldn't be a blank check.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he understood there was \$35,000 in the Capital Budget to do this program and the Fire House and questioned if he anticipated that the \$35,000 would be enough to stay under the budget to meet the plan.

Matt Tellier stated with what the Police Chief and the Board of Education had presented to the Architect, they had a good plan. He further stated that he felt the \$35,000 would cover both projects.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated that he would like the Building Committee to come back with an operating cost for the building so that the Council would know what it cost to actually operate the building.

Robert Ives, 282 Main Street, Terryville, stated that speaking from experience, he was concerned about the \$35,000, noting that the cost of the engineering aspects alone would use up the \$35,000. He further stated that he wanted to recommend that the Committee make the Architect answer every question and come back with a complete package.

Town Councilwoman Murawski read the Charge of the Town Hall Annex Building Committee out loud for the Public Audience.

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Murawski, to form a Town Hall Annex Building Committee.

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Town Hall Annex Building Committee Cont'd.

Discussion:

Vinnie Klimas requested a clarification of the motion, noting that the motion should be requesting conceptual drawings, estimates and that it should also have detailed construction plans. He further stated the he agreed with Mr. Ives in that they would cost a lot more than \$35,000.00. Vinnie Klimas stated that he supported the idea.

Vote: This motion was approved unanimously.

To appoint the following to the Town Hall Annex Building Committee: Scott Ewen, Peter Ganesini, Rich Lyga, Anthony Orsini, Chet Scoville, Matt Tellier, John Wunsch

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to appoint the following to the Town Hall Annex Building Committee: Scott Ewen, Peter Ganesini, Rich Lyga, Anthony Orsini, Chet Scoville, Matt Tellier, and John Wunsch. This motion was approved unanimously.

To enter into Executive Session to discuss Contract related issues concerning Animal Control

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to move into Executive Session at 7:37 p.m. to discuss Contract related issues concerning Animal Control. This motion was approved unanimously.

Present for the Executive Session were Animal Control Officer Cesar Beiros, Director of Finance David Bernagel, Thomaston Police Chief James Campbell, Town Attorney William Hamzy, Town Councilman William Heering, Town of Plymouth Police Chief Krasicky, Mayor David Merchant, Town Councilwoman Susan Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski, Assistant Police Chief Bob Wright, and Town Councilman Zagurski.

Mayor Merchant called the Town Council Meeting back into Regular Session at 8:10 p.m.

To take action, as may be necessary, from Executive Session

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) the Plymouth Police Union, Local #2444, Council #15, AFSCME, AFL-CIO and the Town of Plymouth, as presented to the Town Council in their packets and contingent upon approval of the Interlocal Agreement for Animal Control Operations between the Town of Plymouth and the Town of Thomaston. This motion was approved unanimously.

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Council Comments

Town Councilman Heering stated that he voted reluctantly on the Solar Contract and that he shared Mr. Klimas' concerns, but there were enough clauses in the contract to move forward.

Town Councilman Pajeski stated that the Town needs to move forward and that to do away with the Solar Project and then start it again would take four to five years. He further stated that the Town has the current project in place and we should use it.

Town Councilwoman Murawski 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 Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Heering, to adjourn at 8:49 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary