

**Town of Plymouth**  
**80 Main Street**  
**Terryville, CT 06786**  
**www.plymouthct.us**

**Plymouth Town Council**  
**Telephone: (860) 585-4001**  
**Fax: (860) 585-4015**

**Minutes**

**March 30, 2016**

**Call to Order:** Mayor David V. Merchant called the scheduled March 30, 2016, Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting to order at 7:51 p.m., in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

**Roll Call:** Present were Town Councilman Daniel Gentile, Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey, Mayor David Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also in attendance were Town Attorney William Hamzy, Plymouth Town Clerk Barbara Rockwell.

#### **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.

#### **Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Chris Simo Kinzer, 52 Old Farm Road, Terryville, questioned Item #5 and Item #7, asking what the items meant.

Mayor Merchant stated Item #5 would be the consideration of the Charter Revision Commission proposals; with Item #6 there would be a vote and on Item #7 the four Bonding Resolution proposals would be discussed. He further stated the Charter Revision Commission's proposed changes would be placed on the general election ballot and the Bonding Resolution proposals would be at a separate Referendum.

When questioned by Mayor Merchant, Plymouth Town Clerk Barbara Rockwell stated her office would need the Charter Revision Commission's proposed changes by September 14, 2016, for the November 2016 ballot; a brief discussion followed.

#### **To consider and act upon the following proposed changes to the Town of Plymouth Charter for placement on the ballot for the November 2016 Election as follows:**

- a. **Chapter VII Section 2, Change the date of delivery of each department, office, or agency budget estimates to the Mayor to January 31 (from February 10), the date of delivery of budget estimates from the Mayor to the Board of Finance to February 10 (from February 22), and the date of delivery of budget estimates of the Board of Education budget to the Board of Finance to February 15 (from February 28)**
- b. **Chapter VII Section 3b, to change the time period to schedule a second budget referendum, if necessary, from 20 days to 20 business days**
- c. **Chapter VII Section 3b: Change the sentence which reads "Council adjustments to the individual department budgets, excluding debt service, shall not exceed three**

(3) percent of the current year budget.” to “Council adjustments to the budget, excluding debt service, shall not exceed three (3) percent (plus or minus) of the original adopted current year’s budget.”

- d. **Chapter VII Section 3c**: Change the Board of Finance’s approval limit from \$50,000.00 to \$100,000.00 for Special Appropriations
- e. **Chapter VI Section 5b-1(a)**: Remove from the section the requirement that “All such officers and employees shall, within a reasonable time after appointment become residents of the town, city, or borough contiguous thereto.”
- f. **Chapter VIII Section 3**: Delete this section in its entirety
- g. **Chapter VI Section 5d-3**: Delete this section
- h. **Chapter VI Section 15**: Delete the first three (3) sentences and substitute “There shall be a Housing Authority as created by the Board of Selectmen Resolution of April 26, 1965. The Authority shall be managed and have members and terms of membership in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes section 8-40 et. seq. as may be amended.”
- i. **Chapter II Section 1(b)**: Delete the second sentence and substitute “At such meeting there shall be elected a mayor, five (5) members of the town council to be elected town-wide at large, seven (7) constables, and a treasurer, all for terms of two (2) years.”)
- j. **Chapter II Sections 3a and 3b**: Eliminate both these sections and replace with the following Section 3. Voting Districts: “All municipal elective offices shall be elected town-wide, including the Town Council and the Town shall have one voting district for the purpose of providing a polling place (or places).

In the event that State elective offices are redistricted such that more than one polling place is required, the Registrars of Voters shall determine polling places in each district necessitated by such State action, and the Council shall be authorized to establish such districts. The Mayor, Town Clerk, Registrars of Voters and all other officers of the Town shall perform the duties required of them by law with respect to elections in the voting districts. All action taken under the provision of this section shall be in accordance with Sections 9-168 and 9-169 of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended.”

#### **To discuss and take action on the proposed Charter Revision Changes to the Charter Revision Commission**

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated she wanted to thank the Charter Revision Commission Members, noting they had done a great job and she was happy with all of the proposed changes. She further stated she would like to see the proposed changes cut down to four questions as follows: Items A, B and C as one question, Item D as a separate question, Items E through H as a third question and Items I and J as the fourth question.

Town Attorney William Hamzy stated the item at tonight’s meeting is to accept the report from the Charter Revision Commission and the current agenda item allows the Council to propose changes if it so chooses. He further stated if there were no changes to be made then the Council, in the next agenda item, should accept the proposal by the Charter Revision Commission, noting the Council would retain the right to develop the questions. Town Attorney Hamzy stated that he would recommend the Council propose the questions at the next regularly scheduled Council meeting which would be sent to the Town Clerk for the November ballot.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Murawski, Town Attorney Hamzy stated the time to lump the questions together would be at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council; a brief discussion followed.

Town Attorney Hamzy stated if the Council makes any changes they would then be sent back to the Charter Revision Commission for their input and then back to the Council, and again, the Council retains the right to develop the questions.

Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated the Council had said they wanted to group the questions together not necessarily change them.

Town Councilman Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman LeGassey, to accept the proposed changes brought forth by the Charter Revision Commission. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To discuss and take action on the following Resolutions:**

**“Resolution Appropriating \$350,000 For The Design, Construction, Engineering And Installation Of A Roadway And Parking Area For Eli Terry School And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$350,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose”.**

Town Councilman Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to approve the Resolution as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

**“Resolution Appropriating \$550,000 For The Design, Construction, Engineering And Renovations To The Plymouth Town Hall And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$550,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose”.**

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski to approve the Resolution as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

**“Resolution Appropriating \$2,300,000 For The Design, Construction, Reconstruction, And Engineering Of Various Town Road Improvements And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$2,300,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose”.**

Town Councilman Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman LeGassey, to approve the Resolution as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

**“Resolution Appropriating \$3,750,000 For The Design, Construction, Engineering, Renovation And Rehabilitation Of The Plymouth Firehouse And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$3,750,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose”.**

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Gentile to approve the Resolution as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To set a date for a Referendum for the Bond Resolution Projects as presented**

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Murawski, to hold the Referendum on October 4, 2016, from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Mayor Merchant stated the Referendum would be held at the Town Hall; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Murawski, to hold the scheduled Referendum at the Plymouth Town Hall. This motion was approved unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Gentile, to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.