

Town of Plymouth
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Plymouth Town Council
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Minutes

April 3, 2019

Call to Order: Mayor David Merchant called the scheduled April 3, 2019, Plymouth Town Council Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present were Town Councilman Daniel Gentile, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Mayor David V. Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also, in attendance were Town Attorney William Hamzy, and Finance Director Ann Marie Rheault.

Adoption of the Agenda

Mayor David Merchant noted the listed Public Works Board reappointments would be tabled until the May Plymouth Town Council meeting in order to correct the term dates. Mayor David Merchant stated the Tax Overpayment Refund for Toyota Lease Trust should be listed as \$138.12.

Fire Exits Notification

Mayor David 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.

Invocation

Mayor David Merchant stated, "God Bless the United States of America and the Town of Plymouth" for the record.

Mayor David Merchant asked for a Moment of Silence in remembrance of Mary Jane Wollenberg and briefly outlined Mary's numerous contributions to the Town of Plymouth.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

No report.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Jim Mozelak, 18 Carriage Drive, Terryville, inquired about the Economic Development Grant.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, commented on Economic Development Grants and Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Vinnie Klimas, 5 Coral Drive, Terryville, stated the Town should be aggressive with Economic Grants to attract new businesses.

Acceptance of Minutes (March 6, 2019 Public Hearing Minutes; March 6, 2019 Regular Minutes)

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to accept the March 6, 2019, Public Hearing minutes as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to accept the March 6, 2019 Regular minutes as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor's Report

Mayor David Merchant briefly commented, reviewed and updated the following items: Town Ransomware issue/Data Exfiltration Analysis Report; Street Light Project; New and Expanding Businesses in the Business Park; Budget Process.

Mayor David Merchant read the Housing Authority of the Town of Plymouth Status Report into the record as follows: (1) \$222,700 Critical Needs Fire Detection and alarm and resident Call Bell Systems Grant/Loan is full progress. We are on schedule for the projected schedule of 90 days. \$50,000 Eversource (60/40%) interior and exterior lighting upgrades are almost all completed. (2) \$278,000 Pre-Development State grant/loan has also been approved which pays for architectural and engineering costs for the full-scale renovation grant/loan and is in full progress. Public Bids for construction are being advertised which will be submitted to the CT Department of Housing/CHFA the SSHP Grant/Loan Application by the April 26, 2019 deadline. (3) Summary of the projected renovation/revitalization SSHP State grant/loan projects for the 53-year-old Gosinski Park are *ADA "Bump Out" renovations for 5 existing units and ADA expansion renovations to the Community Meeting building. *Limited Sanitation lines replacement. *For all 60 units: Storm door replacements; kitchen and bathroom upgrades; Hot water tank replacements; Circuit breaker replacements; painting all interiors; and miscellaneous repairs. The renovations are for the 60 existing units. There are no new units being built. (4) 2019 Annual Report is attached. 2018=another Balanced Budget. The Housing Authority proclaims our appreciation to the Mayor and Town Council for your steadfast encouragement and support. Thank you all!

Financial Director's Report

Copies of the February 28, 2019, Town of Plymouth General Fund Revenue/Expenditures Summary were distributed to the Mayor and the Plymouth Town Council for review.

Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Cab East LLC \$80.26; Financial Ser Veh Trust \$1,414.35, \$2,271.13; Karl Kotila \$102.44; Marlin Leasing Property Tax Dept. \$86.52; Kenneth McFarland \$308.00/Sewer Refund; Toyota Lease Trust \$138.12

Town Councilman John Pajeski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Cab East LLC \$80.26; Financial Ser Veh Trust \$1,414.35, \$2,271.13; Karl Kotila \$102.44; Marlin Leasing Property Tax Dept. \$86.52; Kenneth McFarland \$308.00/Sewer Refund; and Toyota Lease Trust \$138.12. This motion was approved unanimously.

Appointments/Reappointments/Resignations: To reappoint Joseph Green to the WPCA with a term ending date of 1/01/22

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman John Pajeski, to reappoint Joseph Green to the WPCA with a term ending date of 1/01/22. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action to approve a Resolution against the installation of tolls in Connecticut.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile briefly summarized the proposed Resolution against the installation of tolls in Connecticut for the Plymouth Town Council and the Public Audience.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to approve a Resolution against the installation of tolls in Connecticut. This motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

No report.

Executive Session to discuss Collective Bargaining and Real Estate Contracts

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to move into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss Collective Bargaining and Real Estate Contracts. This motion was approved unanimously.

Present for the Executive Session were Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Attorney William Hamzy, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Mayor David V. Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski.

Mayor David Merchant called the Plymouth Town Council back into Regular Session at 8:08 p.m.

Discuss and take action to approve an Economic Development Grant of \$50,000 to EdAdvance contingent on the sale of the Main Street School

Mayor David Merchant briefly outlined the Economic Development Grant for EdAdvance. Mayor David Merchant stated for the record that Economic Development Grants are not confined to the Town's Business Park and that the Town gives them out to any business that comes into Town and briefly elaborated. He further stated acquiring new businesses was very competitive and giving a business an Economic Development Grant to assist them is very common. Mayor David Merchant stated the proposed \$50,000 Economic Development Grant would help EdAdvance repair and clean up the front of Main Street School and briefly elaborated. Mayor David Merchant stated this grant would be money well spent, noting the Economic Development Commission voted unanimously to approve it. Mayor David Merchant stated he had received a letter from Seth Duke, Economic Development Commission Chairman, which notified him of the Commission's recommendation to approve the Economic Development Grant to EdAdvance.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to approve an Economic Development Grant of \$50,000 to EdAdvance contingent on the sale of the Main Street School. This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and take action to approve the Sales Contract for the sale of Main Street School to EdAdvance

Mayor David Merchant stated the sale of Main Street School to EdAdvance was a good deal for the Town-owned building that is full of abatement issues.

Mayor David Merchant stated EdAdvance would begin the renovations from the back of the school and work forward, noting they would be finishing up sometime this year. Mayor David Merchant stated the Town would retain ownership of the ballfield and the playground, noting EdAdvance would be able to utilize the playground and ballfield during the day and the Town could utilize the ballfield and the parking lot in the evening and on weekends. Mayor David Merchant stated this sale was a win/win for the Town.

Mayor David Merchant stated although the Town would not be collecting taxes on the property, the Town would be receiving anywhere between \$30,000 and \$100,000 per year in tuition and transportation costs, which would be the same amount or more in savings than if the Town were collecting taxes instead. Mayor David Merchant stated the sale price for the sale of Main Street School to EdAdvance was \$400,000.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to approve the Sales contract for the sale of Main Street School to EdAdvance.

Discussion:

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated this sale would be great for the Town and the Board of Education and briefly elaborated.

Vote:

This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and take action to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Public Works Union

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Public Works Union. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilman Dan Gentile thanked Parks and Recreation Board Member Gerry Bourbonniere for assisting him with the Park and Recreation report monthly update. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated the Basketball Program had ended and had been very successful. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated Parks and Recreation had begun working on the Summer Camp Program and was conducting interviews. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated there would be a Board of Finance meeting on April 11, 2019, to discuss capital improvements at Veteran's Park, including the basketball area; a new roof for the gazebo at Lake Winfield, and a new pickup truck for Parks and Recreation. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated the Board of Education was working on their Budget. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated the Board of Education had hired a new Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Education Services.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski stated the Police Building Committee held their initial meeting, noting Victor Mitchell was the Chairman and Michael Audette was the Vice Chairman. She further stated the Committee will be meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she nothing to report on at this time.

Town Councilman John Pajeski stated everything was going well at Gosinski Park. He further stated Vinnie Klimas was working on having units rehabbed and briefly elaborated.

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

Town Council Comments

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she had spoken to one of the new companies moving into the Industrial Park and noted they were very pleased with the Town processes which they had to go through, noting everyone had been very helpful.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he is continuing hold his Open Forum Discussion on the first Monday of each month from 6:30 p.m. through 8:00 p.m. in the Community Room, noting the next meeting would be held on May 6th. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated the discussions were very good with a lot of different people in attendance.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski stated she had no Town Council Comments at this time.

Town Councilman John Pajeski stated he had no Town Council Comments at this time.

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski stated he had no Town Council Comments at this time.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman John Pajeski, to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Hale
Recording Secretary