

Town of Plymouth
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Terryville, CT 06786
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Plymouth Town Council
Tel: (860) 585-4001
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Minutes

November 18, 2019

Call to Order: Mayor David Merchant called the scheduled November 18, 2019, Plymouth Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present were Town Councilman Daniel Gentile, Town Councilman Joe Green, 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, Plymouth Tax Collector Joseph Kilduff, and Director of Finance Ann Marie Rheault.

Adoption of the Agenda

No changes.

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.

Set Town Council Dates

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski made a motion seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to set the Town Council calendar meeting dates for the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall with the exception of the December 2019 meeting, which will be held on Wednesday December 4th. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Council Liaison Assignments

It was noted the Town Council Liaison Assignments were distributed to the Town Council members. Mayor Merchant stated if anyone wanted to change their assignment to let him know.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, briefly discussed the Pension Fund, the past insurance reimbursement, and monetary transfers.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor David Merchant welcomed all the newly elected officials, including newly appointed Town Council Member Joe Green. Mayor David Merchant briefly commented, reviewed and updated the following items: The Town of Plymouth's loCIP application for Harwinton Avenue; and the Town Green Christmas Tree lighting event. Mayor David Merchant stated Vinnie Klimas and Staff were doing a great job updating Gosinski Park and read the following plan of action for the financial needs of the housing authority of the town of Plymouth into the record: **HUD, Small Cities, Community Development Block Grants**. The Housing Authority is 100% eligible for this federal grant channeled thru the TOWN OF PLYMOUTH. We will do all of the in-depth paperwork, but the TOWN OF PLYMOUTH must sign off on the grant application and related documents. Also, the TOWN OF PLYMOUTH MUST HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING on the proposed grant submission. The Housing Authority will complete all grant paperwork; yet, the TOWN OF PLYMOUTH must sign off the grant submission, etc. **CT. SSHP Funds, (State Housing Portfolio)** These funds are very similar to the HUD CDBG funds in that they are for renovations, but the Housing Authority will be sole responsible for; and the TOWN OF PLYMOUTH will not be responsible for application submission; the Housing Authority will be 100% responsible. Though we will be asking the Mayor and Town Council for a Resolution of Support and Endorsement.

Financial Director's Report

Mayor David Merchant stated an extensive Finance Report had been distributed and briefly elaborated.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile thanked Financial Director Ann Marie Rheault for the financial information.

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile; Plymouth Tax Collector Joe Kilduff stated it was only November and he has until June to collect on the Motor Vehicle Taxes; a brief discussion followed.

Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Heather Folmsbee \$10.16; Richards Corporation \$4,681.61; James Ouellette \$44.73; Jean Yarochowicz \$532.66; William Flower \$131.08; Scott Wheeler \$241.74; Christopher Barbiero \$703.83; Anthony Grieder \$6.55; ACAR Leasing Ltd. \$151.31; VCFS Auto Leasing Co. \$104.39; Brian Fulton \$51.23; JP Morgan Chase Bank \$440.67; Kari Kotila \$11.01; Financial Ser Veh Trust \$840.35; Greater Grace Apostolic \$661.37; Clive Bracken \$149.51; Leonard B. Michalski \$172.27; Armando Elias, Jr. \$32.42

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to approve the Property Tax Overpayment Refunds to the following: Heather Folmsbee \$10.16; Richards Corporation \$4,681.61; James Ouellette \$44.73; Jean Yarochowicz \$532.66; William Flower \$131.08; Scott Wheeler \$241.74; Christopher Barbiero \$703.83; Anthony Grieder \$6.55; ACAR Leasing Ltd. \$151.31; VCFS Auto Leasing Co. \$104.39; Brian Fulton \$51.23; JP Morgan Chase Bank \$440.67; Kari Kotila \$11.01; Financial Ser Veh Trust \$840.35; Greater Grace Apostolic \$661.37; Clive Bracken \$149.51; Leonard B. Michalski \$172.27; and Armando Elias, Jr. \$32.42. This motion was approved unanimously.

Appointments/Reappointments/Resignations: To accept the resignation of Michael Ganem from the Economic Development Commission; to accept the resignation of Michael Ganem from the Real Estate Committee; to accept the resignation of Paul Giancesini from the Parks and Recreation Commission; to accept the resignation of Nicole McWilliams from the Parks and Recreation Commission; to appoint Ingrid Green to the Parks and Recreation Commission; to accept the resignation of David C. Mischke from the Plymouth Police Commission; to appoint Tim Murawski to the Plymouth Police Commission; to accept the resignation of Joe Green from Capital Improvements Committee; to appoint Seth Duke to Capital Improvements Committee; to appoint Ellen Roth to the Capital Improvements Committee; to appoint Nate Brown to the Capital Improvements Committee

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to accept the resignation of Michael Ganem from the Economic Development Commission, with regret. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to accept the resignation of Michael Ganem from the Real Estate Committee, with regret. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to accept the resignation of Paul Giancesini from the Parks and Recreation Commission, with regret. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to accept the resignation of Nicole McWilliams from the Parks and Recreation Commission, with regret. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to appoint Ingrid Green to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Vote: Town Councilman Joe Green/abstained; Town Councilman Dan Gentile/yes; Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski/yes; Town Councilman John Pajeski/yes; Town Councilman Tom Zagurski/yes. Motion passed.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to accept the resignation of David C. Mischke from the Plymouth Police Commission, with regret. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to appoint Tim Murawski to the Plymouth Police Commission. Vote: Town Councilman Joe Green/yes; Town Councilman Dan Gentile/yes; Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski/abstained; Town Councilman John Pajeski/yes; Town Councilman Tom Zagurski/yes. Motion passed.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to accept the resignation of Joe Green from Capital Improvements Committee. Vote: Town Councilman Joe Green/abstained; Town Councilman Dan Gentile/yes; Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski/yes; Town Councilman John Pajeski/yes; Town Councilman Tom Zagurski/yes. Motion passed.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to appoint Seth Duke to Capital Improvements Committee. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to appoint Ellen Roth to the Capital Improvements Committee. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski to appoint Nate Brown to the Capital Improvements Committee. This motion was approved unanimously.

To accept the resignation of Barbara Rockwell, Town Clerk

Mayor David Merchant thanked Barbara Rockwell for her 20 years of service, noting she had the respect of the community and Town Clerk's Association across the state and wanted to personally thank her on behalf of the community.

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to accept the resignation of Barbara Rockwell as Town Clerk, with regret. This motion was approved unanimously.

To appoint Erica Cabiya as the Town Clerk

Republican Town Committee Chairman Joe Kilduff stated the Republican Town Committee Nominating Committee, along with the full Republican Town Committee members, unanimously approved Erica Cabiya's appointment to succeed Barbara Rockwell as the Town Clerk until the next Municipal Election in 2021. He further stated the Republican Town Committee thanks Barbara Rockwell for her years of service.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to appoint Erica Cabiya as the Town Clerk. This motion was approved unanimously.

To accept the resignation of Jay Dorso from the Board of Finance

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to accept the resignation of Jay Dorso from the Board of Finance, with regret. This motion was approved unanimously.

To appoint Elizabeth Wollenberg to the Board of Finance

Republican Town Committee Chairman Joe Kilduff stated the Republican Town Committee Nominating Committee, along with the full Republican Town Committee members, unanimously approved Elizabeth Wollenberg's appointment to succeed Jay Dorso as a Board of Finance Member until the next Municipal Election in 2021. He further stated the Republican Town Committee thanks Jay Dorso for his years of service.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to appoint Elizabeth Wollenberg to the Board of Finance. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action to approve the three-month Agreement with Litchfield County Dispatch

Marty Sandshaw stated the Communications Commission had met at a Special meeting and had voted unanimously to recommend to the Town Council to enter into an Agreement with Litchfield County Dispatch between April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, for the Town of Plymouth's Dispatching Services.

When questioned by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, Communications Commission Chairman Marty Sandshaw stated cost savings would be the yearly benefits and salaries of the current Dispatchers, however he did not have the exact figure and briefly elaborated.

When questioned by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski concerning who would be answering non-emergency 911 calls, Communications Commission Chairman Marty Sandshaw stated Mayor Merchant would be the Plymouth contact with the Town agencies who would be putting together standard/general operating procedures and that Dan Soule would be the point of contact for the grant and would be working with the Town agencies to ensure everything would be as good or better as it is today; a brief discussion followed.

When questioned about the end of the three-month agreement, Mayor Merchant stated the Board of Director, which Plymouth will have representation on, will start working on their budget and should have the rates complete by this coming February and briefly elaborated.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to approve the three-month Agreement with Litchfield County Dispatch, effective on April 1, 2020. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action to approve the Application for the Public Safety Answering Point Designation

Mayor David Merchant briefly outlined the Public Safety Answering Point Designation Application.

A brief discussion took place concerning the number of call-takers on duty at Litchfield County Dispatch; noting in January 2020 there would be four (4) Dispatchers minimum.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to approve the Application for the Public Safety Answering Point Designation as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action to approve the change of Public Safety Answering Point Designation

Mayor David Merchant briefly outlined the change of Public Safety Answering Point Designation.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to approve the change of Public Safety Answering Point Designation as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action to apply to the State of Connecticut for the Transition Grant

Mayor David Merchant briefly outlined the State of Connecticut application for the Transition Grant.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to apply to the State of Connecticut for the Transition Grant as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action to approve a Resolution transferring \$150,000.00 of unexpended bond proceeds

Mayor David Merchant stated this agenda item was from the \$6.9 million-dollar Bond that the Town recently completed for the Eli Terry parking lot, Plymouth Town Hall upgrades, the road construction work and the construction of the Plymouth Fire House and briefly elaborated.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to approve a Resolution transferring \$150,000.00 of unexpended bond proceeds as presented.

Discussion: When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Attorney Bill Hamzy stated the Town Council can move the monies by State Statute; a brief discussion followed.

Vote: Town Councilman Joe Green/abstained; Town Councilman Dan Gentile/yes; Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski/yes; Town Councilman John Pajeski/yes; Town Councilman Tom Zagurski/yes. Motion passed.

To take property on 490 South Main Street, Terryville, in Lieu of Foreclosure

Mayor David Merchant stated 490 South Main Street, Terryville, was property that fell behind on taxes had been in collection, the owners live in New York and have signed the property over to the Town.

Plymouth Tax Collector Joe Kilduff stated if the Town takes the property, in Lieu of Foreclosure, and decides to sell it in the future, a Public Hearing would have to be held because it did not go through the foreclosure process and recommends taking it.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to take property on 490 South Main Street, Terryville, in Lieu of Foreclosure. This motion was approved unanimously.

To sell Town-owned property at 14 Beach Avenue, Terryville to Bruce Witik

Plymouth Tax Collector Joe Kilduff stated this property has gone through the foreclosure process and does not need to go through the Public Hearing process.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to sell Town-owned property at 14 Beach Avenue, Terryville to Bruce Witik in the amount of \$5,000.00. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action to approve the Agreement with the Archeological Consulting Services of Gregory F. Walwer

Mayor David Merchant stated this Agreement had gone out to RFP, noting the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) will be paying for the services. He further stated the services would be for Lot 17 on Bombard Court in the Industrial Park and briefly elaborated on the Indian artifacts that had been found on the property 20 years ago.

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to approve the Agreement with the Archeological Consulting Services of Gregory F. Walwer. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated the Board of Education named Walter Seaman as their new Chairperson, as well as Karen Kulesa/Vice-Chairman, Michele Lucian/Secretary. He further stated Gerry Bourbonniere had lost his seat on the Board but wanted to say Gerry Bourbonniere had done a lot of volunteering and thanked him for his work. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he also wanted to thank Melissa Johnson for the years she served as Chairman. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated the Greece Trip had been approved for 2021. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated Mr. Keene was taking his students on a trip to Boston, MA, noting Mr. Keene was a great teacher and the trip would be a great experience. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated Mrs. Parson had discussed social emotional learning.

Town Councilman Joe Green stated he had nothing to report on at this time.

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

Town Councilman John Pajeski stated he had nothing to report on at this time.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski stated she had nothing to report on at this time.

Town Council Comments

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski welcomed Town Councilman Joe Green to the Council.

Town Councilman John Pajeski welcomed Town Councilman Town Councilman Joe Green to the Council.

Town Councilman Joe Green stated he had no Council Comments at this time.

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

Town Councilman Dan Gentile congratulated Town Councilman Joe Green and welcomed him to Council; thanked Barbara Rockwell for her years as Town Clerk and all the Town Volunteers who make the Town run.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Hale
Recording Secretary

