

Town of Plymouth
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Plymouth Town Council
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Minutes

May 18, 2020

Call to Order: Mayor David Merchant called the scheduled May 18, 2020, Plymouth Town Council, Board of Education, Plymouth Board of Finance, virtual Zoom Joint meeting to order at 6:42 p.m., in the Community Room, Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present were Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor David V. Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also present from the Town of Plymouth were Town Attorney William Hamzy, Director of Finance Ann Marie Rheault and Public Works Director Charles Wiegert.

Present from the Board of Finance were Board of Finance Vice-Chairman Vicky Carey, Board of Finance Member Eugene Croce, Board of Finance Chairman Jim Kilduff, Board of Finance Member Barbara Rockwell, Board of Finance Member David Sekorski and Board of Finance Member Elizabeth Wollenberg.

Present from the Board of Education were Plymouth Board of Education Plymouth Board of Education Vice-Chairwoman Cindy Candrea-Florenciani, Plymouth Board of Education Member Josiah Elsaghir, Plymouth Board of Education Member Richard Foote, Plymouth Board of Education Business Manager Paul Hendrickson, Plymouth Board of Education Chairman Melissa Johnson, Plymouth Board of Education Member Karen Kulesa, Plymouth Board of Education Member Melissa Kremmel, Plymouth Board of Education Member Michelle Lucian, Plymouth Board of Education Chairman Walter Seaman, and Plymouth Board of Education Superintendent Dr. Martin Semmel, Plymouth Board of Education Member Gregory Showers and Director of Technology Plymouth Schools and Town of Plymouth Richard Trudeau.

Budget Discussion with the Board of Finance, Board of Education, Town Council Members

Mayor David Merchant stated the meeting would be opened to the Board of Education first for their comments and then to the Town Council Members. He further stated that all comments and any adjustments would be addressed to the Board of Finance and briefly elaborated.

Board of Education Chairman Walter Seaman stated he that he wanted to thank Dr. Semmel and Paul Hendrickson for their work on the Budget, noting that he felt it was a modest and fair budget. Board of Education Chairman Walter Seaman stated it was nice working as two groups that came together with a final Budget proposal for the Board of Finance and Town Council.

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Budget Discussion with the Board of Finance, Board of Education, Town Council
Members Cont'd.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he want to make a motion to deduct \$45,000 from the Public Works Salt and Sand (\$245,000) line item; noting his request was due to the mild winter and the surplus of sand and salt remaining from last year; a brief discussion followed.

Public Works Director Charles Wiegert stated the Town has always stockpiled material, noting it has been accounted for in the budgeting process and briefly elaborated, noting it was also utilized throughout the summer for dust control; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he was looking for a compromise to try and reduce the budget, noting his motion wouldn't change the mill rate by much.

When questioned, Mayor David Merchant stated the Town Council was only giving comment at this point in the meeting to the Board of Finance and that the Board of Finance would decide if they wanted to act on Councilman Gentile's motion.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile, noting he was the Town Council Liaison to the Code Enforcement Committee, stated the Zoning Enforcement Officer wanted \$6,000 more to give him more Town time for his Blight work. He further stated many meetings have been missed because the Zoning Enforcement Officer didn't have enough hours to prepare his work for the meetings; a brief discussion followed.

Director of Finance Ann Marie Rheault stated approximately \$10,800 had been collected in Blight fees this year and briefly elaborated about former Blight monies that were used for demolition purposes of blighted property.

Town Attorney William Hamzy stated when the Town forecloses on properties, any liens on those properties would be released when the Town took ownership of it; a brief discussion followed.

Mayor David Merchant stated the Code Enforcement meetings would be back on track.

To allow the Board of Finance members to present the recommended Budget and by a majority vote of its members *make, if necessary, changes to the Budget by a majority vote of its members and recommend the Budget to the Town Council (*a quorum of the Board of Finance members must be present)

(See Board of Finance Joint Meeting May 18, 2020 Minutes attached)

**Plymouth Town Council Joint Meeting (Board of Education/Board of Finance)
May 18, 2020
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To discuss and take action on the approval of the recommended FY 2020/2021 Budget

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to approve the Board of Finance recommended Budget for FY 2020/2021 in the amount of \$41,913,913.

Discussion: Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion to amend the motion and reduce the \$41,913,913 Budget amount by \$45,000 from the Sand and Salt line item. Motion failed for lack of a second.

When questioned by Director of Finance Ann Marie Rheault, Town Attorney William Hamzy stated the Charter allows amendments from the Town Council on the Budget that is referred to them under Chapter 7; section 3.

Vote: Town Councilman Dan Gentile/no; Town Councilman Joe Green/yes; Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski/yes; Town Councilman John Pajeski/yes; Town Councilman Tom Zagurski/yes; motion passes 4:1.

To allow the Board of Finance to set the Property Tax Mill Rate for FY 2020/2021 FY Budget

(See Board of Finance Joint Meeting May 18, 2020 Minutes attached)

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council Joint meeting, Town Councilman John Pajeski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia A. Hale
Recording Secretary