Town of Plymouth

80 Main Street Terryville, CT 06786 www.plymouthct.us

Plymouth Town Council

Tel: (860) 585-4001 Fax: (860) 585-4015

Minutes

December 1, 2020

Call to Order: Mayor David Merchant called the scheduled December 1, 2020, Plymouth Town Council Special Virtual Zoom meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call: Present for the meeting were Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor David V. Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also in attendance was Town Attorney William Hamzy. Town Councilman John Pajeski had an excused absence.

Invocation

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

Set Plymouth Town Council Meeting Dates

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to accept the 2021 Town Council meeting dates as presented with the following change: the November Town Council meeting will be held on November 9, 2021; and stated all Virtual Zoom meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. and all in-person meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Plymouth Town Hall. This motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

No report.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor David Merchant briefly commented, reviewed and updated the following items: COVID-19; Public Works Salt Shed; Route 6 Water Main Project; Public Works Online Service Request System; Prospect Street School; Town Utility Work.

Town Council Special Virtual Zoom Meeting December 1, 2020 Page Two of Five Pages

Finance Directors Report

It was noted that the Town Council members had received the Director of Finance's report. Mayor David Merchant stated the main focus right now was getting the Town Audit completed and briefly elaborated.

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Mayor David Merchant stated the leftover salt, that was stored in the old salt shed, would be utilized prior to the new salt received.

Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Huber Cignotti \$13.57; Daimier Trust \$161.26; Angelo or Evelyn Gambino \$127.05; Timothy Morrissette \$9.10; Marion Muldong \$201.57; Donald Ouellette \$185.89; Amy Owen \$59.72; Toyota Lease Trust \$410.04; Eileen Turner \$77.52

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Huber Cignotti \$13.57; Daimier Trust \$161.26; Angelo or Evelyn Gambino \$127.05; Timothy Morrissette \$9.10; Marion Muldong \$201.57; Donald Ouellette \$185.89; Amy Owen \$59.72; Toyota Lease Trust \$410.04; Eileen Turner \$77.52. This motion was approved unanimously.

Appointments/Reappointments/Resignations: To reappoint Carl Johnson to the Public Works Board as an Alternate Member with a term ending 11/1/2023; to reappoint Jeff Scott to the Economic Development Commission with a term ending 11/1/2025

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to reappoint Carl Johnson to the Public Works Board as an Alternate Member with a term ending on 11/1/2023. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to reappoint Jeff Scott to the Economic Development Commission with a term ending on 11/1/2025. This motion was approved unanimously.

To enter into agreement with Environmental Partners, LLC to perform review and provide recommendations regarding completion of environmental remediation of the former OZ Gedney site located at 100 South Riverside Avenue

Mayor David Merchant stated the Town had worked with the property owners and that all the buildings on the site in question had been eliminated however now there was some disagreement regarding the handling of remediation for a small area. He further stated the Town of Plymouth does not own the property but does have an economic reason to speed this project up and get development up in this area and briefly elaborated.

Town Council Special Virtual Zoom Meeting December 1, 2020 Page Three of Five Pages

To enter into agreement with Environmental Partners, LLC to perform review and provide recommendations regarding completion of environmental remediation of the former OZ Gedney site located at 100 South Riverside Avenue Cont'd.

Town Attorney William Hamzy stated this property is unique because when people are coming from Bristol to Plymouth on Route 72 one of the first things they see is this property which looks like a dump. He further stated first impressions of our community are affected by this dump, noting it has looked like this for over a decade and adversely affects the Town. Town Attorney William Hamzy stated this is a very large site and if it is developed appropriately it can be a major taxpayer and tax revenue generator for our community and briefly elaborated

Noting that Maurice Hamel used to work at DEEP oversee this site, Town Attorney William Hamzy stated no one knows more about the site than him and briefly elaborated. He further stated it would be important to retain him for all these reasons, noting that the ultimate goal would be to have the parcel developed and taxes begin to be paid on the property again.

Mayor David Merchant stated the money to pay for Environmental Partners, LLC/Maurice Hamel would be coming from the Economic Development fund and briefly elaborated.

When questioned by Town Councilman Joe Green, Town Attorney William Hamzy stated once the property gets developed the Town would be repaid in spades for this initial investment, but a reimbursement wouldn't be appropriate because this is a Town expense that we would be doing in our best interest and briefly elaborated.

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, that the Town of Plymouth enter into the Agreement with Environmental Partners, LLC, to perform review and provide recommendations regarding completion of environmental remediation of the former OZ Gedney site located at 100 South Riverside Avenue, with a cap of \$4,500.00 to be spent.

Discussion:

When questioned by Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor David Merchant stated if the amount goes over the \$4,500.00 capped amount it would come back to the Town Council for further discussion.

Vote:

This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Council Special Virtual Zoom Meeting December 1, 2020 Page Four of Five Pages

To sell Town-owned property at 323 Main Street, Terryville, CT to Bruce Witik

Mayor David Merchant stated 323 Main Street was a landlocked property that the Real Estate Committee had put out to bid, noting Bruce Witik had been the high bidder.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated this property was located behind McDonald's on Route 6 and the bid price was \$1,500.00.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to sell Town-owned property at 323 Main Street, Terryville, to Bruce Witik for the sum of \$1,500.00. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski 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 Councilman Joe Green stated the Economic Development Commission had discussed 100 South Riverside Avenue. Town Councilman Joe Green stated the Economic Development Commission had approved the sale of Lot 14 in the Industrial Park to Van Allen Plumbing & Heating, LLC.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated the Town needed a three-month plan to try to get back to normal, noting maybe the Town could work with Thomaston and Harwinton on it. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated the WPCA Phosphorus Project needed work and would be going forward for a public referendum. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he hoped everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Town Council Comments

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

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

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski stated he wanted to compliment the holiday lights on Main Street, noting the lights and the garland came out nice.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he had no Town Council Comments at this time.

Town Council Special Virtual Zoom Meeting December 1, 2020 Page Five of Five Pages

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 6:34 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Hale

Recording Secretary