

Minutes

November 3, 2022

Call to Order: Mayor Joe Kilduff called the scheduled November 3, 2022, Plymouth Town Council Special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present for the meeting were Town Councilman Nate Brown, Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor Joe Kilduff, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann and Town Councilman Ron Tiscia. Also in attendance was Town Attorney William Hamzy.

Fire Exit Notification

Mayor Joe Kilduff noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

Town Attorney Bill Hamzy led the Town Council Members and the Public audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Joe Kilduff asked for a Moment of Silence in honor of the two slain Bristol Police Officers; Lieutenant Dustin DeMonte and Sergeant Alex Hamzy.

Invocation

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated "May God Bless the United States of America and the Town of Plymouth" for the record.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, questioned the Community Garden Irrigation-map regarding Zoning standards, water bill payment for Community Garden, WPCA building security.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

AnnMarie Rhault, 125 North Main Street, Terryville stated MFAC has public meetings and concern for Plymouth; urged Council to attend them.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, stated she called Bill Plummer, OPM and urged Council to call him, and MFAC concerns did not happen overnight.

Financial Report

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town Council had been provided with the most recent financials and if anyone had any questions to please contact the Director of Finance or the Mayor's Office and an answer(s) would be provided. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he had received a letter from Municipal Finance Advisory Commission in May with their two concerns; lack of staffing in the Finance office and being behind on monthly reconciliations, noting they had suggested we hire another employee to catch up on the reconciliations. He further stated it was at that time that he had come to the Town Council with the request for ARPA disbursement for the additional staffing employee and briefly elaborated.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he will keep the Town Council up to date on the progress, noting he will be able to give MFAC more information by the next meeting. He further stated he and the Director of Finance would be meeting with the Auditors next week to find out when we can expect 2022 FY Audit to be completed and when the reconciliations need to be done in order to make that happen in a timely fashion. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he does not believe the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) was in the Town's future and that everyone will be doing everything they can to make sure that does not happen; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated MFAC has been looking at the Town for years and he was certain once the department is caught up everything will be fine.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town voluntarily speaks with MFAC, noting this began with a former Comptroller, noting they provide helpful information and that he will be certain to keep the Town Council updated.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Small Wonders Christmas Program was underway, noting the deadline to apply was November 30th and anyone wishing to sponsor a child or donate, should contact the Human Services Department.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated at the previous Town Council meeting a Town resident had come forward regarding blight and progress at the Prospect Street School, noting the Plymouth Zoning Enforcement Officer, Scott Eisenlohr, was present this evening to provide information on this issue.

Plymouth Zoning Enforcement Officer Scott Eisenlohr stated he had spoken to Craig Bothroyd and would be setting up a meeting as soon as possible to discuss the blight complaints. He further stated the Town Building Inspector walked the property and has taken notes and pictures that will be reviewed and discussed at the meeting, so this issue doesn't get worse.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town is on top of this issue and will provide assistance to move the project forward and remove any blight issues that are forming

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Zoning Enforcement Office Scott Eisenlohr stated boarding up the access entries was part of the plan and will be relayed to Craig Bothroyd at the anticipated meeting.

When questioned by Town Councilman Nate Brown, Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the contract for the Prospect Street School was being reviewed, noting action on the property needs to happen soon.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he was both amazed and happy with the outpouring of Community support for the Police Officer tragedy in Bristol and requested everyone that put up blue lights in support to please keep them lit up through the holiday season to show ongoing support.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated Chute Gates is celebrating their 25th Anniversary in operation and will have three days of celebration with the Mammoth Jack band, encouraging everyone to stop by.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Chamber of Commerce had held a ribbon cutting ceremony for Salsa's 5 restaurant, noting the food was delicious and it was great to have another restaurant option in Town.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the annual Tree Lighting ceremony would be held at the Plymouth Green on December 3rd from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. He further stated last year's event was an amazing success and encouraged everyone to attend if possible.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Police Department and the American Legion Post 20 had held an awesome Trunk or Treat event last week, noting over 1,000 children had participated in the event. He further stated he wanted to thank everyone that decorated or volunteered time that helped to make it happen.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town had purchased the Town Streetlights several years ago and he when he came into office, he had noticed the biggest complaint was that so many were not working. He further stated he wanted to give a shout-out to Paul Pronovost for instituting a Replacement Program for these lights and stated the Town had gone from over a dozen out of service to only four and that the four streetlights needed a little more extensive work than the others.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he wanted to thank the Police, Fire Department, and the Ambulance Corps, as well as Cooks Transportation and the Terryville Lions Club, for helping to make sure the wake for Police Sargent Alex Hamzy went smoothly, noting it was done in a seamless manner. He further stated that he hoped the Community didn't lose the current comradery and continues to support the families and each other.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he's been in contact with George Andrews, WPCA Chairperson, regarding plant upgrades, noting decisions will have to be made in the coming months. He further stated the Town will come up with a plan for the financially hefty upgrades and that the Town will look at other avenues to pursue, as well.

Discuss and take action to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Ally Financial Louisville \$336.74, \$228.06; Gary M Babb \$14.95; Hussnain J Cheema \$34.08; CCAP Auto Lease Ltd. \$717.16; Corelogic \$1,174.23; James D Dellorfano \$10.81; Scott M Druin \$116.86; Susan E Dillaine \$18.99; Beth E Gagnon \$53.02; Kiran Gill \$90.88; Brandi E Greene \$31.61; Kevin M and Barbara A Kalosky \$1,187.61; Susan J Karnilowicz \$381.92; Robert J Leblond \$16.14; John T and Janet R Lozinski \$83.85; JP Morgan Chase Bank NA \$52.91; Richard A Orlando \$164.58; Wilfred R Shaw \$11.50; Kali M and David H Six \$12.92; Toyota Lease Trust \$890.70, \$430.25; Ally Financial Louisville PPC \$366.81, \$650.57, \$521.54, \$550.13, \$526.57; Roberta and John Layton \$119.08, \$119.08, \$121.90, \$121.90, \$121.90

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to refund the overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Ally Financial Louisville \$336.74, \$228.06; Gary M Babb \$14.95; Hussnain J Cheema \$34.08; CCAP Auto Lease Ltd. \$717.16; Corelogic \$1,174.23; James D Dellorfano \$10.81; Scott M Druin \$116.86; Susan E Dillaine \$18.99; Beth E Gagnon \$53.02; Kiran Gill \$90.88; Brandi E Greene \$31.61; Kevin M and Barbara A Kalosky \$1,187.61; Susan J Karnilowicz \$381.92; Robert J Leblond \$16.14; John T and Janet R Lozinski \$83.85; JP Morgan Chase Bank NA \$52.91; Richard A Orlando \$164.58; Wilfred R Shaw \$11.50; Kali M and David H Six \$12.92; Toyota Lease Trust \$890.70, \$430.25; Ally Financial Louisville PPC \$366.81, \$650.57, \$521.54, \$550.13, \$526.57; and Roberta and John Layton \$119.08, \$119.08, \$121.90, \$121.90, \$121.90. This motion was approved unanimously.

Resignations/Appointments/Reappointments: To accept the resignation of Vernon Wagner from the Fire Commission

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to accept the resignation of Vernon Wagner from the Fire Commission with regret. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action on ARPA Ad Hoc Committee and Board of Finance recommendations on a proposal from the Plymouth Police Department; Terryville Fish and Game Club; Parks and Recreation

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town Council had received information in their packets for ARPA projects that had been previously approved by the ARPA Ad Hoc Committee and the Board of Finance.

Police Chief Karen Krasicky thanked the Town Council, the Town Commissions and Boards, and the Community for all the support given to the Police Department during the Bristol Police Officer tragedy, noting they are grateful for the daily and extra support. She further stated God bless everyone who has shown support.

Police Chief Karen Krasicky stated due to delays, the final approved dollar figure for the fixed pole License Plate Readers had gone from \$70,000 to \$90,000 as shown in the distributed attachments in the Town Council's packets.

Sargent John D'Aniello explained the use, benefits, history and discount offers of the fixed pole License Plate Readers at length and in detail.

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Sargent John D'Aniello stated he assumes the program can be expanded to other businesses and that the cost was \$1,650 per year, per pole. He further stated only law enforcement Police Officers would be allowed to see the database, noting Dispatchers would not be allowed. Sargent John D'Aniello stated the request could be made for the camera to be placed in the area of their business and they would make a donation, but the Police would have ultimate control, and this would be a discussion on a case-by-case basis; a brief discussion followed.

When questioned by Mayor Joe Kilduff regarding any Fourth Amendment concerns that might come up, Sargent John D'Aniello stated the cameras will not be pointed at any private residences, only at the road and briefly elaborated. He further stated Police Officers have the right to run any registration and verify if they are legal and that is all that they would be doing with the cameras. Sargent John D'Aniello stated the cameras would be directed at lanes of traffic and those who have access (again) will be limited to Police Officers.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated this authorization will allow the Mayor, the Police Commission and the Town Council to decide if the program should be continued in five years or not and that hopefully it is successful and helps out law enforcement in Plymouth. He further stated we need to give the Police all the tools that we can in this ever-changing world.

Police Chief Karen Krasicky stated this request had gone through the proper channels and had been previously approved at the ARPA Ad Hoc Committee meeting on October 3rd, at the Police Commission meeting on October 12th and at the Board of Finance meeting on October 26th.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Nate Brown to approve up to \$90,000 for the Police Department to purchase 10 Rekor Cameras with a five-year agreement out of ARPA funds.

Discussion:

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion to amend the motion to purchase two additional cameras; motion failed for lack of a second.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she supported law enforcement but wanted to see how successful the cameras were in a year or two of success stories before additional cameras were purchased.

Vote: This motion was approved unanimously.

George Castle gave a lengthy history of the Terryville Fish and Game Club and distributed copies of this information and maps concerning the Terryville Fish and Game Club to the Town Council members. George Castle stated every five years the State does an inspection on the dams and now DEEP is requesting an Emergency Action Plan be developed for middle and upper pond dams and detailed the map showing where the concerns are located.

George Andrews, Loureiro Engineering, stated they were retained by the Terryville Fish and Game to prepare an Emergency Action Plan which is required by the State for the increased hazard level (moderate to significant, noting the dams' level were raised) and briefly explained the process, what it would involve and the reasoning for the ARPA request in detail. He further stated the Terryville Fish and Game need funding to compensate for the necessary survey activities, noting it was an expensive survey.

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, George Castle stated the original purpose of the dams was so the locks at both the upper and lower ponds could release water and be controlled and monitored in order to turn the waterwheel for the Eagle Lock company.

George Castle stated that currently they hold back water in heavy rains, noting if they should ever breach the water would flood the neighboring areas and downstream all the way to the Lyceum. George Castle stated they also keep them because they provide a recreational area for the Community.

When questioned by Mayor Joe Kilduff, George Andrews stated it would be more expensive to remove the dams than to repair them. He further stated the Terryville Fish and Game Club had looked at the cost to drain the ponds and it is very expensive, as well. George Andrews stated it looks good on paper to get rid of the liability but then you start dealing with the Army Corps of Engineers and because you will be eliminating wetlands you are required to make it up times three, so it would become an expensive endeavor quickly.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated this was discussed at the ARPA meeting and the question arose whether this would be a grant given to the Fish and Game Club to complete or would it be a Town project. He further stated he had engaged with NVCOG to get their opinion and they came on site, took pictures, said they were looking at other potential grants they might be eligible for and recommended the Town approve it based on the location of the dam. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the project was not eligible for DEEP grants at this time; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to approve up to \$50,000 for a Study and Survey of upper and middle ponds on the Terryville Fish and Game property using ARPA funding. Vote: Town Councilman Nate Brown/yes; Town Councilman Dan Gentile/yes; Town Councilman Joe Green/abstained; Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann/yes; Town Councilman Ron Tiscia/yes-Motion passed 4:1 in favor.

Maureen Cappetto, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated the Lake Winfield tennis courts were cracked, in disrepair and were unusable. She further stated they were trying to maintain what they had before they bought new and would like to take the opportunity to have one tennis court done and two pickle ball courts. Maureen Cappetto stated pickle ball was a very popular sport, noting it is like tennis but without as much running around, and that the current pickle ball court is used a lot. She further stated because of the \$375,000 price they went out to bid and the quotation she received to do all of this work was from April so it will be a year old by the time the work is done and briefly elaborated. Maureen Cappetto stated they will get the best that they can for the money they have and that the work would begin in the spring.

When questioned by Mayor Joe Kilduff, Maureen Cappetto stated the \$375,000 does include the removal of the current courts.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated discussion had taken place regarding the Public Works Department doing some of the work to clear it out and some leveling to mitigate the price increase.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to approve up to \$375,000 to replace the tennis court and two pickle ball courts at Lake Winfield using ARPA funding. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action on a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to compile, sign and submit an application to the CT Environmental Funding Sources for DEEP Climate Program and Resilience Fund

Vinnie Klimas, Grant Administrator, reviewed the proposal in detail, noting the Town would not have to match the funds and that it was a multi-year grant. He further stated the first-year phase would be for a planning requisition (RFP or RFQ) and the Town would be asking for Environmental Engineers to come and provide ideas and a plan. Vinnie Klimas stated the amount of the grant would be from \$375,000 to \$700,000 per application, noting the second phase would be for program design and the future phase 3 funds would be for implementation and construction.

Vinnie Klimas stated the Town would utilize the 500 signatures from the Terryville Fish and Game Club, as well as the Fall Mountain Lake Association, which were provided for the Environmental Study for this application. Vinnie Klimas distributed a sample plan for review, noting it shows some ideas the Town can use to improve its environmental planning and environmental resources. Vinnie Klimas stated the middle pond is not clear, it is filled with leaves, and this could assist with a plan for them.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated this application would allow him to sign any application for phase one and then it would come back to the Town Council; a brief discussion followed.

When questioned by Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he would find out if was the funding source that the City of Bristol had used to eliminate their tennis courts on the boulevard.

George Castle stated the Terryville Fish and Game Club supports this application 100%.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to compile, sign and submit an application to the CT Environmental Funding Sources for DEEP Climate Program and Resilience Fund.

Discussion:

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Vinnie Klimas stated this application would clean up the pond and they would drive around Town to come up with plans on what else can be done. He further stated then they would be meeting with the Mayor, the Town Council, and all the different organizations.

Vote: This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action on the extension of Interim Public Works Director's Contract

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated Interim Public Works Director Paul Pronovost had been doing a fantastic job over the first three months. He further stated the Public Works Director Search Committee was reviewing the job description to see if they wanted to make any changes or recommendations to the Public Works Board and the Town Council. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he would be in favor of recommending the three-month contract extension.

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to extend the Interim Public Works Director's contract by three-months.

Discussion:

When questioned by Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the contract could be extended to six-months to get through the winter season.

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated he would like the six-month extension.

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia withdrew his second; Town Councilman Nate Brown withdrew his motion.

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to extend the Interim Public Works Director's contract to six months. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action on the request for additional funds for the 2022/2023 Police Department Cruisers Purchase and Related Equipment from Extra Duty Fund

Police Chief Karen Krasicky provided the background information for this request in detail and at length, including the necessity of the request.

Police Chief Karen Krasicky stated when she does the annual budget the price quotes come in December and she submits them in January, noting they try to get the best prices they can. She further stated the prices are estimates and they add a little more monies in, so they don't have to ask for additional funding later on but unfortunately with inflation the cruiser vehicles are now \$7,255 each for two more. Police Chief Karen Krasicky stated by policy they have to have a dash cam for the Detective Sargent and that they would be trading in one vehicle. She further stated the additional monies were approved at the September 15th Board of Finance meeting, and at the October 12th Police Commission meeting.

Police Chief Karen Krasicky stated they were now coming to the Town Council for the additional funding approval. Police Chief Karen Krasicky stated any unused monies would be returned back to the Town.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Police Chief Karen Krasicky stated they asked to keep a second vehicle.

Sargent John D'Aniello stated they were looking to increase the fleet by one vehicle, noting it was approved last year to only trade one vehicle and that the trade value had been between one and three thousand dollars. He further stated they had asked the Police Commission and the Board of Finance if they could do what they had approved last year and were told they could.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to approve the Police Department request for additional funds up to \$25,000 for the 2022/2023 Police Department Cruisers Purchase and Related Equipment from the Extra Duty Fund. This motion was approved unanimously.

American Rescue Plan Discussion

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the Fire Marshal's office had requested up to \$10,000 for radios and monitors and that hopefully this request will be moved forward at the next ARPA Ad Hoc Committee meeting, noting there had been an oversight and the request did not go to the Board of Finance meeting for approval.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she wanted to remind everyone that the ARPA Ad Hoc Committee appreciates everyone's patience while they review and make decisions, noting they try to prioritize the project that will give the Town the best bang for the buck and that will impact the most people. She further stated a lot of projects have come forward that normally wouldn't be funded and encouraged everyone to continue thinking of ideas and bringing them forward for consideration.

Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he did not have anything to report on at this time.

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated the Public Works Director Search Committee has been moving along, noting they were taking some time to put things together, and reviewing the job description for accuracy. He further stated that Interim Public Works Director Paul Pronovost has done a tremendous job cleaning up in the office, returning phone calls, responding to complaints and making sure Public Works is addressing these situations in a timely fashion. Town Councilman Nate Brown stated it has been a breath of fresh air having Interim Public Works Director Paul Pronovost in the office.

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated that Inland-Wetlands had an approval for a variance for a 4,000 square foot addition for Northeast Fasteners on Tremco Drive, noting they have been in business there since 1983.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she did not have anything to report on at this time.

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia stated he did not have anything to report on at this time.

Town Councilman Joe Green stated he did not have anything to report on at this time.

Town Council Comments

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he wanted to publicly thank Vinnie Klimas for obtaining the STEAP Grant for the Town Hall Bathroom ADA Renovations, noting how much work was involved. He further stated he couldn't stress enough how badly these renovations were needed and he is very happy that we are finally remediating the issue.

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated he did not have any Town Council comments at this time.

Town Councilman Joe Green stated he did not have any Town Council comments at this time.

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia stated he did not have any Town Council comments at this time.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she did not have any Town Council comments at this time.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated the Police Department/Town Hall back parking lot is very dark at night and needs lighting. He further requested that Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann keep this lighting issue in mind for ARPA funding.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he had attended the 2022 Annual CCM Convention, noting he had met with Mayors, other Town Councils, Engineers-just a diverse group of people, and that he would bring some information forward for the Public Works Director position. He further stated it was good training and very informative.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to adjourn at 8:44 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Hale
Recording Secretary