

Town of Plymouth

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Board of Finance

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1. Call Meeting to Order – The Regular Meeting of the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance was called to order on Monday, March 26, 2012 at 7:15 p.m. in the Assembly Room, Plymouth Town Hall. Members in attendance: Pat Budnick, Vicky Carey, Peter Cook, Ralph Zovich. Also Dave Bertnagel, Director of Finance; Robin Gudeczaskas, Recording Secretary. Excused absent: Mike Drozdick and Dan Murray.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Review and Discuss Proposed General Fund Budget for FY 2012-2013 –
Land Use

Enforcement Officer, raise – Dave Bertnagel stated increased hours, 25-30 hours; he now has blight, GIS – increase in hours only.

Planner – subject to wage increase; wage/salary adjustment

Zoning Board of Appeals, 025 – no change

Conservation Commission, 049

Advertising/Printing – up slightly, no problem

Economic Development, 097

Maintenance Services – Discussion held on lawn mowing in Business Park and whether to assign to public works.

Historic Properties Commission, 096

Miscellaneous, 095 – cemeteries, leave as is at \$6800

Public Works – Discussion held on work load and number of staffing; request manpower analysis on number of people working; jobs that are lined up for the start of the new fiscal year; eliminating mandatory o/t Saturday at transfer station and can that ever happen. Dave Bertnagel stated they are under negotiations now and each guy has 2.5 hours guaranteed overtime each week; Saturday and Sunday are automatic overtime; Melanie Church (a) someone is retiring July 1st; Dave Bertnagel stated he has not been formally made aware of any retirements; (b) new people hire you take least senior hired who have not worked a year and they would collect under previous employer. Discussion by Board on savings from wages, overtime, clothing allowance, medical; can we run transfer station on straight time; pay grade or job classification of transfer station person is same as crew; discussion on reducing hours of operation at the transfer station each week. Ralph reviewed overtime of superintendent re time cards,

supervision of staff. (c) he sets his own hours and you don't need him there, time clock was to be a person doing it 19 hours per week and he should do it once a day and his vehicle is sitting out here when she drives by. Peter Cook stated it is more economical use of time to do it once per week. Dave Bertnagel gave update on status of time clock use and stated superintendent is 45 hours per week straight time. Discussion on two different bargaining units of Parks/Rec and Public Works; assign work somewhere else it is unfair labor practice; job descriptions are very specific; contracts are not settled.

Utilities – cut telephone by \$1000

Snow Removal – sand & salt down \$5,000

Highway, 041 – cuts reviewed

Sign replacement – how many does the Police Commission request yearly; take \$3000 out of Street Signs. Also, how many are replaced each year due to theft.

Town Aid Roads from current fiscal year reviewed.

043 is now Other Public Properties; add Dam Maintenance/Inspection with \$3000. Heat is cut \$3000.

Transfer station

Overtime, \$36,000 – discussion on cut one person and use that money for contract snowplowing;

Maintenance Garage, environmental compliance – discussion held. Leave as is.

Chairman Zovich asked for input on BOE presentation; loan paid back this year and since don't have to pay next year it is increase in budget; they have freed up \$50,000 which they are now reallocating in their budget. Dave Bertnagel noted bottom line budget is staying the same, reviewed minimum budget requirement and ability to cut. Ralph noted in current fiscal year line item is zero and between 2011 and 2012 they paid it off and no savings in system wide services due to increase in health insurance and tuition to vo-ag. Discussion held noting literacy and reading consultant from Ed Connection are gone at the end of this fiscal year. Discussion held. Melanie Church, what is cost per student; Ralph stated 1729 students or per pupil \$13,300. Suggestion to cut the BOE by \$50,000 and will wait for full Board to be present.

Public Works –Dave will confirm salary numbers.

April 2nd is public hearing and will cancel regular meeting.

4. Public Comment

a. Melanie Church – questions on budget; you need to go through, look and cut; keep hearing spending; go look at what was replaced and at what is happening to the road on Hickory or Oak. Our Public Works department are not construction workers and that road took 4-5 weeks and where no one was directing traffic on and wants this board to look at it. Look at drains on North Street, all was installed improperly. When did Harwinton Avenue they had to lift up storm drains before paving. If you read in the thing there are other jobs for them to do; fix potholes, tree warden; they are not a construction company. (b) do you have list of their inventory this year. Dave

Bertnagel stated it will be reviewed on Thursday. Discussion held. Melanie stated there is a cable tv in there. Suggestion, weather station radio that alerts would save rental of \$70 per month and no question of what they would be using it for.

5. Board Member Comments

a. Chairman Zovich, letter from State of CT Comptroller read section into record and gave information to Dave Bertnagel

6. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn by Vicky Carey; second Pat Budnick and the vote unanimous.
Meeting adjourned at 9:02

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Gudeczauskas
Recording Secretary