

Town of Plymouth

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Board of Finance

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1. Call Meeting to Order – The Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Finance was called to order on Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Peter Cook in the Assembly Room, Plymouth Town Hall. Members in attendance: Vicky Carey, Peter Cook, Pattie DeHuff, Michael Drozdick, Dan Murray, James Zalot. Also present: David Bertnagel, Director of Finance; Robin Gudeczauskas, Recording Secretary; Council members: Bill Heering, Sue Murawski.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget – Mayor’s budget proposal distributed to board; Dave state they have been working on requests; 2014-15 proposed reflects reduction of \$110,845 for gross \$39,007,420 and a reduction of .28% over current budget. Memo from David to the Board read into record. Detail follows the cover letter.
 - a. Revenue – Grand list reviewed. Pattie DeHuff questioned Veterans; Dave Bertnagel, already exempted from 761,000,000. Firefighters is local program not state exemption as veterans. State and Federal Grants reviewed; Pilot grant was to be eliminated and as has been restored for 2014-2015; Elderly Freeze the same; Circuit Breaker is an elderly program and increase of 2,000; Veterans up; Manufacturers pilot has been completely eliminated; Disability Exemption is another grant program; ECS up \$14,000; school transportation restored to 200,000; out placement, we get reimbursed after certain level; Pequot was eliminated and now restored; Federal pilot is Hancock Dam; Miscellaneous grants last year \$325,000 and the Governor last year was recommending to bond money to give to towns for difference in grants and at last moment other grants restored but currently have 15,000 in grants we receive. Other Financing Sources reviewed. School transportation grant, capped at a certain amount and costs submitted to bus kids to school and the state gives proportionate percentage of cost. Appropriation of fund balance last year took 250,000 and this year 225,000; Chairman Cook stated we budgeted 250,000 but need to see how much we actually used and this year budgeting less.

Schedule reviewed with Administration on Monday; Capitals on Thursday; Mike on 17th; 20th regular meeting and tax collector; 24th is BOE presentation; 27th is public works; 31st decide on education; public safety on 3rd; debt service and other on 7th; final review on 10th and 14th; regular meeting 17th; public hearing 21st. Vote by May 10th.

Dave Bertnagel distributed revenues to date and proposed; reviewed.

Questions: Hancock Dam patrol reviewed stating the police department is hired to go there in summer months with dam patrol and we get reimbursed through Army Corps of Engineer. Transfer station fees, have had reduction and at some point will have reimbursement for recyclables. Extra duty reimbursement offsets, police officers on road when do traffic gets paid (Yankee Gas, light company, etc) overhead charges and that comes back; income from investments of 35,000 and is the average cash flow of combination of all accounts. Aircraft registration is through assessor and tax assessor and is flat fee at \$270 each. Discussion held.

- b. General Government – detailed budgets will be received on Monday and general government sections will be emailed.
4. Public Input
- a. Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, (a) public comment and there should not be a time limit or person watching time as they are not paying attention to what people are saying and at WPCA it says public comment for non agenda and public comment throughout and feels you are handling the purse strings and you should want to hear from the public; just heard and question administrative assistant and Charter change and BOF sets salary and no longer does the Mayor and does not remember it being brought forward and we need to follow the Charter; (b) Dan is in charge of public works and mechanic and lead man positions have never been filled and going on two years without those being filled and you might want to look at cuts since we don't need them if not filled in two years; (c) David, on audit report you talked about 320,000 for departmental transfers and think page 9 and would like to know what those were and thinks it behooves the BOF to get a list of why money transferred, for what. Dave Bertnagel stated those are transfers approved throughout the year; M. Church stated she would like a copy; (d) we go by parliamentary and Roberts Rules of Order and they encourage public comment. Chairman Cook stated he has put out proposals and we will do at next regular meeting, March 20th.

MOTION: To add that to the agenda tonight by Pattie DeHuff. With no second, Chairman Cook stated motion fails for lack for a second.

- b. Mike Kennedy, 11 Overlook Terrace Road – to all members he respects position you have here and 39 plus million dollar budget and unsustainable for the Town of Plymouth; per capita income is less than 29,000 per year and unless make 6 figure income what is going on in this state is not impacting you as much as those who do not make that much money. Suggest seriously take look beyond walls of building and look at economy on state level and federal level, we are in trouble and time to send message to our government to give back what belongs to us and that is our money. Should seriously consider sending back proposed budget presented and numbers need to go down more; understand that corporations have costs and governments have enough money and do not need more. His costs go up and economy reflects on his job and; send message back and ask they do better.

5. Correspondence - none

6. Board Member Comments

- a. Pattie DeHuff – had opportunity to discuss public comment and Vicky motioned to table last time because Dan was not here and he is here tonight and we could still add to agenda if board is so inclined; concerned about message in not seconding motion for discussion purposes even if chose not to do that and sending message that we don't want to hear what the public wants to say.

MOTION: To add to the agenda again and hope that someone will second by Pattie DeHuff. Chairman Cook stated he questions since motion failed tonight can you do that again. Discussion held.

Pattie DeHuff asked if what we received tonight can be put on the website; Chairman Cook stated it is working copies and we will have it available out front and what we always do. Discussion held.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn by Vicky Carey; second Dan Murray and the vote unanimous Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Gudeczauskas
Recording Secretary