

Town of Plymouth
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Plymouth Town Council
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Minutes

January 3, 2017

Call to Order: Mayor David V. Merchant called the scheduled January 3, 2017, Plymouth Town Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present were Town Councilman Daniel Gentile, Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey, Mayor David Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also in attendance were Chairman Public Works Board Richard Lyga, Town of Plymouth Assessor Rae Ann Walcott, and and Director of Public Work Charles Wiegert.

Adoption of the Agenda

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to accept the January 3, 2017 agenda as presented.

Discussion:

Mayor Merchant stated per the Tax Collector he wanted to include the following Tax Refund Overpayment: “Gary N. Olmstead Tax Refund Overpayment in the amount of \$438.72” to this evening’s agenda.

Vote: Town Councilman Gentile made a motion seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to accept the January 3, 2017 agenda as amended. This motion was approved unanimously.

Fire Exits Notification

Mayor Merchant noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Merchant led the Plymouth Town Council and the Public Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Mayor Merchant stated, “May God Bless America and the Town of Plymouth” for the record.

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Acceptance of Minutes: Plymouth Town Council December 6, 2016

Town Councilman Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to accept the Plymouth Town Council December 6, 2016 minutes as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

No report.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Merchant reported on the following: budget process, noting it had begun with new dates per Charter changes; waiting for final re-val report prior to Grand List completion; letter from OPMA-losing loCiP monies/ECS reduction-it will reduce the Town Aid and ECS will effect the Board of Education, working on cost cutting measures going forward; Public Works report, noting Salt and Sand Budget was half gone; working with Public Works on timelines for upcoming projects; another lot sold in the Plymouth Business Park-should see two new buildings in the Park next spring/summer; met with an independent company to discuss town-wide energy audit; sample audits, RFP's, hiring of a company to do a complete audit—if it does happen it will include the entire Town and streetlights.

Finance Director's Report

Mayor Merchant stated the Council members had received last month's Finance Report (November) in their packets and that the Finance Director would repeat this process as soon as the December 2016 month was closed out.

Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Kim Rudaitis \$408.51; Jamshid Sasani \$505.72; Ari Fleet LT \$321.31; Joshua Root \$113.96; Richard Lass \$108.06; Gary N. Olmstead \$438.72

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Murawski, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Kim Rudaitis \$408.51, Jamshid Sasani \$505.72, Ari Fleet LT \$321.31, Joshua Root \$113.96, Richard Lass \$108.06, and Gary N. Olmstead \$438.72. This motion was approved unanimously.

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Discuss and take action on the proposed Amendments to the Veteran's Tax Exemption Ordinance

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to approve the proposed Amendment to the Veteran's Tax Exemption Ordinance as read and presented this evening. This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and take action to approve the Public Works Surplus Equipment List

Mayor Merchant stated the Public Works Surplus Equipment List would be auctioned off and had been reviewed and approved by the Public Works Board.

Public Works Board Chairman Rich Lyga stated the equipment on the listing had been building up for a while now; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilman Gentile questioned if the Plasma Cutter was shot.

Director of Public Works Charles Wiegert briefly elaborated, noting he was unsure what the difference was between the Plasma Cutters, but believed a new one was being utilized.

Mayor Merchant stated an answer would be provided tomorrow.

Town Councilman Zagurski questioned if the mixer was for cement or mortar.

Director of Public Works Charles Wiegert stated it was a small machine that would handle a bag or two; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to approve the Public Works Surplus Equipment List as presented.

Discussion:

Director of Public Works Charles Wiegert stated he would provide the Council with a date for the auction as soon as one was set.

Vote:

This motion was approved unanimously.

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Old Business

When questioned by Town Councilman Gentile, Mayor Merchant stated the Auditors were in the building and briefly elaborated.

Town Councilman Gentile stated the Council members should bring their charges for the Charter Revision Commission to the next Town Council meeting; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilman Gentile stated he would like to see the Town begin to utilize Shared Services with other towns, i.e., insurance, communications, etc., noting he was willing to Chair an Ad Hoc Committee to start the ball rolling and elaborated at length.

Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated most of her Liaison meetings had been cancelled. Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated the PVAC had reported they had less calls and more coverage. Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated the PVAC had held a Christmas party for their employees. Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated the PVAC was working on their Abatement Program.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Fire Commission had reported the Town of Thomaston had requested help for weekday coverage and briefly elaborated. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the furnace at the Fall Mountain Fire House needed some repairs done. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Fall Mountain Fire House had ordered a truck to replace Engine No. 7. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Human Services Director had reported 143 children from 63 Town families had participated in the Small Wonders Christmas Program. Town Councilwoman Murawski stated the Human Services Director had established guidelines for assistance that had been approved by the Mayor.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated the Planning and Zoning Commission had held a Public Hearing and had voted to eliminate gun ranges from their regulations, noting no new gun ranges could be built in Town without changing the regulations again. Town Councilman Zagurski stated the exiting gun ranges were still grandfathered in.

Town Councilman John Pajeski stated he had nothing to report on at this time.

Town Councilman Gentile stated the Parks and Recreation Commission members were thankful for the 25 business sponsors for the Basketball and Cheer Programs. Town Councilman Gentile stated the Parks and Recreation Commission were working on their budget for the next fiscal year. Town Councilman Gentile wished everyone a Happy New Year.

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Town Council Comments

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

Town Councilman Pajeski stated he had no Council comments at this time.

Town Councilman Zagurski stated he had no Council comments at this time.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated she had no Council comments at this time.

Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated she wanted to wish everyone a Happy New Year. Town Councilwoman LeGassey stated she hadn't sent the Mayor an email as yet regarding her request for the Employee Job Descriptions, and the Union Contracts, noting they would reflect on the budget; and briefly elaborated.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilwoman Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman LeGassey, to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Hale
Recording Secretary