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Town of Plymouth
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Minutes

May 4, 2021

Call to Order: Mayor David Merchant called the scheduled May 4, 2021, Town of Plymouth Public Hearing Virtual Zoom meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Roll Call: Present for the meeting were Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor David V. Merchant, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, and Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski. Excused Absence: Town Councilman John Pajeski. Also in attendance were Water Pollution Control Authority Chairman George Andrews, Town Attorney William Hamzy, Director of Finance Ann Marie Rheault and Public Works Director Charles Wiegert. Guests: Wright-Pierce Engineering Christine Kurts, PE and Chris Pierce, PE.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Reading of the Legal Notice

Mayor David Merchant read the Legal Notice into the record as follows: Town of Plymouth Public Hearing Plymouth Town Council Legal Notice of Public Hearing for the Water Pollution Control Facility Upgrade Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, Section 7-247a, the Town of Plymouth Town Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 6:00 PM remotely by Zoom (Meeting ID # 927 4241 4355, Passcode: 850057) for the Water Pollution Control Authority's (WPCA) proposed upgrade to the Water Pollution Control Facility to reduce nutrient levels in the effluent discharged to the Pequabuck River as required to meet the revised permit limits imposed by the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection. Interested parties are invited to attend and be heard. A copy of the Phosphorus Reduction Study for the Plymouth, WPCA, Plymouth, CT dated July, 2018; and the Nutrient Reduction Enhancements Memo dated May 4, 2020 are on file and available for review at the Water Pollution Control Facility located at 35 Canal St, Pequabuck, CT 06781.

George Andrews, Chairman, Water Pollution Control Authority, outlined the Phosphorus Reduction Project in detail, the timeline involved and discussed the payment options, as well. George Andrews discussed the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental and Energy (DEEP) mandate to the Town of Plymouth Water Pollution Control Authority facility at length.

Wright-Pierce Engineering PE's, Christine Kurtz and Chris Pierce, gave a PowerPoint Presentation for the Phosphorus Reduction Project and its improvements for the Water Pollution Control Authority Facility at length (see attachment).

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To consider and take Public Comment regarding the following: To give citizens an opportunity to hear and or/make oral or written recommendations concerning the proposed Water Pollution Control Authority Phosphorus Reduction Program per CGS 7-191 (a) to 7-191(b).

John Murphy, 385 Greystone Road, Plymouth, stated speaking as a Board member of the Water Pollution Control Authority Board, the Water Pollution Control Authority has to comply with the State of Connecticut DEEP mandate for the Phosphorus Reduction Project. He further stated that the WPCA building is a Town building and felt the entire Town should pay for this mandated project and briefly elaborated.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, stated the Town paid for the Burr Road Water Project and felt the Town should also pay for the Phosphorus Reduction Project and briefly elaborated.

When questioned by Town Council Member Joe Green regarding the project price growing from \$5 million to \$7.5 million from a few years ago, Water Pollution Control Authority Chairman George Andrews stated credits and improvements changed the pricing amount and briefly explained the changes.

Town Councilman Joe Green noted that Matt Tellier, Chairman, Capital Improvements Committee, had informed him the Capital Improvements Committee members felt the project should be funded by the Users.

When questioned by Town Councilman Joe Green if the Referendum should fail who would pay for the project, Water Pollution Control Authority Chairman George Andrews stated that would be up to the Town; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile thanked Water Pollution Control Authority Chairman George Andrews and Wright-Pierce for the very informative presentation.

Adjournment

There being no further business at the Town of Plymouth Public Hearing meeting, Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to adjourn at 6:53 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Hale
Recording Secretary