

**Town of Plymouth**  
80 Main Street  
Terryville, CT 06786  
www.plymouthct.us

**Plymouth Town Council**  
Tel: (860) 585-4001  
Fax: (860) 585-4015

**Minutes**

**June 24, 2021**

**Call to Order:** Mayor David Merchant called the scheduled June 24, 2021, Plymouth Town Council Special meeting to order at 7:38 p.m., in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

**Roll Call:** Present were Town Councilman Daniel Gentile, Town Councilman Joe Green, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Mayor David V. Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, and Town Councilman John Pajeski. Also in attendance were Economic Development Commission Chairman Seth Duke, Town Attorney William Hamzy, Director of Finance Ann Marie Rheault, Economic Development Consultant Vance Taylor and Public Works Director Charles Wiegert.

**Fire Exit Notification**

Mayor David Merchant noted the Fire Exits for the record.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Town Veteran Michael Rinaldi led the Plymouth Town Council and the Public Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Invocation**

Mayor David Merchant stated, "May God Bless the United States of America and the Town of Plymouth."

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

No report.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

No Report

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor David Merchant briefly commented, reviewed and updated the following items: Board of Finance Approved Auditor Bid for CLA (Clifton, Larson and Allen LLC) as Auditors of record; WPCA Referendum; Schultz Corporation Contract for Harwinton Avenue Rebuild Project; Milling/Paving Orchard Street/Hickory Street/Church/Kearney Street area; Drainage work/paving Preston Road/Megan Boulevard (between Harwinton and Schroback); Route 6 Repaving Status; Agney Avenue Project status; Park and Recreation Summer Camp and Part Time Coordinator.

**Finance Director's Report**

Mayor David Merchant stated if the Town Council Members had any questions, they could contact Ann Marie Rheault during the day.

2021 JUL -6 PM 3:33  
PLYMOUTH, CT  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED CIV. RECORDS  
Eileen Caldriga  
TOWN CLERK

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**Finance Director's Report Cont'd.**

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile regarding the paving of Orchard Street and what the cost was as the paving occurs, Mayor Merchant stated they just started the milling and we do not have the cost/total amount as yet but would keep everyone posted. He further stated the work included gas and water lines.

**Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Acar Leasing LTD \$510.85; CCAP Auto Lease LTD \$610.05; Dennis or Barbie Doyle \$11.83; Raymond or Brenda Lagosz \$103.98; USB Leasing LT \$319.96**

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Acar Leasing LTD \$510.85; CCAP Auto Lease LTD \$610.05; Dennis or Barbie Doyle \$11.83; Raymond or Brenda Lagosz \$103.98; and USB Leasing LT \$319.96. This motion was approved unanimously.

**Appointments/Reappointments/Resignations: To appoint Anthony M. Roveto to the Conservation Inlands-Wetlands Commission with a term ending on 9/01/2024**

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to appoint Anthony M. Roveto to the Conservation Inlands-Wetlands Commission with a term ending on 9/01/2024. Vote: Town Councilman Dan Gentile/abstained; Town Councilman Joe Green/yes; Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann/yes; Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski/yes; Town Councilman John Pajeski/yes. Motion passed 4:1 in favor.

**To accept the resignation of Gail Foote from the Library Board of Trustees**

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to accept the resignation of Gail Foote from the Library Board of Trustees. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To appoint the Democratic Town Committee's Recommendation of Alesia LeDuc to the Library Board of Trustees with a term ending date of 11/2/2021**

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to appoint Alesia LeDuc to the Library Board of Trustees with a term ending date of 11/2/2021. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To discuss and approve the Resolution to establish an Enterprise Zone in the Town of Plymouth**

Mayor David Merchant stated the Town Council Members had received a recommendation letter from Seth Duke, Chairman of the Plymouth Economic Development Commission, as well as the Resolution to establish an Enterprise Zone in the Town of Plymouth.

Economic Development Chair Seth Duke stated that the Enterprise Zone will level the playing field with the communities surrounding us who are part of the Enterprise Zone Program. We have adopted 2 of our 3 census tracts that are contiguous with Thomaston. Next year we will be able to propose the adoption of the 3<sup>rd</sup> census tract which encompasses the properties east of Route 72 North and South which includes the OZ Gedney property. According to the State, there will be \$7M in total available over the next two years to the program.

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Vance Taylor stated the Town had tried for a number of years to get a Enterprise Zone designation in Plymouth, with the assistance of State Representative Whit Betts and State Senator Henri Martin, a way to create additional incentives to local companies expanding or acquiring additional property, as well as companies considering locating to Plymouth from other communities and briefly elaborated, and urged the adoption of the Resolution. Also, one of the two tracts that the enterprise would qualify contains the Town's Business Park and this would help to promote and encourage companies to Town.

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile if Route 8 in Waterbury was in the Corridor, Vance Taylor stated it was, as well as Thomaston and Torrington.

Economic Development Commission Chairman Seth Duke stated a town has to be adjacent to join the Corridor and Plymouth is to Thomaston.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he thought this was a great idea and briefly elaborated.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Economic Development Commission Chairman Seth Duke stated the City of Bristol already has an Enterprise Zone on the Lake Compounce side, which would not affect the Town of Plymouth and briefly elaborated.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to adopt the Resolution entitled Creation of an Enterprise Zone in the Town of Plymouth WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statutes Section 32-70 (b) provides that any municipality which is contiguous to an enterprise zone which is located in another municipality may, with the approval of the commissioner, designate as an enterprise zone one or more census tracts which are located in the municipality making such designation and are contiguous to the enterprise zone located in the other municipality; and, WHEREAS, the Town of Plymouth desires to designate as an enterprise zone Census Tracts 4253 and 4254, which are both contiguous to the enterprise zone located in the Town of Thomaston; and, WHEREAS, a variety of undeveloped and underdeveloped commercial and industrial properties are located within Census Tracts 4253 and 4254, including vacant lots located within the Plymouth Business Park, a joint venture of the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Town of Plymouth; and, WHEREAS, the opportunity exists for jobs to be created through new economic development induced by the incentives offered through an enterprise zone, including real and personal property tax abatements; now, therefore be it RESOLVED, that the Town of Plymouth, acting through its Mayor and Town Council, hereby requests the approval of the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development to allow the Town of Plymouth to designate as an enterprise zone Census Tracts 4253 and 4254. This motion was approved unanimously.

**To discuss and take action on a Lease of the Athletic Field at 24 Gear Drive, Terryville, to the Terryville Youth Soccer Club**

Town Attorney William Hamzy stated he would recommend that Section 5 in the Lease be deleted (take out the right to sublease or sign this Lease to another party) and the rest of the Lease numbers be renumbered.

Mayor David Merchant stated everything will be paid for by the Terryville Youth Soccer Club; noting there is a water line, but it is not completed and when the irrigation is done the Terryville Youth Soccer Club will run the line the rest of the way up. He further stated the Lease notes the Terryville Youth Soccer Club is paying for all improvements and water, noting there is no electricity up there currently; they will be using solar for now.

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**To discuss and take action on a Lease of the Athletic Field at 24 Gear Drive, Terryville, to the Terryville Youth Soccer Club Cont'd.**

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Dennis Fowler stated there is a side water line with a meter on it that goes to the Community Garden and a longer pipe that goes out to the side.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Town Attorney William Hamzy stated paragraph 3 covers the scheduling of the use of the field.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Dennis Fowler stated the Terryville Youth Soccer Club use the field from September 1 to the first week of November, noting their busiest season is in the spring. He further stated the spring season soccer starts usually in the first/second week of April, depending on the weather and briefly elaborated.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Dennis Fowler stated bids were still being taken for the irrigation system; the best and lowest bid would be taken and that hopefully, the work would be done by the end of July. He further stated that the local Fire Department volunteers and Terryville Youth Soccer volunteers have been watering the field to keep it watered and alive. Dennis Fowler stated they have a turf expert who has been advising and helping out, as well, noting they would not be using the field until probably next spring.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Dennis Fowler stated a monthly clause already existed for the financial reports from the Terryville Youth Soccer to the Plymouth Parks and Recreation Commission, noting they would be taken care of monthly.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated 20 years for the lease was a concern for her and briefly elaborated, noting she would be more comfortable with 5 years and the ability to extend it three times.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he was in agreement with Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann and that 10 years was a fair amount of time, noting 5 years times 4; a brief discussion followed.

Town Attorney William Hamzy stated if any of the Town Council felt the Lease term should be shorter, they should offer it as an amendment to the motion.

Gerry Bourbonniere, Chairman, Park and Recreation Commission stated he did not want his name brought up because he did not know how long he would be here, noting it should be whoever the Chairman is, noting there might be a Parks and Recreation Director at that point in time and briefly elaborated.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to approve Lease of the Athletic Field at 24 Gear Drive, Terryville, to the Terryville Youth Soccer Club, as written.

**Discussion:**

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to eliminate number 5 and renumber the paragraphs below it. This motion was approved unanimously.

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**To discuss and take action on a Lease of the Athletic Field at 24 Gear Drive, Terryville, to the Terryville Youth Soccer Club Cont'd.**

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to amend the Lease to a five-year term with three five-year renewal periods to follow. Vote: Town Councilman Joe Green/no; Town Councilman John Pajeski/no; Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski/no; Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann/yes; Town Councilman Dan Gentile/yes; motion failed 3:2 against.

**To discuss and take action on Board of Finance approved motion to transfer \$56,113 from the General Fund into the Public Works General Capitals Line Item**

Mayor David Merchant stated the request to transfer \$56,113 from the General Fund to the Public Works General Capitals line item was monies received from the Town Council approved Public Works auction, noting this transfer would enable them to purchase new equipment from the sale of old equipment.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski stated that before the Public Works Department can use the money, they have to get approval from the Board of Finance as an appropriation or as part of the Capitals in the Budget.

Mayor David Merchant stated it was just a transfer.

Director of Finance Ann Marie Rheault stated this transfer is to record the revenue other than in the general fund and briefly elaborated. She further stated the Public Works Department would like it recorded in the Capital Projects Fund so that in the future they can utilize it for equipment and briefly elaborated. Director of Finance Ann Marie Rheault stated there is no threshold because it is not an appropriation, it is revenue from the auction vehicles and was not budgeted.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, to approve the transfer of \$56,113 from the General Fund into the Public Works General Capitals Line Item. This motion was approved unanimously.

**Town Council Liaison Reports**

Town Councilman Joe Green stated he had nothing to report at this time.

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

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski stated the Board of Finance had voted to set up a special fund for the money the Town will be receiving in Recovery Funds and specific items that the money can be spent on, so that the Town can keep track. Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski stated the Fire Department has resumed in-person training. She further stated the Tower Truck was out for testing and is back in service. Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski stated the Fire Department had held a fundraiser picnic at the Terryville Fairgrounds, noting it was a huge success. Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski stated the Traffic Authority had received two requests for Stop Signs; one at Allen Street/East Washington Road, noting they would put out indicators and monitor. Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski stated the Police Building Committee was told by the Architect that the building costs prices have risen approximately 5% due to lumber and steel increases. She further stated there was a link on the Town's Website to view the plans of the building and they will be adding Facebook in the future, as well as a video.

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**Town Council Liaison Reports Cont'd.**

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the Zoning Board of Appeals had approved two appeals, noting one was for chickens and one was for a garage. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the Conservation Inland-Wetland has a Public Hearing scheduled for July 7<sup>th</sup> regarding a North Riverside property. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the Zoning Board of Appeals was working with some residents on Greystone Road. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the Zoning Board of Appeals welcomed a new member. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she had spoken to Gretchen DelCegno, Terryville Library Director and noted the Library has the school's Summer Reading lists up on their website. She further stated everyone should go to their website and read their fantastic newsletter.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated Brian Falcone was the new Superintendent of Schools, noting he was well versed on the Education system. He further stated Brian Falcone was a great choice, they are doing a great job and moving in the right direction.

**Town Council Comments**

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he was unaware that the Town fields were a mess and wished people had come out at Budget time to discuss them. He further stated he would advocate for the fields and sit down with Gerry Bourbonniere, Plymouth Parks and Recreation Chairman, and come up with a plan. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated we have a connection with the Board of Education and noted Walter Seaman was doing a wonderful job as Chairman and would mention it to him. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he wanted to thank everyone who came out this evening and noted he wished all the Town Council meetings were this well attended. He further stated this high attendance shows support and gives the Town Council information to make decisions.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated it was good to see so many people in person tonight. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she had voted "no" this evening on the length of the Lease but wanted Dennis Fowler, and everyone else, to know that she supports their efforts, as well as the kids, and that her vote had nothing to do with the project, which she supports. She further stated that she only voted no because of the length of the contract. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she is looking forward to attending some of the Terryville Youth Soccer games and wished them good luck.

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

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

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

**Executive Session for Contract Negotiations**

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to move into Executive Session at 8:32 p.m., to discuss Contract Negotiations. This motion was approved unanimously.

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**Executive Session for Contract Negotiations Cont'd.**

Present for the Executive Session were Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Councilman Joe Green, Town Attorney William Hamzy, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Mayor David Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, and Town Councilman John Pajeski.

Mayor David Merchant called the Town Council Special meeting back into Regular Session at 9:03 p.m.

**Action, as may be necessary, from Executive Session**

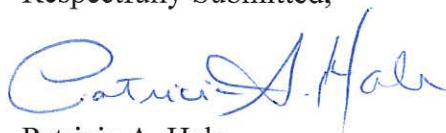
Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to approve the Professional Town Employee 4-Year Contract beginning July 1, 2020. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to approve the new four-year Contract for the Town Clerical Employees beginning July 1, 2020. This motion was approved unanimously.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman John Pajeski, to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia A. Hale  
Recording Secretary