

**Minutes**

**January 4, 2022**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Joe Kilduff called the scheduled January 4, 2022, Plymouth Town Council Hybrid Zoom Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Present for the meeting were Town Councilman Nate Brown, Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor Joe Kilduff, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann and Town Councilman Ron Tiscia. Also in attendance were Town Attorney William Hamzy, Plymouth Police Chief Karen Krasicky, Public Works Director Charles Wiegert and Interim Director of Finance Grace Zweig.

**Adoption of Agenda**

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Nate Brown, to switch agenda item #8 to #9 and agenda item #9 to #8. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to accept the January 4, 2022, Agenda as amended. This motion was approved unanimously.

**Fire Exit Notification**

Mayor Joe Kilduff noted the Fire Exits for the record.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann led the Town Council Members and the Public Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Invocation**

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated God Bless the United States and the Town of Plymouth for the record.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

No report.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Vinnie Klimas stated under agenda item #14, American Rescue Plan Discussion, all minutes should show that Public Comment was included on the agendas.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Joe Kilduff briefly reviewed and discussed the following: Town Distribution COVID 19 Tests with future distribution for Town Seniors; COVID Mitigation emails, noted Town Assessments have been mailed out; discussed the new Marijuana Law which will require a Public Hearing; Affordable Housing Plan; Waterline at Town Hall repairs-insurance being looked into; and status of Financial Audit.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he wanted to introduce his appointment for the Director of Finance position, Grace Zweig, and briefly highlighted her resume and background. He further stated the Town Council would have an opportunity to talk to her further during the Executive Session agenda item.

Interim Director of Finance Grace Zweig thanked the Mayor and stated the Town of Plymouth was a great place to work and she looked forward to working with everyone.

**Financial Report**

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town Council had been provided with the Financials through November and if anyone had any questions to please contact his office or Grace Zweig's office at any time.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile congratulated Grace Zweig on her appointment. Town Councilman Dan Gentile noted if we have a light winter the monies for the watermain break could potentially be coming out of the Public Works Sand and Salt budget line item.

**Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Acar Leasing Ltd. \$195.63; Ally Financial \$441.49; Roy Bilodeau \$1,622.56, \$1,622.56; CCAP Auto Lease Ltd. \$879.64; Luanne and Romeo Dubois \$439.06; Florentina Gagner \$97.83; Erik and Jessica Kowalski \$416.05; Charles and Catherine Labarge \$121.88, \$121.88, \$121.88, \$119.08, \$119.08, \$108.06; VW Credit Leasing \$244.65; Robert and Louise Carlson \$280.75**

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to approve the refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Acar Leasing Ltd. \$195.63; Ally Financial \$441.49; Roy Bilodeau \$1,622.56, \$1,622.56; CCAP Auto Lease Ltd. \$879.64; Luanne and Romeo Dubois \$439.06; Florentina Gagner \$97.83; Erik and Jessica Kowalski \$416.05; Charles and Catherine Labarge \$121.88, \$121.88, \$121.88, \$119.08, \$119.08, \$108.06; VW Credit Leasing \$244.65; and Robert and Louise Carlson \$280.75

**To discuss and adopt the FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to adopt the FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented.

Discussion:

Public Works Director Charles Wiegert introduced and Noah Slovin, MS, CFM Associate Resiliency Planner, SLR Consulting, who worked on helping NVCOG to put the Hazard Mitigation Plan report together. Charles Wiegert stated the Hazard Mitigation Plan is very similar to the Plan of Conservation and Development, noting it is a shelf plan that is appropriate for certain types of events or grant programs. He further stated it is a long-term plan whereby we recognize some of the environmental hazards the Town could face and looking at how, in the future, we can plan on having a safer community that doesn't experience as large a natural disaster event(s). Public Works Director Charles Wiegert stated SLR Consulting was selected through NVCOG to save towns in the entire region from coming with their own plans.

Noah Slovin broke down the information for the Town Council and Public Audience in detail, noting there was more specific and targeted detail for each town, which makes it more accessible. He further stated the plan has been edited, revised and approved at the State and Federal levels.

Noah Slovin stated the plan had been approved by FEMA and was now waiting for local municipal adoption. Noah Slovin stated this would be the Town of Plymouth's third time accepting a Hazard Mitigation Plan with a second update, noting the plans need to be adopted every five years.

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile regarding the 1-2 planning process, Noah Slovin stated if the plan should be adopted now locally, changes can be made such as addendums, corrections, and additional information over time, but the plan that sits with FEMA will be the same as it is now.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he has an issue with climate change and noted this was not the original intent of the COG and briefly elaborated.

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Noah Slovin stated the main end goal of the Hazard Mitigation Plan was to help the Town review vulnerabilities and capabilities and think about long term planning to mitigate hazards over the long term. He further stated the goal was also to become less susceptible to natural hazards, as well as making sure the Town is eligible for FEMA funding and the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program.

When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Noah Slovin stated the plan can help towns with dams by defining types of risks that are posed by dams and the severity of them, including the impact downstream should a dam fail; a brief discussion followed.

Vote:

This motion was approved unanimously.

**2022 JAG Local VCP Grant Program Violent Crime Prevention (VCP)**

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated this agenda item was for the Town Council to approve the Mayor signing the application for the 2022 JAG Local VCP Grant Program Violent Crime Prevention (VCP)

Plymouth Police Chief Karen Krasicky stated the Plymouth Town Council had previously received correspondence for the 2022 JAG Local VCP Grant Program and provided a brief and detailed overview on the information and uses for the Town Council members and the Public Audience at length.

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to authorize the Mayor to sign the application for the 2022 JAG Local VCP Grant Program Violent Crime Prevention (VCP).

### Discussion:

Town Councilman Dan Gentile thanked Plymouth Police Chief Karen Krasicky for her work and noted the money should be spent wisely.

### Vote:

This motion was approved unanimously.

### **Discuss and take action on an Amendment to the Town of Thomaston and Town of Plymouth Inter-local Agreement for Animal Control Operations**

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he had received new information regarding this agenda item and needed to speak to the First Selectman of Thomaston before proceeding. He further stated in light of this new information, he would be removing the item from the agenda if there was no objection.

### **American Rescue Plan Discussion**

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the American Rescue Plan Ad Hoc Committee would be reviewing different requests on how to best spend the American Rescue Plan monies, noting he had reached out today to the American Rescue Plan Ad Hoc Committee members to schedule a meeting for next week. He further stated the Town has a button on the Town's Website (left side of the front page) which provides hyperlinks to the government document on what the monies can be used for. Mayor Joe Kilduff encouraged everyone to send any usage recommendations to the Mayor's Office, the Town Council Members, the Board of Finance Members or to the American Rescue Plan Ad Hoc Committee Members.

When questioned by Town Councilman Joe Green regarding a previous statement that a government representative would be providing a better outline/description on the American Rescue Plan, Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town's website links are living documents so as the guidelines change the directions on the website will also change and briefly elaborated.

### **Other Business**

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he wanted to wish a very Happy Birthday to Bill Hamzy, the Town Attorney.

### **Town Council Liaison Reports**

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she had nothing to report on at this time.

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

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he had nothing to report on at this time.

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia stated he had nothing to report on at this time.

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated he had attended a Conservation Inland-Wetland meeting and business previously from 2014 regarding Town Houses off of Wilton Road had been discussed. Town Councilman Nate Brown stated they will be meeting again tomorrow night to discuss reapproval for that same permit, noting he suspects it will be moved over to Planning and Zoning.

### **Town Council Comments**

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated he had no Town Council Comments at this time.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she had no Town Council Comments at this time.

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia stated he had no Town Council Comments at this time.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he wants the Town restaurants to know the Town does not have a mandatory Mask Policy in place and that the Mayor has no plans to institute one. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he wondered if that information could be clarified somehow, someday, noting the Mayor had stated he would leave that up to individuals.

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

### **Executive Session to discuss an Employment Agreement for the Director of Finance**

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to move into Executive Session at 7:46 p.m. to discuss an Employment Agreement for the Director of Finance and to invite Town

Attorney Bill Hamzy and Interim Director of Finance Grace Zweig into the meeting. This motion was approved unanimously.

Present for the Executive Session were Town Councilman Nate Brown, Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Councilman Joe Green, Town Attorney Bill Hamzy, Mayor Joe Kilduff, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Town Councilman Ron Tiscia and Interim Director of Finance Grace Zweig.

Mayor Joe Kilduff called the Plymouth Town Council meeting back into Regular Session at 8:10 p.m.

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

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to appoint Grace Zweig as the Director of Finance. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to authorize the Mayor to sign the Employment Agreement between the Town of Plymouth and Grace Zweig. This motion was approved unanimously.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Hale  
Recording Secretary

