

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

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

Minutes

December 6, 2022

Call to Order: Mayor Joe Kilduff called the scheduled December 6, 2022, Plymouth Town Council 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 was Town Attorney William Hamzy.

Adoption of Agenda

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to accept the December 6, 2022, Plymouth Town Council Agenda as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Fire Exit Notification

Mayor Joe Kilduff noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Joseph Kilduff led the Town Council Members and the Public audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated "May God Bless America and God Bless the Town of Plymouth" for the record.

Acceptance of Minutes (October 4, 2022 Regular Meeting and November 3, 2022 Special Meeting)

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Nate Brown, to accept the October 4, 2022, Plymouth Town Council Regular minutes as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to accept the November 3, 2022, Plymouth Town Council Special minutes as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and take action to set Town Council Meeting Dates

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Nate Brown, to approve the Town Council 2023 calendar meeting dates as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

James Mozlak, 18 Carriage Drive, Terryville, questioned where Town shelters would be located if the power grid went down during wintertime.

2022 DEC 13 PM 2:16

Plymouth Town Council Regular Meeting
December 6, 2022
Page Two of Six Pages

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated shelters would be opened in the Plymouth Town Hall Senior Center/Community Room and if a larger event necessitated a larger shelter area, the Emergency Management Team normally opens up the Eli Terry Middle School.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Plymouth Police Sergeant John D'Aniello stated replacing General Order 20-2 with General Order 22-2, had been discussed at the Police Commission meeting last week, noting the Police Officers felt this change would have a negative impact on the Police Department and briefly elaborated. He further stated there was no greater level show of support for the Police than affording them the opportunity to be considered and promote internal candidates first.

Plymouth Police Union President Mike Smegielski stated the Police Union had met today to discuss Agenda Item number 15, "to rescind Police Department General Order 20-2 and replace it with General Order 22-2, as presented", noting some of the members were unable to attend this evening's Town Council meeting but wanted to speak on the agenda item. He further stated he would like the Town Council to table the agenda item for now, which would enable the Police Officers to have the opportunity to speak and be heard.

Financial Report

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town Council had the most updated Financial Report. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Municipal Finance Advisory Commission (MFAC) was meeting tomorrow and noted this public meeting was posted and would be utilizing Microsoft Teams. He further stated he, along with the Finance Director, the Board of Finance Vice Chairperson (and Board of Finance members) would be attending, and he would be providing an update on where the Town stands with its plan for the completion of the 2022 Audit. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he was hopeful that the MFAC would be pleased with the Town's progress over the past two months and would give a favorable recommendation for the Town's current plan. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he would keep everyone informed in case they were unable to attend the meeting.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Plymouth Community Tree Lighting and Carol Sing was held on December 4th (instead of December 3rd) due to weather conditions, noting it had been a fantastic event. He further stated he wanted to thank everyone who volunteered including local businesses, the Plymouth Congregational Church, the Fire Department, the Terryville Lions Club and the Plymouth Police Department for handling traffic control for the event. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Terryville Lions Club and the Town teamed up for the decorating homes Light up the Town contest, noting three prizes were given out. Mayor Joe Kilduff thanked all the participants for making for the home decorating contest a success. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated Breakfast with Santa would be held at Fire Department Headquarters on December 18th. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Fire Department's annual Christmas Tree fundraiser was a huge success and the trees sold out quickly. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated Gosinski Park would be holding and combining their groundbreaking/Santa Christmas event on December 15th with several State officials in attendance. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he and Tony Orsini had attended a Leadership Crisis seminar on November 15th in Litchfield, noting it had been very informative and it was good getting together with other CEO's and Emergency Management Directors to see what other towns do for crisis events. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he and Bristol Mayor Jeff Caggiano had attended the Pequabuck Golf Course 120th Anniversary celebration, noting that they both had presented Proclamations. He further stated this facility was important during the pandemic.

Mayor's Report Cont'd.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Terryville Library celebrated their 100th Anniversary on November 30th and had live music and refreshments, noting it was a wonderful event. He further stated Senator Henri Martin had presented a Proclamation from the General Assembly.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he and Town Councilman Nate Brown, along with the Public Works Department, continue working on coming up with a resolution for the Napco Street Bridge Project, noting their goal was for work to begin this coming spring/summer. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Zoning Enforcement Officer had made contact with the owner of the Prospect Street School and the owner had agreed to address the graffiti and overgrowth on the property. He further stated the Town would continue ongoing conversation to move the project forward. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he issued a non-discretionary spending freeze for Town Hall last week due to the potential energy increase which the Town may be seeing but had not budgeted for, noting it was a necessary move in order to get the Town Hall through the winter months. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he was reappointing Dr. Scappaticci and Anthony Orsini to the Torrington Area Health District Board of Directors and noted it did not require Town Council approval, but he wanted the Town Council to be informed of the reappointments.

Discuss and take action to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Acar Leasing Ltd. \$425.97; Gary Babb \$11.17; CCAP Auto Lease \$838.44, \$292.50, \$352.36, \$99.59; Sean Dering \$24.02; Tomasz and Anna Ferenc \$11.49; Anna Ferenc \$138.35; James Gamache \$32.46; Gerald and Elizabeth Gleason \$24.33, \$67.94; Honda Lease Trust \$1,045.38; JP Morgan Chase Bank NA \$383.90; Timothy Johnson \$88.16; Lisa Mastracchio \$7.79; Nissan Infiniti LT LLC \$140.45; Amanda E. Telo \$10.94; Toyota Lease Trust \$142.34

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to refund the overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Acar Leasing Ltd. \$425.97; Gary Babb \$11.17; CCAP Auto Lease \$838.44, \$292.50, \$352.36, \$99.59; Sean Dering \$24.02; Tomasz and Anna Ferenc \$11.49; Anna Ferenc \$138.35; James Gamache \$32.46; Gerald and Elizabeth Gleason \$24.33, \$67.94; Honda Lease Trust \$1,045.38; JP Morgan Chase Bank NA \$383.90; Timothy Johnson \$88.16; Lisa Mastracchio \$7.79; Nissan Infiniti LT LLC \$140.45; Amanda E. Telo \$10.94; and Toyota Lease Trust \$142.34. This motion was approved unanimously.

Resignations/Appointments/Reappointments: To appoint Colton Cote as a Regular Member to the Capital Improvements Committee with a term ending date of 11/1/2025

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to appoint Colton Cote to the Capital Improvements Committee with a term ending date of November 1, 2025. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action on the sale of Terryville Fire Department's Rescue Tools totaling \$800.00

Terryville Fire Department Assistant Fire Chief Chris Masi stated the Fire Department had received ARPA monies to purchase battery-powered extrication tools (Jaws of Life) and that the Riverton Fire Department wanted to purchase their old equipment because they had nothing. He further stated the old equipment had no trade-in value but was still in good condition. Terryville Fire Department Assistant Chief Chris Masi stated they had made an offer of \$800.00 for the used equipment and briefly elaborated.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to accept \$800.00 for the sale of the Terryville Fire Department's Rescue Tools.

To discuss and take action on the sale of Terryville Fire Department's Rescue Tools totaling \$800.00 Cont'd.

Discussion:

Town Councilman Joe Green stated he wanted to waive the \$800.00 and donate the equipment to the Riverton Fire Department, noting it's another Fire Department in need.

Terryville Fire Department Assistant Chief Chris Masi stated the Terryville Fire Department was only charging Riverton because it was Town-owned equipment and that the monies received would go into the General Fund.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile amended his motion to read: Motion to donate the Terryville Fire Department Rescue Tools to the Riverton Fire Department for free; Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann seconded the amended motion.

Terryville Fire Department Assistant Chief Chris Masi stated he was sure they would appreciate the donation, noting the Riverton Fire Department was using their own personal funds to purchase the equipment.

Vote:

This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and take action to rescind Police Department General Order 20-2 and replace it with General Order 22-2, as presented

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Police Commission had been very thorough to solicit opinions from the Police Department, noting they did a fantastic job of being open and transparent. He further stated that in his opinion the changes in this General Order were necessary and appropriate at this time and what was passed was what he had proposed. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated this General Order change does not disqualify internal candidates that meet the qualifications, noting it only gives the Police commission the right to look outside.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Nate Brown, to table Agenda item number 15 "To discuss and take action to rescind Police Department General Order 20-2 and replace it with General Order 22-2, as presented." This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action on a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign and submit an application not to exceed \$500,000 to the State Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) for the Community Investment Fund

Bill Hamzy, Chairman, Community Investment Fund (CIF) Ad Hoc Committee, stated the Committee wanted to pursue a plan which was in conformance with rules and regulations of the CIF fund as established by the State for the Town of Plymouth. Noting the Town of Plymouth was eligible, CIF Ad Hoc Committee Chairman Bill Hamzy stated the Ad Hoc Committee is looking for a transformative plan for our community to apply for these funds. He further stated there were two opportunities to apply under the grant, noting one of the deadlines was in July but the Town could not make that deadline and the second deadline is January 6, 2023.

CIF Ad Hoc Committee Chairman Bill Hamzy stated the Ad Hoc Committee wants to apply for planning funds by the deadline in January and this is the Resolution they came up with and the request which they are making this evening to the Town Council.

Plymouth Town Council Regular Meeting

December 6, 2022

Page Five of Six Pages

Community Investment Fund Resolution Discussion Cont'd.

CIF Ad Hoc Committee Chairman Bill Hamzy stated the Ad Hoc Committee is looking for authorization for the Mayor to file this application for planning money and that if the Town is approved, the CIF Ad Hoc Committee can come up with a comprehensive plan that meets all the rules and regulations of this fund and accomplish the goal to create a downtown for our community along Route 6.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he wanted to thank Vinnie Klimas, Bill Hamzy, CIF Ad Hoc Committee Liaison Vance Taylor and the CIF Ad Hoc Committee members for their hard work for this Resolution.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to approve the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign and submit an application not to exceed \$500,000 to the State Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) for the Community Investment Fund as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

American Rescue Plan Discussion

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the ARPA Committee had met yesterday and had approved some Public Works Department requests. He further stated some Town citizens had come forward with some drainage concerns, noting the ARPA Committee had heard about these concerns previously. He further stated more information was needed and would be obtained enabling the Committee to make a decision on the project.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Polish Club and the Little League had both come forward at the ARPA Committee meeting with some proposals, noting they did not get moved forward but that does not mean the Committee won't circle back and review them again.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated one approved item had been accidentally omitted- and did not go to the Board of Finance, noting it was the Fire Marshal's Office request for monitors and radios and would be taken care of.

Other Business

No report.

Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilman Joe Green 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 Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the Police Department had received a Grant which would assist them on focusing on speeding issues on rural roads and noted they had used the money and had stepped up patrols for this problem. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated there had been conversation about separating the Traffic Authority meetings from the Police Commission meetings, noting the Traffic Authority could meet prior to the Police Commission meetings. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated several Police Commissioners had attended a Transportation Institute Program, which had been set up by the Chief of Police and noted they had found it was very helpful and learned that there were other resources available to the Town at no cost.

Town Council Liaison Reports Cont'd.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated there had been conversation about the Captain position, noting it was ongoing and the Police Commission would continue to look at both sides of the aisle on this topic. She further stated that she felt putting a Second in Command was a priority for them. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the CIF Ad Hoc Committee is moving forward for grant money. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the Fire Commission had discussion regarding some Dive Team financial bills. She further stated the Fire Commission had discussed training with PVAC, noting there would be a little more interaction and that it was nice to see the two departments working together. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the Town Council had previously discussed the Fire Department's Rescue Tools. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the Human Services Commission was very busy with Energy Assistance and the Small Wonders Program, noting there was still some clothing needs and if anyone was interested to please contact the Human Services Department for further information. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the Human Services Commission had discussion regarding their monthly expenses and where they stand with them. She further stated they also had discussion on how they will fund the different financial increases that have arisen this winter and noted they will be coming forward to ARPA for energy assistance monies.

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated the Public Works Director Search Committee has been meeting on a regular basis, noting hopefully they will have a job description ready in the next month for the Town Council to review and approve.

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

Town Council Comments

Town Councilman Dan Gentile noted the very bright LED lights at the local Dollar General and stated he would like the same kind of lighting for the Town Hall's back parking lot, noting currently there were only sidewalk lights in place and that were very dim, and the parking lot was very dark. He further stated he wanted the Police Department to be safe when they walk out there and that the bright lighting would make it possible for them to see if anyone was hiding, noting it was a safety issue. Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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 wanted to say he thought everyone involved had done a great job at the Community Tree Lighting and Carol Sing on Sunday.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  Patricia A. Hale, Recording Secretary