

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

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

Minutes

September 6, 2022

Call to Order: Mayor Joe Kilduff called the scheduled September 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 Joe Green, Mayor Joe Kilduff, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann and Town Councilman Ron Tiscia. Excused Absence: Town Councilman Dan Gentile.

Adoption of Agenda

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to accept the September 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

Town Councilman Nate Brown led the Town Council Members and the Public audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

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

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Vinnie Klimas, Chairperson, Housing Authority of the Town of Plymouth, stated that the renovation construction had begun at Gosinski Park started today with a crew of 15.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No report.

Acceptance of Minutes

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to accept the August 2, 2022, Regular minutes as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Financial Report

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town Council had been provided with the most recent financials and if anyone had any questions to please contact the Director of Finance or the Mayor's Office and an answer(s) would be provided.

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Mayor's Report

Mayor Joe Kilduff briefly reviewed and discussed the following: Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he was honored to attend the Plymouth Public School Convocation, noting he had given a brief talk to the staff. Referring to the recent arrests, he further stated he wanted to reassure the staff, and everyone, that the action and inaction of some staff members does not cast a shadow over everyone else. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated overall it was a good meeting and he was happy to show his support for the school system. He further stated it was important that we hold people accountable. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated that he wanted to thank the Board of Education for their cooperation, as well as the Plymouth Police Department for their thorough investigation. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he wanted to reassure parents that everyone is looking out for the student's best interests and that we will do whatever we can to hold those accountable who did not do what they were supposed to do.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Terryville Fair was really great and it was wonderful to see people out and about again, noting he felt this was a "back to normal" event. He further stated there were great fireworks on Friday, as well. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated next year would be the Terryville Fair's 75th Anniversary and that the Terryville Lions Club were looking to do a few special things. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he wanted to thank the Terryville Lions Club for all that they do for our community.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town has to close the Napco Drive bridge (between Container and Allread Drive) noting he had posted this closure on his Facebook page, as well as on the Town's Website. He further stated there were two large sink holes in that area and it was unsafe to travel over it. Mayor Joe Kilduff noted the Napco Bridge was on the State's bridge list and was scheduled for design in early 2023 and that the Town would most likely have to make some kind of a match towards it with the State.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he had attended the Public Works Board Site Walk meeting to go over residential and Public Works Board member's concerns with the Harwinton Avenue Project. He further stated the group had come up with some bullet points and some things that they would like to see happen with this project, noting the current condition of the road project was not acceptable. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town will work with the Contractor and Inspector to come up with a solution that is acceptable.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Austin House demolition had started up this week, noting 50% of the history building had been demolished so far. He further stated he was sorry to see the building go but it hadn't been maintained and it was at the point where it had to be torn down. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he was hoping to see some economic development in that area in the coming years and use it as an opportunity to restart our downtown.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated there was a delay in the closure of Route 72 on the Harwinton/Plymouth line which would be closed because of a needed culvert repair, noting the new date was now October 3rd.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the former Public Works Director Charles Wiegert had left the Town and that Town Council had appointed Interim Public Works Director Paul Pronovost who was filling the opening for the present time. He further stated everything was going well with the transition and that the Public Works Director Search Committee would be meeting as soon as possible to find a permanent replacement for the position.

When questioned by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the position has not been posted on the Town Website as yet because he is waiting for the Public Works Board to come up with a posting themselves.

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Mayor's Report Cont'd.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Public Works Maintainer position was still open, interviews were and continue to be held, and that if they do not find a person that fits, the position will be readvertised.

Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Acar Leasing Ltd. \$38.85, \$394.39, \$364.01; Scott J Barlow \$990.68; Irene D. Bellemare \$85.21; Giles L Bennett \$89.55; Donna & Mark Bolduc \$19.48; Karen Buccitti \$22.46; Rocco Caputo \$24.57; CCAP Auto Lease LTD \$825.60; Luc (Tevila, LLC) Cotnoir \$91.57; Jeffrey Frohn \$53.43; Honda Lease Trust \$557.54; Louise Johnson \$76.22; Henry & Pamela Kamens \$79.95; Jason Lachance \$152.49; Ann Luba \$81.54; Ronald & Geraldine Mancini \$74.36; Lawrence & Carole Mello \$58.50; Stephen & Carolyn Morin \$95.03; Barbara & Donald Ouellette \$187.46; Debra Pereira \$16.20, \$14.02 Adam Poulin \$561.00; Jeffrey Rushton \$66.67; William & Victoria Salvatore \$14.21; Elaine Spazano \$30.84; Mary Talge \$78.73; Toyota Lease Trust \$172.88; Karen Webster \$121.89

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Nate Brown, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Acar Leasing Ltd. \$38.85, \$394.39, \$364.01; Scott J Barlow \$990.68; Irene D. Bellemare \$85.21; Giles L Bennett \$89.55; Donna & Mark Bolduc \$19.48; Karen Buccitti \$22.46; Rocco Caputo \$24.57; CCAP Auto Lease LTD \$825.60; Luc (Tevila, LLC) Cotnoir \$91.57; Jeffrey Frohn \$53.43; Honda Lease Trust \$557.54; Louise Johnson \$76.22; Henry & Pamela Kamens \$79.95; Jason Lachance \$152.49; Ann Luba \$81.54; Ronald & Geraldine Mancini \$74.36; Lawrence & Carole Mello \$58.50; Stephen & Carolyn Morin \$95.03; Barbara & Donald Ouellette \$187.46; Debra Pereira \$16.20, \$14.02 Adam Poulin \$561.00; Jeffrey Rushton \$66.67; William & Victoria Salvatore \$14.21; Elaine Spazano \$30.84; Mary Talge \$78.73; Toyota Lease Trust \$172.88; and Karen Webster \$121.89. This motion was approved unanimously.

Resignations/Appointments/Reappointments: To appoint Kelly Tilton to the Board of Education to fill a vacancy with a term ending 11/4/2023; to appoint Ron Mamrosh to the Community Investment Fund Ad Hoc Committee

Greg Showers, Republican Town Committee Chairman, stated the Republican Town Committee had unanimously voted to recommend Kelly Tilton to replace the Board of Education's vacant position left by Dia Fusco.

Mayor Joe Kilduff thanked Kelly Tilton for agreeing to fill the position and briefly elaborated on the timeline for the special election of this position at the next Municipal Election, next year. He further noted Kelly Tilton would need to go to the Plymouth Town Clerk's office to be officially sworn in.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to appoint Kelly Tilton to the Board of Education to fill a vacancy with a term ending 11/4/2023. This motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he wanted to congratulate Dia Fusco, former Board of Education Member, noting that she had taken a job within the school system in July and had submitted her resignation on the Board of Education.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated Bill Hamzy, Chairman of the Community Investment Fund Ad Hoc Committee, had recommended appointing Accountant Ron Mamrosh to the Committee.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Nate Brown, to appoint Ron Mamrosh to the Community Investment Fund Ad Hoc Committee.

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Resignations/Appointments/Reappointments Cont'd.

Discussion: When questioned by Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor Joe Kilduff stated this Committee would be working on a proposal to apply to the State for grant monies for the Town, noting Ron Mamrosh's background would be an asset to the Committee.

Vote: This motion was approved unanimously.

Route 6 Discussion/Letter to Department of Transportation concerning Plymouth Hill

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Plymouth Hill issue has been discussed at past Town Council meetings, noting there has been an increase in accidents. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Police Commission had instructed the Police Chief to send a letter to the State Department of Transportation with their concerns, which he had previously provided to the Town Council members. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he will be drafting a letter to the State Department of Transportation, as well, as a backup to the Chief's letter and noted he wanted the Town Council's opinions for the letter, as well as their signatures.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated Town residents, who are directly impacted and living in the Plymouth Hill area, had attended a Police Commission meeting to express their concerns, noting they live in fear and are afraid sit on their front porches. She further stated the speed was tracked in the area and it told a good story about the speeding levels that are happening and since she first spoke to the Mayor a couple of months back there have been four new accidents in that area. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the situation was not getting any better, noting it was difficult for the Police to run traffic speed checks in the area. She further stated their presence slows speeders down, but the Town doesn't have the Police Officers to staff the area 24/7. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated this issue has previously gone to the Department of Transportation and received a poor response. She further stated that hopefully, signatures from the Mayor and the Town Council, along with the Police Chief's letter and some Legislative support, will get the Department of Transportation to act and provide some kind of change to make it safer for our residents and people passing through our Town.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated that he would draft the letter and would mention the property damage, the multiple accidents occurring at an increased pace, ask for an updated Traffic Study from Route 6/Carter Road up to Route 6/South Street, as well as the installation of a guard rail from Carter Road going up Plymouth Hill in the east bound lane and briefly elaborated.

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia stated where the road turns from two lanes into one, further up the hill, is also a bad spot as well.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he will stress the impact on the residents in the area and everyone that has been involved in accidents.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann recommended adding "the concern for anyone passing through our Town" to the letter, noting we want them to be safe, as well.

Town Councilman Joe Green recommended that District 4, Department of Transportation in Thomaston, be sent the same letter.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the more people the better.

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Route 6 Discussion/Letter to Department of Transportation concerning Plymouth Hill Cont'd.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he will draft the letter and the Town Council members can come in and sign it personally, noting he should have ready in the next few weeks.

Town Councilman Joe Green questioned if the Town of Thomaston would be interested in this issue in conjunction with the Town of Plymouth.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he was unsure if Thomaston was having issues with the Plymouth Hill but that he would reach out to First Selectman Ed Mone to inquire if he had any interest in piggybacking with the Town on this issue.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated we should check if any of the residents in Thomaston were involved in any of the accidents, as well.

When questioned by Town Councilman Joe Green, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated the 2020 State Department of Transportation Report was vague and suggested the Town of Plymouth could consider painting lines to help alleviate the issue, even though this is not a Town road.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town can't make changes to a State road, noting we need to be a part of the State Department of Transportation's discussion.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated once he has the letter cleaned up, he will send out the draft copy to the Town Council members.

HRA Agreement Discussion

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the past Town administration had a business relationship with Human Resources Agency of New Britain (HRA), noting the contract did not have an end date. He further stated he felt it needed to be updated and briefly elaborated. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Human Services Commission, by a majority of votes, recommended the Town approve the contract. Noting feelings run high on this contract/issue, Mayor Joe Kilduff stated that he felt this would be the best arrangement for right now. He further stated this is a contract that can be looked at every 30 days or even annually. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the previous contract was budgeted at \$59,000 and the updated contract is for \$63,000, noting this was the amount HRA presented to lock into the new contract.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she was super appreciative to HRA for speaking to the Human Services Commission and outlining in depth what they do for the Town. She further stated she thought the service should remain with HRA, noting they are an asset to the Town and that this arrangement could be changed in the future. Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated by keeping the service contracted with HRA, the Town would always have coverage and would not have to worry about vacation coverage if the Town were to decide to in-house the position instead. She further stated she is comfortable with moving forward with the HRA contract.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to approve the Professional Services Agreement with HRA. This motion was approved unanimously.

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Discuss and take action on a Tax Abatement Agreement for RNL, LLC, Swicklas Court, Terryville

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town Council members had received the Tax Incentive Committee minutes, and thanked Town Councilman Nate Brown for sitting on the Committee. He further stated he had structured the Tax Abatement Agreements for both RNL, LLC and 18/19 Container Drive, LLC, noting it was 75% off the first two years, 50% the next two years and the last year would be at 25%. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated this would start October 1st after the Certificate of Occupancy was issued and if they don't have it signed off by that date, they would pay 100% for whatever is completed. He further stated both companies should be done by this time next year, and that both companies would be receiving the same Agreement.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Nate Brown, to approve the Tax Abatement Agreement for 18/19 Container Drive, LLC, Container Drive, Terryville, as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and take action on a Tax Abatement Agreement for 18/19 Container Drive, LLC, Container Drive, Terryville

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to approve the Tax Abatement Agreement for 18/19 Container Drive, LLC, Container Drive Terryville, as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and approve an Economic Development Grant and Sale of Lot 3-2, Swicklas Court, Terryville

It was noted that the Town Council members were familiar with this sale to John Casanova for his bottling company and had previously discussed it at a past Town Council meeting.

Mayor Joe Kilduff noted he would make certain that the Town Council members received the paperwork for the sale.

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to approve an Economic Development Grant and the sale of Lot 2, (aka Lot 3-2), Swicklas Court, Terryville, to John Casanova as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

American Rescue Plan Discussion

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the ARPA Ad Hoc Committee did not meet this month because of the Labor Day holiday. He further stated the Town had received another State payout and he expects the ARPA requests to pick up in the coming months.

When questioned by Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the ARPA Tax Collection Box had been received and was installed in the front of the Plymouth Town Hall building.

Other Business

No report.

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Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated the Public Works Department auction of old Public Works equipment netted approximately \$65,000, which would be going back to the Town for the purchase of a couple new trucks the department is looking at.

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated he wanted to thank Mayor Joe Kilduff for attending the Public Works Board site walk on the Harwinton Avenue Project and for making sure the project is done correctly before signing off.

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated Interim Public Works Director Paul Pronovost is returning telephone calls, returning emails and cleaning up items from 2017, noting he was a breath of fresh air. He further stated he is doing a tremendous job, he supports him, and that the Town is lucky to have him.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Public Works Department auction sale went really well and the plan is to take the proceeds from the auction, that have not been allocated in this year's budget, and go before the Board of Finance to have them transfer the monies to Capitals so it can be reallocated for future needs.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated there were two auction items that didn't sell and once the list is completed, he will have Interim Public Works Director Paul Pronovost send out the final listing to the Town Council members.

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated one of the items was a Crown Victoria vehicle that was missing the title.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she had nothing to report on at this time, noting her report items were discussed previously in the meeting.

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

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

Town Council Comments

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


Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she appreciates the work that Interim Public Works Director Paul Pronovost is doing, as well the Public Works report update that he emailed to the Town Council members.

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

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia 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 7:32 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.


Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia A. Hale, Recording Secretary