

1. Call Meeting to Order - The Special Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Finance was called to order on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 6:35 p.m. by Chairman Ralph Zovich in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall. Members in attendance: Vicky Carey, Pattie DeHuff, Dan Murray, Jim Zalot, Ralph Zovich. Also in attendance: Mayor David Merchant; Ann Marie Rheault, Director of Finance; Sue Murawski, Council Liaison; Robin Gudczaskas, Recording Secretary.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Notice of Fire Exits

4. Review of proposed FY2016-17 General Fund Budget

AnnMarie Rheault gave update: 36.91 mills currently; update of budget reviewed. Revenue and Expenses reviewed; overall at 2.6%. Updated 16-17 estimated general fund revenue reviewed. Prior Years taxes BOF recommended \$600,000 which brings it to 1.33. Current levy 24,518,224. No change in department revenues; government grants. Other Transfer in Chairman Zovich will explain at the public hearing from sinking fund and extra duty.

Capital projects, page 6 put in 75,000 (Director of Finance Office) and 41,723 (Mayor's Office); 71,000 for antennae under communications as emergency appropriation.

Expenditure summary reviewed; Legal Services, 017 reduced town attorney from 65,000 to 50,000 which is \$5,000 increase over this year; labor attorney – discussion held with hopes all contracts are settled by end of June 2016. Foreclosure cleanup concern but o.k. with it. Grievance resolution expenses can be lowered to \$5,000. Total department at \$155,750.

MERS and 401a were broken out.

Health Insurance, 073 changing 1,088,000. Last year's numbers were undershot and showing what looks like 19% increase and premiums; reviewed plans.

Benefit nonemployee to \$558,000, reviewed; this is retiree benefits.

New total for department is \$3,224,450

Police Dept: Mayor Merchant stated they are down 3 officers now as another went out on medical.

Communications/Dispatch - New line item for antennae, emergency appropriation, antennae with no impact on next year proposed.

Highway Department. – Mayor Merchant discussed maintenance garage; stated going into July they may be down two people who may not be replaced ending with 10 people in highway. Currently there are 11 employees.

Chairman Zovich stated the motion on resolution was not defeated but motion to adjourn ended the meeting. Discussion on taking \$150,000 out of debt service additional funding as it would not hit this budget; discussion held to take it out. Ann Marie Rheault summarized and if do not fund debt service 2,863,153 which leaves debt service lower; leaving in would lessen blow next year. Discussion held. Leave \$50,000 in debt service. That brings to 1.18.

Economic Development, discussion on contract service, need to go out to bid. Mayor Merchant stated he is a very knowledgeable person and would like to see him do more; reviewed assistance this year - helped bring in two new buildings in Business Park, help with grants. Will leave dollars in budget and the contract needs to go out to rfp.

Board of Education – Discussion on how came to the \$300,000 increase to current budget and \$100,000 for sinking fund.

Capitals down – Vicky Carey took \$25,000 out of reval. Joe Kilduff, Tax Collector, stated need to petition the state legislators who will allow a one year extension. Revised capitals at 581,646. Jim stated volunteer ambulance to replace heaters is \$22,000 for entire job; all do not need to be replaced; one is very bad and another on brink. We need Charlie Wiegert to get estimate. Dan will talk with Charlie on this project.

BOE \$45,000 truck; question to lease vs. purchase.

Napco bridge design in capitals, which is eligible for reimbursement; Mayor Merchant stated we were accepted into a national bridge program; this is first payment. \$300,000 is engineering cost and of that \$240,000 will be reimbursed.

Second review of Grand List calculations held.

New mill rate 36.61 or 1.18 mill increase

Joe Kilduff, tax collector; prior year's tax collections; review of tax sale and name of specialist received with message that tax sales are most complicated. Joe distributed 3 pages on delinquents; one is as of July 1st last year and same list updated through today down 172 accounts delinquent (\$309,178.10 adding interest and liens to \$350,568.10) to 83 left to pay (138,201); last sheet is this year's (2014) taxes as of now list totals 245 accounts totaling \$540,096.39. Discussion held. Pros and cons of tax sales discussed. Joe Kilduff feels \$600,000 might be a stretch and feels comfortable with the \$500,00 suggested; motor vehicle back tax collections are factored in. Discussion held. Prior Years Taxes will remain at \$600,000.

Board of Education – Dan Murray reviewed original request was \$24,241,340 and that is \$400,000 over last year's budget (\$488,550 more than previous year). Amount requested was updated from \$321,000 received. Increase is currently \$488,550 and his feeling was there are expense they paid for last year and requested an additional amount this year for chrome books and no problems with those and feel capital expenditures. There are many items that represent capital budget items and feels they should be swept over and reduce the operating budget by that dollar amount. Discussion held. They can satisfy needs without putting budget through as it is now. Review of departments held. Move the \$100,000 out of BOE, 099 to new line item 101; Transfer from sinking \$100,000 and 24,152,790 decreases to \$24,052,790. Nonrecurring line item comes out of budget and increase to BOE is \$300,000 or \$24,052,790.

Public Works, 041-052

Safety Training lowered to \$20,000

Discussion to take \$200,000 from undesignated fund balance to budget. The town will received 150,000 in June for reimbursement Ann Marie Rheault to fund ADC at 50% which lowers to 1.8 mills.

MOTION: To take \$20,000 out of capitals for transfer station redesign by Pattie DeHuff; second Dan Murray. Discussion: none. Vote: Dan Murray, yes; Vicky Carey, no; Jim Zalot, yes; Pattie DeHuff, yes and Motion carries.

General fund capitals are \$561,000

MOTION: To take \$3500 out of capitals for license plate reader by Pattie DeHuff. Motion fails lack of second.

MOTION: To take \$15,000 out of street line establishment by Pattie DeHuff. Motion fails for lack of a second.

Pattie DeHuff questioned town hall renovations and have we spent \$25,000 each year; Mayor Merchant stated we have spent it. Pattie DeHuff questioned public works as she heard there are positons in public works that are not filled but are funded. Chairman Zovich stated that is not true.

General fund potion of capitals \$561,646

Pattie DeHuff regarding BOE budget and need to look at heat and electricity line items; Chairman Zovich cautioned that this has been exceptionally mild winter; discussion held; Chairman Zovich will ask BOE for a copy of transfers done monthly.

5. Public Comment - none

6. Board Members' Comments - none

7. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn by Dan Murray; second Vicky Carey and the vote unanimous.
Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Gudeczauskas
Recording Secretary