Minutes

May 10, 2023

Call to Order: Mayor Joe Kilduff called the scheduled May 10, 2023, Plymouth Town Council Special meeting to order at 6:00 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.

Fire Exit Notification

Mayor Joe Kilduff noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Connie Kaprolis, 54 South Eagle Street, Terryville, commented on the lack of progress at the Prospect Street School and briefly elaborated on what should have been done and what was not being done.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No report.

Financial Report

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town Council had the most updated Financial Report and if anyone had any questions or concerns to please contact him or the Director of Finance.

Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting May 10, 2023 Page Two of Seven Pages

Mayor's Report

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated when the original sale of Prospect Street School took place, immediately following there was litigation by neighbors and that went on for well over a year. He further stated during that time, as developers and investors do, the owner didn't wait around and invested elsewhere and that once the litigation was settled, the pandemic occurred. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he also read the article referenced during Public Comment and noted every time we see an act of vandalism, or the landscape is not being taken care of properly, the Town sends notice to the owner, and he typically has been relatively responsive, i.e., windows being knocked out, doors kicked in, graffiti, etc. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated in an effort to stop the vandalism, the owner had previously mentioned constructing some sort of a barrier/fence around the building until he's ready to develop the building. He further stated the owner is still looking to develop the building, but it is not eminent at this time. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated we try to implore that he moves as fast as possible, but it is private property, and aside from blight there isn't a lot we can do, as long as he pays the taxes and controls the blight.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated Sun Communities, (former Jensen's Trailer Park and Mobile Home), residents have implored the Council to create a Fair Rent Commission, and noted he had not gotten the sense this Council was at the point where they would want to create one at this time. He further stated he has reached out to Sun Communities, noting their Regional Vice President used to work for Jensen's and knows all about the property and the residents, and a meeting has been scheduled for this coming Friday. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated hopefully, they will be a little more responsive to the residents and he will keep the Council updated.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the budget passed at Referendum so the Town Council will not have to take any action on this year's Budget. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated he would encourage everyone to keep updated and engage in the budget process, noting the earlier you participate the sooner you will get an answer that will be satisfactory and encourages everyone to get involved, noting 95% of the time the questions have a reasonable answer.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Memorial Day Parade will kick-off at 10:30 a.m., and the ceremony will take place at the War Memorial in Hillside Cemetery due to the construction work being done at Baldwin Park. He further stated parking will be available at the Harry S. Fisher School, via the North Main Street entrance, and also at the Eli Terry Jr. Middle School via the Charles Street entrance.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Public Works Director Search Committee held its first round of interviews today and noted a few more were scheduled for next week. He further stated he expects an answer shortly thereafter. Mayor Kilduff stated the contract for this position will come before the Town Council.

Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting May 10, 2023 Page Three of Seven Pages

Discuss and take action to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Jason Elsdon \$194.76, \$243.78, \$365.67; Timothy and Annemarie Lane \$762.78

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to approve the refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Jason Elsdon \$194.76, \$243.78, \$365.67; and Timothy and Annemarie Lane \$762.78. This motion was approved unanimously.

Appointments/Reappointments/Resignations: To reappoint Frank Porter the Housing Board of Appeals with a term ending date of 9/1/2025; to reappoint Joe Carey to the Board of Public Works with a term ending date of 11/1/2025; to reappoint Robert Green to the Economic Development Commission with a term ending date of 4/1/2028; to reappoint Seth Duke to the Economic Development Commission with a term ending date of 11/1/2027; to reappoint Richard Foote to the Historic Properties Commission with a term ending date of 8/1/2025; to accept the resignation of Gale Reno from the Beautification Committee; to accept the resignation of Jean McMahon from the Beautification Committee; to accept the resignation of Alesia LeDuc from the Library Board of Trustees

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to reappoint Frank Porter the Housing Board of Appeals with a term ending date of 9/1/2025. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to reappoint Joe Carey to the Board of Public Works with a term ending date of 11/1/2025. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to reappoint Robert Green to the Economic Development Commission with a term ending date of 4/1/2028. Vote: Town Councilman Nate Brown/yes; Town Councilman Dan Gentile/yes; Town Councilman Joe Green/Abstained; Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann/yes; Town Councilman Ron Tisica/yes. Motion passed 4:1 in favor.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Nate Brown, to reappoint Seth Duke to the Economic Development Commission with a term ending date of 11/1/2027. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to reappoint Richard Foote to the Historic Properties Commission with a term ending date of 8/1/2025. This motion was approved unanimously.

Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting May 10, 2023 Page Four of Seven Pages

Appointment, Reappointments and Resignations Cont'd.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to accept the resignation of Gale Reno from the Beautification Committee. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to accept the resignation of Jean McMahon from the Beautification Committee. This motion was approved unanimously. Nate Brown Roxanne McCann

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann, to accept the resignation of Alesia LeDuc from the Library Board of Trustees. This motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Library Board of Trustees is an elected position and the Democratic Town Committee is responsible for sending a nominee's name to the Town Council for appointment until November 2023, if they have someone.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he wanted to thank everyone on the Boards and Commissions for volunteering their time, noting volunteering is what makes this Town what it is.

Take action on recommendations from Board of Finance for use of ARPA funds for the following projects: PVAC (Ambulance), Terryville/Plymouth Little League (Drainage), Office of Emergency Management (ATV), Parks and Recreation (Playground Equipment-Bobble Riders) and Repair of Lake Winfield Walking Trail and Related Equipment

PVA (Ambulance)

PVAC Chief Jim Dubowsky provided a brief overview of the PVAC's ARPA request for a new ambulance and noted the vehicle they would be replacing was over ten years old and had been out of service for the past five months with mechanical and electrical issues. He further stated the PVAC was looking to purchase a smaller sprinter vehicle, noting their main concern was to have the best equipment for the Town residents.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Nate Brown, to approve the PVAC's request to purchase a new vehicle with ARPA funding not to exceed \$75,000.00.

<u>Discussion</u>: Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann stated she wanted to clarify the new ambulance cost more than the PVAC's request for \$75,000.

Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting May 10, 2023 Page Five of Seven Pages

Take action on recommendations from Board of Finance for use of ARPA funds Cont'd.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the remaining cost for the vehicle would be picked up by the PVAC.

Vote: This motion was approved unanimously.

Terryville/Plymouth Little League (Drainage)

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the drainage issue at the Little League field was partially made worse by the work done on Orchard Street, noting the Little League field has always had poor drainage, especially in the lower field and by the batting cages. He further stated the Plymouth Little League was requesting \$12,000 in ARPA funding for insulation of the PVC pipe by their batting cage and on the lower field, which would help to alleviate some of the drainage issues.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green second, to approve \$12,000 in ARPA funding for insulation of the PVC pipe for the Plymouth Little League. This motion was approved unanimously.

Office of Emergency Management (ATV)

Mayor Kilduff stated the Office of Emergency Management was requesting \$44,590.55 in ARPA funding towards the purchase of an ATV for use by the Office of Emergency Management, the Fire Department and the Police Department, noting the current ATV that the Fire Department is using is 16 years old. It was noted the ATV could be used by all departments, especially at the Terryville Fair.

Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to approve \$44,590.55 in ARPA funding to the Office of Emergency Manager towards the purchase of an ATV.

<u>Discussion</u>: Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated the Fire Department keeps their equipment in excellent condition.

<u>Vote</u>: This motion was approved unanimously.

Parks and Recreation (Playground Equipment-Bobble Riders) and Repair of Lake Winfield Walking Trail and Related Equipment

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to approve \$8,0000 in ARPA funding to Parks and for the replacement of the Bobble Riders playground equipment at Lake Winfield. This motion was approved unanimously.

Take action on recommendations from Board of Finance for use of ARPA funds Cont'd.

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated Parks and Recreation had requested ARPA funding for the repair of the Lake Winfield Walking Trail and Related Equipment in the amount of \$5,000.00, noting one of the concerns regarding the walking path around Lake Winfield is that it puddles because of the slope. He further stated Parks and Recreation is also asking for an allocation to purchase a box blade (pinnacle series) to help maintain it moving forward and the purchase of materials to fix the path.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to approve the Parks and Recreation ARPA request for Repair of Lake Winfield Walking Trail and Related Equipment in the amount of \$5,000.00. This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and take action on the sale of properties which abut Bridge # 06219 Napco Drive Over Pequabuck River

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Napco Bridge Replacement Projects was moving along nicely with the help of town Councilman Nat Brown who has been able to consistently keep us on the Department of Transportation's radar. He further stated the Town has received good responses from them and noted this project would be fully funded by Federal and State funds with no local dollars being spent. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated the Town needed to sell a couple of very small lots to the State so they can get in to do the necessary work and at the end of the project the State will deed the properties back to the Town. He further stated this type of property sale happens all the time citing the Town's North Main Street and Seymour Road Projects as examples.

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to authorize the Mayor to execute all documents required to convey to the State the properties which abut Bridge # 06219 Napco Drive Over Pequabuck River in order to make the proposed repairs to said Bridge.

<u>Discussion</u>: When questioned by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Mayor Joe Kilduff stated there are a few small lots in and around the bridge and this would allow the workers to access the area, noting the lots are small and located in marsh land with nothing on them. He further stated the Town would receive a small purchasing price once the properties are turned back over. Mayor Joe Kilduff stated all the lots are valued at under \$10,000 so a Public Hearing is not needed.

Vote: This motion was approved unanimously.

American Rescue Plan Discussion

Mayor Joe Kilduff stated a few new projects have come forward for ARPA funding and are currently being reviewed. He further stated any other proposals/suggestions should be submitted as soon as possible and he'd like everything completed this year.

Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting May 10, 2023 Page Seven of Seven Pages

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 she had nothing to report on at this time.

Town Councilman Nate Brown 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 Council Comments

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated he no Town Council comments at this time.

Town Councilman Nate Brown stated he wanted to thank Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann for her due diligence with the ARPA work, noting it's been a lot of meetings, the money has been used properly and a lot of good projects have been done in Town.

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 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 6:33 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously. Roxanne McCann, Joe Green

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Hale Recording Secretary