

Town of Plymouth
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Plymouth Town Council
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Minutes

May 5, 2015

Call to Order: Acting Mayor Sue Murawski called the scheduled May 5, 2015, Plymouth Town Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present were Town Councilman William Heering, Acting Mayor/Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski, Town Councilman John Pajeski, Town Councilman Gary Wyszynski, and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also in attendance were David Elder Town of Plymouth Special Planner, Director of Parks and Recreation Michael Ganem, Town Attorney William Hamzy, Interim Tax Collector Joe Kilduff, Director of Planning and Zoning and Economic Development Margus Laan and Attorney Melissa Simonik.

Fire Exits Notification

Acting Mayor Murawski noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

Acting Mayor Murawski asked Town Councilman Heering to lead the Plymouth Town Council and the Public Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Acting Mayor Murawski stated "God Bless the Town of Plymouth and God Bless the United States of America" for the record.

Council Rules and Procedures

No report.

Acceptance of Plymouth Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes April 7, 2015 and Plymouth Town Council Special Joint Meeting (Plymouth Town Council/Board of Education/Board of Finance) Minutes April 8, 2015

Town Councilman Pajeski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to accept the Plymouth Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes April 7, 2015, as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

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Acceptance of Minutes Cont'd.

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Wyszynski, to accept the Plymouth Town Council Special Joint Meeting (Plymouth Town Council/Board of Education/Board of Finance) Minutes April 8, 2015, as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor's Report

Acting Mayor Murawski stated the Mayor was involved in Union Contract Negotiations this evening and he might be/might not be in attendance at the Council meeting.

Public Comments on non-agenda items

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, requested the next Referendum be on a Saturday and briefly gave her reasoning. Melanie Church stated the Town Council should make a recommendation to the Board of Finance to do some cuts in the Budget and briefly gave her reasoning.

Appointments/Resignations: To accept the resignation of Patrick Perugino from the Plymouth Board of Education; to appoint Martin E. Wetzel to fill the remainder of Patrick Perugino's term on the Plymouth Board of Education

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski, to accept the resignation of Patrick Perugino from the Plymouth Board of Education with regret. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Pajeski, to appoint Martin E. Wetzel to fill the remainder of Patrick Perugino's term on the Plymouth Board of Education. This motion was approved unanimously.

To discuss and take action to refund the following Property Taxes: William Hall, Jr. \$32.02; Kimberley A. Rivard \$169.89; Carl Shaw \$59.95; Vertex Steel, Inc. \$8.87; John Yurko \$37.03; Doreen Smith \$16.20; Corelogic \$417.30, \$721.00

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Wyszynski, to refund the following Property Taxes: William Hall, Jr. \$32.02; Kimberley A. Rivard \$169.89; Carl Shaw \$59.95; Vertex Steel, Inc. \$8.87; John Yurko \$37.03; Doreen Smith \$16.20; and Corelogic \$417.30, \$721.00. This motion was approved unanimously.

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Real Estate Committee: review Guidelines for Disposition of Real Estate; Update for 150 Main Street and 705 Main Street Updates and other Town Properties; Public Hearing for 705 Main Street; Extend Real Estate Committee's Charge by 12 to 18 Months

Real Estate Committee Chairman Pajeski stated the Committee was setting the rules and procedures for selling Town-owned properties, noting the old Plymouth Fire House would be first. He further stated the Historical Society had said the building had no value to them.

Real Estate Committee Chairman Pajeski stated that a Public Hearing for this property would be held next week and then it would go up for sale.

Real Estate Committee Member Michael Ganem stated that the Committee had been working with Interim Tax Collector Joe Kilduff and Attorney Melissa Simonik who assisted the City of Bristol with their tax sales, noting the guidelines received today came from her work with the City of Bristol.

Attorney Melissa Simonik gave a brief overview of the City of Bristol's surplus property process and sales, noting this was not a moneymaker and that the purpose of the Real Estate Committee was to get the properties back on the tax rolls.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Acting Mayor Murawski stated the Public Hearing would take place next week and then the Committee would bring the results back to the Council. Acting Mayor Murawski stated that any properties that would be disposed of would come back to the Council as noted in the Real Estate Committee Guidelines.

Interim Tax Collector Joe Kilduff stated that he wanted to publically thank Attorney Simonik for her generously donated her time with the formation of the Plymouth Real Estate Committee.

Acting Mayor Murawski stated Attorney Simonik's assistance had been wonderful, citing as an example Attorney Simonik's instruction to bring all properties before Planning and Zoning and that she was unsure if that necessary step had been done in the past.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Attorney Simonik stated the monies from all the sold properties in the City of Bristol go back into the General Fund.

Acting Mayor Murawski stated there were four additional properties that had gone to Planning and Zoning for their recommendation. She further stated that Real Estate Committee was hoping the Council would take action at next months meeting. Acting Mayor Murawski stated that originally the Real Estate Committee had a six-month charge and this would need to be reviewed again.

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To discuss and approve the waiver of the Permit Application Fees for the Plymouth Volunteer Ambulance Corps and Fire Department

Acting Mayor Murawski stated the \$10.00 additional permit fee had been approved at the last Council meeting, however now the Council needed to approve waiving that fee for the Volunteer Ambulance Corps and the Fire Department.

Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Heering, to waive the \$10.00 application fee for the Plymouth Volunteer Ambulance Corps and the Fire Department. This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and request endorsement of Year 2015 Plan of Conservation Development for the Town of Plymouth

Director of Planning and Economic Development Margus Laan stated David Elder, the Town's Special Planner had been working on the 2015 Plan of Conservation for a year and a half, noting that the Town Council had previously received a hard copy of the plan, and were hoping that the Council would adopt the plan this evening. David Elder stated that the Plan of Conservation had originally been done in 1993 and was updated in 2005, noting there had not been any real significant changes made. He further stated that the trend in Plymouth was a growing population of people in the 34-65-age range. David Elder stated this was a good sign and that the plan was fiscally responsible. A lengthy discussion followed.

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, David Elder stated that a number of typographical errors had been corrected; a brief discussion followed. He found the book extremely informative and recommended the public read it and thanked him for the nice job.

When questioned by Town Councilman Wyszynski, David Elder stated the deadline to adopt the plan was June 11, 2015, at which time a Public Hearing would be held and briefly explained the process. David Elder stated that he had referenced the CCRPA plan and the previous Town of Plymouth plan, noting the COG did not have a plan. When questioned by Town Councilman Heering, David Elder stated he was happy to meet with him to explain the plan further; a brief discussion followed.

Town Councilman Heering made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Zagurski to table this Agenda item.

Discussion:

Cathy Kosak, 201 Harwinton Avenue, Terryville, stated the plan was on the Town website and a hard copy for the public would be a good idea.

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Discuss and request endorsement of Year 2015 Plan of Conservation Development for the Town of Plymouth Cont'd.

Chris Simo-Kinzer, 52 Old Farm Road, Terryville, questioned where on the Web Site the Plan was located.

Town Councilman Wyszynski stated it was a great idea to get together and discuss this item prior to the adoption.

Vote:

This motion was approved unanimously.

Acting Mayor Murawski thanked David Elder for all his work.

Town Council Liaison Reports

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

Acting Mayor/Town Councilwoman Murawski stated she had nothing to report on at this time.

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

Town Councilman Pajeski gave his Liaison Report for Gosinski Park.

Debbie Raboin, Gosinski Park resident distributed a copy of a petition with 85% of Gosinski Park resident signatures requesting the current staff be kept and briefly explained her issues with Gosinski Park and requested an investigation by the Council/Town. Debbie Raboin stated that Kelly Stevens, the Office Manager at Gosinski Park, through hard work was able to get the residents a rent decrease and that she did a wonderful job. When questioned by Town Councilman Wyszynski, Debbie Raboin named the Housing Board members by name.

Kelly Stevens, Gosinski Park Office Manager, named the officer positions of the Board.

Crystal Katy Rutkowski, Gosinski Park resident

Town Councilman Pajeski stated that Housing Board Member Arlene Wood's term had expired.

Acting Mayor Murawski stated that until a Board Member was replaced they continued in the position. Town Councilman Zagurski stated he was in agreement.

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Town Council Liaison Reports Cont'd.

Town Councilman Heering gave his Conservation Inland-Wetlands report.

Town Councilman Pajeski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Heering, to add a request for the Mayor to investigate and report back with recommendations, using the paperwork provided, on Gosinski Park complaints as presented this evening. This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to request the Mayor investigate using the provided paperwork from this evening's meeting and report back with recommendations on Gosinski Park complaints

Attorney Hamzy stated that the housing authorities in every town were unique creatures and the authority most towns had was the appointment of commissioners. He further stated if it was the Council's will to ask the Mayor to make an investigation it was within their right, however the housing authority was a quasi-public agency. Attorney Hamzy stated the mayor could investigate and do homework, but he was uncertain if he could compel anyone to do anything; noting if funds were missing that was different; a brief discussion followed.

When questioned by Acting Mayor Murawski, Attorney Hamzy stated the Board members did not technically have to be told they were being discussed this evening; a brief discussion followed.

Crystal Doyle, Gosinski Park resident, stated she had filed complaints since 2009, and the previous Mayor, regarding the former Office Manager and Maintenance person and briefly stated the complaints.

Kathryn Rutkowski, Gosinski Park, stated the missing money fell under the responsibility of the former managers, not the current. She further stated the conditions of the Park were beyond horrendous prior to the new management company, noting they did not them to leave and briefly cited her reasons.

When questioned by Town Councilman Wyszynski, the residents present stated that had gone before the Housing Board with their complaints noting they were never included in the minutes.

Town Councilman Wyszynski stated that some of the complaints this evening were disturbing and questioned if anyone had contacted the Police.

The residents present stated the Police did responded, but noted it was the Board's problem with some of the complaints.

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Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to request the Mayor investigate using the provided paperwork from this evening's meeting and report back with recommendations on Gosinski Park complaints Cont'd.

Tim Bobroske cited the Town Charter's definition of the Housing Authority, and noted State Statutes 8-43 referenced if there was a recommendation from the Council, negligence, etc., the Council could take action and he felt facts should be gathered and the Council should determine if there were misdoings and take appropriate action from those findings.

When questioned by Acting Mayor Murawski, Tim Bobroske stated that he had been fired as the Housing Authority Management Company by the Housing Board members. He further stated that he, along with Kelly Stevens and Marty Desaultels, were all loyal to the residents at Gosinski Park and what they had seen at the Park this past year was a travesty to the residents. Tim Bobroske stated there were residents at the Park were intimidated by the Board and he and Kelly were advocates this evening for them.

Cathy Kosak stated she was amazed it too so longer for the residents to speak up, noting they were afraid. Cathy Kosak stated that reappointments were not being made and there was no longer an official list.

Acting Mayor Murawski stated the list was a mess, but it was being straightened out and it was almost complete.

Town Councilman Wyszynski stated that it was in the Charter for the Council to appoint members of the Plymouth Housing Authority.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, stated the actions discussed this evening should go to the Police and briefly gave her reasoning.

Crystal Doyle stated that the Gosinski Park members who were present this evening came to the meeting because they wanted the current Housing Authority Board members out and they wanted to keep Kelly Stevens, Tim Bobroske and Marty Desaultels.

Town Councilman Pajeski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Heering to have the Mayor investigate the Board and make his recommendations to the Town Council.

Discussion:

When questioned by Town Councilman Zagurski, Town Attorney Hamzy stated the Mayor would investigate all of the allegations.

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Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to request the Mayor investigate using the provided paperwork from this evening's meeting and report back with recommendations on Gosinski Park complaints Cont'd.

Town Councilman Pajeski yes and see where it goes; noting the people were intimidated but now that they know they won't be kicked out of the park they're coming forward and it was a good thing to get to the bottom of this issue., noting it was a nice place and the management company had done a heck of a job up there.

Michael Drozdick, 15 Crescent Street, Terryville, Plymouth Housing Board member, stated the current Housing Board had hired Tim Bobroske a year ago because of the previous administration problems. He further stated that Tim had done a marvelous job, but they were letting him go because of costs. Michael Drozdick stated that under the current contract stipulations Tim Bobroske could come back if he wanted to modify it. He further stated everything said this evening was in the past and that they had gotten rid of Jerry (former Maintenance employee). Michael Drozdick stated the allegation of financial misdoings was outrageous and the books were looked at all the time and briefly explained his reasoning.

When questioned by Acting Mayor Murawski, Michael Drozdick stated the Housing Board had met with Tim Bobroske and had discussed this issue.

When questioned by Town Councilman Wyszynski, Michael Drozdick stated the Board did not have anyone at this time to take over as the management company. He further stated they were looking at 60 days for a timetable to do the work. Michael Drozdick stated the Board had not interviewed anyone for the opened position, however they were meeting this week to discuss it. He further stated that arrangements would be made to take care of the repairs.

Kathryn Rutkowski stated she had a background on caring for the elderly and that making repairs cost more now because management at Gosinski Park had waited too long to do them when they happened and briefly explained her reasoning.

Tim Bobroske stated that in the last year that he had the privilege of working for the Gosinski Park residents he did not believe their was any financial criminal acts, but there was a gross management of finances being made by the Housing Board members.

Crystal Doyle stated Marilyn, the former Office Manager and the Board had missed out on many grants, including one to fix the roofs at the Park. She further stated the residents need a Board that will work for the residents.

Vote:

This motion was approved unanimously.

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Council Comments

Town Councilman Wyszynski stated Terryville High School Band had placed first place in a competition in Virginia this past April and also placed first place at the New Haven St. Patrick's Day parade and recommended that people think twice before cutting costs for the Music Program, which was pretty impressive.

Town Councilwoman Murawski stated she had no comments at this time.

Town Councilman Pajeski stated he had no comments at this time.

Town Councilman Heering stated he had no comments at this time.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilman Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Heering, to adjourn at 9:52 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary