

PLYMOUTH TOWN BOARD MEETING

APRIL 10, 2023

6:30PM

PRESENT: Councilman Daniel Meyer

Councilman Frank Williams

Councilman Shawn Cushman

Councilman Garry James

Highway Superintendent Roy Marshall

ABSENT: Supervisor Grace Nucero-Alger

Mr. Garry James led in the Pledge to the Flag.

He asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the March Board meeting. There were none. Mr. Williams made a motion to accept the minutes as sent. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with four yeses and no nos. Supervisor Alger was absent.

DOG CONTROLL OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Brian Franklin reported on the following:

- 3/17/23 Tinker Ridge Rd. stray dog - no dog found
- 3/18/23 Owens Rd. 2 dogs loose – took to SPCA
- 3/19/23 Inman Rd. stray dog – no dog found
- 3/21/23 Cottage Lane dogs in road – owner found and warned
- 3/22/23 Rt. 16 dogs on neighbor's property – warned owner
- 3/27/23 Stray dog Tinker Ridge – took to SPCA

- Got updated list from Ginny and will be calling people who's dogs are overdue.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Steve Fox reported on the following:

- Tried to make contact with John on the Reservoir Road about junk vehicles.
- Farmer on Cumber Road is keeping his bale wrap in check this year
- Spoke with Mike Bishop on Rt. 23 again. He has cleaned up a little.
- Spoke to Richard Pierce on the Chris Brazee property on Tinker Ridge. Has cleaned up quite a bit. More to do.
- Sam Clemens property – about the same.
- Was contacted several times by someone wanting to buy property on Cottage Lane. Made an appointment to meet on Saturday. The interested party cancelled the meeting. Mr. Fox said he felt it was a setup.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Mr. Roy Marshall reported on the following:

- Plowing and Sanding
- Received deliveries of Salt
- Installed a driveway pipe on Hoag Childs Road.
- Fixed turn around and installed a driveway pipe on Morley Road.
- Hauled stone for summer paving
- 2003 IH – No. 1-replaced clutch fan, fan solenoid
- 2016 IH – No.2- at the shop in Whitney Point waiting for full report

- 2018 IH – No.3 – Serviced
- 2008 IH – No. 4 – At TNR for repair. Oil leaks, water pump and fuel solenoid issue
- 2010 IH No. 6 – Picked up 3/29/23 all seems good so far
- 2013 IH – No. 7 – At LB Truck Repair waiting to be moved to TNR
- 2015 Ford F250 – Auction ended 4/5/23. Truck sold for \$4,250.00. Need Board approval to finalize sale.
- 2022 Didge 2500 – Caution light installed. Wired for portable fuel tank.
- CAT 938 Loader Greased and Lubed
- Obtained quotes for salt shed cover
- Clean burn furnaces serviced
- At the Town Hall – Replaced the rope on the flag pole and put up a new flag. Also, fixed the down spout on the Town Hall.

More details are available in the Town Clerk's office.

Mr. James asked if the Board had any questions for Mr. Marshall. Mr. Williams asked again about the price that the pickup truck brought. Mr. Steve Kreiner asked if it was advertised in the paper. Mr. James said, "No public comments." At this point, Mr. James said he would have Mr. Kreiner removed if he didn't behave. Mr. Brett Wightman said that Mr. James was not behaving because he had no right to run the meeting. Mr. James said he would have Mr. Wightman removed, too. Several comments and complaints were made. Mr. James ignored them.

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. James reported that the Easter Egg Hunt was held on April 8, 2023. In attendance were 11 adults and 12 children.

Foster Park was vandalized again. The Sherriff's Department is working in it. Another resident wanted to ask a question, but again, Mr. James said there would be no public comments or questions.

The ATV/UTV Law – Mr. James said he received the North Norwich draft of their law. The attorney said it looks pretty good. Some things will have to be changed to fit the needs of the Town of Plymouth. It is in the works. There will have to be a Public Hearing.

They met with FEMA concerning a project on Montgomery Road. FEMA will pay 75% of the total cost. The State will pick up 12 ½%. The Town will be responsible for the rest. Because of the lack of funds right now, the Town asked for an extension. FEMA said they would have no problem.

Mr. Williams made a motion to accept the bid for the pickup truck of \$4,250.00. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with four yeses and no nos. Mrs. Alger was absent.

Mr. Cushman made a resolution to Designate Funds from the 2023 Rescue Plan Funding to Plymouth Fire District to purchase Personal Protective Gear for Volunteer Fire Fighters. Mr. Williams seconded the resolution. The Board was polled and the resolution was passed with four yeses and no nos. Mrs. Alger was absent.

BOARD CONCERNS: Mr. Frank Williams expressed his disapproval of the manner in which Mr. James has treated Mrs. Brown, the Town Clerk. Mr. Meyer agreed. Mr. Williams asked Mr. James to apologize. He did not.

Mr. James wanted to move on to paying the bills, however, Mrs. Brown said that she had received an e-mail from Mrs. Alger saying that the resolution from the Fire Commissioners' also had to be approved. Mr. James tried to ignore her, but she read the e-mail to him so he agreed to allow the resolution to be made. (No vote was taken. The Board signed the resolution.) There was a discrepancy between the Town's resolution and the Fire Commissioners' resolution, but Mr. Robert Patterson said he had discussed it with Mrs. Alger and they agreed on \$20,000.00 which was the amount stated in the Town's resolution.

The Town still asked for Public Concerns and were still refused. Several comments were made, but Mr. James said if there was a hostile environment, Public Comments could be denied. He also threatened to expel several members of the public.

Mrs. Brown stated that Mrs. Alger said she would present the Town with a revised letter of resignation if Mrs. Brown would return Mrs. Alger's original to be corrected. Mrs. Brown did so. When asked if Mr. James had Mrs. Alger's amended letter of resignation. Mr. James said no.

The legality of the Meeting was challenged. It was pointed out that in the absence of the Supervisor, the remaining Board could appoint someone to chair the meeting. There was a lot of discussion and confusion.

Mr. Daniel Meyer made a motion to appoint Ms. Patricia Murray as acting Supervisor for the remainder of 2023. Mr. Cushman seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeses and one no. Mr. James voted no. Mrs. Alger was absent.

Ms. Murray took over the meeting.

Mr. James left the meeting at 7:05pm.

Mr. Williams read a resolution for the Appointment of Town Planning Board Members with Succession Expiration Dates. Ms. Murray was removed from the roster and Mr. Tim Manwarren was added due to the fact that Ms. Murray was Acting Supervisor. Mr. Cushman seconded the resolution. The Board was polled and the resolution was passed with four yeses and no nos. Mrs. Alger and Mr. James were absent.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: Mr. Wightman asked the Board to consider getting a different attorney. Mr. Williams made a motion to look for a different attorney. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos. Mrs. Alger and Mr. James were absent.

Mr. Tom Prisco asked if Mrs. Alger was not doing her job and coming to the meetings, why was she still being paid? Ms. Murray said the Town did not have a letter of resignation so Mrs. Alger was still in office. Again, there was a great deal of discussion. Ms. Murray asked for everyone's patience since no one really knew what to do in this situation. She planned on contacting the Association of Towns for advice.

Mrs. Sandy Pierce asked if the Planning Board could meet right after the Board meeting. The answer was yes.

It was asked who would represent the Town of Plymouth in the Supervisors' meetings. Ms. Murray said at the present time, it would be Mrs. Alger who had attended a meeting that day at the County Office Building.

Mrs. Brown advised the Board that there was a water leak in the ceiling light over the Judge's bench.

The owner of LD Equipment Repair talked to the Board about the Town truck he has been working on for quite a while. He outlined what he thought was going on with the truck and how he would alleviate the problem. He summed it up by saying the problems were not caused by Rodney Oakley or Roy Marshall. The problems were due to the model of truck and how it is used. Ms. Murray thanked the gentleman for coming.

Ms. Murray announced that the next meeting will be held on May 8, 2023.

Mr. Cushman made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos.

While the councilmen were signing the bills, several questions were being discussed. Because everyone was talking, most comments were inaudible. There was discussion about the expenditures of the COVID money. No one was sure about any of this. Ms. Murray said an auditor would be coming to look at things soon.

Mr. Williams made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos. Mrs. Alger and Mr. James were absent. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Virginia E. Brown". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Virginia E. Brown

Plymouth Town Clerk

April 24, 2023