

PLYMOUTH TOWN BOARD MEETING

APRIL 8, 2019

PRESENT: Supervisor Grace Nucero-Alger
Councilman Gary Simpson
Councilman Daniel Meyer
Councilman Jerry Kreiner
Superintendent Rodney Oakley

ABSENT: Councilman Lewis Somers

Supervisor Alger brought the meeting to order at 6:30pm. She led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Mrs. Alger asked if there were any additions or corrections to the March meeting minutes. There were none. Mr. Kreiner made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos. Mr. Somers was absent.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Brian Franklin said that he had picked up five strays and investigated two dog bite incidents. His report is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Tom Prisco reported that he was planning on attending court on Wednesday to follow up on

the four complaints that were in the hands of the court at that time. He said he also checked on the septic system that was being worked on in South Plymouth. He said everything was approved and paperwork was on file.

Mr. Prisco stated that the property on 789 County Rt. 19 was cleaned up. Carol Franklin said it was not. Mr. Prisco said that at least the cleanup had been started.

The property at on the corner of the Plymouth North Norwich Road seems to be getting worse. Mr. Prisco said he would present the owner with a summons as soon as he could find out who the owner was. Mr. Prisco was warned by Fire Chief Craig Ackerman that he had been there and was met by a hostile individual. He advised that Mr. Prisco take a Deputy Sherriff with him when he visits the property. Mrs. Alger agreed.

The owners of the property at 188 Elmer Harris Road want to take out the single wide trailer they have there and replace it with a double wide. The septic system needs to be updated, however, neither Mr. Prisco nor the owner have been able to find any paperwork on it. If he cannot find any proof of the septic system, he will have to conduct a dye test.

Mr. Prisco presented the Board with a new, simpler complaint form that he had created. Mr. Prisco was asked if the complainant had to sign his or her name. The answer was yes, however, he does not give out that information. If someone wants to know who made the complaint, they would have to submit a FOIL request to the Town Clerk.

Mr. Kreiner asked if Mr. Prisco had been able to get any more information about the gas line replacement project. Mr. Prisco said he had talked to the engineer. He said at the present time, they were just researching the municipal requirements they would be expected to meet. Mr. Kreiner asked what company they were working for. Mr. Prisco said he would find out.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Mr. Oakley reported that a door at the Highway garage had fallen. It has been replaced.

The crew has been working on maintenance on the equipment.

The new box for the '08 truck had arrived.

Mr. Oakley talked to the Board about possibly purchasing a mower as opposed to renting one next year.

Mr. Oakley presented the Board with literature on a new broom. He also presented the Board with a check for \$15,000.00 from the sale of the old grader. He said he would like to use the money toward the new broom. There would still be some of the cost left so Mr. Oakley said he would take it out of one of his Highway budget lines. Mr. Kreiner asked if the quoted price would be off a state bid. Mr. Oakley said he would ask his salesman. The subject was tabled until he could get a reply to his text.

Mr. Oakley gave the Board information on the cost of overtime for last winter. He feels the Town could save money if the Highway crew went to two shifts. There was concern about public complaints. Discussion followed. Mrs. Alger said a decision would have to be made before the budget process starts.

Mr. Oakley said he has been working on a 284 plan. He had some preliminary quotes from Suitkote. He explained to the public what a 284 plan was.

Tires for the new grader have arrived from McKees. He gave Mrs. Alger a tax exempt form to be filled out.

Mr. Simpson asked for an answer on the state bid contract question for the sweeper. Mr. Oakley had received a text back from his salesman, who said, yes, it was quoted at a state bid contract rate.

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS: Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Alger will attend a seminar on April 9 about Sexual Harassment and Discrimination in the Workplace. They will bring back the information and train the other Town employees.

May 2, Mr. Prisco and Mrs. Alger will be attending training on Zoning and Planning for Local Officials.

Mrs. Alger informed everyone that the County Board of Supervisors approved a new tax called the Home Tax which would tax people staying in hotels, motels or bed and breakfast type facilities.

The Town Board has given AT&T the okay to proceed with the cell tower project. The tower will be erected on the Town's property on the Cookhouse Road. Further meetings will be held to examine the lease agreement and make any changes they feel necessary. AT&T has decided to extend the height of the tower to 295 feet in order to get better coverage. AT&T is planning to put up another tower over near the village of Plymouth next year.

Mrs. Alger asked the Board to approve financing for she and Mr. Oakley to attend a Finance School and a school for Workers Comp, Shared Services and Perma Safety.

BOARD CONCERNS: Mr. Kreiner asked if there was going to be a public hearing on the Home Tax imposed by the County Board. Mrs. Alger said no. He also asked what the money was ear marked for. Mrs. Alger said that was brought up but the Board had no answer as of yet.

Mr. Kreiner raised an objection to the signs prohibiting recordings of any kind in the court room. He asked Mrs. Alger to talk to Judge Branangan about them. He thought it would be alright to have them up only while the court was in session.

Mr. Simpson made a motion to pay for Mrs. Alger and Mr. Oakley to attend the afore mentioned schoolings. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion passed with four yeses and no nos. Mr. Somers was absent.

Mr. Kreiner made a motion to purchase a new broom for the loader with the understanding that it is priced off a state contract and that the check for \$15,000.00 be accepted and deposited to the equipment income budget line and adjust the equipment appropriation line by the same amount. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with four yeses and no nos. Mr. Somers was absent.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: Peter Hudiburg questioned why AT&T changed their minds about placing the tower on Morley Road. He presumed that there was more traffic on County Road 16 than on State Highway 23. Mrs. Brown replied that she had consulted the County Engineer who reported that the amount of traffic on both roads was almost identical up to the point of the second bridge on County Road 16. Then the traffic on 16 was reduced by almost half of what it was on State Highway 23. (Traffic is counted at the bridges.)

Mr. Hudiburg also commented on the 5G issue. He said it is very controversial and physically damaging.

Rhonda Fairbanks asked Mr. Oakley when the No Parking signs would be put up on the Plymouth-North Norwich Road. Mr. Oakley said as soon as the ground is thawed.

Ms. Fairbanks asked who was sponsoring the training that the Town officials plan on attending. She suggested that there might be a less expensive way to attend training.

Ms. Fairbanks also advised that the Board look into more of the HIPA part of the code enforcement's complaint form. Mr. Kreiner informed her that HIPA pertained to health insurance. She was concerned about retaliation when a person files a complaint. She also complained about officials failing to follow through on the charges for littered property. She asked for a copy of the Town law pertaining to this issue. She expressed her frustration with the fact that the court keeps extending the accused more time and nothing gets done. Mrs. Alger said she had talked to the District Attorney about the issue. He said he does not deal with Code Enforcement at all. Going forward, if the Town Board

decides to handle the complaints themselves, it is something to talk about with the Town attorney. However, the complaints that are already in the court system are off limits to the Board now. Mrs. Alger said she would call the Town attorney to see if there is something he can do to push this along.

Mrs. Alger reported that Matt Bates told her that he was coming to the area next weekend and he will bring the Town's equipment with him. She said if he doesn't show up, the Board will move forward with the Sherriff's Department.

Ms. Fairbanks asked if anything further had been done about acquiring property for the Town garage. Mr. Oakley said that he and some members of the Planning Board had visited the Thornebrook Hall property. He said that the current owner may take less than she was asking for. Mrs. Alger asked the Board to think it over and at the next meeting make a decision whether or not to make a bid. Mr. Jack Adams from the Planning Board said he thought it was worth considering. He thought the Town should have someone assess the cost to remove the buildings.

The next Board meeting will be on May 13, 2019 at 6:30pm

The Board reviewed the bills and signed them. Mr. Simpson made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Kreiner seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with four yeses an no nos. Mr. Somers was absent.

Mr. Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kreiner seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with four yeses and no nos. Mr. Somers was absent.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Virginia E. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "V" and "B".

Virginia E. Brown
Plymouth Town Clerk
April 18, 2019