

PLYMOUTH TOWN BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY 12, 2018

PRESENT: Councilman Gary Simpson
Councilman Lewis Somers
Councilman Jerry Kreiner
Superintendent Rodney Oakley

ABSENT: Supervisor Grace Nucero-Alger
Councilman Dan Meyer

Councilman Simpson led the Pledge to the Flag.

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: There was none available.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Mr. Oakley said that the crew had been doing repairs to the trucks, plowing, and sanding. Mr. Oakley reported that the screening plant that is in use now frequently breaks. He talked to Steel Sales who referred him to Oxford. They had one that was very heavy duty. Mr. Oakley went

to look at it and talked to the sales person who quoted \$6,840.00 to have one built like the one they had. Mr. Oakley presented the Board with the quote. Discussion followed. Mr. Simpson asked if there would be a warranty on the unit. Mr. Oakley said he could ask, but he assumed not. Mr. Kreiner asked what the value of the one that is presently being used would be. Mr. Oakley and Mr. Marshall estimated that the unit weighs about four ton. He thought that the price for scrap was about \$40.00 per ton. Mr. Kreiner asked if Mr. Oakley thought that the crew had time to build one themselves. Mr. Oakley said that they could probably find the time, but taking into account the cost of materials and labor, he thought it would cost more to build one than to buy one. Mr. Simpson asked what the time frame would be to have one built. Mr. Oakley replied seven to ten days. Mr. Kreiner asked how this would fit into the Highway budget. Mr. Oakley said that he didn't know. Mr. Marshall said the cost should go under Winter. Mr. Kreiner asked if the Town's procurement policy dictated that the purchase be put out for bid. Mr. Oakley wasn't sure. Mr. Kreiner asked if the present unit could make it through the rest of the season. Mr. Oakley said it would be touch and go because the crew has to weld it frequently. He said that it is something that is needed and it is also something that could be picked up and carried with them if they were to change locations. Mr. Kreiner said he would like to know how this purchase would impact the budget, and have a definite answer on the requirements of the Procurement Policy before he could make a decision. Mr. Simpson said that the issue would be tabled until next month at which time Mr. Oakley would provide more information. Mr. Kreiner noted that the quote from Oxford was good for 10 days.

Mr. Oakley reported that he had checked on a parking break for the grader. This model is not made any more, so the only parts he might be able to get are used parts at very expensive cost. He estimated that to repair the break it could cost approximately \$1,500.00. Mr. Simpson asked if the grader was safe to use. Mr. Oakley said yes as long as it didn't stall. Mr. Marshall asked Mr. Oakley if he had checked into an electric one. Mr. Oakley said he would check into it.

Mr. Oakley said that he had spoken to a representative from the RTI auction company. The earliest he could come to look at the snow pusher would be the 14th of February.

Mr. Marshall advised Mr. Oakley to reserve the mower for this summer now. Mr. Simpson agreed. Mr. Oakley asked the Board if they thought it would be a better idea financially to purchase a mower instead of rent one. Mr. Kreiner asked if anything had been set aside for this in the budget. Mr. Simpson said the budget for this type of expense was the same as last year. He advised Mr. Oakley to call and reserve the rental mower.

Mr. Oakley checked into an oil pumping system. For the complete system the cost would be \$1,395.00. Mr. Kreiner asked what the advantage would be to make this purchase. Mr. Oakley answered that it would be more convenient and would prevent contamination of the oil.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Simpson conveyed to the Board that Mrs. Alger told him that Matt Bates had no dog activity in January and two incidences in February. Mr. Bates stated that he will be at the March Board meeting. He would like to present his report early in the meeting so he could attend the Town of Norwich Board meeting afterwards. If this could be arranged, he will be attending every meeting.

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. Simpson presented the following:

- A report from NYSEG concerning street lighting.
- An announcement of Webinars provided by Achieve Centre for Leadership & Workplace Performance
- An announcement of training and resources be made available by CTRI
- An invitation to a Leadership Conference being provided by the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center

BOARD CONCERNS: Mr. Simpson reported that Judge O'Connor had fallen in the Town Hall parking lot on January 24, 2018. The Supervisor was notified on January 25. With his current medical condition, he cannot perform his duties as Town Justice. The State has assigned Town Justice Madden from the Town of Fenton to fill in for Judge O'Connor. This cost will be covered by the State. He will come in two days a month and hold court here. The State requires the Town of Plymouth to make a motion to allow Judge Madden access to the court room and the Judge's office. All monies assessed for fines and fees will still come to the Town of Plymouth. Mr. Kreiner made a motion that the Town Board request from Judge O'Connor his present keys and access codes and whatever else is needed by Judge Madden to perform his duties in the Plymouth Town Hall. Mr. Somers seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Mr. Kreiner asked if Judge Madden would have access to Judge O'Connor's safe. Mr. Simpson said he didn't think so. Mr. Kreiner asked if there was any information in the Judge's locked files or safe that would be needed by Judge Madden to perform his duties for the Town of Plymouth. Mr. Simpson said he couldn't answer that question. Mr. Kreiner thought it would be pertinent information to have. Mr. Simpson also expressed concern that Judge O'Connor might not be willing to surrender his keys and codes. Mr. Kreiner suggested that if that would be the case, the Board should consider legal action. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeses and no nos. Mrs. Alger and Mr. Meyer were absent. Mr. Kreiner asked for follow-up on issues from last month's meeting such as the concerns brought to light by the insurance company about Foster Park. Mrs. Brown reminded the Board that Mr. Larry Ashton had a mulch business in South Plymouth. She spoke to him and he said he had knowledge about safety requirements concerning the wood chips for under the playground equipment and that he would be happy to talk to the Board about this. Mr. Kreiner said that Mrs. Alger and Mr. Oakley had said that they were going to discuss the issue with NYMIR. Mr. Oakley said that Mrs. Alger had called him and stated that she thought the insurance company wanted all the playground equipment removed.

Mr. Marshall said that the insurance company had told him the same thing. Mr. Kreiner questioned whether anyone had followed up on the issue of a Code of Ethics Board. Had anyone been appointed to the Board yet? Mr. Simpson answered that to his knowledge, no.

Mr. Kreiner asked if anyone had checked to see if the Code of Ethics was in violation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Mr. Simpson said he would have to check with Mrs. Alger on that.

Mr. Kreiner asked if anything had been done with the written complaint that the Board had received concerning properties with excessive junk on them. Mr. Simpson said that Mrs. Alger had gone to the County Code Enforcement Office. The County will serve the property owner with a 30 day notice to clean up the property. If he does not comply within 30 days, the County will issue him a summons.

Mr. Kreiner asked if the Town Clerk had received any DD214 forms. She said that one had been received. The notice concerning the Cold War Exemption had been posted on the Town bulletin board, on the Town Clerk's window, at the Plymouth Post Office and on the Town website. Mrs. Brown said that she checked with the Association of Towns concerning the legality of inserting notices in with the property tax bills. It is considered a Misdemeanor to insert anything in with the property tax bills other than bills for monies due to the Town and then only allowed by resolution.

Mr. Simpson stated that if Judge O'Connor refused to comply with the Board's request to surrender his keys and codes, he would be in violation of the Code of Ethics. He asked Mrs. Brown if she would join him at the Town Hall on Wednesday morning to be sure that Judge Madden could get in to the Court Room. She agreed. Mr. Simpson said he would make a copy of the master key to the Town Hall to give Judge Madden if he couldn't get Judge O'Connor's. Mr. Kreiner disagreed and objected. Mr. Somers said that he didn't think another master key would be needed if someone was going to be here to let Judge Madden in. Mr. Simpson said he would have a copy made up. Mr. Kreiner said he

was concerned about the issue.

Mr. Kreiner asked if the call list had been updated for when the alarm goes off at the Town offices. Mr. Simpson replied that he did not know.

Mr. Jack Adams presented a report from the Town Planning Board. He said the Board's main goal was to save the Town money. He stated that the one proposal that the Planning Board thought would be most beneficial to the Town would be to relight the Town Barn. To do the entire garage the cost would be \$8,215.00. NYSEG has already agreed to pay over \$4,300.00 which means the Town would only have to pay \$3,884.00. This should result in a minimum of a 70% reduction in lighting cost. He gave some examples. Mr. Adams asked for the Board's approval. He said the estimated payback would be in about two years.

He also said that if the Town does build a new Town barn, the new lights could be moved to the new building.

Mr. Adams also reported on the street light subject. He said that to change sixteen street lights to LED lighting would cost \$604.00. Ms. Donadio said the change would result in an estimated savings of \$174.00 per year. These two actions would go towards making Plymouth eligible for the Clean Energy Communities Program grant.

Mr. Kreiner asked if any money had been put aside for this type of expenditure.

Mr. Simpson said no. There was discussion about the street light upgrade and the new garage lighting.

Mr. Kreiner made a resolution to have the Supervisor of the Town of Plymouth draft and sign the necessary letter to NYSEG to upgrade the street lights. Mr. Somers seconded the resolution. The Board was polled and the resolution was passed with three yeses and no nos. Mrs. Alger and Mr. Meyer were absent.

Mr. Simpson tabled the subject of the garage lighting until next month. He asked the Planning Board to come back next month.

Mr. Rifanburg reported on his findings concerning the Cold War Exemption.

He said that everything considered, it would be tough to predict the impact this would have on the Town's tax base.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: Rhonda Fairbanks complimented Mr. Oakley on his job with the roads.

The date of the next Board meeting will be on March 12, 2018.

The Board reviewed and signed the bills.

Mr. Kreiner made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Somers seconded the motion.

The Board was polled and the motion was passed with three yeses and no nos.

Mrs. Alger and Mr. Meyer were absent.

Mr. Simpson made a motion to have Mrs. Alger e-mail, and the Town attorney to send a certified letter to Judge O'Connor requesting his keys and codes for the use of the State appointed acting Judge. Mr. Somers seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeses and no nos. Mrs. Alger and Mr. Meyer were absent.

Mr. Somers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kreiner seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeses and no nos. Mrs. Alger and Mr. Meyer were absent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28pm.

Respectfully submitted by

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

Virginia E. Brown

Plymouth Town Clerk

February 26, 2018