

# PLYMOUTH TOWN BOARD MEETING

## JULY 10, 2023

### 6:30PM

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Patricia Murray  
Councilman Frank Williams  
Councilman Daniel Meyer  
Councilman Shawn Cushman  
Highway Superintendent Louis Redenback

**ABSENT:** Councilman Garry James

Supervisor Murray led in the Pledge to the Flag.

She then asked if there were any additions or corrections to the June 12, 2023 minutes. There were none. Mr. Williams made a motion to accept the minutes as sent. Mr. Cushman seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos. Mr. James was absent. Ms. Murray asked if there were any additions or corrections to the June 21, 2023 minutes. There were none. Mr. Cushman made a motion to accept the minutes as sent. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos. Mr. James was absent.

Ms. Murray asked Mr. Cushman to read a resolution she had appointing Louis D. Redenback as Acting Superintendent of Highways. Mr. Williams

seconded the resolution. The Board was polled and the resolution was passed with four yeses and no nos. Mr. James was absent.

Ms. Murray presented a proposal that was submitted to the Town by E. J.L. Consulting to change the fax system at the Town Hall which would save a significant amount of money. Mr. Meyer made the motion to proceed with the change. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos. Mr. James was absent.

Ms. Murray announced that she had recovered \$413.92 from Lowes for a charge that had mistakenly been submitted to The Town of Plymouth, New York instead of Plymouth, Mass.

Ms. Murray reported to everyone that the County has passed a Vehicle Use Tax. The tax money is to be used for the EMT system.

She also conveyed to all, that the master battery disconnect switches have been mounted on all the Town trucks except one.

**DOG CONTROL REPORT:** Mr. Brian Franklin reported on the following:

- 6/14/23 Dog at large at Foster Park – no dog found
- 6/15/23 Dog at large Inman Rd. – no dog found
- 6/22/23 Dog at large Canasawacta Terrace – no dog found
- 6/22/23 Dog hit by car on Inman Rd. – took dog to vet, had to be euthanized.
- 7/6/23 Dog on neighbor's property on County Rt. 16
- 7/8/23 Visited property on County Rt. 16 for an animal welfare check. Found everything to be ok.

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

- Issued a Notice of Violation to Nick Rayez and Marina Rubera at 119 Co. Rd. 21 for the garbage complaint. Tracked down Marie Pittsley, who's name is on the deed. Marie stated that she would work with me on trying to get it cleaned up, but does have a contract with Nick and Marina so she has to do a repossession.
- Three follow up visits to 119 Co. Rd. 21. The pile of garbage has been loaded on a trailer and one car has been removed (making progress).
- Spoke with a tenant at the apartment house on the corner of Plymouth-N. Norwich Rd. about the garbage. She stated the owner, Josh Kisner, is getting a dumpster. Tried to contact Josh. Waiting to hear back from him to verify.
- Followed up on the garbage complaint on Hemlock Lane. Sent a Notice of Violation to the owner back in May and haven't heard from him. Did a site visit, but nothing has changed. Doesn't appear that anyone has been around yet this year.
- Reported that someone had contacted the County and complained that he was not doing his job. He explained that the County has nothing to do with his job as the Plymouth Code Enforcement Officer. He said that if anyone had any questions or complaints that his number is on the Town website. He advised that a person should call him after 5pm and he would discuss it with them.

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Mr. Louis Redenback reported on the following:

- Changed greasing schedule to every Monday morning for all equipment. Nothing had been greased on a regular basis before.
- A 10 minute break is taken first thing in the morning to discuss the plans for the day. Then work is started.
- Replaced all side boards on all the dump trucks.
- On Ashcraft Road – replaced a culvert and put two new culverts in.
- The broom is repaired. Still waiting for the bristles to come in. Should be in this week.
- Swept Reservoir Road and paved it. Got help from North Norwich and Otselic.
- Working on ditches on Ashcraft Road.
- Road sides will be mowed when the tractors are here. They had been reserved for the middle to the end of August by the previous Superintendent.

Mr. Mark Bennett asked if the roads would be prepared properly before they are paved. Mr. Redenback said yes, they will all get shimmed first.

Ms. Murray asked Mr. Redenback if he could look into setting up a Town Clean Up Day.

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT:** Mr. Tim Manwarren reported on the following:

- The Board met on July 5, 2023. Their guest speaker was Mr. George Seneck who spoke on the duties and responsibilities of Planning Board members and developing a comprehensive plan for the Town of Plymouth.
- Went to the Town Barn as requested by Ms. Murray to see if there was anything they could do to help the Superintendent. Mr. Manwarren said there were a lot of issues that need attention. He asked for an idea about how much money could be spent on this project. Ms. Murray said she would like to have the Board visit the garage and go from there.

**BOARD CONCERNS:** Ms. Murray introduced the Town's attorney, Mr. James Gregory and Mr. David Craine from NBT Insurance. She invited them to explain and express their opinions concerning passing a local law allowing ATVs and UTVs to travel on Town roads.

Mr. Gregory explained that the State defines an ATV as a vehicle no wider than 70" or heavier than 1,000 lbs. Therefore, the law would not extend to side x sides. Mr. Gregory has spoken to attorneys for other Towns, but he disagrees with their interpretation of the State law. Discussion followed.

Mr. Craine said that the Town would have coverage if an ATV law was passed (not UTV). The Town also has Streets and Roads Liability coverage.

Ms. Murray questions why any one would want to impose a local law on something that is not currently regulated by a law.

Mr. Steve Fox asked if the Town would have to adopt a local law to allow ATVs only to use Town roads. Mr. Gregory said one has been drafted and could be adopted through the proper channels.

More discussion followed.

Mr. Fox asked Ms. Murray if she would be willing to talk a gentleman from Oswego who is very well informed about the subject. She said when the State moves forward with it, yes. She said she would talk about it with Mr. Fox at a later time.

Mr. Gregory cautioned the Town about ignoring the law and putting their stamp of approval on this activity thereby opening themselves up for liability.

Ms. Murray said at the present time, the Town would move forward with the ATV law that has been drafted.

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:** Mr. Gary Simpson asked when the land fill would be mowed. Mr. Redenback said soon. It has to be mowed once or twice a year.

DEC well testing should be done at their discretion. Mr. Redenback will check into it.

Porter Road has some bad spots. Mr. Redenback said they will be working on it.

Mr. Pete Marshall advised Mr. Redenback that it is a good practice to reserve the equipment in January for the following summer.

Mr. Brian Franklin reported that the euthanizing of the dog he took to the vet is being covered by the owner.

Ms. Rhonda Fairbanks asked Ms. Murray to tell everyone what she had found out about the Town's multiple phone bills. She was able to wade

through the issues the Town has been having with three different phone providers. After a couple of days on the phone, she discovered that the Town has been paying for services that have not been provided. She calculated that the Town paid \$9,662.00 which was later recalculated to about \$8,000.00 for no services rendered. Unfortunately, due to the way their contract is written, the Town will not be able to recoup the full amount.

Mr. Manwarren asked if one of the fax lines would go into the Town Barn. Ms. Murray said yes.

Mr. Manwarren also asked if there was another resolution to appoint another person to a position at the Highway Department. Ms. Murray said yes, however, she was not at liberty to speak about it yet.

Mr. Franklin asked who Mr. Redenback's phone was through. Ms. Murray said AT&T.

The Town Supervisor's phone number is 888-1540 and the Town Superintendent's phone number is 888-1535.

Mr. Brendon Molloy asked about the cameras at the Town Barn. Mr. Redenback said they have been disconnected. There is no monthly bill for them.

Ms. Murray is still talking to Sentry Alarms about the door alarm.

Ms. Murray said she had spoken to Judge Fox and the DA concerning Rodney Oakley. They said this month we should know more about what will happen with Mr. Oakley's charges. She is also in contact with the Town's insurance company to try to recoup some of the losses caused by this incident.

Mr. Dan Meyer asked about what Ms. Murray had decided about consolidating our garbage pickup. She is working on it.

Mr. Tom Kreiner asked why Councilman James should keep getting paid when he does not come to the Board meetings. Ms. Murray said he is an elected official. The only way to remove him is through court proceedings. That would be way more expensive to do than to continue to pay him for the time he has left in office.

Ms. Rhonda Fairbanks asked if the State auditors were still working here. Ms. Murray said yes.

Mr. Kreiner asked who they are investigating. They are looking at everything.

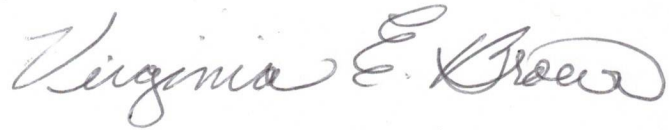
Mr. Molloy asked about the progress at Foster Park. Ms. Murray said the contractor is a little behind. He is working on it. Ms. Murray thanked Mr. Frank Williams for all the work he has done there. Ms. Fairbanks suggested that a contact number be added to the signs for the park.

Mrs. Branagan asked if the announcement for the Enchanted Forrest trip was posted. It was.

The bills were reviewed and signed. Mr. Williams made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Cushman seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with four yeses and no nos. Mr. James was absent.

Mr. Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cushman seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with four yeses and no nos. Mr. James was absent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Virginia E. Brown". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted by,".

Virginia E. Brown

Plymouth Town Clerk

July 18, 2023