

PLYMOUTH TOWN BOARD MEETING

JUNE 10, 2024 6:30PM

PLYMOUTH TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Supervisor Patricia Murray
Councilwoman Kathryn Clemens
Councilman Ray Elsworth
Councilman Robert Oehme
Highway Superintendent Louis Redenback

One Councilman's seat was vacant.

Supervisor Murray led in the Pledge to the Flag.

She asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the May meeting. There were some corrections which Mrs. Brown had already made. Mrs. Clemens made a motion to accept the minutes as modified. Mr. Oehme seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with four yeases and no nos. One Councilman seat was vacant.

Mr. Oehme read Resolution #21 of 2024 and moved to accept it. This resolution was to approve changes to the General Fund budget to adjust for expenses over original budgeted amount. Mrs. Clemens seconded the resolution. The Board was polled and the resolution was passed with four yeases and no nos. One Councilman seat was vacant.

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

- 6/3/2024 – Picked up stray dog on Rt. 23. The owner was found.
- 6/4/2024 – Three dogs were picked up at the observation platform on the Reservoir Road.
- 6/10/2024 – Picked up two dogs on the Owens Road.

Mrs. Brown asked if anything had been done about a dog killing chickens on Pigeon Hill. Mr. Franklin said he would be issuing a ticket to the owner. Mrs. Brown also informed everyone that it was reported that Chenango County is having a high rate of Rabies cases. She reminded people to have their pets vaccinated against Rabies.

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

- Court appearance with Josh Kisner owner of the apartment house on the Plymouth-North Norwich Rd. He asked to have his case moved to a different Town. It was moved to Smyrna. No date had been set yet.
- Issued a second notice of violation to Quinton Kemp. He asked Mr. Fox if he could put up a fence. Mr. Fox said he could if it was well maintained and not in the Town's right of way.
- Mike Bishop on State Rt. 23 had cleaned up quite a bit.
- Trying to track down Amy O'Neal who owns property on the Owens Road.
- Follow up on Center Rd. with ^{Dyreck} Eric Clemens. The grass has been mowed and cars have been lined up. It looks much better.

Mr. Tim Manwarren asked if it was okay to have Demo cars on your property. Mr. Fox said that technically you are allowed only one unlicensed vehicle. But Plymouth is a rural area and Demo Derbys are a way of life for some people. The issue could be pushed if one really wanted to. However, Mr. Fox said he was involved in a case where someone showed that his Derby cars were registered as race cars and beat out the Code Enforcement people in Court.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDET'S REPORT: Mr. Redenback reported on the following:

- Mowing for the last week. Will continue to do so.
- Finished the ditches on Pigeon Hill.
- Small section of ditch to fix on Bates Wilson Rd.
- Will be starting on the Plymouth- North Norwich Rd. with ditches and culverts. Probably will be there for the next month or go.
- Patching pot holes.
- Will be working on some of the dirt roads starting this week.
- The crew is down two people.
- Received two employment applications on June 10, 2024.
- Mr. Redenback went to Cornell to a highway school for 3 days. He said he learned a lot.
- Presented the Board with a 284 Document. Mrs. Clemens asked if the amounts in the 284 were covered by the budget. Mr. Redenback said yes. Labor was not included. She also asked if it was a FEMA project. Mr. Redenback said no. Mr. Redenback said only he #2 stone had already been paid for. He also said that 100% of the 284 was CHIPS eligible.

Mrs. Clemens said a resident asked her why the Town was using slate to install culverts. Mr. Redenback said it was not slate. It was blue stone remnants. He said a pallet weighs about a ton and a half. The Town is paying \$125.00 per pallet.

Mrs. Clemens had asked Mr. Redenback if the tires he bought would be cheaper under an OGS contract. He said he could get them cheaper through Moore's in Sherburne.

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

- Continuing to work on the development of a comprehensive plan.
- Mr. Manwarren plans on attending the Sherburne Planning Board meeting to observe.
- He said that since three people on the Planning Board are being considered for the vacant seat on the Board, it is difficult to move forward with making appointments with people like Mr. Gladstone. He urged the Board to make a decision for the benefit of all involved.
- During the last meeting, Ms. Murray asked the Planning Board to have their agendas and their meeting minutes published on the Town's website. Mr. Manwarren said he would meet with the Town Clerk to discuss this.
- Mrs. Clemens advised that the Planning Board move ahead with a stratified survey to help expedite the comprehensive plan development. Mr. Manwarren disagreed. He wants everyone to have the opportunity to participate in the survey.
- Received no new correspondence or requests from any resident.

Correction
WEB

- The next Planning Board meeting will be on July 1, 2024.

YOUTH PROGRAM: Mrs. Linda Powell-Owens reported the following:

- She reported the trips that the Norwich Youth Bureau will be having. They were Wonder Works, Rail Riders, Water Safari, Ross Park Zoo and the Zoo in Chitnenango.
- She talked about the last rollerskating trip that the Town had sponsored.
- She is waiting to hear back from the Enchanted Forest because they have not opened yet.
- She said that kids today don't do the same things from years ago. She is trying to find things that the kids in our Town would like to do.

It was suggested that the activities should be better advertised. More discussion followed.

BOARD CONCERNS: Ms. Murray passed out to each of the Board Members, a copy of an agreement with BOCES Print Shop to join other municipalities for participation in the services provided by the Print Shop.

Ms. Murray reported that advertising had been done for a person to mow Foster Park. She received two quotes. Ms. Fairbanks said she checked with the Town's insurance about volunteers. They told her the volunteers were covered. Ms. Murray still had concerns. She read the quotes. Dan Eichler was planning on mowing twice a month for \$80.00 or \$40.00 per mow. He also would charge \$40.00 for trimming the bank

twice a year. Four Seasons would charge \$60.00 per service. Also, charge \$50.00 to trim the bank twice a year. There was a lengthy discussion about both issues. Mrs. Clemens made a motion to put Louis Redenback in charge of property maintenance at Foster Park. Mr. Oehme seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeases and no nos. One Councilman seat was empty.

Mr. Tom Kreiner asked when the roof at Foster Park would be fixed. Ms. Murray said the roof was supposed to be fixed between June 12th and June 15th.

Ms. Murray stated that last month \$5,737.21 was spent from the General side of the budget. \$113,263.36 was spent from the Highway side of the budget. These figures do not include payroll or health insurance.

Mr. Fox explained the situation with Foster Park in relation to the Flood Plain. He said that Foster Park is in the Flood Hazardous Zone. Special requirements would have to be met when installing a playground. Ms. Murray spoke to the Insurance Company to get the cost of insuring a playground. They said they would need the full estimate of the cost of the playground before they could give her an estimate on the insurance increase. There were pros and cons about the playground equipment and whether the gate should still be locked. Ms. Murray said she asked the insurance company about the gate and they advised her to keep the gate locked. The Board decided to leave the gate up until the roof is repaired.

Ms. Murray said she had heard back from the Town attorney about the possibility of creating a new reserve possibly to transfer funds to for use

for highway funds. He said there was no authority to move money from the Type Capital Reserve Fund to any reserve fund that is not another Capital Reserve Fund. Because it is a misdemeanor, the Attorney will contact the Comptroller for an opinion on such use.

Ms. Murray contacted Assemblyman Angelino's office regarding a special bill for the use of the Capital Reserve Fund. His office will call her back. The bill would not be passed until next year because the legislative session has ended until January. In the meantime, they will be working on preparing the bill.

She also reached out to Senator Griffo's office and was given the same response.

She spoke to the Town's banker about getting a Note of Anticipation on the \$298,000.00 that is in escrow. He advised her to contact Coughlin and Gerhart because they are the attorneys for the bonding process. The attorneys said it was not possible to use the money in escrow for collateral.

Mr. Redenback asked why the Town couldn't get a bond to fix the roads and pay it back with CHIPS money. He also said he had spoken to the Georgetown Supervisor about a Permissive Referendum. He said it would take 30 days to pull the money out. Wait 30 days and then use the money.

Ms. Murray looked into having a softball league for Shelly Ciborowski. Ms. Murray needed answers to specific questions and Mrs. Ciborowski will get them for her.

Ms. Murray also talked to the Board about the Youth Committee. She would like to sit down with Mrs. Powell-Owens and other interested parties to try to get something started.

Ms. Murray asked the auditor if the Town should get a credit card. The auditor advised against it.

Mr. Redenbacker dispelled the rumors that have been circulated about him not doing his job. He said he is on the job full time.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

- Mr. Tim Manwarren asked Mr. Redenback what the 284 agreement covers. He wanted to know that if there was no 284 agreement, would the Highway Superintendent be held personally responsible. Mr. Redenback said yes. Mr. Manwarren said, with that in mind, he was not comfortable with the Board pushing the agreement "down the road" any further. Ms. Murray said she had a lot to look into. Mr. Manwarren said the taxes did not get raised enough for the needs of the Town.
- Someone asked Mr. Redenback when he had to have the paperwork in for the CHIPS money. Mr. Redenback said it was due four times a year. He had just applied for what was eligible this month. The next one will be applied in August and the next one in November.
- Ms. Rhonda Fairbanks said the Kelly Cushman property in the village of Plymouth needed to be addressed by the Code Enforcement Officer again.
- She thanked Mr. Redenback and friends for putting up the flag at the cemetery.

- Ms. Fairbanks said she thought the "Touch a Truck" being sponsored by the Fire Department should be a community event. Ms. Murray said she was contacted by Mr. Sanford and Mr. Patterson. She said that since the Fire Department initiated the event, they would be responsible to cover it by insurance. She said she told them if the Town could be of any help to let her know. She also said that if Mr. Redenback planned to bring any Town vehicles to the event, she would have to contact the Town's insurance company to see if that would be covered.
- Ms. Fairbanks asked why Ms. Murray kept contacting the Town's attorney. She asked if Ms. Murray consulted the other Board members when she did that. Ms. Murray said there were certain things that she had to go to the Town's attorney for as per the Association of Towns.
- Ms. Fairbanks presented a sample of a newsletter that she designed to the Board. Ms. Fairbanks said it didn't cost her anything. Everyone said they liked it.
- Mr. Dale Pennington asked if the Town could borrow money using the money in escrow as collateral. Ms. Murray said the bank would not allow it.

Mrs. Clemens made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Elsworth seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos. One Councilman seat was vacant. The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:23pm.

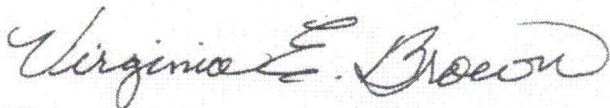
Mrs. Clemens made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Elsworth seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion passed with four yeses and no nos. One Councilman seat was vacant. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:33pm.

Ms. Murray thanked Mr. Manwarren, Ms. Fairbanks and Mr. Collier for their patience. Mrs. Clemens read Resolution 22 of 2024, Re: Appointment of Town Councilman to Fill 1 Vacancy. She so moved. Mr. Oehme seconded the Resolution. The Board was polled and the Resolution was passed with three yeses and one no. Mr. Elsworth voted no. One Councilman seat was vacant. The vacancy will be filled by Mr. David J. Collier.

The bills were reviewed and signed. Mr. Elsworth made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Oehme seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with five yeses and no nos.

Mr. Jerry Collier made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ray Elsworth seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with five yeses and no nos. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,



Virginia E. Brown
Plymouth Town Clerk
June 27, 2024