

PLYMOUTH TOWN BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 13, 2023

6:30PM

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

ABSENT: Councilman Daniel Meyer
Councilman Garry James

Supervisor Murray asked the Veterans in attendance to lead everyone in the Pledge to the Flag.

She asked the Board members if they had any issues with the minutes for the following meetings:

September 26, 2023 Budget Workshop

October 10, 2023 Town Board Meeting

October 19, 2023 Approval to Exceed the Tax Cap Meeting

October 19, 2023 Public Hearing on the proposed 2024 Budget

A motion was made to approve all of the above minutes by Mr. Williams. Mr. Cushman seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with three yeses and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent.

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

- October 25 responded to a call about a dog bite
- November 9 did the follow up for the Chenango County Health Dept.

- November 11 answered a call for a loose dog on County Rt. 21. He did not find the dog.

Ms. Murray said she had spoken with the SPCA about some changes they want to make and that she and Mr. Franklin need to meet with a representative from the SPCA.

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

- Followed up visit to Plymouth-N. Norwich Rd. Quinton Kemp. Has cleaned up but has more to do.
- Site visit to follow up on a complaint on 5921 Doing Rd. Dimitri Adamow. Spoke with him about keeping his plastic bale wrap from blowing all over the hill.
- Clean up continues on 119 County Rd. 21, Marina Webb, Marie Pittsley property.
- 103 Plymouth-N. Norwich Rd. Josh Kisner has not contacted Mr. Fox, but a wooden box has been built to put garbage in.
- Site visit to 696 County Rd. 16, John Buffa's property. Spoke with him about cleaning up again.
- Tried to make contact with Kelly Cushman at 111 County Rd. 21 about the falling down garage and the debris piled on the porch. Have not gotten a response. Will follow up.
- Working with Paul Simack about an alternative septic system for 179 Cottage Lane.

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

- Put shoulders on Reservoir Rd. and Ashcraft Rd. after they were sealed so they are good for winter. They will be stoned and oiled in the spring.
- Fixing potholes

- Had a lot of truck problems. They were down to one big truck. Hopefully, by the end of the week, they will have another truck in service with another one within the next couple of weeks.
- Hauling sand for the winter
- First batch of salt was delivered
- Asked that anyone had any used oil bring it to the Highway garage. They need as much as they can get to help offset their heating bill.
- Mr. Redenback had made a deal with the Town of Hamilton for a truck. The agreed price is \$25,000.00 and Plymouth's driveway paver for a 2015 International truck with 61,000 miles on the truck and approximately 10,000 on a new engine and less than 1,000 miles on the transmission.
- Mr. Redenback said that the Town needs to start talking about ordering a new truck. Most of the Town's trucks are way past their life expectancy.
- Went out on the night of Nov. 8th to sand
- The pickup and the CV both had new tires put on
- Traded the small 2 yard sander that was in the CV and replaced it with a 4 yard sander.

Mr. Mark Bennett asked if leasing trucks had been considered. Mr. Redenback said that a lot of dealers won't do it unless the Town buys out the truck at the end of the lease.

Mr. Jim Earing asked what happen to the wrecked truck. Mr. Redenback said the Town bought it back and the crew is trying to fix it so they can use it. It has been taken off the insurance.

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

- Received two requests for permission to proceed with the division of their property. One was from Mr. Clif Ketchum and one was from Mr. Tom Prisco. Neither need the Planning Board's approval. Both parties were advised to proceed with their requests through the County.
- Requested the Board's approval to advertise for another member of their Board. Mr. Cushman made a motion to approve the Planning Board's

request. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with three yeases and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent.

BOARD CONCERNS: Ms. Murray informed everyone that another member was needed for the Code of Ethics Board. Mr. Floyd Winton volunteered. Mr. Williams made a motion to accept Mr. Winton as a new member of the Code of Ethics Board. Mr. Cushman seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with three yeases and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent. The Code of Ethics Board now consists of Frank Williams, Denise Rothwell, and Floyd Winton. Mr. Brett Wightman asked if the Code of Ethics Board would have their own attorney or would they use the Town attorney. Ms. Murray said she would check in to it.

Ms. Murray announced some changes in the preliminary budget. The highway men's insurance will be changed over to a different company which would reduce the cost of that insurance. The preliminary budget line DA9060.8 will be decreased from \$73,000.00 to \$57,500.00. Also, line A9060.8 Hospital and Medical insurance for the Highway Superintendent will decrease from \$14,600.00 to \$11,500.00. Line A1910.4 Unallocated Insurance will increase to \$33,908.00. Mr. Williams made a motion to adopt the 2024 Budget. Mr. Cushman seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeases and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent.

Mr. Redenback reported that the electrical panel at the garage was replaced by Palmer Electric. He said that the same problems still existed. Discussion was had. Ms. Murray said she would contact them.

Ms. Murray said that she had been advised that the Town needed to have a male and a female available for an individual to report to. Ms. Murray added Mr. Redenback as an advocate along with herself. Mr. Cushman made a motion to approve of these two individuals. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeases and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent.

Mr. Williams read a resolution Authorizing Transferring of Funds from Judgment & Claims A1950.4 to Contingent A1990.4. Mr. Cushman seconded the resolution. The Board was polled and the resolution was passed with three yeases and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent.

Mr. Cushman made a motion to change insurance carriers from Excellus to the Teamster policy. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeases and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent.

Town Clerk Brown submitted a request to dispose of some obsolete office equipment. Mr. Cushman made a motion to approve the disposal of obsolete office equipment. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeases and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent.

Ms. Murray announced to everyone that on December 10, 2023, there will be a Dinner with Santa from 4:00pm to 5:30pm at the Fire Hall sponsored by the Town. She asked for a motion to be made that the cost be held down to a maximum of \$300.00. Mr. Williams made a motion to limit the cost to the Town to a maximum of \$300.00 for the Dinner with Santa event. Mr. Cushman seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeases and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent. Several individuals made personal donations for the Dinner. Mr. Franklin said that since it is a Town event, it should be covered by the Town insurance. He advised Ms. Murray to contact the Town's insurance company and request a policy to cover the event. Ms. Murray said she would take care of it. Mrs. Winton asked if there was a budget line for this expense. Ms. Murray said yes.

Ms. Murray drew attention to some information she had about weatherization for homes. She said she would post it in the entrance to the Town Clerk's office.

Ms. Murray spoke about the problem people had with paying Councilman Garry James when he had not attended a Board meeting in several months. She consulted with the Town attorney who said the Town would have to pay Mr. James his full pay. Any individual could take the issue to court, however, they would

have to cover all expenses. Mr. Wightman said that was not correct. He said that any Town resident could file to have an elected official removed from office through the Supreme Court. A letter would have to be issued to the individual eight days before the final application is submitted to the Supreme Court. He said that doesn't cost anything. Ms. Murray read the full letter from the Town attorney. Mr. Wightman said there were other violations he felt were at question beside the absence from meetings. Discussion followed.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: Mr. Brett Wightman questioned Ms. Murray about a phone conversation he said she had had with Mr. Oakley. Discussion followed, but no conclusion was reached.

Mrs. Bernadette Jackson asked how Mr. Meyer was doing because he is also a member of the Board. Ms. Murray said she had spoken to him recently and he seemed good.

Mr. Tom Prisco asked if a new trailer would increase the value of a property and therefore make the taxes go up. Ms. Murray suggested asking the assessor. She said she would ask him to come in for a meeting one night.

Mr. Kreiner asked what Ms. Murray had heard from the Comptroller's office. She said, nothing yet.

Mr. Franklin said he had a State inspection coming up.

Mr. Winton congratulated those who won their election this year.

Mrs. Brown introduced her new Deputy Clerk, Mrs. Jane Pierno. She will start in December.

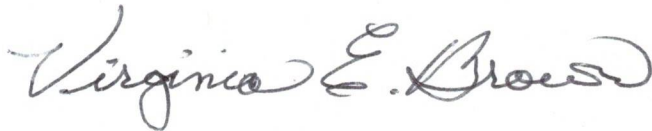
Mr. Mark Bennett said that when money was available, something should be done about the parking lot lights. He uses lights in his garage that are small but light a large area very well. He said the manufacturer was Hyber Light. Ms. Murray asked him to send her a picture of them and she would look into it. He said the lights would save money by using a dusk to dawn mechanism.

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 three yeses and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent.

Mr. Cushman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeses and no nos. Councilman Meyer and James were absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

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

Virginia E. Brown
Plymouth Town Clerk
November 21, 2023