

PLYMOUTH TOWN BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET

OCTOBER 19, 2023

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

ABSENT: Councilman Daniel Meyer
Councilman Garry James

Ms. Murray called the meeting to order.

Councilman Shawn Cushman read the Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2023 to Override the Tax Levy Limit for the Fiscal Year 2024 establish in General Municipal Law 3-C. Mr. Cushman made a motion to adopt this law. Mr. Frank Williams seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with three yeses and no nos. Mr. Meyer and Mr. James were absent.

Mr. Jerry Kreiner referred to page 17 of the Budget. He asked if the Social Security line had been budgeted way over last year. Ms. Murray said yes.

He also referenced page 2. He asked if the majority of the General Fund Estimated Revenues were from Sales Tax. The majority of the Highway Fund Estimated Revenues were from Sales Tax and estimated CHIPS Fund. Mr. Redenback said yes.

Ms. Murray said she would like to discuss the Highway Insurance. She said that the Teamsters Union Rep. is willing to come talk to Mr. Redenback about insurance they could provide. She said she thought it would be a considerable savings.

She said Worker's Comp. is taken out of our sales tax by the County.

Discussion was had about the misleading titles of some budget lines. That was due to a "one size fits all" budget form that everyone in the State uses. Titles can be changed.

It was asked how many people the budget line for payroll was based on for the Highway crew. At the time, there are four full time people and one part time person. The one opening has not been filled yet.

Ms. Murray went through each line. Mr. Wightman asked why the Board members salary couldn't be reduced to what it was before their last raise. Ms. Murray said it had been voted on. She would write it down as a consideration. Mr. Wightman questioned the Contractual Line. Ms. Murray said that could cover training, mileage, books, etc.

Mr. Wightman questioned the lines for the bookkeeper. Ms. Murray said she would take is under advisement.

Ms. Murray said she was looking for a way to reduce the cost of the attorney. Mr. Wightman suggested using the Association of Towns and the Town Law Manual. There was some discussion about medical insurance for the Highway Superintendent. Ms. Murray is still going to check on the cost of this insurance if the Town changed coverage to the Teamster's Union insurance.

The Highway payroll line went up.

The fuel line went up to \$120,000.00 due to anticipated cost increase.

Machinery line went up to \$200,000.00.

Snow removal lines increased also.

Social Security increased a little.

The Town has two bonds left. There is one more payment on the skid steer and two more payments on the excavator.

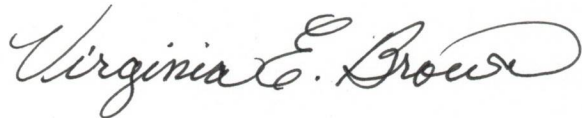
Sales tax are anticipated to increase. CHIPS money is also expected to increase.

Ms. Jackie Kreiner gave a brief overview of the Fire Department's Budget. Mr. Cushman objected to the cost of fire coverage by the Preston Fire Department, who cover a small portion of the Town of Plymouth. Ms. Kreiner suggested that next year that should be brought up in a Fire Commissioner's meeting.

Ms. Murray said that the General Fund tax will go up by 35% and the Highway Fund will go up by 55%. This would be \$318.00 per \$50,000.00 per assessed value. The County taxes will also go up.

Mr. Cushman made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with three yeses and no nos. Mr. Meyer and Mr. James were absent. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "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

November 6, 2023