

PLYMOUTH TOWN BOARD
BUDGET WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 3, 2024
6:00PM

PRESENT: Supervisor Patricia Murray
Councilperson Kathryn Clemens
Councilperson Ray Elsworth
Councilperson Robert Oehme
One Councilperson's Seat was Vacant
Highway Superintendent Louis Redenback

Supervisor Murray led in the Pledge to the Flag.

She gave the Town Clerk a copy of the Local Law No. 1 of the year 2024 to Override the Tax Limit for the fiscal year 2025, and Resolution #31 of 2024 scheduling the Public Hearing for Overriding the Tax Cap on October 24, 2024 at 6:00pm.

Ms. Murray pointed out that the date for the regular December meeting was incorrect in the newspaper. She asked the Town Clerk to correct it. Also, the regular Board Meeting minutes for May were not on the website. The Town Clerk will correct that. And the Public Hearing to Override the Tax Cap and the Public Hearing to adopt the proposed 2025 Budget will be posted in the newspaper, on the website and on the bulletin board by the Town Clerk. October 24, 2024 at

6:00pm will be the Public Hearing to Override the Tax Cap and at 6:31pm to have the Public Hearing to Adopt the Budget for 2025. The Public will be able to speak.

Ms. Murray asked everyone to look under the Impact on Tax Rate per \$1000.00 at the bottom of the sheet she had provided. She explained the changes in the rate per thousand were due to changes in the proposed Budget. She said she still did not know what the County is going to do. It might not be until November when she finds out.

She reviewed the tentative budget.

Ms. Clemens made a motion to move Buildings Personal Services Line A1620.1 to Buildings Contractual A1620.4 (this was a correction). Mr. Oehme seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos. One Councilperson's seat was vacant.

Mr. Brian Franklin expressed his concern about the \$400.00 amount in Line A3510.4 Control of Dogs Contractual Expense. He wanted to be sure there would be enough money there if the Town found themselves responsible for a sick or injured dog. Mr. Oehme made a motion to increase that line to \$1,400.00. Mrs. Clemens seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos. One Councilperson's seat was vacant.

Ms. Murray turned the discussion to Cemeteries. Ms. Murray said everyone on the Board thought it would only be fair to give each cemetery financial help. Mr. Oehme did some research. He found that the Town does become responsible for cemeteries that no one is caring for. There are funds the Town could get from the State if there was an issue about vandalism. Cemeteries that have Boards should be depositing 10% of the sale of a plot and 25% of the burial should go into a trust fund. The interest from that trust fund can be used for maintenance of the cemetery. There were still questions about private cemeteries. Ms. Murray said she thought the budget line for cemeteries should be left at \$200.00 for now if that was alright with the rest of the Board. More research needs to be done. The Board agreed.

Mrs. Clemens made a motion to accept the Preliminary Budget with the \$1,000.00 change for Dog Control Contractual and with the movement of the Buildings Personal Services to Buildings Contractual correction. Mr. Redenback asked if there was a line for a Highway Deputy Superintendent. Ms. Murray said there was not and at the present time there was not enough room in the budget to add one. She said that could be discussed next year. Mr. Elsworth seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion passed with four yeses and no nos. One Councilperson's seat was vacant.

Mrs. Clemens made a motion to adjourn the Budget meeting. Mr. Oehme seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion

was carried with four yeses and no nos. One Councilperson's seat was vacant. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54pm.

Another meeting followed.

Mr. Elsworth asked when he could close Foster Park for the winter. He suggested October 12, 2024 for the closing date. The board agreed. Mr. Redenback offered his help if needed.

Mrs. Gladys Branagan asked if the old part of Rt. 16 in front of the cemetery was maintained by the Town. Mr. Redenback said no. She said the Cemetery Association would like to move their building down to that spot thereby giving them more room for burials. Mr. Redenback said it would be alright.

Mr. Redenback brought up an issue he had involving Deming Road. Ms. Murray said she had received a complaint from someone about people being on Deming Road hanging out near his property. He asked for a load of gravel and a gate to keep people out. That was done but not by the Town. She has now received more complaints from other people that they can not travel the road to get to their properties. The original person that complained wanted the road to be abandoned by the Town. Ms. Murray is going to research it. Mr. Redenback said the first decision had to be made by the Highway Superintendent. Then if he wanted to abandon the road, he would take the action to the Board for approval.

Mr. Redenback also mentioned a property on Pigeon Hill Road. The owner wanted the Town to build a driveway onto his property since the Town had paved the road causing a sharp rise at the shoulder. Mr. Redenback said the shoulders were scheduled to be fixed the following week. However, it is not the Town's responsibility to go further off the road for anymore work.

Mrs. Clemens reminded Mr. Redenback and Mrs. Brown about getting copies of the past energy bills for the garage to her so she can submit them towards the grant that she is working on.

Mrs. Clemens made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Oehme seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with four yeses and no nos. One Councilperson's seat was vacant. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

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.

Virginia E. Brown
Plymouth Town Clerk
October 12, 2024