

PLYMOUTH TOWN BOARD MEETING

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

6:30PM

PRESENT: Supervisor Patricia Murray
Councilperson Kathryn Clemens
Councilperson Ray Elsworth
Councilperson Robert Oehme
One Council Seat was vacant

Supervisor Patricia Murray brought the meeting to order. She led in the Pledge to the Flag. She asked for a moment of silence in honor of Councilperson David Collier. She expressed condolences and appreciation for the service that Councilperson Collier had performed for the Town, to the Collier family.

Ms. Murray asked if the Board had any questions regarding the June 27th minutes. Mrs. Clemens wanted to have a conversation between Ms. Murray and Mr. Tim Manwarren added to the minutes. Mrs. Brown discovered that she had checked the wrong minutes. So she said she would check the June 27th minutes. Therefore, Ms. Murray said the Board would not accept those minutes at that time.

Ms. Murray then asked if anyone had any questions for the July 29th minutes. Mrs. Clemens made a motion to accept these minutes. 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.

Ms. Murray asked about the minutes for August 12, 2024. Mrs. Clemens said she believed some additions should be made. Page four had a blank space which Mrs. Brown said she would ask Mr. Redenback about. The Board did not approve these minutes.

Mrs. Clemens read Resolution 30 Of 2024. 2024 Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) – Authorize Town Justice to Apply for Grant With The New York State Unified Court System. Mrs. Clemens said she would like to so move. Mr. Elsworth asked if this would cost the Town anything. Judge Fox said no. Mrs. Clemens asked the Judge if he would be coming back with a list of projects that he would be doing. He said yes. Mr. Elsworth seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the resolution was adopted with four yeses and no nos. One Councilperson's seat was vacant. Judge Fox said he wanted it on the record that this grant money did not require three bids on a project. Only one quote is required.

Mrs. Clemens made a motion to divide the Record Room giving the Town Clerk one third of the room that would be caged off. Discussion followed. Mrs. Brown said the only way she would agree to this motion would be if it was written in the motion that the Town Clerk would not be responsible for any records other than the Town Clerk records and the Historical records. Mr. Oehme seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion (with the additional wording) was passed with three yeses and one no. Mr. Elsworth voted no. One Councilperson's seat was vacant.

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

- dog at large on Rt. 16. Taken to the SPCA. Dog was chipped, but the SPCA couldn't contact the owner, so the dog was put up for adoption.
- Visited a residence on Clymer Court. They had four dogs that had been down on the neighbor's. None of the dogs were licensed so they were given 30 days to get their dogs licensed.

Mr. Franklin and Ms. Murray discussed the current situation at the SPCA. Ms. Murray said if she heard anything from them regarding a contract for the new year, she would contact him.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Steve Fox gave the following report:

- Site visit at 830 German Hollow Rd. There was clutter, piles of lumber, a couple of unregistered vehicles and some race car frames. He said he would keep an eye on it but right now there was really no pressing issues there.
- Spent a couple of hours with Wayne Case on Reservoir Hill Road. He wanted a perk test and discussed the layout of his new septic system
- No further progress on the Donnelly residence on German Hollow Road.
- Site visit to 102 Henry Lane. Got rid of some junk, cleaned off the porch but there is still a lot of work there to do.

- No court date for Josh Kisner on the Plymouth North Norwich Road. Someone had set the pile of garbage on fire. Now it looks worse.

There was no Highway Report given.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT: Mrs. Brown read the report in the absence of Mr. Manwarren.

- No quorum for the September meeting.
- Received two more comprehensive plans and their questions they included in their survey.
- Now have put together 35 questions for the Town of Plymouth. Each Board member has a list to review. The Board will then discuss and amend to best fit our Town. Things are progressing even without an official meeting.
- Received no new correspondence or request from any resident.
- Next meeting October 7, 2024 at 6:00pm.

YOUTH BUREAU COMMITTEE: Mrs. Shelly Ciborowski reported on the following:

- Asked the Town Board for approval for funding a trip to Wolf Mountain. The trip would be on October 13, 2024 between 11am and 4pm. There is a limit of 50 people. Tickets are \$18.00 per person 6 and older and includes a coupon for a hotdog, chips, and a drink. 5 & under is \$8.00. Would like to charge adults (18 and older) \$5.00 per ticket and all Youth Free. Flyers will be posted and signup sheets for people to drop or mail to the Town Hall by

September 30th. Mrs. Ciborowski will meet in person to hand tickets out as a will call October 9th.

- Plans in the Works:

- October 26th – Trunk or Treat at the Firehouse

- Several volunteers lined up

- Looking for pumpkin donations

- Estimating budget amount of roughly \$300.00

- Breakfast with Santa December 7th 8-10

Mrs. Ciborowski asked if she needed Board approval for all events they might plan. The answer was, “you should.” Mrs. Ciborowski asked, “I should or I have to.” Ms. Murray said “I would.” Ms. Murray asked if background checks had been done on all the volunteers for the Trunk or Treat. Mrs. Ciborowski said no. She said it was discussed and she thought the Volunteer Policy had not been passed. Ms. Murray said it was and gave Mrs. Ciborowski a copy. A discussion followed. Mrs. Ciborowski said she wasn’t sure she wanted to continue with the Youth Committee if all volunteers for any event had to have a back ground checks. She said she may cancel the Trunk or Treat event. She said there were no other background checks in Chenango County. Mrs. Clemens said all sport events did require background checks. Mr. Elsworth said the background checks could lead to a lot of people since the same people would not always be available for all the events. He asked how much that would cost. Ms. Murray said the Town is charged \$15.95 per person. Mrs. Clemens is going to research the issue. She

said she would call different municipalities like Cortland to see what they do. She said she would let Mrs. Ciborowski know what their final decision was within a week. Mr. Oehme said he thought the Board was “choking them” by being so strict. He also asked Mrs. Clemens to ask the schools how they handle it.

Ms. Murray said the NYSEG light at Foster Park has been repaired. The Plymouth Fire Department did a Touch a Truck event. She reported that approximately 30 children attended. Nice job.

She has been working with the Town Attorney on personnel issues. She has been working on the Budget with April, Cathy and Shelly the County Treasurer’s Deputy. They are waiting on figures to come off the budget lines. There will be the \$288,000+ that will come off the tax levy. There will be a budget workshop on September 19, 2024 and one on September 26, 2024 at 6:00pm.

Ms. Murray said that some type of a Town Hall maintenance person was needed. She asked for some suggestions.

Mrs. Clemens said that Mr. Collier and she had been working on an energy grant that will benefit the Highway garage. She read a statement from Mr. Collier that said the Town of Plymouth had qualified for a \$15,000.00 grant through NYSERTA for energy efficient projects. More funding is available. A complete inventory of the Highway has been done. If submissions are done within the required time frame, the Town can qualify for an additional \$50,000.00. After October, this award will decrease down to \$40,000.00. Mrs. Clemens said she was waiting for approval on the submission. As soon as the Town gets approval, within three weeks, an energy audit will be done of the

Highway garage. Then he will be able to apply for additional money from the State. It must be done before the end of the year so the Governor does not allocate the money somewhere else. Also, the Town is considering signing up with a provider to receive an additional 10% discount on the energy bills.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: Ms. Jackie Kreiner said that her church requires background checks for paid positions for Sunday school workers. She thought this might help people understand the issue.

Mrs. Patty Collier said her husband was very honored to have been able to serve on the Town Board. She said that while going through his papers, she found something that he had written about the FOIL request issue that has been going on. She said she was going to read part of it as she did not have time to read it all. She requested that it be added to the minutes. Ms. Murray said she would contact the attorney to see if that should be done. Mr. Oehme asked Mrs. Collier if it would be alright with her if a copy of the paperwork she submitted be given to the Board for now. She said yes. She wanted the Board to see what Mr. Collier had to say.

Mrs. Morrell wanted to inform everyone about an invasive plant that is beginning to grow in the Town. It is called Japanese Knot Weed. It grows at the rate of 3 feet per week. She submitted an article to the Board about it.

Mrs. Clemens let everyone know that she had made up a "work order" to be filled out when any work needed to be done at the Town Hall or at Foster Park. She gave a copy to Mrs. Brown.

She also announced that there would be a Meet the Candidates Night on October 2, 2024 at 6:00pm at the Firehouse Hall for local Town officials.

Mrs. Clemens made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Oehme seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeases and no nos. Councilperson Elsworth was absent. One Councilperson's seat was vacant. The Board went into Executive Session at 7:47pm.

Mrs. Clemens made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Oehme seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed with three yeases and no nos. Councilperson Elsworth was absent. One Councilperson's seat was vacant. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:00pm.

The bills were reviewed and signed. Mrs. Clemens made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Oehme seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeases and no nos. Councilperson Elsworth was absent. One Councilperson's seat was vacant.

Expenditures: Highway \$102,417.95
 General \$5,139.03

Mr. Oehme made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Clemens seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was carried with three yeases and no nos. Councilperson Elsworth was absent. One Councilperson's seat was vacant. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

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

Virginia E. Brown
Plymouth Town Clerk
September 17, 20240