

### **ANNUAL REPORT**

Of the Town Officers and Committees

For the Year Ending December 31, 2015

### TOWN OF PLYMPTON INCORPORATED JUNE 4, 1707

### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The 2016 Annual Town Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 18, 2016
At 7:00 PM at the Dennett Elementary School
(The Wednesday preceding the Town Election)

### **SPECIAL TOWN MEETINGS**

At the call of the Board of Selectmen or on the petition of at least 200 registered voters

### **TOWN ELECTION**

May 21, 2016 at the Town House
(Third Saturday of the month)
Polls will be open for the 2016 Election of Officers from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

### **2000 FEDERAL CENSUS**

2,637

### **2015 CENSUS**

2,809

### **REGISTERED VOTERS**

2,115

### NINTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

William R. Keating

### **US SENATORS**

Edward J. Markey Elizabeth Warren

### SECOND PLYMOUTH & BRISTOL DISTRICT

Thomas P. Kennedy Michael Brady, Elected October 3, 2015 to replace the late Thomas P. Kennedy

### TWELFTH PLYMOUTH DISTRICT

Thomas J. Calter

Please visit the Town of Plympton website: <a href="www.town.plympton.ma.us">www.town.plympton.ma.us</a> for the most up to date posted Agendas/Minutes based on MGL 30A, Sec 18-25

Look for: Agendas/Minutes on the home page to the left for navigation

All meetings are open to the public and held in the Town House unless indicated otherwise. Meetings times and dates may change if a holiday occurs or is otherwise posted. See Agendas in Town Clerk's office or outside Town House in white mail box to right of entrance door to confirm meeting time and place.

BOARDS/COMMITTEES	DAY	TIME
Agricultural Committee	Second Monday	7:00 pm
Board of Appeals	as posted	
Board of Assessors	as posted	
Board of Health	First and Third Tuesday	5:00 pm
Board of Selectmen	Monday	6:00 pm
Building Inspector	Monday	6:00 pm
Community Preservation Committee	Fourth Tuesday	7:00 pm
Conservation Committee	First and Third Tuesday	7:30 pm
Council on Aging	Second Thursday	9:00 am
Cultural Council	as posted	
Finance Committee	as posted	
Historical Commission	as posted	
Historic District Committee	as posted	
Library Trustees	as posted	
Old Home Day Committee	as posted	
Open Space Committee	Third Wednesday	7:30 pm
Planning Board	Second and Fourth Monday	7:30 pm
Recreation Committee	as posted	
School Committee - Dennett	Fourth Monday	4:30 pm
School Committee - Silver Lake	Second Thursday	7:00 pm
Solar Bylaw Review Committee	as posted	
Veteran's Agent	by appointment	
Wage and Personnel Committee	as posted	
Website Committee	as posted	
Wiring Inspector	Monday	6:00 pm

### **In Memoriam**

### Helen (Honey) Elisabeth Parker Mugnier Patterson

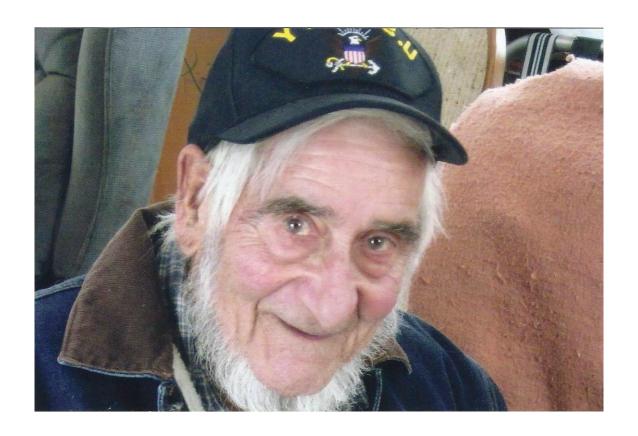


May 21, 1933 – January 26, 2015

Plympton Garden Club Plympton Historical Society Lifelong Plympton Visitor Resident since 2005

### In Memoriam

### WILLIAM "BILLY" BENEVIDES



May 25, 1922 – April 17, 2015 Lifelong resident of Plympton

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Commission/Board	First Name	N to a	<b>₫</b>	Tvoireficon Date
Assessor's Office	Ethan	Stiles	Assessor	5/20/2017
	Jocelyn	Anderson	Assessor	5/18/2018
	Steve	Lewis	Assessor	5/21/2016
Board of Health	Harry	Weikel	Board Member	5/18/2018
	Kenneth	Thompson	Board Member	5/20/2017
	Morin	Arthur	Board Member/Chair	5/18/2016
Constable	David	Batchelder	Elections Constable	5/20/2017
	David	Smith	Elections Constable	5/20/2017
Finance Committee	Lisa	Hart	Committee Member	5/20/2017
	Marilyn	Browne	Committee Member	5/18/2016
	Susan	Ossoff	Chairperson	5/18/2016
Highway Surveyor	James	Mulcahy	Highway Surveyor	5/19/2018
Library Trustee	Christine	Winslow	Board Member	5/18/2016
	Miranda	Boyles	Board Member	5/18/2016
Library Trustees	Dominique	Sampson	Board Member	5/19/2018
	Kristine	Boyles	Board Member	5/19/2018
	Patricia	Detterman	Chairperson	5/20/2017
	Thomas	Cosato	Board Member	5/20/2017
Moderator	John	Traynor	Town Moderator	5/18/2016
Planning Board	Irving	Butler	Chairperson	5/18/2017
	John	Rantuccio	Board Member	5/20/2019
	Paul	D'Angelo	Board Member	5/16/2020
	William	McClellan	Board Member	5/22/2018

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Commission/Board	First Name	Last Name	Title	Expiration Date
School Committee	Jason	Fraser	Committee Member	5/20/2017
	Jon	Wilhelmsen	Committee Member	5/20/2014
	Lynn	Kaupp	Committee Member	5/19/2018
	Michael	Antoine	Committee Member	5/19/2018
	Stephanie	Domey	Committee Member	5/18/2016
	;		-	
Selectman	Christine	Joy	Clerk	5/19/2018
	Colleen	Thompson	Board Member	5/20/2017
	Mark	Russo	Chairperson	5/18/2016
Silver Lake Reg School Committee	Jason	Fraser	Committee Member	5/20/2017
	Maureen	Springer	Committee Member	5/19/2018
Town Clerk	Tara	Shaw	Town Clerk	5/19/2018
Tree Warden/Insect Control	William	Haves	Tree Warden	5/19/2018

Commission/Board	First Name	Last Name	Title	Expiration Date
Agricultural Commission	Jeffrey	LaFleur	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Kimberly	Russo	Committee Member	6/30/2017
	Linda	Schauwecker	Committee Member	6/30/2017
	Richard	Harflinger	Committee Member	6/30/2017
	Russell	Kierstead	Committee Member	6/30/2017
	Rick	Burnet	Committee Member	6/30/2017
	:	ı		
Area 58 Comm Access TV, Inc	Karen	Foye	Board Member	8/24/2018
	Mark	Russo	Board Member	8/24/2017
Board of Health	Cathleen	Drinan	Board of Health Officer/Health Agent	6/30/2016
Board of Registrar	Ami	Dion	Board Member	4/30/2015
	Janet	Sides	Board Member	6/30/2016
	Shirley	Martin	Board Member	6/30/2017
Building Department	Douglas	Hawthorne	Plumbing &Gas Insp.	6/30/2016
	Edward	Sealey	Plumbing &Gas InspAlternate	6/30/2016
	Robert	Karling	Zoning Enforcement Officer	6/30/2016
		Piccirilli	Local Building Inspector	6/30/2016
	Thomas	Millias	Building Inspector	6/30/2016
	00000	M. 100 by	D	8/20/2045
Burial Agent	James	Ividicariy	Durial Agent	0/20/2013
CERT Coordinator	David	Smith	Cert Coordinator	6/30/2016
Civil Defense	James	Mulcahy	Civil Defense Member	6/30/2017
Community Preservation Committee	David	Chandler	Translirar	6/30/2018
	Deborah	Anderson	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Irving	Butler	CPC Liason to Planning Board	6/30/2018
	Jane	Schulze	CPC Liason to Historical Society	6/30/2018
	Judy	Dudley	Board Member	6/30/2017
	Mark	Russo	Chairperson	6/30/2017
	Richard	Burnet	CPC Liason to Con Com	6/30/2017
	Susan	Ossoff	CPC Liason to Highway Dept	6/30/2016
Conservation Commission	Ami	Dion	Board Member	6/30/2018

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Commission/Board	First Name	Last Name	Title	Expiration Date
Conservation Commission	Jeffrey	Smith	Chairperson	6/30/2016
	John	Mathias	Board Member	6/30/2017
	Linda	Leddy	Board Member	6/30/2018
	Richard	Burnet]	Board Member	6/30/2017
	Timothy	Dempsey	Board Member	6/30/2017
Council On Aging	Barbara	Allsopp	Board Member	6/30/2016
	Barbara	Knox	Board Member	6/30/2018
	Christine	Maiorano	Director	6/30/2017
	Dorothy	Cushman	Board Member	6/30/2018
	Evelyn	Hannigan	Board Member	6/30/2017
	Jean	Langley	Board Member	6/30/2016
	Mary	Walker	Board Member	6/30/2016
	Patricia	Mustacaros	Board Member	6/30/2017
	Shirley	Martin	Board Member	6/30/2018
Cultural Council	Lisa	Rielly	Committee Member	11/12/2018
	Susan	Healey	Board Member	11/12/2018
Emergency Management	Patrick	Dillon	Assistant Director	6/30/2016
	Warren	Borsari	Director	6/30/2016
Finance Committee	Jean	Cohen	Committee Member	5/21/2016
	Nathaniel	Sides	Committee Member	5/21/2016
Historic District Commission	Carol	Quindley	Board Member	6/30/2018
	Charles	Nickerson	Board Member	6/30/2018
	Jonathan	Shaw	Chairperson	6/30/2016
	Marylouise	Sayles	Alternate Board Member	6/30/2016
	Richard	Stover	Board Member	6/30/2016
	Stuart	Chase	Board Member	6/30/2018
Historical Commission	Jane	Schulze	Board Member	6/30/2018
	Jill	Palenstijn	Clerk	6/30/2016
	Jon	Wilhelmsen	Board Member	6/30/2017
Jason Park Study and Development	Gregory	Fairbanks	Committee Member	6/30/2018
	James	Mulcahy	Committee Member	6/30/2018
	Jaqueline	Freitas	Committee Member	6/30/2016

Commission/Board	First Name	Last Name	Title	Expiration Date
Jason Park Study and Development	Pamela	Modricker	Committee Member	6/30/2018
	Robert	Doucette	Committee Member	6/30/2017
	Timothy	Snow	Committee Member	6/30/2017
Keeper of Dams	James	Mulcahy	Keeper of Dams	6/30/2016
Memorial Day Commemoration Comm	Christopher	Rankin	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Kim	Adams	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Patricia	Detterman	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Peter	Kupic	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Roxanne	Whitbeck	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Steve	Lyons	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Tim	Snow	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Steven	Lewis	Committee Member	6/30/2016
Old Colony Elder Services	Patricia	Mustacaros	Representative	6/30/2016
Open Space Committee	Alan	Wheelock	Committee Member	6/30/2018
	Charles	Quinn	Committee Member	6/30/2018
	Frank	Perfetuo	Committee Member	6/30/2018
	Jane	Schulze	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Linda	Leddy	Co-Chairperson	6/30/2017
	Theodore	Taranto	Clerk	6/30/2018
	Vicki	Maloney	Co-Chairperson	6/30/2018
Recreation Commission	Andy	Karparis	Committee Member	6/30/2015
	Ann	White	Committee Member	6/30/2018
	Christopher	Rankin	Committee Member	6/30/2018
	Dean	Sylvester	Committee Member	6/30/2018
	Justin	Keene	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Kevin	Kaupp	Committee Member	6/30/2016
	Steve	Beckwith	Committee Member	6/30/2015
Selectmen's Office	Dale	Pleau	Procurement Officer	6/30/2017
Town Clerk's Office	Patricia	Detterman	Town Clerk Assistant	6/30/2016
Veteran's Services	Roxanne	Whitbeck	Veteran's Services Director/Veteran's Burial Director	6/30/2016

Commission/Board	First Name	Last Name	Title	Expiration Date
Wage & Personnel Board	Alan	Wheelock	Board Member	6/30/2018
	David	Chandler	Board Member	6/30/2017
Wiring Inspector	Robert	Karling	Wiring Inspector	6/30/2016
Zoning Board of Appeals	Arthur	Morin	Board Member	6/30/2018
	David	Alberti	Chairperson	6/30/2016
	John	O'Leary	Alternate Board Member (1)	6/30/2016
	Kenneth	Thompson	Board Member	6/30/2018

### **REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK 2015**

The Town Clerk's Office is the primary provider of information and quality services to the residents of Plympton. We work cooperatively and in coordination with Town Officials, Committee Members, the citizens who volunteer their time to better our community, as well as with State Officials and Departments. By state mandate, the Town Clerk's Office is responsible for recording and maintaining records including but not limited to:

- Vital Records Registrations and certified copies of Births, Deaths, Marriages
- Town Meeting Attendance records, minutes and reporting to state
- Elections Monitoring of timelines, recording of results
- Zoning Board of Appeals Application acceptance, Hearing Postings and Decisions
- Bylaw revisions and submissions to the Attorney General
- Business Certificates and Raffle Permits Issuance and maintenance of database
- Ethics Disseminating ethics laws, administering of oaths, and recording and management of compliance database and quiz

This year, similar to last, we received many Freedom of Information Act requests and review of documentation. These requests made to the Town Clerk's office and to those made of volunteer boards kept the Town Clerk's office very busy in addition to our normal responsibilities. We assist with document research, retrieval, coordination and availability for office review time, as well as creating pro-forma invoices and copying of documentation. One request alone in the year 2015 required over 50 hours of time to produce the documents requested.

Elections require months of preparation beginning with determining which open seats and their terms are available and preparing the nomination papers for those candidates, certifying signatures, registering voters, set up of polling locations, organizing poll workers and police details, layout of the ballots for local elections and inspection of state ballots, and ending with the final tally of results that is recorded and reported to the State Elections Division.

We had a busy election year having to manage 4 elections in the 2015 calendar year with an unexpected Special Election taking place in October to replace Senator Thomas Kennedy who passed away.

We are preparing for early voting to take place for the first time at the end of October leading up to the Presidential Election in November. The early voting law passed in May of 2015 by Governor Deval Patrick, allowing for early voting in biennial statewide elections, starting 11 business days before an election and ending two business days before Election Day. The law also established an online voter registration, and a tool

developed by the Secretary of State's office that lets voters check their registration status and their polling location online. The law allows 16 and 17-year-olds to preregister to vote, although they will not be allowed to cast a ballot until they turn 18. Although it is similar to absentee casting of ballots, residents will not need to certify that they will be out of town on Election Day; they are incapacitated; or their religious beliefs are prohibiting them to vote on a particular election day. There will be a greater amount of paperwork to satisfy the state mandates that go along with early voting and it will also require an additional election worker to be set up for those days to help with check in during our normal business hours.

We look forward to another productive year in 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara J. Shaw Town Clerk

### PLYMPTON ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES May 13, 2015

### Dennett Elementary School, Plympton, MA Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM

Moderator John A. Traynor, Jr. declared there being a quorum present (35) and preparation and posting of the warrant and the procedure was accomplished in accordance with the law and, therefore, the Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., at the Dennett Elementary School. Mr. Traynor welcomed everyone to the 308th Annual Town Meeting and asked everyone to rise and observe a moment of silence for any and all of our Plympton neighbors who have passed away since our last meeting, particularly those who in the past were active in town affairs: Anne Collins, Joseph Freitas, Elaine McKeown, and Lorraine Plumb, the holder of the prestigious Boston Post Cane. We were asked to keep in our thoughts our men and women serving in uniform who are stationed around the world, and especially those serving in Afghanistan and the Middle East. He led us in to the introduction of Plympton Boy Scout Troop 53 to the Pledge to Allegiance to the American Flag. He thanked CASA for hosting the refreshments at our break for the Special Town Meeting. Mr. Traynor stated we will begin the Annual Town Meeting which addresses Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) then at 8:00 pm we will recess the Annual Town Meeting to begin a Special Town Meeting to address funding issues in this year's fiscal spending which ends June 30, 2015.

Mr.Traynor introduced the Board of Selectmen, Chairman Mark Russo, Selectmen's Clerk Colleen Thompson, and Selectman John Henry. Town Council Ilana Quirk and Town Clerk Tara J. Morrison, the Finance Committee Mark Gabriel, Marilyn Browne, Lisa Hart, and Chairperson Susan Ossoff. Also introduced were Tellers Patricia Detterman and Jean Reynolds.

Peace Officer present was John Simon.

There were 111 registered voters present and 19 non-registered Plympton citizens present.

**VOTE**: (On the motion of Mark Russo) The Town vote to allow the following non-residents to participate in the meeting. Town Coordinator: Dale Pleau, Town Council: Ilana Quirk, Town Accountant: Barbara Gomez, Town Assessor: Deborah Stuart, Police Chief: Patrick Dillon, Veteran Agent: Roxanne Whitbeck, Principal Dennett School Peter Veneto, Jr., Superintendent Silver Lake Regional School John Tuffy, and Asst. Superintendent Silver Lake Regional School Joy Blackwood. **UNANIMOUS** 

Mr. Traynor reviewed the Procedural Rules as set forth by the Laws of the Commonwealth as well as the Plympton Town Bylaws, and referenced the book "Town Meeting Time" rules used as guidance.

Selectmen Chariperson Mark Russo presented Selectmen Mr. John Henry with a gift and thanks for his years of service to the Town of Plympton.

**VOTE**: (On the motion of Mark Russo) The Town vote to waive the reading of the warrant wherever legal and appropriate in favor of a brief Moderator's summary. **UNANIMOUS** 

Susan Ossoff, Chairman of the Finance Committee, addressed the assembly and explained the summarized the Handoout FY2015 Budget Information.

**ARTICLE 1** To hear reports of the town officers and act thereon and to receive and act upon reports of any committees and give authority or instructions, or take any action relative thereto

<u>ARTICLE 1</u> **VOTE:** (On the motion of Selectman Mark Russo, Selectman, 140 Palmer Road, )

To hear reports of the town officers and act thereon and to receive and act upon reports of any committees and give authority or instructions, or take any action relative thereto

### **PASS Unanimous**

**ARTICLE 2** To see if the Town of Plympton will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to enter into Compensating Balance agreements for FY 2016 as permitted by and in accordance with M.G.L. c.44 §53F, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Treasurer: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 2 VOTE (On the motion of Colleen Morin, Treasurer/Collector, 11 Granville Baker Way) I move that the town vote to accept the Article as printed in the warrant. PASS Unanimous

ARTICLE 3 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Wage & Personnel Classification Plan effective July 1, 2015 and to pay as wages the following sums, or take any other action relative thereto.

Wage & Personnel Board: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 3 VOTE (On the motion of David Chandler Wage & Personnel Chairperson, 94 Mayflower Rd to approve all read with the exception of those put on hold recommending a 2%increase) To see if the Town will vote to amend the Wage & Personnel Classification Plan effective July 1, 2015 and to pay as wages the following sums:

### **PASS Unanimous**

### WAGE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FISCAL 2016 2% Merit Increase

	2015	2016
A. Firefighters (Part-time)		
Deputy Chief	25.01	25.51
Captain	23.32	23.79
Lieutenant	22.16	22.60
Firefighter	21.03	21.45
Certified EMT	21.03	21.45

EMT Standby at \$8.32/per hour (calls within that same shift shall be paid at the EMT Rate of pay per hour)

EMT Paramedic Standby at \$10.40/hour		
Full Time FF/Paramedic	23.54 - 26.48	24.01 - 27.01
Full Time Lieutenant		
FF/Paramedic	24.50 - 27.44	24.99 - 27.99
B. Highway Labor		
Working Foreman	19.19 - 21.47	19.57 - 21.90
Truck Driver/Laborer	18.33 - 19.57	18.70 - 19.96
Laborer	14.95 - 15.99	15.25 - 16.31
C. Town Labor		
Laborer	14.95 - 15.68	15.25 - 15.99
Town Custodian	14.95 - 15.00	15.25 - 16.31
Sr. Disposal Attendant	17.27 - 18.05	17.62 - 18.41
Disposal Attendant	15.39 - 16.14	15.70 - 16.46
D. Clerical/Election Workers		
Clerk	10.72 - 12.86	10.93 - 13.12
Senior Clerk/Warden	13.93 - 15.53	14.21 - 15.84
E. Permanent Staff(all		
departments)		
Clerk	13.93 - 15.53	14.21 - 15.84
Senior Clerk	16.08 - 17.42	16.40 - 17.77
Administrative Assistant	18.32 - 21.43	18.69 - 21.86
Asst. to Treasurer/Collector	18.76 - 22.50	19.14 - 22.95
Asst. Town Clerk	18.76 - 22.50	19.14 - 22.95
* Asst. Town Accountant		19.14 - 22.95
		_

Hold-Tom Gillespie, 27 Prospect Rd-is it a new position? Barbara Gomez, Town Accountant, Yes-recommended by DOR

### **PASS Unanimous**

### F. Library

Clerk	11.80 - 14.69	12.04 - 14.98
Circulation Clerk	14.16 - 16.39	14.44 - 16.72
Library Technician	16.08 - 17.42	16.40 - 17.77
Senior Library Technician	18.09 - 21.43	18.45 - 21.86

### G. Other Employees

Special Police Officer	14.35	14.64
Police Matron	16.55	16.88

### H. Salaried Employees

Library Director	35,986.00 - 45,853.00	36,706.00 - 46,770.00
Assist. Assessor	24,915.00 - 45,008.00	25,413.00 - 45,908.00
Senior Aide	20,000.00 - 22,733.00	20,400.00 - 23,187.00
Veterans Agent	\$7,880.00	8,038.00
Director-Elder Affairs		5,000.00

Hold-Maureen Springer, 26 Granville Baker Way

### **Pass Majority**

### I. Professional Positions

*	Health Agent		35.00 - 50.00
*	Land Use Coordinator	23.46 - 25.50	23.93 - 26.01
*	Assist. Health Agent		35.00 - 50.00

Hold\* on Health Agent and Assistant Health Agent Tom Gillespi, 27 Prospect Rd Barbara Gomez-DOR Recommended to be listed under Wage & Personnel. The positions are there, but they can't be listed as individual contracts. Hourly people that come in to do inspections for the BOH.

### **PASS Unanimous**

Hold\* Land Use Coordinator, Linda Leddy, 44 West St, would like the job description. Barbara Gomez-has been on the Wage & Personnel bylaws for years, the position has never been funded. No job description on file per Barbara Gomez.

Ann Sobolewski-Why is there a merit increase if the position has never been filled? David Chandler-The increase increases the range.

### **PASS Unanimous**

Motion (Susan Ossoff, Finance Committee, 37 Upland Rd) to adjourn to Special Town Meeting,7:35pm

### **PASS Unanimous**

Reconvened at 7:58 pm

raise and appropriate including appropriations from available funds or borrow to defray charges and expenses of the Town **ARTICLE 4** To see if the Town will fix the compensation of elected officers and to see what sums of money the Town will including debt and interest for the ensuing year or to take any other action relative there to.

# Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0

funds or borrow to defray charges and expenses of the Town including debt and interest for the ensuing year or to take any elected officers and to see what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate including appropriations from available ARTICLE 4 VOTE (On the motion of Susan Ossoff, Finance Committee) To see if the Town will fix the compensation of other action relative there to.

# TOWN OF PLYMPTON BUDGET FY 2016

				OVERLAY		AMP
ART.		R&A	FREE CASH	SURPLUS	OTHER	FUND
1		\$0.00				
2		\$0.00				
3		\$0.00				
	DESCRIPTION					
4 10	10 Blanket Insurance	\$125,150.00				
15	County Pension	\$419,959.00				
	SubTotal County Pension	\$545,109.00				
20	20 Group Health	\$18,710.00	\$303,065.00	\$20,000.00		
	Sub Total Group Health	\$341,775.00				
25	25 Medicare	\$95,000.00				
30	30 Unemployment	\$1,000.00				
	SubTotal Medicare & Unemployment	896,000.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS Total Ins & Pension	& Pension	\$629,8	\$659,819.00 \$303,	\$303,065.00 \$20,	\$20,000.00	
100	100 Agriculture Commission	\$500.00				
105	Board of Appeals	8600.00				
110	110 Conservation Commission	\$6,102.00				

			00	OVERLAY		AMB
ART.		R&A FREE	FREE CASH SU	SURPLUS	OTHER	FUND
112	Open Space	\$2,238.00				
115	Council on Aging	\$26,650.00				
120	CountyExtension	\$0.00				
125	Finance Committee	\$1,400.00				
130	Historical Commission	\$500.00				
135	Moderator Salary	\$100.00				
140	Planning Board	\$1,500.00				
145	Recreation Committee	\$3,500.00				
150	Wage & Personnel	\$0.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS Total General Govt	eneral Govt	\$43,090.00				
160	Assessorss Salaries	80.00				
165	Assistant Assessor	\$31,698.00				
170	Assessors Expense	\$38,127.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS Total Assessors	sessors	\$69,825.00				
180	Town Clerk Salary	\$38,024.00				
185	Certification Compensation	\$1,000.00				
190	Town Clerk Expense	\$20,132.00				
195	Election & Registration	\$11,768.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS Total Town Clerk	wn Clerk	\$70,924.00				
200	Accountant/Auditor	\$30,537.00				
205	Accountant Expenses	\$5,857.00				
210	Treasurer/Tax Collector Salary	\$54,577.00				
215	Certification Compensation	\$0.00				
220	Treasurer/Tax Collector Expense	\$49,493.00				
225	Treasurer Banking Services	\$0.00				

	AMB.	FUND	
		OTHER	
OVERLAY		SURPLUS	
		FREE CASH	
		R & A	
		T.	

ART			R & A	FREE CASH	STIRPLIS	OTHER	AM
PASS UNANIMOUS Total Acct, Tax,	otal Ac	ct, Tax,	\$140,464.00				
& Treasurer							
PASS UNAN.	230	Selectmen Salaries	\$3.00				
PASS UNAN.	235	Selectmen Expense	\$27,090.00				
PASS-SUP MAJ.	240	Town Coordinator	\$50,323.00				
PASS UNAN.	245	Computer Maintenance	\$20,500.00				
PASS UNAN.	250	Memorial Day	\$510.00				
PASS UNAN.	255	Town House	\$17,000.00				
PASS UNAN.	260	Town Counsel	\$47,000.00				
PASS UNAN.	265	Town Reports	\$1,200.00				
PASS UNAN.	270	Utilities	\$54,500.00				
Total Selectmen			\$218,126.00				
	280	Health Salaries	\$3.00				
	285	Health Expenses	\$34,249.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS Total Board of Health			\$34,252.00				
	300	Surveyor Salary	\$63,217.00				
	305	Highway Labor	\$125,968.00				
	310	General Highway	\$107,097.00				
	315	Equipment & Maintenance	\$5,250.00				
	320	Cemetery Department	\$9,027.00				
	325	Park Department	\$8,314.00				
	330	Snow & Ice	\$40,000.00				
	335	Transfer Station	\$163,503.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS 10tal Public Works	tal		\$522,376.00				
	340	Animal Inspector	\$1.875.00				
	2/5	Dog Officer	\$5,250.00				
	ر <del>1</del>	Dog Omicei	00.0C7,C0				

				OVERLAY		AMB
ART.		R&A	FREE CASH	SURPLUS	OTHER	FUND
350	Dog Officer Expense	\$5,500.00				
355	Tree Warden Salary	\$9,706.00				
360 PASS TINANIMOTIS	Tree Warden Expense	\$7,561.00				
Total Protect Personal Property		\$29,892.00				
400	Building Inspector/Dept	\$20,280.00				
405	Building Clerical	\$11,662.00				
410	Plumbing & Gas Inspect	\$7,500.00				
415	Wiring Inspector	\$10,000.00				
420	Zoning Administrator	\$5,000.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS Total Building Dept.		\$54,442.00				
200	Fire Chief Salary	\$68,880.00				
505	Fire Services	\$115,592.00				
510	Fire/EMS	\$186,768.00				\$125,000.00
515	Fire Equipment	\$12,000.00				
520	Civil Defense(EmergMgmtDir)	\$2,000.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS Total Fire/EMS	ire/EMS	\$385,240.00				\$125,000.00
Services						
550	Police Chief Salary	\$99,000.00				
555	5 Police Services	\$673,656.00				
260	DARE	\$2,200.00				
565	Police Department	\$99,700.00				
570	Motor Vehicles	\$68,910.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS Total						
Police Services		\$943,466.00				
PASS UNAN. 600	Veterans Agent	\$8,038.00				
PASS UNAN. 605	Veterans Administration	\$1,000.00				
PASS SUPER MAJ. 610	Veterans Benefits	\$75,000.00				

ART			R & A	FREE CASH	SURPLUS	OTHER	AMB. FUND
	615	Veterans Graves	\$350.00				
Total Veterans			\$84,388.00				
	620	Library Director	\$46,770.00				
)	625	Library Expenses	\$85,050.00				
FASS UNANIMOUS LOTAL Library	=		\$131,820.00				
PASS UNAN.	700	Elementary Sch Costs	\$2,184,282.00				
PASS SUPER MAJ.	705	Special Education	\$1,160,068.00				
PASS SUPER MAJ.	710	Vocational Education	\$281,000.00				
Total Local			\$3,625,350.00				
School							
	750	750 Reg. School Assessment	\$1,896,784.00				
	755	Debt & Interest-Reg. School	\$176,576.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS Total Regional Schools	l Reg	ional Schools	\$2,073,360.00				
Total All Schools	sloc	\$5,698,710.00					
PASS UNANIMOUS	800	Reserve Fund	\$60,000.00				
~	810	Int/Loan/Refunds	\$2,500.00				
		Subtotal Reserve & Debt	\$62,500.00				
~	815	Principal & Interest				\$74,000.00	
~	820	Dennett Debt Exclusion				\$82,294.00	
		Subtotal P&I and Debt Exclusion	\$156,294.00				
PASS UNANIMOUS RF, Int, P&I, Debt Exclusion	Int, P	&I, Debt Exclusion	\$281,294.00				

OVERLAY

Subtotal Budget \$9,149,334.00 \$303,065.00 \$20,000.00 \$156,294.00 \$125,000.00

OVERLAY

				OVERLAY		
ART.		R & A	FREE CASH	SURPLUS	OTHER	AMB. FUND
5	Annual audit (Treasurer)	\$31,500.00				
<b>⋄</b> ∞	Borrow Chap 90 Triennial Real Propty Vals FY17 (Assessors)	\$14,000.00			(Borrow)\$171,833	1,833
6	Lease Payments Cruisers (Police)	\$11,000.00				
10	Director Stipend (COA)	\$5,000.00				
11	First Reponse Fire command lease (Fire)	\$7,971.49				
12	Debt Reduction (Barn, Roof) BOS 2013 Pumner, 2008 Pumner, 2008 FMS				(Cap Stab) \$99,028.00	99,028.00
13	(Fire)				(Cap Stab) \$104,691.46	104,691.46
14	CPC Approp				(Admin Exp.) \$5,000.00	) \$5,000.00
					(Hist. Resour (Community \$10,000.00	(Hist. Resource Res) \$10,000.00 (Community Housing Res) \$10,000.00
					(Open Space	(Open Space Res) \$10,000.00
					(Budget Rese	(Budget Reserve) \$65,000.00
					Total CPC \$100,000.00:	100,000.00:
15	Payment to Kingston for SL Shortfall (BOS)	\$26,500.00				
16	Asphalt Hot Box (Highway)				(Cap Stab) \$17,300.00	17,300.00
17	Safety buildings project manager (BOS)				(Cap Stab) \$25,000.00	25,000.00
Subtotals:	(R&A):	\$95,971.49				
	(Cap Stab):	\$246,019.46				
	(CPC)	\$100,000.00				
	(Borrow)	\$171,833.00				
	Total ATM Articles:	\$341,990.00				
Respectfully Submitted,	submitted,					
l ara J. Snaw Town Clerk						

**ARTICLE 5** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the treasury, the sum of \$31,500.00 to conduct financial audits for Fiscal Year 2015 or take any other action relative thereto.

**Town Treasurer: Recommended by BOS 3-0** 

**ARTICLE 5** (On the motion of Colleen Morin, Treasurer/Collector) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,500.00 to conduct financial audits for Fiscal Year 2015 or take any other action relative thereto.

### **PASS Unanimous**

**ARTICLE 6** To see if the town will vote to borrow, in anticipation of reimbursement a sum of money as the State's share of the cost of work under Chapter 90 section 34-2a of the General Laws or take any other action relative thereto.

**Highway Department: Recommended by BOS 3-0** 

ARTICLE 6 (On the motion of James Mulcahy, Highway Surveyor, 3 Brackett Terrace) To see if the town will vote to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement a sum of \$171,833.00 as the State's share of the cost of work under Chapter 90 section 34-2a of the General Laws

### **PASS UNANIMOUS**

ARTICLE 7 To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to reauthorize revolving funds for certain Town departments and officers for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015. Expenditures shall not be made, or liabilities incurred in excess of the balance of the fund at any given time. The funds are as follows: or take any other action relative thereto:

Treasurer: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 7 (On the motion of Colleen Morin, Treasurer/Collector) To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to reauthorize revolving funds for certain Town departments and officers for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015. Expenditures shall not be made, or liabilities incurred in excess of the balance of the fund at any given time. The funds are as follows: or take any other action relative thereto.

Note: Last year's Assessor's Revolving Fund deleted per guidance from the town's legal counsel.

### **PASS Unanimous**

Revolving Fund	Authority to Spend	Revenue Source	Use of Fund	FY 16 Spending Limit
Recreation Commission	Recreation Commission	Sign Sponsorship Program, fees charged to individuals participating in any Recreation Commission sponsored programs, any donations	The Support of youth sports programs, community activities and special events.	\$20,000

		earmarked for said programs and any private sponsorship of said programs.		
Tax Title	Treasurer/Collector	Miscellaneous and legal fees collected on Tax Title accounts when paid. In addition, said account shall also be credited with miscellaneous fees and legal fees. on Tax Possession from the sale or auction of said Tax Possession.	Processing Tax Titles and Tax Possessions, including legal fees, miscellaneous expenses and salaries of staff in the Treasurer/Collectors department and Land Court fees.	\$20,000

<u>ARTICLE 8</u> To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$14,000.00 for the purpose of preparing the Fiscal 2017 Triennial real property valuation of the Town or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Assessors: Recommended by BOS 3-0

**ARTICLE 8 VOTE** (On the motion of Steve Lewis, Board of Assessor, 189 Brook St) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from available funds the sum of \$14,000.00 for the purpose of preparing the Fiscal 2017 Triennial real property valuation of the Town or take any other action relative thereto.

### **PASS Unanimous**

**ARTICLE 9** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$11,000.00 to pay the first year annual lease payment for police patrol vehicle on a lease to own replacement program or take any other action relative thereto.

### Police Chief: Recommended by BOS 3-0

**ARTICLE 9** (On the motion of Mark Russo, Selectman) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from available funds the sum of \$11,000.00 to pay the first year annual lease payment for police patrol vehicle on a lease to own replacement program or take any other action relative thereto.

### **PASS Unanimous**

**ARTICLE 10** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5000 to be paid to the acting Council on Aging Director for services rendered to the seniors of Plympton as described in the job description accepted by the Wage and Personnel Board or act to do anything in relation thereto.

### Council on Aging: Recommended by BOS 3-0

**ARTICLE 10 VOTE** (On the motion of Christine Maiorano, COA Director, 169 Brook St) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from available funds the sum of \$5000 to be paid to the acting Council on Aging Director for services rendered to the seniors of Plympton as described in the job description accepted by the Wage and Personnel Board or act to do anything in relation thereto.

### **PASS Unanimous**

**ARTICLE 11** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$7,971.49 to pay the annual lease payments for the First Response and Fire Command vehicle or take any other action relative there to.

Fire Chief: Recommended by BOS 3-0

<u>ARTICLE 11</u> **VOTE** (On the motion of Warren Borsari, Fire Chief, 88 Upland Rd) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from available funds the sum of \$7,971.49 to pay the annual lease payments for the First Response and Fire Command vehicle or take any other action relative there to.

**PASS Unanimous** 

**ARTICLE 12** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money to retire or partially retire debt or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0

**ARTICLE 12 VOTE** (On the motion of Mark Russo, Selectman) To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a \$99,028.00 to retire the debt on the Town Barn and School Roof.

PASS with 2/3 Vote

ARTICLE 13 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the total sum of \$104,691.46 to pay the annual lease payments for the 2013 Fire Department Pumper Tanker and the 2008 Smeal Pumper and the 2008 GMC EMS vehicle as part of the lease to own programs or take any other action relative there to.

Fire Chief: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 13 VOTE (On the motion of Warren Borsari, Fire Chief) To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Purpose Fund the sum of \$104,691.46 to pay the annual lease payments for the 2013 Fire Department Pumper Tanker and the 2008 Smeal Pumper and the 2008 GMC EMS vehicle as part of the lease to own programs.

PASS Unanimous (2/3 Vote needed)

ARTICLE 14 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2016, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

### **Appropriations:**

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses \$5000

### Reserves:

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve \$10,000

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve \$10,000

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve \$10,000

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve \$65,000 Or take any other action thereon.

Plympton Community Preservation Committee: Recommended by BOS 3-0

<u>ARTICLE 14</u> **VOTE** (On the motion of Mark Russo, Selectman) To see if the Town will vote to reserve from the Community Preservation annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee as printed in the warrant. **PASS Unanimous** 

ARTICLE 15 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$26,500.00 to reimburse the Town of Kingston for an imbalance in the FY 2014 Chapter 70 State Aid formula in accordance with an agreement between the Town of Kingston and the Town of Plympton authorized under Article 26 of the May 14, 2014 Annual Town Meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Silver Lake Regional School Committee: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 15 VOTE (on the motion of Maureen Springer, SL School Committee, 26 Granville Baker Way) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from available funds the sum of \$26,500.00 to reimburse the Town of Kingston for an imbalance in the FY 2014 Chapter 70 State Aid formula in accordance with an agreement between the Town of Kingston and the Town of Plympton authorized under Article 26 of the May 14, 2014 Annual Town Meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**PASS Unanimous** 

**ARTICLE 16** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$17,300 to purchase and equip an asphalt recycler and hot box or take any other action relative there to.

Highway Surveyor: Recommended by BOS 3-0

<u>ARTICLE 16</u> **VOTE** (On the motion of James Mulcahy, Highway Surveyor) To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Purpose Fund the sum of \$17,300 to purchase and equip an asphalt recycler and hot box or take any other action relative there to.

PASS Unanimous (does not require a 2/3 vote as is less than \$25,000 needs majority)

**ARTICLE 17** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$25,000 to employ an engineering project consultant to review plans, requests for proposal and final bids for construction of public safety facilities and related infrastructure improvements or take any other action relative thereto.

**BOS: Recommended by BOS 2-0-1** 

ARTICLE 17 AMENDMENT (On the motion of Linda Leddy, 44 West St) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from available funds the sum of \$25,000 to employ an engineering project consultant to review plans, requests for proposal and final bids for construction of public safety facilities and related infrastructure improvements through a Town Public Safety Facility Building Committee, consisting of up to 5 residents in addition to Town Officers and staff.

MOTION FAILS: 33 Opposed, 33 In Favor

**ARTICLE 17 VOTE** (On the motion of Colleen Thompson, Selectman) To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Purpose Fund the sum of \$25,000 to employ an engineering project consultant to review plans, requests for proposal and final bids for construction of public safety facilities and related infrastructure improvements or take any other action relative thereto.

PASSES Super Majority (requires a 2/3 vote)

ARTICLE 18 To see if the Town will vote to rescind the vote taken under Article 24 of the May 14, 2014 Annual Town Meeting approving the Silver Lake Regional School District Committee's vote of May 9, 2013 to establish a Stabilization Fund, pursuant to Section 16G ½ of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 2-1

ARTICLE 18 VOTE (On the motion of John Henry, Selectman, 225 Main St, as read) To see if the Town will vote to rescind the vote taken under Article 24 of the May 14, 2014 Annual Town Meeting approving the Silver Lake Regional School District Committee's vote of May 9, 2013 to establish a Stabilization Fund, pursuant to Section 16G ½ of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**PASS Super Majority** 

**ARTICLE 19** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreement with Blue Wave Capital LLC or their assign for a solar facility, the text of which is on file with the Town Clerk's Office or take any action in relation thereto

Assessors: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 19 VOTE (On the motion of John Henry, Selectman, as read) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreement with Blue Wave Capital LLC or their assign for a solar facility, the text of which is on file with the Town Clerk's Office or take any action in relation thereto

**PASSES Super Majority** 

<u>ARTICLE 20</u> To see if the Town will vote to accept MGL Chapter 656 Section 41 of the acts of 1989 pertaining to authorizing quarterly billing beginning in the fiscal year 2017 and every year thereafter or take any action relative thereto.

Treasurer/Collector: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 20 VOTE (On the motion of Colleen Morin, Treasurer/Collector, as printed) To see if the Town will vote to accept MGL Chapter 656 Section 41 of the acts of 1989 pertaining to authorizing quarterly billing beginning in the fiscal year 2017 and every year thereafter or take any action relative thereto.

### **PASSES Super Majority**

**ARTICLE 21** To see if the town will vote to amend Municipal By-Laws, Article XXI, Rules and regulations Relative to the Control of Dogs in the Town of Plympton", Section 1. Definitions, as follows:

Delete the words "August 31<sup>st</sup> following to June 30<sup>th</sup>" and replace with "March 31<sup>st</sup> following to December 31<sup>st</sup>". or take any action relative thereto.

Town Clerk: Recommended by BOS 3-0

<u>ARTICLE</u> 21 VOTE (On the motion of Tara Morrison, Town Clerk, 16 Forest St) To see if the town will vote to amend Municipal By-Laws, Article XXI, Rules and regulations Relative to the Control of Dogs in the Town of Plympton", Section 1. Definitions, "License Late Fee" as follows:

Delete the words "August 31<sup>st</sup> following to June 30<sup>th</sup>" and replace with "March 31<sup>st</sup> following to December 31<sup>st</sup>". or take any action relative thereto.

### **PASS Unanimous**

ARTICLE 22 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell, convey or otherwise dispose of the fee or any lesser interests in four parcels of land located on Maple Street and Palmer Road, and shown on Assessor's Map 6 as Parcels 6-3-13, 6-3-14, 6-3-8 and 6-3-8a. Said parcels shall be limited to 2 residential building lots. Proceeds from the sale shall be deposited into the Capital Stabilization Account. Any such disposition to be on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem appropriate, including conformance with any applicable requirements under G.L. c.30B, §16, or take any action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 2-0-1

ARTICLE 22 VOTE (On the motion of John Henry, Selectman, to pass over) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell, convey or otherwise dispose of the fee or any lesser interests in four parcels of land located on Maple Street and Palmer Road, and shown on Assessor's Map 6 as Parcels 6-3-13, 6-3-14, 6-3-8 and 6-3-8a. Said parcels shall be limited to 2 residential building lots. Proceeds from the sale shall be deposited into the Capital Stabilization Account. Any such disposition to be on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem appropriate, including conformance with any applicable requirements under G.L. c.30B, §16, or take any action relative thereto.

### **PASS OVER Unanimous**

ARTICLE 23 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Plympton Zoning Bylaws "Section 6.10 Solar Facilities" by deleting Section 6.10 in it's entirety and

replacing it with a new Section 6.10 as recommended by the Solar Bylaw Review Committee and the Planning Board or take any action relative thereto.

### 6.10 SOLAR FACILITIES.

### **6.10.1** Purpose.

- **6.10.1.1** The purpose of this section is to establish general guidelines for the siting of solar photovoltaic facilities, hereinafter referred to as solar facilities. The goals of this section are to:
  - a. Promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community by allowing the generation of sustainable energy with as-of-right siting of solar facilities in order to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases, protect environmental resources, and foster sustainable economic development.
  - b. Protect, conserve and improve the unique visual quality and historic character of the Town of Plympton while simultaneously supporting the needs of the property owners.
  - c. Provide standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of solar facilities. Such siting standards shall address public safety, minimize impacts on natural resources, and provide adequate financial assurance for the eventual decommissioning of such facilities.
- **6.10.1.2** It is not the purpose of this section to prohibit or unreasonably regulate the installation of solar energy systems or the building of structures that facilitate the collection of solar energy per M.G.L. c. 40A,§ 3, except where necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare.

### 6.10.2 Applicability

- **6.10.2.1** These requirements apply to all solar facilities proposed to be constructed after the effective date of this section.
- **6.10.3 6.10.2.2** These requirements also pertain to physical modifications that alter the type, configuration, or size of these installations or related equipment.
- **6.10.2.3** These requirements do not apply to minor modifications or maintenance of a solar facility.
- **6.10.2.4** Solar facilities shall be allowed on parcels of land in any zoning district.

### 6.10.4 Definitions.

As-of-Right Siting. As-of-Right Siting shall mean that development may proceed without the need for a special permit, variance, amendment, waiver, or other discretionary approval. As-of-right development may be subject to non-discretionary site plan review by the Planning Board to determine conformance with local zoning bylaws. It will also be subject

to other board review, including but not limited to the Conservation Commission, where such review is within the boards' jurisdiction, and must meet applicable state and federal law. As-of-right development projects that are consistent with all local bylaws, rules and regulations and with state and federal law cannot be prohibited.

**Project site.** A parcel or combination of parcels, which the solar facility operator has control of, on which the solar facility is or will be located.

**Rated nameplate capacity.** The maximum rated output of electric power production equipment in direct current (DC). This output is typically specified by the manufacturer with a "nameplate" on the equipment.

**Site plan review.** Review by the Planning Board to determine conformance with Plympton's Zoning By-laws. The Planning Board may also request review by other Town Boards, , including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission where such review is within that Board's jurisdiction.

**Solar Energy System.** A device or structural design feature, a substantial purpose of which is to provide daylight for interior lighting or provide for the collection, storage and distribution of solar energy for space heating or cooling, electricity generation, or water heating.

**Ground-Mounted Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that is structurally mounted to the ground and is not roof-mounted; may be of any size (small-, medium- or large-scale).

**Large-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies more than or equal to 40,000 square feet of surface area (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 250kW DC or greater).

**Medium-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies more than 1,750 but less than 40,000 square feet of surface area (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 10 - 250 kW DC).

**Roof-Mounted Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that is structurally mounted to the roof of a building or structure; may be of any size (small-, medium- or large-scale).

**Small-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies 1,750 square feet of surface area or less (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 10 kW DC or less).

**Solar facility.** A facility comprised of one or more solar panels, as well as all access roads and appurtenant structures.

### 6.10.5 General requirements.

**6.10.5.1** Large scale ground mounted solar facilities. Ground mounted solar facilities shall be allowed in all zones and permitted only by as-of-right site plan review from the Planning Board pursuant to this section, as well as review by other bodies, including but

not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission. The review is subject to the following conditions:

- a. Site plan review. No large scale ground mounted solar facility shall be constructed, installed or modified as provided in this section without first obtaining site plan review approval by the Plympton Planning Board in compliance with subsection 6.10.5 of this section, as well as review by other bodies, including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission.
- b. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.
- c. Site control. The applicant shall submit with its application for site plan review, documentation of actual or prospective control of the project site sufficient to allow for installation and use of the proposed facility. Notice of change of ownership shall be given to the Planning Board in compliance with subsection 6.10.5.6 of this section.
- d. Parcels without frontage. Projects for landlocked parcels shall be considered as long as the following conditions can be met:
  - i) The owner has demonstrated a permanent easement to a public way
  - ii) The parcel was landlocked prior to May 16, 2012
  - iii) The parcel is a minimum of five (5) acres
- e. Financial surety. The applicant shall provide financial surety documentation if so required by the Planning Board as determined in compliance with subsection 6.10.5.7.3 of this section.
- f. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all large scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
- g. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
- **6.10.5.2** Medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities. Medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be allowed as-of-right with a building permit in all zones provided that they meet the following conditions:
  - a. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.

- b. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance to the building commissioner in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
- c. Design standards. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.2 design standards and subsection 6.10.5.3 environmental standards where applicable.
- d. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.
- **6.10.5.3** Roof mounted solar facilities. Roof mounted solar facilities shall be allowed as-of- right with a building permit in all zones provided that they meet the following conditions:
  - a. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all roof mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
  - b. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance to the building commissioner in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
  - c. Structural engineering report. A structural engineering report may be required by the building commissioner illustrating the structural integrity of the structure and its ability to support the proposed roof mounted solar facility.
  - d. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.

### 6.10.6 Site plan review.

- **6.10.6.1 Submittal requirements.** The project proponent is required to provide the Plympton Planning Board with the following, which shall then be distributed to the Conservation Commission and other Town Boards:
  - a. Application. Two original application forms and a designer's certificate.
  - b. Fees. Required fees.
  - c. Siting and design. Eight full copies of a site plan. The plan shall be on  $24" \times 36"$  sheets at a scale of 1"=40' or 1"=200', as appropriate, on as many sheets as necessary. Site plans shall be prepared by a Massachusetts licensed professional engineer and/or a registered land surveyor, as applicable. The site plan shall include the following:

- i) Location map. Copy of the most recent USGS quadrangle map, at a scale of 1:25,000, showing the proposed facility site and the area within at least two miles from the facility.
- ii) Site plan. A one inch equals 200 feet plan of the proposed solar facility site, with contour intervals of no more than ten feet, showing the following:
  - a) Property lines and physical dimensions of the project site and adjacent parcels within 100 feet of the project site;
  - b) Location of permanent structures or buildings on the project site and on adjacent parcels of the project site;
  - c) Location and details of all security measures for the site; and
  - d) Location of all existing and proposed roads, both public and private, on the project site.
- iii) Project plan. A plan indicating all proposed changes to the landscape of the site, including temporary or permanent roads or driveways, grading, vegetation clearing and planting, exterior lighting, screening vegetation or structures shall include the following:
  - a) Proposed changes to the landscape of the site, grading, vegetation to be removed or altered, amenities such as lighting or fencing, screening vegetation or structures, and wetlands delineation. Lighting shall be designed to minimize glare on abutting properties and be directed downward with full cutoff fixtures to reduce light pollution;
  - b) Location of the ground mounted solar facility, type of mounting devices, access roads, lighting, ground equipment, fencing, electrical infrastructure, and associated equipment;
  - c) Plans for accessory buildings or other structures, and location and details of all planned security measures;
  - d) Layout and details of surfacing for access roads and parking including temporary roads and staging areas; and
  - e) Any existing overhead utility lines.
- d. Operation and maintenance plan. The applicant shall submit a plan for the general maintenance of access roads and stormwater controls, as well as general procedures for operational maintenance of the ground mounted solar facility.

### e. Schematics.

i) Schematic or blueprints of the ground mounted solar facility signed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed structures and any shading from nearby structures;

- ii) Schematic or outline electrical diagram showing proposed solar panels, associated components and electrical interconnection methods, all with National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and overcurrent devices;
- iii) Description of the major system components to be used including the photovoltaic panels, mounting system and inverter.
- f. Compliance documents. The applicant will provide the following with the application:
  - i) A description of financial surety that satisfies subsection 6.10.5.7.3 of this section;
  - ii) A fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal of the solar facility, prepared by a qualified third party expert, which shall include a mechanism for calculating increased removal costs due to inflation.
  - iii) Proof of liability insurance that satisfies subsection 6.10.4.1.g of this section;
  - iv) Name, address, and contact information for:
    - a) Proposed system installer,
    - b) The landowner,
    - c) The project proponent, as well as all co-proponents; and
    - d) Any agents representing the applicant.
  - v) The Planning Board and the other reviewing bodies, including but not limited to, the Conservation Commission may require additional information, data or evidence as it deems necessary pursuant to the site plan review process.
  - vi) Evidence of utility notification that satisfies subsection 6.10.5.1.g of this section and 6.10.5.2.7.
- g. Notification.
  - i) Property Owners. List of property owners and their addresses for all parcels of land within 300 feet of the project site, to be obtained from the most recent property list from the Plympton Assessor's Office;

Provide stamped A10 sized envelopes representing twice the number of abutters listed above to be used by the Planning Board to mail notice of the site plan review hearing and notice of decision.

The applicant shall be responsible for the cost of publication of the public hearing notice.

ii) Utility notification. Before installation of the solar facility, the applicant shall inform the utility company that operates the electrical grid where the

facility is to be located of its intent to install an interconnected generator and shall satisfy all interconnection agreements.

h. Waiver of documents. The Planning Board reserves the right to waive documentary requirements as it deems appropriate, unless required by another reviewing body, including but not limited to, the Conservation Commission.

### 6.10.6.2 Design standards.

## **6.10.5.2.1** Screening.

- **6.10.5.2.1.1** A ground mounted solar facility shall be screened from abutting properties.
- **6.10.5.2.1.2** Screening shall consist of landscaping, fence, grassed earthen berm, or some combination of these screening devices. If utilizing a natural buffer, it shall be maintained above the highest level of the solar panels. When a screen consists of plant materials, said materials shall provide screening at the time of planting and be of a type that will be expected to form a year-round, dense screen.
- **6.10.5.2.1.3** Every abutting agricultural/residential property shall be visually and acoustically screened from the installation through either existing vegetation or new plantings of not less than 8 feet in height at the time of planting staggered at a spacing of no more than 8 feet apart throughout the required setback dimensions. All required plantings shall be maintained throughout the project's life, and replaced as necessary. As an alternate to providing the required screening through vegetation, it is acceptable to increase the setback to 600 feet on the applicant's property while providing an acceptable alternate screening such as a stockade fence and single row of vegetation in close proximity to the project.
- **6.10.5.2.1.4** The provided screening shall obscure from view on all sides at least 50%, or 100% if the project is located in the Residential-Agricultural zoning district, of the project from adjacent properties, including upper levels of existing structures at the time of construction, within three years of the start of construction or earthwork activities. Security fences, roadways, and equipment shall not be placed within the required setback, except for that which is required to access the site from an adjacent roadway, or to transmit the generated power to the grid.
- **6.10.5.2.1.5** Abutting residential uses. When such facility is directly abutting existing residential uses, such screening shall consist of:
  - a. Project site of less than two acres: Screening as determined to be adequate in the form of either vegetation or fencing.
  - b. Project site of between two and five acres: A minimum of 75 feet of vegetation buffer with 50 feet being undisturbed closest to the residential property, and the other 25 feet being allowed to be selectively cleared in

accordance with 6.10.5.3.5.

- c. Project site of greater than five acres: A minimum of 100 feet of vegetation buffer with 50 feet being undisturbed closest to the residential property, and the other 50 feet being allowed to be selectively cleared.
- d. Permit for screening reduction: An applicant may request permission to reduce such buffer requirements in such instances it is determined to not have a detrimental effect to the abutters and in such instances where the buffer will have a detrimental effect on the ability to generate power.
- **6.10.5.2.1.6** Abutting nonresidential uses including public accepted streets. Screening as determined to be adequate in the form of either vegetation or fencing.
- **6.10.5.2.2 Control of Vegetation.** Mowing or the use of pervious pavers or geotextile materials underneath the facility is the preferred method of vegetation control. Herbicides may only be used where it can be demonstrated that no danger is posed to groundwater supplies, or to local agricultural activities. The Agricultural Commission and Board of Health are to approve all proposed herbicides.
- **6.10.5.2.3 Signage.** Signs on the solar facility shall comply with the requirements of Section 6.1 of the Plympton Zoning By-laws. Signage at all site entrances shall be required to identify the owner and provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number. These signs shall not be used for the display of any advertising.
- **6.10.5.2.4 Lighting.** Lighting of solar facilities shall comply with the requirements of Section 6.9 of the Plympton Zoning By-laws. Lighting shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall be shielded to eliminate glare from abutting properties, shall be directed downward and shall incorporate cut-off fixtures to reduce light pollution.
- **6.10.5.2.5 Utility connections.** Reasonable efforts should be made to locate utility connections for ground mounted solar facilities underground, depending on appropriate soil conditions, shape and topography of the site and any requirements of the utility provider. Electrical transformers for utility interconnections may be above ground, if required by the utility provider. All solar facility installations shall conform to the requirements of the interconnection agreement and/or such further requirements as may be promulgated from time to time, as appropriate and as approved by the connecting utility.
- **6.10.5.2.6 Appurtenant structures.** All such appurtenant structures, including but not limited to, equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other. Structures should be shaded from view by vegetation and/or joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts. Appurtenance structures shall not exceed 15' in height and shall meet the regulations for accessory structures as determined by the Building Department.

**6.10.5.2.7 Emergency services.** The applicant shall provide a copy of the project summary and site plan to the Plympton Fire and Police Departments. The applicant shall cooperate with the Fire and Police Departments in developing an emergency response plan. All means of disconnecting the solar facility shall be clearly marked, and training required to allow emergency response personnel to safely shut down the facility in event of an emergency provided at no cost to the Town as requested by the Town. Site access shall be conducive to emergency vehicle travel to allow for unimpeded access around the site at all times. Access requirements, not limited to gating, road widths and surfaces, etc. will be reviewed during the site plan review process, with approval being at the discretion of the Fire Chief. The applicant or facility owner shall identify a responsible person for public inquiries or complaints throughout the life of the project.

**6.10.5.2.8 Unauthorized access.** All solar facilities shall be designed to prevent unauthorized access in compliance with any and all federal, state and local regulations. Electrical equipment shall be locked where possible. Where installed, video surveillance cameras shall be oriented in such a fashion so as to minimize capturing activity outside the solar facility.

#### 6.10.6.3 Environmental standards.

- **6.10.5.3.1 Land clearing.** Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to what is necessary for the construction, access to, operation and maintenance of the ground mounted solar facility or otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations and ordinances. Clear cutting is prohibited within the setback area unless pre-approved and with the understanding that trees and/or vegetation of significant size and screening ability will be planted and/or fencing installed in order to mitigate any visual or environmental impact on the abutters and/or the rural nature of the Town.
- **6.10.5.3.2 Rare and endangered species.** The applicant shall provide evidence of compliance with the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act and requirements of the Commonwealth of [Massachusetts] Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.
- **6.10.5.3.3 Wetlands.** The applicant shall provide evidence of compliance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act and the Town of Plympton Wetlands Protection Ordinance. Such evidence is subject to review and approval by the Plympton Conservation Commission.
- **6.10.5.3.4 Stormwater.** The applicant shall demonstrate compliance with all local, state and federal stormwater management laws and regulations.

### 6.10.5.3.5 Selective Clearing.

- **6.10.5.3.5.1** Selective clearing may be done with one or more of the following conditions:
  - a. If the selective removal of a species of plant, a group of species of plants, a story or group of story in whole or in part does not affect the growth of other trees

- or plants, and is done according to criteria regarding minimum tree size for harvesting, specifications of the number, spacing and size classes of residual trees per area, and allowable cut.
- b. If vegetation or trees to be cut, trimmed or removed are those that restrict the effective functioning of the solar collectors and/or access to the solar field by routine and/or emergency services
- **6.10.5.3.5.2** All trees scheduled to be removed shall be visibly marked or flagged by the Contractor prior to seeking confirmation from the Town. The Town agent/Engineer will inspect the identified trees and verify the limits of clearing and thinning prior to the Contractor proceeding with his cutting operation.
- **6.10.5.4 Action by the Planning Board.** Site plan review shall be conducted in accordance with the notice, hearing and filing procedures set forth in [M.G.L.] c. 40A for special permits, except as otherwise set forth in this section. After determining if the site plan is in conformance with the requirements of this Bylaw, and after considering the criteria set forth in this section, the Planning Board may approve, approve with modifications, or or grant leave to withdraw. Approval may be subject to any conditions, modifications and/or restrictions as the Planning Board may deem necessary. Leave to withdraw or disapproval by the Planning Board must be supported by written findings.

## 6.10.5.5 Monitoring and maintenance.

- **6.10.5.5.1 Facility conditions.** The applicant shall maintain the solar facility in good condition. Maintenance shall include but not be limited to vegetation upkeep, structural repairs and the integrity of security measures. Site access shall be maintained to a level acceptable to the local fire chief, local emergency planning committee and emergency medical services. The project owner shall be responsible for the cost of maintaining the solar facility and any access road, unless accepted as a public way, and the cost of repairing any damage as a result of operation and construction. The project owner shall also be responsible for ensuring that the solar facility does not at any time lower the quality of service supplied to nearby customers or cause safety problems to the interconnected electrical grid.
- **6.10.5.5.2 Modifications.** All modifications to a large scale ground mounted solar facility, other than regular maintenance, made after issuance of the site plan review approval shall require approval by the Planning Board as provided in this section.
- **6.10.5.6** Change in ownership. If the owner and/or operator of a large scale ground mounted solar facility changes, notice shall be given to the Planning Board with the contact information of the new owner/operator within one month of the change in ownership and/or operations.

## 6.10.5.7Abandonment or decommissioning.

**6.10.5.7.1 Removal requirements.** Any large scale ground mounted solar facility which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned consistent with subsection 6.10.9.2 of this section shall be removed. The owner or operator shall physically remove the installation no more than 150 days after the date of discontinued operations. The owner or

operator shall notify the Planning Board by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:

- a. Physical removal of all solar panels, structures, equipment, security barriers and electrical lines from the site.
- b. Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.
- c. Stabilization or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion. The Planning Board may allow the owner or operator to leave landscaping, designated below-grade foundations or service roads in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation.
- **6.10.5.7.2 Abandonment.** Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning, the large scale ground mounted solar facility shall be considered abandoned when the facility fails to operate for more than one year without written consent of the Planning Board. The Planning Board shall determine in its decision what proportion of the facility is inoperable for the facility to be considered abandoned. If the applicant fails to remove the large scale ground mounted solar facility in accordance with the requirements of this section within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the Town shall have the authority to enter the property and physically remove the facility.
- **6.10.5.7.3 Financial surety.** The Planning Board shall require the applicant for a large scale ground mounted solar facility to provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or otherwise, to cover the estimated cost of removal in the event that the Town must remove the facility, of an amount and form determined to be reasonable by the Planning Board, but in no event to be less than 75% nor to exceed more than 125 percent of the estimated cost of removal and compliance with the additional requirements set forth herein, in accordance with 6.10.5.7. Such surety will not be required for municipally or state owned facilities. The applicant shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, in accordance with 6.10.5.7.

Solar Bylaw Review Committee: Recommended by BOS 3-0

**ARTICLE 23** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Plympton Zoning Bylaws "Section 6.10 Solar Facilities" by deleting Section 6.10 in it's entirety and replacing it with a new Section 6.10 as recommended by the Solar Bylaw Review Committee and the Planning Board or take any action relative thereto.

- 6.10 SOLAR FACILITIES.
- **6.10.1 PURPOSE.**
- **6.10.1.1** The purpose of this section is to establish general guidelines for the siting of solar photovoltaic facilities, hereinafter referred to as solar facilities. The goals of this section are to:

- a. Promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community by allowing the generation of sustainable energy with as-of-right siting of solar facilities in order to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases, protect environmental resources, and foster sustainable economic development.
- b. Protect, conserve and improve the unique visual quality and historic character of the Town of Plympton while simultaneously supporting the needs of the property owners.
- c. Provide standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of solar facilities. Such siting standards shall address public safety, minimize impacts on natural resources, and provide adequate financial assurance for the eventual decommissioning of such facilities.
- **6.10.1.2** It is not the purpose of this section to prohibit or unreasonably regulate the installation of solar energy systems or the building of structures that facilitate the collection of solar energy per M.G.L. c. 40A,§ 3, except where necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare.

## 6.10.2 Applicability

- **6.10.2.1** These requirements apply to all solar facilities proposed to be constructed after the effective date of this section.
- **6.10.2.2** These requirements also pertain to physical modifications that alter the type, configuration, or size of these installations or related equipment.
- **6.10.2.3** These requirements do not apply to minor modifications or maintenance of a solar facility.
- **6.10.2.4** Solar facilities shall be allowed on parcels of land in any zoning district.

### 6.10.3 Definitions.

As-of-Right Siting. As-of-Right Siting shall mean that development may proceed without the need for a special permit, variance, amendment, waiver, or other discretionary approval. As-of-right development may be subject to non-discretionary site plan review by the Planning Board to determine conformance with local zoning bylaws. It will also be subject to other board review, including but not limited to the Conservation Commission, where such review is within the boards' jurisdiction, and must meet applicable state and federal law. As-of-right development projects that are consistent with all local bylaws, rules and regulations and with state and federal law cannot be prohibited.

**Project site.** A parcel or combination of parcels, which the solar facility operator has control of, on which the solar facility is or will be located.

**Rated nameplate capacity.** The maximum rated output of electric power production equipment in direct current (DC). This output is typically specified by the manufacturer with a "nameplate" on the equipment.

**Site plan review.** Review by the Planning Board to determine conformance with Plympton's Zoning By-laws. The Planning Board may also request review by other Town Boards, , including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission where such review is within that Board's jurisdiction.

**Solar Energy System.** A device or structural design feature, a substantial purpose of which is to provide daylight for interior lighting or provide for the collection, storage and distribution of solar energy for space heating or cooling, electricity generation, or water heating.

**Ground-Mounted Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that is structurally mounted to the ground and is not roof-mounted; may be of any size (small-, medium- or large-scale).

**Large-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies more than or equal to 40,000 square feet of surface area (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 250kW DC or greater).

**Medium-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies more than 1,750 but less than 40,000 square feet of surface area (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 10 - 250 kW DC).

**Roof-Mounted Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that is structurally mounted to the roof of a building or structure; may be of any size (small-, medium- or large-scale).

**Small-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies 1,750 square feet of surface area or less (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 10 kW DC or less).

**Solar facility.** A facility comprised of one or more solar panels, as well as all access roads and appurtenant structures.

## 6.10.4 General requirements.

- **6.10.4.1** Large scale ground mounted solar facilities. Ground mounted solar facilities shall be allowed in all zones and permitted only by as-of-right site plan review from the Planning Board pursuant to this section, as well as review by other bodies, including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission. The review is subject to the following conditions:
  - a. Site plan review. No large scale ground mounted solar facility shall be constructed, installed or modified as provided in this section without first obtaining site plan review approval by the Plympton Planning Board in compliance with subsection 6.10.5 of this section, as well as review by other bodies, including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission.
  - b. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.
  - c. Site control. The applicant shall submit with its application for site plan

review, documentation of actual or prospective control of the project site sufficient to allow for installation and use of the proposed facility. Notice of change of ownership shall be given to the Planning Board in compliance with subsection 6.10.5.6 of this section.

- d. Parcels without frontage. Projects for landlocked parcels shall be considered as long as the following conditions can be met:
  - i) The owner has demonstrated a permanent easement to a public way
  - ii) The parcel was landlocked prior to May 16, 2012
  - iii) The parcel is a minimum of five (5) acres
- e. Financial surety. The applicant shall provide financial surety documentation if so required by the Planning Board as determined in compliance with subsection 6.10.5.7.3 of this section.
- f. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all large scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
- g. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
- **6.10.4.2** Medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities. Medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be allowed as-of-right with a building permit in all zones provided that they meet the following conditions:
  - a. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
  - b. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance to the building commissioner in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
  - c. Design standards. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.2 design standards and subsection 6.10.5.3 environmental standards where applicable.
  - d. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.
- **6.10.4.3** Roof mounted solar facilities. Roof mounted solar facilities shall be allowed

as-of- right with a building permit in all zones provided that they meet the following conditions:

- a. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all roof mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
- b. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance to the building commissioner in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
- c. Structural engineering report. A structural engineering report may be required by the building commissioner illustrating the structural integrity of the structure and its ability to support the proposed roof mounted solar facility.
- d. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.

## 6.10.5 Site plan review.

- **6.10.5.1 Submittal requirements.** The project proponent is required to provide the Plympton Planning Board with the following, which shall then be distributed to the Conservation Commission and other Town Boards:
  - a. Application. Two original application forms and a designer's certificate.
  - b. Fees. Required fees.
  - c. Siting and design. Eight full copies of a site plan. The plan shall be on  $24" \times 36"$  sheets at a scale of 1"=40" or 1"=200", as appropriate, on as many sheets as necessary. Site plans shall be prepared by a Massachusetts licensed professional engineer and/or a registered land surveyor, as applicable. The site plan shall include the following:
    - a) Location map. Copy of the most recent USGS quadrangle map, at a scale of 1:25,000, showing the proposed facility site and the area within at least two miles from the facility.
    - ii) Site plan. A one inch equals 200 feet plan of the proposed solar facility site, with contour intervals of no more than ten feet, showing the following:
      - a) Property lines and physical dimensions of the project site and adjacent parcels within 100 feet of the project site;
      - b) Location of permanent structures or buildings on the project site and on adjacent parcels of the project site;
      - c) Location and details of all security measures for the site; and
      - d) Location of all existing and proposed roads, both public and private, on the project site.

- iii) Project plan. A plan indicating all proposed changes to the landscape of the site, including temporary or permanent roads or driveways, grading, vegetation clearing and planting, exterior lighting, screening vegetation or structures shall include the following:
  - a) Proposed changes to the landscape of the site, grading, vegetation to be removed or altered, amenities such as lighting or fencing, screening vegetation or structures, and wetlands delineation.
     Lighting shall be designed to minimize glare on abutting properties and be directed downward with full cutoff fixtures to reduce light pollution;
  - b) Location of the ground mounted solar facility, type of mounting devices, access roads, lighting, ground equipment, fencing, electrical infrastructure, and associated equipment;
  - c) Plans for accessory buildings or other structures, and location and details of all planned security measures;
  - d) Layout and details of surfacing for access roads and parking including temporary roads and staging areas; and
  - e) Any existing overhead utility lines.
- d. Operation and maintenance plan. The applicant shall submit a plan for the general maintenance of access roads and stormwater controls, as well as general procedures for operational maintenance of the ground mounted solar facility.

#### e. Schematics.

- i) Schematic or blueprints of the ground mounted solar facility signed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed structures and any shading from nearby structures;
- ii) Schematic or outline electrical diagram showing proposed solar panels, associated components and electrical interconnection methods, all with National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and overcurrent devices;
- iii) Description of the major system components to be used including the photovoltaic panels, mounting system and inverter.
- f. Compliance documents. The applicant will provide the following with the application:
  - i) A description of financial surety that satisfies subsection 6.10.5.7.3 of this section;
  - ii) A fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal of the solar facility, prepared by a qualified third party expert, which shall include a mechanism for calculating increased removal costs due to inflation.

- iii) Proof of liability insurance that satisfies subsection 6.10.4.1.g of this section;
- iv) Name, address, and contact information for:
  - a) Proposed system installer,
  - b) The landowner,
  - c) The project proponent, as well as all co-proponents; and
  - d) Any agents representing the applicant.
- v) The Planning Board and the other reviewing bodies, including but not limited to, the Conservation Commission may require additional information, data or evidence as it deems necessary pursuant to the site plan review process.
- vi) Evidence of utility notification that satisfies subsection 6.10.5.1.g of this section and 6.10.5.2.7.

# g. Notification

i) Property Owners. List of property owners and their addresses for all parcels of land within 300 feet of the project site, to be obtained from the most recent property list from the Plympton Assessor's Office;

Provide stamped A10 sized envelopes representing twice the number of abutters listed above to be used by the Planning Board to mail notice of the site plan review hearing and notice of decision.

The applicant shall be responsible for the cost of publication of the public hearing notice.

- ii) Utility notification. Before installation of the solar facility, the applicant shall inform the utility company that operates the electrical grid where the facility is to be located of its intent to install an interconnected generator and shall satisfy all interconnection agreements.
- h. Waiver of documents. The Planning Board reserves the right to waive documentary requirements as it deems appropriate, unless required by another reviewing body, including but not limited to, the Conservation Commission.

## 6.10.5.2 Design standards

# **6.10.5.2.1** Screening

- **6.10.5.2.1.1** A ground mounted solar facility shall be screened from abutting properties.
- **6.10.5.2.1.2** Screening shall consist of landscaping, fence, grassed earthen berm, or some combination of these screening devices. If utilizing a natural buffer, it shall be

maintained above the highest level of the solar panels. When a screen consists of plant materials, said materials shall provide screening at the time of planting and be of a type that will be expected to form a year-round, dense screen.

- **6.10.5.2.1.3** Every abutting agricultural/residential property shall be visually and acoustically screened from the installation through either existing vegetation or new plantings of not less than 8 feet in height at the time of planting staggered at a spacing of no more than 8 feet apart throughout the required setback dimensions. All required plantings shall be maintained throughout the project's life, and replaced as necessary. As an alternate to providing the required screening through vegetation, it is acceptable to increase the setback to 600 feet on the applicant's property while providing an acceptable alternate screening such as a stockade fence and single row of vegetation in close proximity to the project.
- **6.10.5.2.1.4** The provided screening shall obscure from view on all sides at least 50%, or 100% if the project is located in the Residential-Agricultural zoning district, of the project from adjacent properties, including upper levels of existing structures at the time of construction, within three years of the start of construction or earthwork activities. Security fences, roadways, and equipment shall not be placed within the required setback, except for that which is required to access the site from an adjacent roadway, or to transmit the generated power to the grid.
- **6.10.5.2.1.5** Abutting residential uses. When such facility is directly abutting existing residential uses, such screening shall consist of:
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  - h. Permit for screening reduction: An applicant may request permission to reduce such buffer requirements in such instances it is determined to not have a detrimental effect to the abutters and in such instances where the buffer will have a detrimental effect on the ability to generate power.
- **6.10.5.2.1.6** Abutting nonresidential uses including public accepted streets. Screening as determined to be adequate in the form of either vegetation or fencing.
- **6.10.5.2.2 Control of Vegetation.** Mowing or the use of pervious pavers or geotextile materials underneath the facility is the preferred method of vegetation

- control. Herbicides may only be used where it can be demonstrated that no danger is posed to groundwater supplies, or to local agricultural activities. The Agricultural Commission and Board of Health are to approve all proposed herbicides.
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- **6.10.5.2.6 Appurtenant structures.** All such appurtenant structures, including but not limited to, equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other. Structures should be shaded from view by vegetation and/or joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts. Appurtenance structures shall not exceed 15' in height and shall meet the regulations for accessory structures as determined by the Building Department.
- **6.10.5.2.7 Emergency services.** The applicant shall provide a copy of the project summary and site plan to the Plympton Fire and Police Departments. The applicant shall cooperate with the Fire and Police Departments in developing an emergency response plan. All means of disconnecting the solar facility shall be clearly marked, and training required to allow emergency response personnel to safely shut down the facility in event of an emergency provided at no cost to the Town as requested by the Town. Site access shall be conducive to emergency vehicle travel to allow for unimpeded access around the site at all times. Access requirements, not limited to gating, road widths and surfaces, etc. will be reviewed during the site plan review process, with approval being at the discretion of the Fire Chief. The applicant or facility owner shall identify a responsible person for public inquiries or complaints throughout the life of the project.
- **6.10.5.2.8 Unauthorized access.** All solar facilities shall be designed to prevent unauthorized access in compliance with any and all federal, state and local regulations. Electrical equipment shall be locked where possible. Where installed, video surveillance

cameras shall be oriented in such a fashion so as to minimize capturing activity outside the solar facility.

#### 6.10.5.3 Environmental standards.

- **6.10.5.3.1 Land clearing.** Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to what is necessary for the construction, access to, operation and maintenance of the ground mounted solar facility or otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations and ordinances. Clear cutting is prohibited within the setback area unless pre-approved and with the understanding that trees and/or vegetation of significant size and screening ability will be planted and/or fencing installed in order to mitigate any visual or environmental impact on the abutters and/or the rural nature of the Town.
- **6.10.5.3.2 Rare and endangered species.** The applicant shall provide evidence of compliance with the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act and requirements of the Commonwealth of [Massachusetts] Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.
- **6.10.5.3.3 Wetlands.** The applicant shall provide evidence of compliance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act and the Town of Plympton Wetlands Protection Ordinance. Such evidence is subject to review and approval by the Plympton Conservation Commission.
- **6.10.5.3.4 Stormwater.** The applicant shall demonstrate compliance with all local, state and federal stormwater management laws and regulations.

## 6.10.5.3.5 Selective Clearing.

- **6.10.5.3.5.1** Selective clearing may be done with one or more of the following conditions:
  - If the selective removal of a species of plant, a group of species of plants, a story or group of story in whole or in part does not affect the growth of other trees or plants, and is done according to criteria regarding minimum tree size for harvesting, specifications of the number, spacing and size classes of residual trees per area, and allowable cut.
  - If vegetation or trees to be cut, trimmed or removed are those that restrict the effective functioning of the solar collectors and/or access to the solar field by routine and/or emergency services
- **6.10.5.3.5.2** All trees scheduled to be removed shall be visibly marked or flagged by the Contractor prior to seeking confirmation from the Town. The Town agent/Engineer will inspect the identified trees and verify the limits of clearing and thinning prior to the Contractor proceeding with his cutting operation.
- **6.10.5.4 Action by the Planning Board.** Site plan review shall be conducted in accordance with the notice, hearing and filing procedures set forth in [M.G.L.] c. 40A for special permits, except as otherwise set forth in this section. After determining if the site plan is in conformance with the requirements of this Bylaw, and after considering the criteria set forth

in this section, the Planning Board may approve, approve with modifications, or or grant leave to withdraw. Approval may be subject to any conditions, modifications and/or restrictions as the Planning Board may deem necessary. Leave to withdraw or disapproval by the Planning Board must be supported by written findings.

## 6.10.5.5 Monitoring and maintenance.

- **6.10.5.5.1 Facility conditions.** The applicant shall maintain the solar facility in good condition. Maintenance shall include but not be limited to vegetation upkeep, structural repairs and the integrity of security measures. Site access shall be maintained to a level acceptable to the local fire chief, local emergency planning committee and emergency medical services. The project owner shall be responsible for the cost of maintaining the solar facility and any access road, unless accepted as a public way, and the cost of repairing any damage as a result of operation and construction. The project owner shall also be responsible for ensuring that the solar facility does not at any time lower the quality of service supplied to nearby customers or cause safety problems to the interconnected electrical grid.
- **6.10.5.5.2 Modifications.** All modifications to a large scale ground mounted solar facility, other than regular maintenance, made after issuance of the site plan review approval shall require approval by the Planning Board as provided in this section.
- **6.10.5.6** Change in ownership. If the owner and/or operator of a large scale ground mounted solar facility changes, notice shall be given to the Planning Board with the contact information of the new owner/operator within one month of the change in ownership and/or operations.

# 6.10.5.7 Abandonment or decommissioning.

- **6.10.5.7.1 Removal requirements.** Any large scale ground mounted solar facility which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned consistent with subsection 6.10.9.2 of this section shall be removed. The owner or operator shall physically remove the installation no more than 150 days after the date of discontinued operations. The owner or operator shall notify the Planning Board by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:
  - a. Physical removal of all solar panels, structures, equipment, security barriers and electrical lines from the site.
  - b. Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.
  - c. Stabilization or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion. The Planning Board may allow the owner or operator to leave landscaping, designated below-grade foundations or service roads in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation.
- **6.10.5.7.2 Abandonment.** Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning, the large scale ground mounted solar facility shall be considered abandoned when the facility fails to operate for more than one year without written consent of the Planning Board. The

Planning Board shall determine in its decision what proportion of the facility is inoperable for the facility to be considered abandoned. If the applicant fails to remove the large scale ground mounted solar facility in accordance with the requirements of this section within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the Town shall have the authority to enter the property and physically remove the facility.

**6.10.5.7.3 Financial surety.** The Planning Board shall require the applicant for a large scale ground mounted solar facility to provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or otherwise, to cover the estimated cost of removal in the event that the Town must remove the facility, of an amount and form determined to be reasonable by the Planning Board, but in no event to be less than 75% nor to exceed more than 125 percent of the estimated cost of removal and compliance with the additional requirements set forth herein, in accordance with 6.10.5.7. Such surety will not be required for municipally or state owned facilities. The applicant shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, in accordance with 6.10.5.7.

# Solar Bylaw Review Committee: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 23 (On the motion of Colleen Thompson, Selectman, to approve Article 23 as written in the warrant) To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Plympton Zoning Bylaws "Section 6.10 Solar Facilities" by deleting Section 6.10 in it's entirety and replacing it with a new Section 6.10 as recommended by the Solar Bylaw Review Committee and the Planning Board or take any action relative thereto.

#### 6.10 SOLAR FACILITIES.

#### **6.10.1 PURPOSE.**

- **6.10.1.1** The purpose of this section is to establish general guidelines for the siting of solar photovoltaic facilities, hereinafter referred to as solar facilities. The goals of this section are to:
  - a. Promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community by allowing the generation of sustainable energy with as-of-right siting of solar facilities in order to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases, protect environmental resources, and foster sustainable economic development.
  - b. Protect, conserve and improve the unique visual quality and historic character of the Town of Plympton while simultaneously supporting the needs of the property owners.
  - c. Provide standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of solar facilities. Such siting standards shall address public safety, minimize impacts on natural resources, and provide adequate financial assurance for the eventual decommissioning of such facilities.
- **6.10.1.2** It is not the purpose of this section to prohibit or unreasonably regulate the installation of solar energy systems or the building of structures that facilitate the

collection of solar energy per M.G.L. c. 40A,§ 3, except where necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare.

## 6.10.2 Applicability

- **6.10.2.1** These requirements apply to all solar facilities proposed to be constructed after the effective date of this section.
- **6.10.2.2** These requirements also pertain to physical modifications that alter the type, configuration, or size of these installations or related equipment.
- **6.10.2.3** These requirements do not apply to minor modifications or maintenance of a solar facility.
- **6.10.2.4** Solar facilities shall be allowed on parcels of land in any zoning district.

### 6.10.3 Definitions.

As-of-Right Siting. As-of-Right Siting shall mean that development may proceed without the need for a special permit, variance, amendment, waiver, or other discretionary approval. As-of-right development may be subject to non-discretionary site plan review by the Planning Board to determine conformance with local zoning bylaws. It will also be subject to other board review, including but not limited to the Conservation Commission, where such review is within the boards' jurisdiction, and must meet applicable state and federal law. As-of-right development projects that are consistent with all local bylaws, rules and regulations and with state and federal law cannot be prohibited.

**Project site.** A parcel or combination of parcels, which the solar facility operator has control of, on which the solar facility is or will be located.

**Rated nameplate capacity.** The maximum rated output of electric power production equipment in direct current (DC). This output is typically specified by the manufacturer with a "nameplate" on the equipment.

**Site plan review.** Review by the Planning Board to determine conformance with Plympton's Zoning By-laws. The Planning Board may also request review by other Town Boards, , including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission where such review is within that Board's jurisdiction.

**Solar Energy System.** A device or structural design feature, a substantial purpose of which is to provide daylight for interior lighting or provide for the collection, storage and distribution of solar energy for space heating or cooling, electricity generation, or water heating.

**Ground-Mounted Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that is structurally mounted to the ground and is not roof-mounted; may be of any size (small-, medium- or large-scale).

**Large-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies more than or equal to 40,000 square feet of surface area (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 250kW DC or greater).

**Medium-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies more than 1,750 but less than 40,000 square feet of surface area (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 10 - 250 kW DC).

**Roof-Mounted Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that is structurally mounted to the roof of a building or structure; may be of any size (small-, medium- or large-scale).

**Small-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies 1,750 square feet of surface area or less (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 10 kW DC or less).

**Solar facility.** A facility comprised of one or more solar panels, as well as all access roads and appurtenant structures.

### 6.10.4 General requirements.

- **6.10.4.1** Large scale ground mounted solar facilities. Ground mounted solar facilities shall be allowed in all zones and permitted only by as-of-right site plan review from the Planning Board pursuant to this section, as well as review by other bodies, including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission. The review is subject to the following conditions:
  - a. Site plan review. No large scale ground mounted solar facility shall be constructed, installed or modified as provided in this section without first obtaining site plan review approval by the Plympton Planning Board in compliance with subsection 6.10.5 of this section, as well as review by other bodies, including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission.
  - b. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.
  - h. Site control. The applicant shall submit with its application for site plan review, documentation of actual or prospective control of the project site sufficient to allow for installation and use of the proposed facility. Notice of change of ownership shall be given to the Planning Board in compliance with subsection 6.10.5.6 of this section.
  - i. Parcels without frontage. Projects for landlocked parcels shall be considered as long as the following conditions can be met:
    - i) The owner has demonstrated a permanent easement to a public way
    - ii) The parcel was landlocked prior to May 16, 2012
    - iii) The parcel is a minimum of five (5) acres
  - j. Financial surety. The applicant shall provide financial surety documentation if so required by the Planning Board as determined in compliance with

subsection 6.10.5.7.3 of this section.

- k. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all large scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
- 1. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
- **6.10.4.2** Medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities. Medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be allowed as-of-right with a building permit in all zones provided that they meet the following conditions:
  - a. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
  - b. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance to the building commissioner in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
  - c. Design standards. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.2 design standards and subsection 6.10.5.3 environmental standards where applicable.
  - d. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.
- **6.10.4.3** Roof mounted solar facilities. Roof mounted solar facilities shall be allowed as-of- right with a building permit in all zones provided that they meet the following conditions:
  - a. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all roof mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
  - b. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance to the building commissioner in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.

- c. Structural engineering report. A structural engineering report may be required by the building commissioner illustrating the structural integrity of the structure and its ability to support the proposed roof mounted solar facility.
- d. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.

# 6.10.5 Site plan review.

- **6.10.5.1 Submittal requirements.** The project proponent is required to provide the Plympton Planning Board with the following, which shall then be distributed to the Conservation Commission and other Town Boards:
  - a. Application. Two original application forms and a designer's certificate.
  - b. Fees. Required fees.
  - c. Siting and design. Eight full copies of a site plan. The plan shall be on 24" × 36" sheets at a scale of 1"=40' or 1"=200', as appropriate, on as many sheets as necessary. Site plans shall be prepared by a Massachusetts licensed professional engineer and/or a registered land surveyor, as applicable. The site plan shall include the following:
    - e) Location map. Copy of the most recent USGS quadrangle map, at a scale of 1:25,000, showing the proposed facility site and the area within at least two miles from the facility.
    - iii) Site plan. A one inch equals 200 feet plan of the proposed solar facility site, with contour intervals of no more than ten feet, showing the following:
      - a) Property lines and physical dimensions of the project site and adjacent parcels within 100 feet of the project site;
      - b) Location of permanent structures or buildings on the project site and on adjacent parcels of the project site;
      - c) Location and details of all security measures for the site; and
      - d) Location of all existing and proposed roads, both public and private, on the project site.
    - iii) Project plan. A plan indicating all proposed changes to the landscape of the site, including temporary or permanent roads or driveways, grading, vegetation clearing and planting, exterior lighting, screening vegetation or structures shall include the following:
      - f)Proposed changes to the landscape of the site, grading, vegetation to be removed or altered, amenities such as lighting or fencing, screening vegetation or structures, and wetlands delineation. Lighting shall be designed to minimize glare on abutting properties and be directed downward with full cutoff fixtures to reduce light pollution;

- g) Location of the ground mounted solar facility, type of mounting devices, access roads, lighting, ground equipment, fencing, electrical infrastructure, and associated equipment;
- h) Plans for accessory buildings or other structures, and location and details of all planned security measures;
- i) Layout and details of surfacing for access roads and parking including temporary roads and staging areas; and
- j) Any existing overhead utility lines.
- d. Operation and maintenance plan. The applicant shall submit a plan for the general maintenance of access roads and stormwater controls, as well as general procedures for operational maintenance of the ground mounted solar facility.

### e. Schematics.

- i) Schematic or blueprints of the ground mounted solar facility signed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed structures and any shading from nearby structures;
- ii) Schematic or outline electrical diagram showing proposed solar panels, associated components and electrical interconnection methods, all with National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and overcurrent devices;
- iii) Description of the major system components to be used including the photovoltaic panels, mounting system and inverter.
- f. Compliance documents. The applicant will provide the following with the application:
  - i) A description of financial surety that satisfies subsection 6.10.5.7.3 of this section;
  - v) A fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal of the solar facility, prepared by a qualified third party expert, which shall include a mechanism for calculating increased removal costs due to inflation.
  - vi) Proof of liability insurance that satisfies subsection 6.10.4.1.g of this section;
  - vii) Name, address, and contact information for:
    - a) Proposed system installer,
    - b) The landowner,
    - c) The project proponent, as well as all co-proponents; and
    - d) Any agents representing the applicant.
  - v) The Planning Board and the other reviewing bodies, including but not limited to, the Conservation Commission may require additional information,

data or evidence as it deems necessary pursuant to the site plan review process.

vi) Evidence of utility notification that satisfies subsection 6.10.5.1.g of this section and 6.10.5.2.7.

## g. Notification

i) Property Owners. List of property owners and their addresses for all parcels of land within 300 feet of the project site, to be obtained from the most recent property list from the Plympton Assessor's Office;

Provide stamped A10 sized envelopes representing twice the number of abutters listed above to be used by the Planning Board to mail notice of the site plan review hearing and notice of decision.

The applicant shall be responsible for the cost of publication of the public hearing notice.

- ii) Utility notification. Before installation of the solar facility, the applicant shall inform the utility company that operates the electrical grid where the facility is to be located of its intent to install an interconnected generator and shall satisfy all interconnection agreements.
- i. Waiver of documents. The Planning Board reserves the right to waive documentary requirements as it deems appropriate, unless required by another reviewing body, including but not limited to, the Conservation Commission.

## 6.10.5.3 Design standards

### **6.10.5.2.1** Screening

- **6.10.5.2.1.1** A ground mounted solar facility shall be screened from abutting properties.
- **6.10.5.2.1.2** Screening shall consist of landscaping, fence, grassed earthen berm, or some combination of these screening devices. If utilizing a natural buffer, it shall be maintained above the highest level of the solar panels. When a screen consists of plant materials, said materials shall provide screening at the time of planting and be of a type that will be expected to form a year-round, dense screen.
- **6.10.5.2.1.3** Every abutting agricultural/residential property shall be visually and acoustically screened from the installation through either existing vegetation or new plantings of not less than 8 feet in height at the time of planting staggered at a spacing of no more than 8 feet apart throughout the required setback dimensions. All required plantings shall be maintained throughout the project's life, and replaced as necessary. As an alternate to providing the required screening through vegetation, it is acceptable to increase the setback to 600 feet on the applicant's property while

providing an acceptable alternate screening such as a stockade fence and single row of vegetation in close proximity to the project.

- **6.10.5.2.1.4** The provided screening shall obscure from view on all sides at least 50%, or 100% if the project is located in the Residential-Agricultural zoning district, of the project from adjacent properties, including upper levels of existing structures at the time of construction, within three years of the start of construction or earthwork activities. Security fences, roadways, and equipment shall not be placed within the required setback, except for that which is required to access the site from an adjacent roadway, or to transmit the generated power to the grid.
- **6.10.5.2.1.5** Abutting residential uses. When such facility is directly abutting existing residential uses, such screening shall consist of:
  - i. Project site of less than two acres: Screening as determined to be adequate in the form of either vegetation or fencing.
  - j. Project site of between two and five acres: A minimum of 75 feet of vegetation buffer with 50 feet being undisturbed closest to the residential property, and the other 25 feet being allowed to be selectively cleared in accordance with 6.10.5.3.5.
  - k. Project site of greater than five acres: A minimum of 100 feet of vegetation buffer with 50 feet being undisturbed closest to the residential property, and the other 50 feet being allowed to be selectively cleared.
  - l. Permit for screening reduction: An applicant may request permission to reduce such buffer requirements in such instances it is determined to not have a detrimental effect to the abutters and in such instances where the buffer will have a detrimental effect on the ability to generate power.
- **6.10.5.2.1.6** Abutting nonresidential uses including public accepted streets. Screening as determined to be adequate in the form of either vegetation or fencing.
- **6.10.5.2.2 Control of Vegetation.** Mowing or the use of pervious pavers or geotextile materials underneath the facility is the preferred method of vegetation control. Herbicides may only be used where it can be demonstrated that no danger is posed to groundwater supplies, or to local agricultural activities. The Agricultural Commission and Board of Health are to approve all proposed herbicides.
- **6.10.5.2.3 Signage.** Signs on the solar facility shall comply with the requirements of Section 6.1 of the Plympton Zoning By-laws. Signage at all site entrances shall be required to identify the owner and provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number. These signs shall not be used for the display of any advertising.
- **6.10.5.2.4 Lighting.** Lighting of solar facilities shall comply with the requirements of Section 6.9 of the Plympton Zoning By-laws. Lighting shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall be shielded to eliminate glare from abutting

properties, shall be directed downward and shall incorporate cut-off fixtures to reduce light pollution.

- **6.10.5.2.5 Utility connections.** Reasonable efforts should be made to locate utility connections for ground mounted solar facilities underground, depending on appropriate soil conditions, shape and topography of the site and any requirements of the utility provider. Electrical transformers for utility interconnections may be above ground, if required by the utility provider. All solar facility installations shall conform to the requirements of the interconnection agreement and/or such further requirements as may be promulgated from time to time, as appropriate and as approved by the connecting utility.
- **6.10.5.2.6 Appurtenant structures.** All such appurtenant structures, including but not limited to, equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other. Structures should be shaded from view by vegetation and/or joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts. Appurtenance structures shall not exceed 15' in height and shall meet the regulations for accessory structures as determined by the Building Department.
- **6.10.5.2.7 Emergency services.** The applicant shall provide a copy of the project summary and site plan to the Plympton Fire and Police Departments. The applicant shall cooperate with the Fire and Police Departments in developing an emergency response plan. All means of disconnecting the solar facility shall be clearly marked, and training required to allow emergency response personnel to safely shut down the facility in event of an emergency provided at no cost to the Town as requested by the Town. Site access shall be conducive to emergency vehicle travel to allow for unimpeded access around the site at all times. Access requirements, not limited to gating, road widths and surfaces, etc. will be reviewed during the site plan review process, with approval being at the discretion of the Fire Chief. The applicant or facility owner shall identify a responsible person for public inquiries or complaints throughout the life of the project.
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- **6.10.5.3.3 Wetlands.** The applicant shall provide evidence of compliance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act and the Town of Plympton Wetlands Protection Ordinance. Such evidence is subject to review and approval by the Plympton Conservation Commission.
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- **6.10.5.3.5.1** Selective clearing may be done with one or more of the following conditions:
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  - If vegetation or trees to be cut, trimmed or removed are those that restrict the effective functioning of the solar collectors and/or access to the solar field by routine and/or emergency services
- **6.10.5.3.5.2** All trees scheduled to be removed shall be visibly marked or flagged by the Contractor prior to seeking confirmation from the Town. The Town agent/Engineer will inspect the identified trees and verify the limits of clearing and thinning prior to the Contractor proceeding with his cutting operation.
- **6.10.5.4 Action by the Planning Board.** Site plan review shall be conducted in accordance with the notice, hearing and filing procedures set forth in [M.G.L.] c. 40A for special permits, except as otherwise set forth in this section. After determining if the site plan is in conformance with the requirements of this Bylaw, and after considering the criteria set forth in this section, the Planning Board may approve, approve with modifications, or or grant leave to withdraw. Approval may be subject to any conditions, modifications and/or restrictions as the Planning Board may deem necessary. Leave to withdraw or disapproval by the Planning Board must be supported by written findings.

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facility and any access road, unless accepted as a public way, and the cost of repairing any damage as a result of operation and construction. The project owner shall also be responsible for ensuring that the solar facility does not at any time lower the quality of service supplied to nearby customers or cause safety problems to the interconnected electrical grid.

- **6.10.5.5.2 Modifications.** All modifications to a large scale ground mounted solar facility, other than regular maintenance, made after issuance of the site plan review approval shall require approval by the Planning Board as provided in this section.
- **6.10.5.6** Change in ownership. If the owner and/or operator of a large scale ground mounted solar facility changes, notice shall be given to the Planning Board with the contact information of the new owner/operator within one month of the change in ownership and/or operations.

## 6.10.5.7 Abandonment or decommissioning.

- **6.10.5.7.1 Removal requirements.** Any large scale ground mounted solar facility which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned consistent with subsection 6.10.9.2 of this section shall be removed. The owner or operator shall physically remove the installation no more than 150 days after the date of discontinued operations. The owner or operator shall notify the Planning Board by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:
  - a. Physical removal of all solar panels, structures, equipment, security barriers and electrical lines from the site.
  - b. Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.
  - c. Stabilization or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion. The Planning Board may allow the owner or operator to leave landscaping, designated below-grade foundations or service roads in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation.
- **6.10.5.7.2 Abandonment.** Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning, the large scale ground mounted solar facility shall be considered abandoned when the facility fails to operate for more than one year without written consent of the Planning Board. The Planning Board shall determine in its decision what proportion of the facility is inoperable for the facility to be considered abandoned. If the applicant fails to remove the large scale ground mounted solar facility in accordance with the requirements of this section within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the Town shall have the authority to enter the property and physically remove the facility.
- **6.10.5.7.3 Financial surety.** The Planning Board shall require the applicant for a large scale ground mounted solar facility to provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or otherwise, to cover the estimated cost of removal in the event that the Town must remove the facility, of an amount and form determined to be reasonable by the Planning Board, but in no event to be less than 75% nor to exceed more than 125 percent of the estimated cost of removal and compliance with the additional requirements set forth

herein, in accordance with 6.10.5.7. Such surety will not be required for municipally or state owned facilities. The applicant shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, in accordance with 6.10.5.7.

**ARTICLE 23 VOTE** (on the motion of Dominique Sampson, Solar Bylaw Committee Member, 2 ring Road), to **AMEND** Section 6.10.5.4 to delete the words "or disapproval" found in the last sentence)

**6.10.5.4** Action by the Planning Board. Site plan review shall be conducted in accordance with the notice, hearing and filing procedures set forth in [M.G.L.] c. 40A for special permits, except as otherwise set forth in this section. After determining if the site plan is in conformance with the requirements of this Bylaw, and after considering the criteria set forth in this section, the Planning Board may approve, approve with modifications, or or grant leave to withdraw. Approval may be subject to any conditions, modifications and/or restrictions as the Planning Board may deem necessary. Leave to withdraw or disapproval by the Planning Board must be supported by written findings.

**6.10.5.4 Action by the Planning Board.** Site plan review shall be conducted in accordance with the notice, hearing and filing procedures set forth in [M.G.L.] c. 40A for special permits, except as otherwise set forth in this section. After determining if the site plan is in conformance with the requirements of this Bylaw, and after considering the criteria set forth in this section, the Planning Board may approve, approve with modifications, or or grant leave to withdraw. Approval may be subject to any conditions, modifications and/or restrictions as the Planning Board may deem necessary. Leave to withdraw by the Planning Board must be supported by written findings.

### **AMENDMENT PASSED Unanimous**

ARTICLE 23 VOTE (on the motion of Colleen Thompson as printed in the warrant, with the amendment) To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Plympton Zoning Bylaws "Section 6.10 Solar Facilities" by deleting Section 6.10 in it's entirety and replacing it with a new Section 6.10 as recommended by the Solar Bylaw Review Committee and the Planning Board or take any action relative thereto.

# PASS Super Majority (2/3 Vote)

- 6.10 SOLAR FACILITIES.
- **6.10.1 PURPOSE.**
- **6.10.1.1** The purpose of this section is to establish general guidelines for the siting of solar photovoltaic facilities, hereinafter referred to as solar facilities. The goals of this section are to:
  - a. Promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community by allowing the generation of sustainable energy with as-of-right siting of solar facilities in order to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases, protect environmental resources, and foster sustainable economic development.

- b. Protect, conserve and improve the unique visual quality and historic character of the Town of Plympton while simultaneously supporting the needs of the property owners.
- c. Provide standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of solar facilities. Such siting standards shall address public safety, minimize impacts on natural resources, and provide adequate financial assurance for the eventual decommissioning of such facilities.
- **6.10.1.2** It is not the purpose of this section to prohibit or unreasonably regulate the installation of solar energy systems or the building of structures that facilitate the collection of solar energy per M.G.L. c. 40A,§ 3, except where necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare.

# 6.10.2 Applicability.

- **6.10.2.1** These requirements apply to all solar facilities proposed to be constructed after the effective date of this section.
- **6.10.2.2** These requirements also pertain to physical modifications that alter the type, configuration, or size of these installations or related equipment.
- **6.10.2.3** These requirements do not apply to minor modifications or maintenance of a solar facility.
- **6.10.2.4** Solar facilities shall be allowed on parcels of land in any zoning district.

#### 6.10.3 Definitions.

As-of-Right Siting. As-of-Right Siting shall mean that development may proceed without the need for a special permit, variance, amendment, waiver, or other discretionary approval. As-of-right development may be subject to non-discretionary site plan review by the Planning Board to determine conformance with local zoning bylaws. It will also be subject to other board review, including but not limited to the Conservation Commission, where such review is within the boards' jurisdiction, and must meet applicable state and federal law. As-of-right development projects that are consistent with all local bylaws, rules and regulations and with state and federal law cannot be prohibited.

**Project site.** A parcel or combination of parcels, which the solar facility operator has control of, on which the solar facility is or will be located.

**Rated nameplate capacity.** The maximum rated output of electric power production equipment in direct current (DC). This output is typically specified by the manufacturer with a "nameplate" on the equipment.

**Site plan review.** Review by the Planning Board to determine conformance with Plympton's Zoning By-laws. The Planning Board may also request review by other Town Boards, , including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission where such review is within that Board's jurisdiction.

**Solar Energy System.** A device or structural design feature, a substantial purpose of which is to provide daylight for interior lighting or provide for the collection, storage and distribution of solar energy for space heating or cooling, electricity generation, or water heating.

**Ground-Mounted Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that is structurally mounted to the ground and is not roof-mounted; may be of any size (small-, medium- or large-scale).

**Large-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies more than or equal to 40,000 square feet of surface area (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 250kW DC or greater).

**Medium-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies more than 1,750 but less than 40,000 square feet of surface area (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 10 - 250 kW DC).

**Roof-Mounted Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that is structurally mounted to the roof of a building or structure; may be of any size (small-, medium- or large-scale).

**Small-Scale Solar Energy System.** An Active Solar Energy System that occupies 1,750 square feet of surface area or less (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 10 kW DC or less).

**Solar facility.** A facility comprised of one or more solar panels, as well as all access roads and appurtenant structures.

# 6.10.4 General requirements.

- **6.10.4.1** Large scale ground mounted solar facilities. Ground mounted solar facilities shall be allowed in all zones and permitted only by as-of-right site plan review from the Planning Board pursuant to this section, as well as review by other bodies, including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission. The review is subject to the following conditions:
  - a. Site plan review. No large scale ground mounted solar facility shall be constructed, installed or modified as provided in this section without first obtaining site plan review approval by the Plympton Planning Board in compliance with subsection 6.10.5 of this section, as well as review by other bodies, including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission.
  - b. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.
  - c. Site control. The applicant shall submit with its application for site plan review, documentation of actual or prospective control of the project site sufficient to allow for installation and use of the proposed facility. Notice of change of ownership shall be given to the Planning Board in compliance with subsection 6.10.5.6 of this section.

- d. Parcels without frontage. Projects for landlocked parcels shall be considered as long as the following conditions can be met:
  - i) The owner has demonstrated a permanent easement to a public way
  - ii) The parcel was landlocked prior to May 16, 2012
  - iii) The parcel is a minimum of five (5) acres
- e. Financial surety. The applicant shall provide financial surety documentation if so required by the Planning Board as determined in compliance with subsection 6.10.5.7.3 of this section.
- f. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all large scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
- g. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
- **6.10.4.2** Medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities. Medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be allowed as-of-right with a building permit in all zones provided that they meet the following conditions:
  - a. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
  - b. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance to the building commissioner in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
  - c. Design standards. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.2 design standards and subsection 6.10.5.3 environmental standards where applicable.
  - d. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.
- **6.10.4.3** Roof mounted solar facilities. Roof mounted solar facilities shall be allowed as-of- right with a building permit in all zones provided that they meet the following conditions:
  - a. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all roof mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all

- applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.
- b. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance to the building commissioner in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.
- c. Structural engineering report. A structural engineering report may be required by the building commissioner illustrating the structural integrity of the structure and its ability to support the proposed roof mounted solar facility.
- d. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.

# 6.10.5 Site plan review.

- **6.10.5.1 Submittal requirements.** The project proponent is required to provide the Plympton Planning Board with the following, which shall then be distributed to the Conservation Commission and other Town Boards:
  - a. Application. Two original application forms and a designer's certificate.
  - b. Fees. Required fees.
  - c. Siting and design. Eight full copies of a site plan. The plan shall be on  $24" \times 36"$  sheets at a scale of 1"=40" or 1"=200", as appropriate, on as many sheets as necessary. Site plans shall be prepared by a Massachusetts licensed professional engineer and/or a registered land surveyor, as applicable. The site plan shall include the following:
    - i) Location map. Copy of the most recent USGS quadrangle map, at a scale of 1:25,000, showing the proposed facility site and the area within at least two miles from the facility.
    - ii) Site plan. A one inch equals 200 feet plan of the proposed solar facility site, with contour intervals of no more than ten feet, showing the following:
    - a) Property lines and physical dimensions of the project site and adjacent parcels within 100 feet of the project site;
    - b) Location of permanent structures or buildings on the project site and on adjacent parcels of the project site;
    - c) Location and details of all security measures for the site; and
    - d) Location of all existing and proposed roads, both public and private, on the project site.
    - iii) Project plan. A plan indicating all proposed changes to the landscape of the site, including temporary or permanent roads or driveways, grading, vegetation clearing and planting, exterior lighting, screening vegetation or

structures shall include the following:

- a) Proposed changes to the landscape of the site, grading, vegetation to be removed or altered, amenities such as lighting or fencing, screening vegetation or structures, and wetlands delineation.
   Lighting shall be designed to minimize glare on abutting properties and be directed downward with full cutoff fixtures to reduce light pollution;
- b) Location of the ground mounted solar facility, type of mounting devices, access roads, lighting, ground equipment, fencing, electrical infrastructure, and associated equipment;
- c) Plans for accessory buildings or other structures, and location and details of all planned security measures;
- d) Layout and details of surfacing for access roads and parking including temporary roads and staging areas; and
- e) Any existing overhead utility lines.
- d. Operation and maintenance plan. The applicant shall submit a plan for the general maintenance of access roads and stormwater controls, as well as general procedures for operational maintenance of the ground mounted solar facility.

### e. Schematics.

- i) Schematic or blueprints of the ground mounted solar facility signed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed structures and any shading from nearby structures;
- ii) Schematic or outline electrical diagram showing proposed solar panels, associated components and electrical interconnection methods, all with National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and overcurrent devices;
- iii) Description of the major system components to be used including the photovoltaic panels, mounting system and inverter.
- f. Compliance documents. The applicant will provide the following with the application:
  - i) A description of financial surety that satisfies subsection 6.10.5.7.3 of this section;
  - ii) A fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal of the solar facility, prepared by a qualified third party expert, which shall include a mechanism for calculating increased removal costs due to inflation.
  - iii) Proof of liability insurance that satisfies subsection 6.10.4.1.g of this section;

- iv) Name, address, and contact information for:
  - a) Proposed system installer,
  - b) The landowner,
  - c) The project proponent, as well as all co-proponents; and
  - d) Any agents representing the applicant.
- v) The Planning Board and the other reviewing bodies, including but not limited to, the Conservation Commission may require additional information, data or evidence as it deems necessary pursuant to the site plan review process.
- vi) Evidence of utility notification that satisfies subsection 6.10.5.1.g of this section and 6.10.5.2.7.

## g. Notification.

i) Property Owners. List of property owners and their addresses for all parcels of land within 300 feet of the project site, to be obtained from the most recent property list from the Plympton Assessor's Office;

Provide stamped A10 sized envelopes representing twice the number of abutters listed above to be used by the Planning Board to mail notice of the site plan review hearing and notice of decision.

The applicant shall be responsible for the cost of publication of the public hearing notice.

- ii) Utility notification. Before installation of the solar facility, the applicant shall inform the utility company that operates the electrical grid where the facility is to be located of its intent to install an interconnected generator and shall satisfy all interconnection agreements.
- h. Waiver of documents. The Planning Board reserves the right to waive documentary requirements as it deems appropriate, unless required by another reviewing body, including but not limited to, the Conservation Commission.

### 6.10.5.2 Design standards

### **6.10.5.2.1** Screening

- **6.10.5.2.1.1** A ground mounted solar facility shall be screened from abutting properties.
- **6.10.5.2.1.2** Screening shall consist of landscaping, fence, grassed earthen berm, or some combination of these screening devices. If utilizing a natural buffer, it shall be maintained above the highest level of the solar panels. When a screen consists of plant materials, said materials shall provide screening at the time of planting and be of a type that will be expected to form a year-round, dense screen.

- **6.10.5.2.1.3** Every abutting agricultural/residential property shall be visually and acoustically screened from the installation through either existing vegetation or new plantings of not less than 8 feet in height at the time of planting staggered at a spacing of no more than 8 feet apart throughout the required setback dimensions. All required plantings shall be maintained throughout the project's life, and replaced as necessary. As an alternate to providing the required screening through vegetation, it is acceptable to increase the setback to 600 feet on the applicant's property while providing an acceptable alternate screening such as a stockade fence and single row of vegetation in close proximity to the project.
- **6.10.5.2.1.4** The provided screening shall obscure from view on all sides at least 50%, or 100% if the project is located in the Residential-Agricultural zoning district, of the project from adjacent properties, including upper levels of existing structures at the time of construction, within three years of the start of construction or earthwork activities. Security fences, roadways, and equipment shall not be placed within the required setback, except for that which is required to access the site from an adjacent roadway, or to transmit the generated power to the grid.
- **6.10.5.2.1.5** Abutting residential uses. When such facility is directly abutting existing residential uses, such screening shall consist of:
  - a. Project site of less than two acres: Screening as determined to be adequate in the form of either vegetation or fencing.
  - b. Project site of between two and five acres: A minimum of 75 feet of vegetation buffer with 50 feet being undisturbed closest to the residential property, and the other 25 feet being allowed to be selectively cleared in accordance with 6.10.5.3.5.
  - c. Project site of greater than five acres: A minimum of 100 feet of vegetation buffer with 50 feet being undisturbed closest to the residential property, and the other 50 feet being allowed to be selectively cleared.
  - d. Permit for screening reduction: An applicant may request permission to reduce such buffer requirements in such instances it is determined to not have a detrimental effect to the abutters and in such instances where the buffer will have a detrimental effect on the ability to generate power.
- **6.10.5.2.1.6** Abutting nonresidential uses including public accepted streets. Screening as determined to be adequate in the form of either vegetation or fencing.
- **6.10.5.2.2 Control of Vegetation.** Mowing or the use of pervious pavers or geotextile materials underneath the facility is the preferred method of vegetation control. Herbicides may only be used where it can be demonstrated that no danger is posed to groundwater supplies, or to local agricultural activities. The Agricultural Commission and Board of Health are to approve all proposed herbicides.

- **6.10.5.2.3 Signage.** Signs on the solar facility shall comply with the requirements of Section 6.1 of the Plympton Zoning By-laws. Signage at all site entrances shall be required to identify the owner and provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number. These signs shall not be used for the display of any advertising.
- **6.10.5.2.4 Lighting.** Lighting of solar facilities shall comply with the requirements of Section 6.9 of the Plympton Zoning By-laws. Lighting shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall be shielded to eliminate glare from abutting properties, shall be directed downward and shall incorporate cut-off fixtures to reduce light pollution.
- **6.10.5.2.5 Utility connections.** Reasonable efforts should be made to locate utility connections for ground mounted solar facilities underground, depending on appropriate soil conditions, shape and topography of the site and any requirements of the utility provider. Electrical transformers for utility interconnections may be above ground, if required by the utility provider. All solar facility installations shall conform to the requirements of the interconnection agreement and/or such further requirements as may be promulgated from time to time, as appropriate and as approved by the connecting utility.
- **6.10.5.2.6 Appurtenant structures.** All such appurtenant structures, including but not limited to, equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other. Structures should be shaded from view by vegetation and/or joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts. Appurtenance structures shall not exceed 15' in height and shall meet the regulations for accessory structures as determined by the Building Department.
- **6.10.5.2.7 Emergency services.** The applicant shall provide a copy of the project summary and site plan to the Plympton Fire and Police Departments. The applicant shall cooperate with the Fire and Police Departments in developing an emergency response plan. All means of disconnecting the solar facility shall be clearly marked, and training required to allow emergency response personnel to safely shut down the facility in event of an emergency provided at no cost to the Town as requested by the Town. Site access shall be conducive to emergency vehicle travel to allow for unimpeded access around the site at all times. Access requirements, not limited to gating, road widths and surfaces, etc. will be reviewed during the site plan review process, with approval being at the discretion of the Fire Chief. The applicant or facility owner shall identify a responsible person for public inquiries or complaints throughout the life of the project.
- **6.10.5.2.8 Unauthorized access.** All solar facilities shall be designed to prevent unauthorized access in compliance with any and all federal, state and local regulations. Electrical equipment shall be locked where possible. Where installed, video surveillance cameras shall be oriented in such a fashion so as to minimize capturing activity outside the solar facility.

#### 6.10.5.3 Environmental standards.

- **6.10.5.3.1 Land clearing.** Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to what is necessary for the construction, access to, operation and maintenance of the ground mounted solar facility or otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations and ordinances. Clear cutting is prohibited within the setback area unless pre-approved and with the understanding that trees and/or vegetation of significant size and screening ability will be planted and/or fencing installed in order to mitigate any visual or environmental impact on the abutters and/or the rural nature of the Town.
- **6.10.5.3.2 Rare and endangered species.** The applicant shall provide evidence of compliance with the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act and requirements of the Commonwealth of [Massachusetts] Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.
- **6.10.5.3.3 Wetlands.** The applicant shall provide evidence of compliance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act and the Town of Plympton Wetlands Protection Ordinance. Such evidence is subject to review and approval by the Plympton Conservation Commission.
- **6.10.5.3.4 Stormwater.** The applicant shall demonstrate compliance with all local, state and federal stormwater management laws and regulations.

## 6.10.5.3.5 Selective Clearing.

- **6.10.5.3.5.1** Selective clearing may be done with one or more of the following conditions:
  - a. If the selective removal of a species of plant, a group of species of plants, a story or group of story in whole or in part does not affect the growth of other trees or plants, and is done according to criteria regarding minimum tree size for harvesting, specifications of the number, spacing and size classes of residual trees per area, and allowable cut.
  - b. If vegetation or trees to be cut, trimmed or removed are those that restrict the effective functioning of the solar collectors and/or access to the solar field by routine and/or emergency services
- **6.10.5.3.5.2** All trees scheduled to be removed shall be visibly marked or flagged by the Contractor prior to seeking confirmation from the Town. The Town agent/Engineer will inspect the identified trees and verify the limits of clearing and thinning prior to the Contractor proceeding with his cutting operation.
- **6.10.5.4 Action by the Planning Board.** Site plan review shall be conducted in accordance with the notice, hearing and filing procedures set forth in [M.G.L.] c. 40A for special permits, except as otherwise set forth in this section. After determining if the site plan is in conformance with the requirements of this Bylaw, and after considering the criteria set forth in this section, the Planning Board may approve, approve with modifications, or or grant leave to withdraw. Approval may be subject to any conditions, modifications and/or

restrictions as the Planning Board may deem necessary. Leave to withdraw by the Planning Board must be supported by written findings.

# 6.10.5.5 Monitoring and maintenance.

- **6.10.5.5.1 Facility conditions.** The applicant shall maintain the solar facility in good condition. Maintenance shall include but not be limited to vegetation upkeep, structural repairs and the integrity of security measures. Site access shall be maintained to a level acceptable to the local fire chief, local emergency planning committee and emergency medical services. The project owner shall be responsible for the cost of maintaining the solar facility and any access road, unless accepted as a public way, and the cost of repairing any damage as a result of operation and construction. The project owner shall also be responsible for ensuring that the solar facility does not at any time lower the quality of service supplied to nearby customers or cause safety problems to the interconnected electrical grid.
- **6.10.5.5.2 Modifications.** All modifications to a large scale ground mounted solar facility, other than regular maintenance, made after issuance of the site plan review approval shall require approval by the Planning Board as provided in this section.
- **6.10.5.6** Change in ownership. If the owner and/or operator of a large scale ground mounted solar facility changes, notice shall be given to the Planning Board with the contact information of the new owner/operator within one month of the change in ownership and/or operations.

# 6.10.5.7 Abandonment or decommissioning.

- **6.10.5.7.1 Removal requirements.** Any large scale ground mounted solar facility which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned consistent with subsection 6.10.9.2 of this section shall be removed. The owner or operator shall physically remove the installation no more than 150 days after the date of discontinued operations. The owner or operator shall notify the Planning Board by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:
  - a. Physical removal of all solar panels, structures, equipment, security barriers and electrical lines from the site.
  - b. Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.
  - c. Stabilization or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion. The Planning Board may allow the owner or operator to leave landscaping, designated below-grade foundations or service roads in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation.
- **6.10.5.7.2 Abandonment.** Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning, the large scale ground mounted solar facility shall be considered abandoned when the facility fails to operate for more than one year without written consent of the Planning Board. The Planning Board shall determine in its decision what proportion of the facility is inoperable for the facility to be considered abandoned. If the applicant fails to remove the large scale

ground mounted solar facility in accordance with the requirements of this section within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the Town shall have the authority to enter the property and physically remove the facility.

**6.10.5.7.3 Financial surety.** The Planning Board shall require the applicant for a large scale ground mounted solar facility to provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or otherwise, to cover the estimated cost of removal in the event that the Town must remove the facility, of an amount and form determined to be reasonable by the Planning Board, but in no event to be less than 75% nor to exceed more than 125 percent of the estimated cost of removal and compliance with the additional requirements set forth herein, in accordance with 6.10.5.7. Such surety will not be required for municipally or state owned facilities. The applicant shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, in accordance with 6.10.5.7.

# PASS Super Majority (2/3 Vote)

ARTICLE 24 To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.44, §53F ½ for the purpose of creating a cable television public access enterprise fund, and, in connection therewith, to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds or cable television related revenues, including but not limited to fees paid to the Town by cable television licensees and any other revenues received by the Town for cable-license or cable-television related services, to be effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015; and further, to transfer from said fund or from previously received cable television license proceeds or otherwise fund a sum of money as a grant for PEG purposes, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a grant agreement for the expenditure of such funds for cable-related purposes in accordance with law; or take any other action relative thereto.

# Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 2-1

ARTICLE 24 VOTE (On the motion of Mark Russo, Selectman) I move that the vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.44, §53F ½, as most recently amended, for the purpose of creating a Cable Television Public Access Enterprise Fund, and, in connection therewith, that the sum of \$55,000.00 be appropriated for the operation of said enterprise in FY2016; And that such sum be raised from cable license fees and receipts; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to provide such sums as appropriated hereunder as a grant to Carver Halifax Community Access Media, Inc. for (1) the provision and support of public, educational, or governmental ("PEG") access cable television license(s), as well as, (3) such other PEG purposes as are consistent with law, and further to authorize said Board of Selectmen to enter into a grant agreement with Carver Halifax Community Access Media, Inc. setting forth the terms and conditions of said grant.

**PASS Majority** 

<u>ARTICLE 25</u> To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be added to the General Stabilization Account or take any action in relation thereto.

Finance Committee: Recommended by BOS 3-0

<u>ARTICLE 25</u> VOTE TO PASSOVER (On the motion of Susan Ossoff, Finance Committee) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be added to the General Stabilization Account or take any action in relation thereto.

## **PASS OVER Unanimous**

**ARTICLE 26** (On the motion of John Traynor, 62 Crescent St) To see if the Town will vote to adjourn this Annual Town Meeting until 8:00 am on May 16, 2015 in the Plympton Town House for the sole purpose of conducting the Annual Town Election To bring in their ballots for the following Town Officers:

- One (1) Selectmen for three (3) years
- One (1) Assessor for three (3) years
- One (1) Assessor for three (2) years (Unfulfilled term)
- One (1) Assessor for three (1) year (Unfulfilled term)
- One (1) Board of Health member for three (3) years
- Two (2) Dennett School Committee members for three (3) years
- One (1) Finance Committee Member for three (3) years
- One (1) Finance Committee Member for three (2) years (Unfulfilled term)
- One (1) Highway Surveyor for three (3) years
- Two (2) Library Trustees for three (3) years
- One (1) Planning Board member for five (5) years
- One (1) Planning Board member for five (1) year (Unfulfilled term)
- One (1) Silver Lake Regional School Committee for three (3) years
- One (1) Silver Lake Regional School Committee for one (2) years (Unfulfilled term)
- One (1) Tree Warden for three (3) years
- One (1) Town Clerk for three (3) years

and further that this Annual Town Meeting warrant will be dissolved immediately upon the closing of the polls on that date. The polls will be open at 8:00 AM and shall be continuously open for voting until 6:00 PM:

## **UNANIMOUS**

Respectfully submitted,

Tara J. Morrison Town Clerk

# PLYMPTON SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES May 13, 2015

# Dennett Elementary School in said Plympton Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7:42 PM

**ARTICLE 1** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,000.00 for the purpose of preparing the Fiscal 2016 Interim-Year valuation of the Town or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Assessors: Recommended by BOS 3-0

**ARTICLE 1 VOTE** (On the motion of Steven Lewis, 189 Brook St) To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$2,000.00 from the May, 2014, Annual Town Meeting, Article 4, Budget Line 800, Reserve Fund for the purpose of preparing the Fiscal 2016 Interim-Year valuation of the town.

**PASS Unanimous** 

**ARTICLE 2** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$20,000 to fund the Other Post Employee Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund established by town meeting vote in accordance with Chapter 32B, Section 20 or take any action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 2 VOTE (On the motion of Colleen Thompson, Selectman, 192 Main St) To see if the town will vote to transfer the sum of \$20,000.00 from the May, 2014, Annual Town Meeting, Article 4 Budget Line 800, Reserve Fund to fund the Other Post Employee Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund established by town meeting vote in accordance with Chapter 32B, Section 20.

**PASS Unanimous** 

<u>ARTICLE 3</u> To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$10,000 to pay for contractual obligations in a sick leave buy back for a retiring personnel or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0

<u>ARTICLE 3</u> **VOTE** (On the motion of John Henry, Selectman, 225 Main St) To see if the Town will vote transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the May, 2014, Annual Town Meeting, Article 4, Budget Line 800, Reserve Fund to pay for contractual obligations in a sick leave buy back for a retiring officer.

**PASS Unanimous** 

**ARTICLE 4** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$10,000 to continue State mandated repairs to the Winnetuxet Street Dam or take any other action relative there to.

Highway Surveyor: Recommended by BOS 3-0

**ARTICLE 4 VOTE** (On the motion of James Mulcahy, Highway Surveyor, 3 Brackett Terrace) To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from May 2014, Annual Town Meeting, Article 4, Budget Line 800, Reserve Fund to continue State mandated repairs to the Winnetuxet Street Dam.

**PASS Unanimous** 

**ARTICLE 5** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$5,000.00 from the May, 2014 Annual Town Meeting Article 4, Line 610 Veterans Benefits and transfer \$5,000.00 from the May 2014 Annual Town Meeting Line 20, Group Insurance both to be added to the Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Account or take any other action relative there to.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 5 VOTE (On the motion of Mark Russo, Selectman, 140 Palmer Road) To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$5,000.00 from the May, 2014 Annual Town Meeting Article 4, Line 610 Veterans Benefits and transfer \$5,000.00 from the May 2014 Annual Town Meeting Line 20, Group Insurance both to be added to the Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Account

**PASS Unanimous** 

**ARTICLE 6** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Line Item 515 Fire Equipment to Line Item 510 Fire/EMS or take other any action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0

**ARTICLE 6 VOTE** (On the motion of Warren Borsari, Fire Chief, 88 Upland Road) To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$5,000.00 from the May, 2014, Annual Town Meeting, Article 4, Budget Line 515 Fire Equipment, to Annual Town Meeting Budget Line 510 Fire/EMS.

**PASS Unanimous** 

(On the motion of Mark Russo, Selectmen, 140 Palmer Road), to dissolve Special Town Meeting and return to Annual Town Meeting.

**PASS Unanimous** 

Respectfully submitted,

Tara J. Morrison Town Clerk

		Specie	Special Town Meeting Appropriations 05/18/16	priations 05/18/16			
				Reserve Fund		Other	
ART.		Description		Amt	Name	Source	Amt
1		Revaluation	01-142-5725	\$2,000.00			
2		OPEB	83-983-5790	\$20,000.00			
3		Sick Leave	01-123-5863	\$10,000.00			
4		Winnetuxet Dam	01-431-5501	\$10,000.00			
S		Building & Land	01-191-588		Veterans Benefits	01-543-5770	\$5,000.00
					Group Ins	01-914-5172	\$5,000.00
9		Fire/EMS	01-228-5201		Fire Dept Equip	01-210-5878	\$5,000.00
Total Approp	rop			\$42,000.00			\$15,000.00
Respectful	Respectfully submitted,						
Summary Sources:	Sources:						
	Reserve Fund	\$42,000.00					
	Vet Benefits	\$5,000.00					
	Group Ins	\$5,000.00					
	Fire Equipment	00 000 \$5					
	Total Approp	\$57,000.00					
Respectful	Respectfully submitted,						
Tara J. Morrison	ırrison						
Town Clerk	k						

# PLYMPTON ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION TOWN OF PLYMPTON SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2015

Tara Morrison, Town Clerk, swore in election officials Kelly Heath, Jean Reynolds, Patricia Detterman and Patricia Mustacaros. The ballot box was checked and was empty, it was locked after inspection by Police Officer Justin Burns. Voting Commenced at 8 am and by 9:30 am we had a count of 35 votes and 1 spoiled ballot. We had a total of 65 votes at 10:30 am and 91 votes at 11:30 am. At noon time, Jean Cohen replaced Patricia Mustacaros and Lisa Hart joined as a check out teller. Both Jean and Lisa were sworn in by Town Clerk Tara Morrison. We had a count of 120 votes at 1:30 pm and 154 count at 4:00 pm. Plympton had lots going on with the Garden Club Plant Sale and Strawberry Shortcake race but it was a slow day in the Election room.

All counters arrived and were sworn in before 6:00 p.m. Ballots were counted. The Total Ballot count was 175 ballots cast. The day was uneventful and all procedures ran smoothly.

Town Of Plympton						
Official Results- 1 Polling Location, 1 Precinct, 5 Palmer Road, Plympton, MA 02367						
Saturday, May 16, 2015 Ann	Saturday, May 16, 2015 Annual Town Election					
SELECTMAN, 3 Years Vote One						
Christine M. Joy	161					
Blank	11					
All Others 3						
ASSESSOR, 3 Years, Vote One						
Jocelyn Anderson	58					
Blank	114					
All Others	3					
ASSESSOR, 2 Years, Vote One						
Ethan C. Stiles	134					
Blank	40					
All Others	1					
ASSESSOR, 1 Year, Vote One						
Steven R. Lewis	145					
Blank	29					
All Others	1					
BOARD OF HEALTH, 3 Years Vote One						
Harry L. Weikel, Jr.	141					
Blank	33					
Blank	 					

All Others	4
All Others	1
FINANCE COMMITTEE, 3 Years Vote One	
-	11
John Henry	149
Blank	
All Others	15
WRITE IN DECLINED BALLOTS C	AST, FAILURE TO ELECT
FINANCE COMMITTEE, 2 Years Vote One	
Arthur Morin	10
Blank	157
All Others	8
WRITE IN DECLINED BALLOTS C.	-
WRITE IN DECLINED BALLOTS C.	AST, FAILURE TO ELECT
HIGHWAY SURVEYOR, 3 Years Vote One	
James M. Mulcahy	151
James M. Mulcany Blank	24
Dialik	24
LIBRARY TRUSTEE, 3 Years Vote Two	
·	151
Kristine M. Boyles	31
Dominique Sampson	167
Blank	1
All Others	<u>'</u>
DI ANNINC BOARD & Vege Vete One	
PLANNING BOARD, 5 Years Vote One	141
Paul D'Angelo Blank	32
	2
Other	
DI ANNINC BOARD 4 Voor Vote One	
PLANNING BOARD, 1 Year Vote One  Deb Anderson	30
	136
Blank Other	
Other	9
SCHOOL COMMITTEE 2 Vacua Vata Time	
SCHOOL COMMITTEE, 3 Years Vote Two Michael J. Antoine	132
	132
Lynn M. Kaupp	
Blank	80
CI DECIONAL COLLOGI COMMITTEE	
SL REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE, 3 Years Vote One	
	400
Maureen A. Springer	132
Blank	42
All Others	1

SL REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE, 2 Years Vote One	
Jason W. Fraser	139
Blank	36
TOWN CLERK, 3 Years Vote One	
Tara J. Morrison	167
Blank	7
All Others	1
TREE WARDEN, 3 Years Vote One	
William H. Hayes	161
Blank	14
TOTAL NUMBER BALLOTS CAST:	175
Total Registered Voters:	2107
Total Residents:	2809
% Voter Turnout:	8%

Respectfully Submitted,

Tara J. Morrison Town Clerk

# PLYMPTON SPECIAL STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TOWN OF PLYMPTON

# Tuesday, October 6, 2015 Senator in General Court

Second Plymouth and Bristol District

Tara Morrison, Town Clerk, swore in election officials Nancy Butler, Barbara Allsopp, Patricia Detterman, Patricia Mustacaros, and Jean Trotta-Cohen The ballot box was checked and was empty, it was locked after inspection by Police Officer Justin Burns. Voting Commenced at 7:00 am. This was the lowest turn out ever. The first voter arrived at 7:27 am. Only one person voted between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 am.

All counters arrived and were sworn in before 8:00 p.m. Ballots were counted. The Total Ballot count was 45 ballots cast. The day was uneventful and all procedures ran smoothly.

Democratic Party				
(Vote one)				
Michael D. Brady	18			
Joseph Lynch	2			
Blank	1			
All Others	1			
Republican Pa	irty			
(Vote one)				
Geoff Diehl	23			
Blank	0			
All Others	0			
United Independer	nt Party			
(Vote one)				
Blank	0			
All Others	0			
Green-Rainbow Party				
(Vote one)				
Blank	0			
All Others	0			
Total Registered Voters:	2130			
Ballots Cast:	45			
Total % Turn Out:	2%			

Respectfully Submitted,

Tara J. Morrison Town Clerk

# PLYMPTON SPECIAL STATE SENATORIAL ELECTION TOWN OF PLYMPTON

# **Tuesday, November 3, 2015 Senator in General Court**

Second Plymouth and Bristol District

Tara J. Shaw, Town Clerk, swore in election officials Nancy Butler, Jean Reynolds, Lisa Hart, Patricia Detterman, and Patricia Mustacaros. The ballot box was checked and was empty, it was locked after inspection by Police Officer Daniel Alix. The numbers were set to 00000. Voting Commenced at 7:00 am. There were 5 Change of Enrollment Cards completed, 1 person not on the Voter List, and 4 absentee ballots processed. The total number of votersAll counters arrived and were sworn in before 8:00 p.m. Ballots were counted. The Total number of ballots cast was 334. The day was uneventful and all procedures ran smoothly.

(Vote one)	
Michael D. Brady	90
Geoff Diehl	229
Anna Grace Raduc	13
Blank	2
All Others	0
Total:	334
Total Registered Voters:	2123
Ballots Cast:	334
Total % Turn Out:	15.7%

Respectfully Submitted,

Tara J. Shaw Town Clerk

#### 2015 RESIGNATIONS

Douglas A. Hall P.O. Box 363 02050 01-06-2015

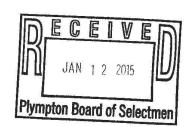
Plympton Board of Selectmen 5 Palmer Road Plympton, MA 02367-0239

#### **Dear Board Members**

I am regretfully submitting my official notice for resignation from the Silver Lake School Committee. I have been going through some tough times but I believe 2015 will be a better year. I am reaching the end of the process of a divorce from my wife of 19 years, my beautiful home on Upland road in Plympton is being sold on Jan 15th, and I am purchasing a new home on Jan 16th. My new residence is In Halifax hence the reason for my resignation.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Hall Silver Lake Plympton representative.



### Town Clerk, Tara Wick

From:

Christa Prescott [cphprescott@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Friday, January 30, 2015 10:26 AM

To: Subject: Tara Wick; susan.os@comcast.net; Marilyn Browne; Mark Gabriel; 'Lisa Hart'; Mark Russo

**Finance Committee** 

It is with regret that I must tender my resignation from Plympton Finance Committee. Our house has suddenly sold, and we have decided to move to Vermont.

I am so sorry that I am unable to fulfill my obligations to the town and my fellow committee members. The closing on our property here is March 4th, and we must use all our time to find a place to live, and to move ourselves, three dogs and two horses.

Thank you for all your patience while you taught me the nuts and bolts of town finance. I wish I could have been more helpful.

Sincerely,

Christa Prescott

February 25, 2015

Board of Selectman C/O Town Clerk 5 Palmer Rd. Plympton, MA 02367

RE: Resignation from the Open Space Committee

Dear Sirs and Madam,

It is with regret that I offer my resignation from the Plympton Open Space Committee effective immediately. My family's relocation out of town prevents my continued participation. Working with the Open Space Committee these many years has been a very rewarding experience. We have accomplished a great deal over the years together and established wonderful friendships along the way. I will miss working alongside such warm and dedicated Plymptonians.

Sincerely

**Bradford Prescott** 

Cc:

Vicki Maloney

# RECEIVED

8-30-15

SEP 0 8 2015

To the Board of Selectmen

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE PLYMPTON

Town of Plympton.

After these many years of service on the Plympton Conservation Commission, Bear and I must resign our post on the commission. This comes with regret and some sadness. The reason for my resignation is due to our move out of Plympton. I, Deb, and Bear will miss the many friends we have made in this beautiful country town. We would like to thank all the boards and their volunteers for their efforts to keep this town a beautiful and friendly place.

Very truly yours,

Tim, Deb, and Bear Dempsey.

# TOWN CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORTS 7/1/14-06/30/15

### **TOWN CLERK'S EXPENSE**

Appropriated 7/1/14 \$19,072.000 Expended: \$19,013.90

Returned to Treasury 6/30/15 \$58.10

## **ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION**

Appropriated 7/1/14 \$14,178.00 Expended: \$12,997.96

Return to Treasury 6/30/15 \$1180.04

## **TOWN CLERK'S SALARY**

Appropriated 7/1/14 \$32,376.00 Expended \$32,376.00

Return to Treasury 6/30/15 0.00

# **CERTIFICATION COMPENSATION**

Appropriated 7/1/14 \$0.00 Expended: \$0.00

Return to Treasury 6/30/15 \$0.00

Respectfully submitted,

Tara J. Shaw Town Clerk

# January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015 DOG LICENSES

320	Spayed or Neutered	@	7.00	\$2240.00
37	Male or Female	@	10.00	\$370.00
5	Kennel License	@	30.00	\$150.00
3	Hobby Kennel License	@	60.00	\$180.00
3	Commercial Kennel License	@	150.00	\$450.00
0	Late Fines (waived)	@	25.00	\$0.00
1	Free/Service Dog	@	0.00	\$0.00

Subtotal \$3390.00 Less Fees \$270.00 Total \$3120.00

The year 2015 is the first year that the bylaws changed to reflect a licensing period from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> with a late fine of \$25.00 for any dog licensed after March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Licenses may be obtained in person at the Town Clerk's Office or by mail. When licensing your dog you must show a copy of the Rabies Certificate. All kennels are required to be inspected by the Animal Inspector before issuing a kennel license.

Respectfully submitted

Tara J. Shaw Town Clerk

## **2015 - JURY LIST**

The jury list is available for inspection during regular business hours in the Town Clerk's Office.

Respectfully,

Tara J. Shaw Town Clerk

# **BIRTHS RECORDED IN PLYMPTON IN 2015**

There were 29 births recorded in Plympton during the year 2015.

# MARRIAGES RECORDED IN PLYMPTON IN 2015

<u>Date</u>		
June 20	Fatjon Ruseni Plympton	Jacqueline Elizabeth Smiley Plympton
June	Linda Ann Marcoux	Andrew Benjamin Levin
25	Plympton	Plympton
July	Danielle Marie Winslow	Edson Rossow Dos Santos
25	Plympton	Plympton
Aug	David Fernando Alberti	Vicki Maloney
1	Plympton	Plympton
Aug	Angela Marie Malchinno	Timothy Paul Lane
8	St. Louis, MO	St. Louis, MO
Aug	Kristina Marie Borelli	Andrew Calder Napolitan
22	Plympton	Plympton
Aug	Stephen Francis Parrish	Kathleen Anne Goggin
23	Plympton	Plympton
Sept	Lara Anne Figueroa	Jason Samuel Gonzalez
12	Mansfield	Mansfield
Sept	Michael Kane Duffy	Amanda Ann Mary Bright
13	Middleboro	Middleboro
Sept	Jeffrey Adam Ghilardi	Heather Marie Barry
19	Plympton	Plympton
Oct	Peter John McGarigal	Elizabeth Marie McEachern
10	Plympton	Plympton
OCT	Jonathan Sommer Shaw	Tara Jean Morrison
10	Plympton	Plympton
Nov.	David Lawrence Kimball	Lindsay Ann Woods
13	Plympton	Plympton

## **DEATHS RECORDED IN PLYMPTON 2015**

Date	Last Name	First Name	Middle	Age	Place of Disposition
Jan 26	Patterson	Helen	Elisabeth	81	Duxbury Crematory, Duxbury, MA

Feb 2	Laplume	Kerry	Α	42	Hillcrest Cemetery, Plympton, MA
4	Sullivan	Mary	Louise	91	Vine Hills Crematory, Plymouth, MA
12	Nolan	Nancy		84	Hillcrest Cemetery, Plympton, MA
March 30	Wentworth	Joyce		63	Vin Hills Cemetery, Plymouth, MA
31	Confar	Nicolas	Earl	25	Union Cemetery, Carver, MA
April 3	Martins	Mario	М	87	Couch Cemetery, Marshfield, MA
10	Wood	Bruce	Alan	62	Central Crematory, Plymouth, MA
17	Benevides	William		92	Duxbury Crematory, Duxbury, MA
June 11	Gettemy	Lauren	Α	38	Hillcrest Cemetery, Plympton, MA
12	Gauthier	Evelyn	М	27 days	Hillcrest Cemetery, Plympton, MA
July 15	Matarazzo	Linda	Ann	71	Blue Hill Cemetery, Braintree, MA
Oct.	Davidson	James	P.	79	Center Cemetery, Pembroke, MA
3	Ferrante	Robert	Michael	64	Duxbury Crematory, Duxbury, MA
Nov 17	Baker	Kathryn	Hammond	57	Vine Hills Crematory, Plymouth, MA
14	Leach	Patricia	Marie	69	Woodlawn North Purchase Cemetery, Attleboro, MA
27	Waseleski	Jay	William	55	Duxbury Crematory, Duxbury, MA
Dec.	Holmes	Josselyn	L	91	MA National Cemetery,
3		,			Bourne, MA

Date	Last Name	First Name	Middle	Age	Place of Disposition
12	Firlotte, II	James	Gordon	77	Woodlawn North Purchase Cemetery, Attleboro, MA
28	Barrow	Doris		88	Duxbury Crematory, Duxbury, MA

# NON-RESIDENTS INTERRED AT HILLCREST CEMETERY 2015

Date	Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial/Name	Residence
May 14	Benson	Marie	C.	Plymouth, MA
June 4	Fillion	Marilyn	M.	
June 6	Midgley	Gibson	Victor	
June 6	Midgley	Elizbeth	Ann	
June 9	Lynch	Richard	Р	Kingston, MA
June 11	Mollomo	Doris	M.	Halifax, MA
July 8	Stinchfield, Jr.	William	A.	Carver, MA
September 17	Thompson	Gary		Medway, MA
October 3	Justice	Margaret		Kingston, MA
October 9	Moore	Richard	B.	Bridgewater, MA
October 15	Carmody	Todd	C.	Kingston, MA
November 21	Grey	Marcia		Carver, MA
December 12	Roby	Maureen		Plymouth, MA
December 17	McAndrews	Deborah	C.	Kingston, MA

### REPORT OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

The Plympton Agricultural Commission meets on the second Monday of the month. While the Agricultural Commission has always been a source to help other Plympton committees with dispute resolution of agricultural problems, in 2015 the commission was focused on promoting agriculture to be more in the public eye.

Six (6) more "Plympton is a Right to Farm Community" roads signs were purchased to put up along streets entering into the town, our promotional flyer, which helps promote agriculture in Plympton, has also been reprinted and handed out. The Agricultural Commission was unable to join forces with the Garden Club in May for a "Celebrating Plympton Agricultural Day" in 2015 but hopes to continue in the coming years.

Respectfully submitted, Richard Harlfinger, Chair Linda Schauwecker Rick Burnet Jeff LaFleur Russ Keirstead Kimberly Russo

### REPORT OF THE PLYMPTON ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT

2015 Department activities were as follows: (248) Calls and responses for animal control. (56) Routine inspections of kennels and places keeping animals in the Town. (5) Animalsordered quarantined. (2) Dogs brought to shelter. (27) Dogs returned to owners. (7) Un-attended livestock removed from public ways. (9) Injured or threatening wildlife removed or returned to local habitat. (0) Hearing complaints. (0) District Court complaints.

All Municipal Animal Control Officers are required complete a training curriculum approved by the <u>MA Dept. of Agricultural Resources</u>. Massachusetts has a variety of laws that arein place to ensure proper regulation of companion and farm animals.

The Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) Chapter 140, Sections 136A – 174E contain the majority of authorities and responsibilities associated with the performance of Animal Control Officers in the Commonwealth. For the overview of these functions you may refer to:

https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXX/Chapter140

For specific inquiries regarding MA Law and Town of Plympton By-laws related to animal control, animal Inspection, and livestock regulation you may direct your inquiry to:

## aco.plympton.fbush@gmail.com

or telephone: Plympton Animal Control Shelter @ 781.585.9444.

Give your lost pet the voice it will need to be identified when found away from home. Have it micro-chipped.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank C. Bush, Animal Control Officer / Inspector

#### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The 2015 real estate market reflected a continued increase in volume of qualified sales, in sale price, and reduction in distressed sales activity. Overall, sale prices of single family homes (SF) were 8% above FY15 assessments. A qualified sale is an open market transaction between a willing buyer and seller.

Vision Government Solutions, Inc. conducted the FY15 interim year update. Thirty-Four qualified 2014 SF home sales analyzed for the FY16 interim update produced a \$345,968 median sale price with a 96% median assessment to sale price ratio. State law requires the median Assessment to Sales Ratio (ASR) be within plus or minus ten percent of 100% of full and fair market value. The FY16 average single family is valued at \$335,500 (up 1.03% from FY2015).

### **TOWN VALUE BY CLASS FY2016**

Class	Value	% of Levy	Tax Revenue
Residential	\$ 348,993,758	72.60%	\$ 6,163,229.77
Commercial	\$ 75,834.312	15.77%	1,339,233.95
Industrial	\$ 13,187,900	2.74%	232,898.31
Pers. Property	. \$ <u>42,759,429</u>	8.89%	755,131.52
TOTAL	\$ 480,775,399	100.00%	\$ 8,490,493.55

The FY16 final values are used to establish the tax rate in order to meet budget requirements as voted at Town Meeting or mandated expenses. Since the percent increase in the overall value of the Town (0.59%) was lower than the percent increase in the levy (4.8%), the tax rate increased 4.2%.

### Valuation, Tax Rates, and Tax Levy: FY14 to FY16

FY	Assessed Valuation	Tax Rate	Tax Levy	% Change Tax Levy
16	\$ 480,775,399	\$ 17.66	\$ 8,490,494	4.9%
15	\$ 477,978,188	\$ 16.95	\$ 8,101,730	5%
14	\$ 479.861.916	\$ 16.97	\$ 8.143.256	

At the FY16 annual Tax Classification hearing the Board of Selectmen can choose to split the tax rate by shifting some of the tax burden from the residential to the commercial, industrial and personal property classes. This results in a lower residential tax rate and a higher rate for the CIP sector. The Board of Selectmen voted to adopt a single tax rate for FY16.

Plympton encompasses 15.1 total square miles: **14.8** square miles of land, **.3** square miles of water (Silver Lake, smaller ponds, brooks). Two thousand seven hundred eighty-seven (2,787) acres are classified under Chapter 61, 61A or 61B which provides an annual tax subsidy to the owners of the land of up to a 90% decrease in taxable value but also contributes to the rural town feel

Chapter Land: State law provides property tax relief designed to encourage certain types of land use: **CH61** forest land (land of at least 10 contiguous acres subject to a forest management plan certified by the State Forester), **CH61A** agricultural or horticultural land (at least 5 contiguous acres that is used to raise agricultural or horticultural products to be sold on the market with a minimum income threshold), **CH61B** recreational land (at least 5 contiguous acres that is retained in a substantially natural, wild or open condition).

The Assessors' office committed tax bills equal to 74.45% of the total tax levy to the Collector of Taxes. Estimated receipts, state aid and other revenue contribute to the balance of funds required to meet the Town obligations.

Type	# Bills	Tax Revenue
Real Estate	1,324	\$ 7,735,361.40
Personal Property &	110	755,451.06
Farm Excise		
Motor Vehicle Excise	<u>3,961</u>	452,842.26
TOTAL	<u>5,701</u>	\$ 8,943,654.72

Visit the Assessors' page on the Town website to download forms: auto excise abatement, Chapter Land, Statutory Exemptions, Income and Expense, Forms of List, Abutters List Request. Send the staff an email if you wish to receive or submit application forms via email.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Lewis, Chair Ethan Stiles, Member Jocelyn A.P. Anderson, Member

### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

During the year 2015, Plan Reviews, Approvals, Permitting and Inspections have kept the Board busy this year. The inspections cover not only those related to the installation of new/repaired septic systems but also those related to complaints and the determination of uninhabitable homes. Twenty-three percolation tests were observed and forty eight inspections were done by our Health Officer and her Assistants. There were one hundred twenty six permits issued by the Board and twenty variances approved.

Food (Total Food	Perr	mits)		22
(Regular)	6	(Retail)	3	
(Seasonal)	4	(Milk & Cream)	3	
(Mobile)	2	(Large Event)	2	
(Residential K	itche	en) 2		
Location & Sale of 7	Гoba	ICCO		2
Installer's Permits				25
Percolation Applications				21
Permit to Construct (Plan Approval)				16
Title 5 Inspector Permits				16
Septic Haulers Permits				10
Trash Haulers Perm	nits			8
Well Permits				6

All health issues for Infectious Diseases are handled by the Cape Cod VNA. Blood Pressure/Wellness clinics for the town have been discontinued due to lack of response. Most are using the B/P machines at the local stores such as CVS, or getting their B/P taken at their regular doctor visits. At the FLU clinic this year there were a total of 40 participants. It was held here in the Town House.

New BOH member, Harry Weikel, Jr., Clerk; Arthur Morin, Jr., Chairman; Kenneth Thompson, Treasurer; the Administrative Assistant, Jeraldine Batchelder and the Office Clerk, Cathleen Ferguson attended the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards (MAHB) Certification Classes in November. The registration fees, except for the new member were paid for by a Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant through the Plymouth 5 Emergency Preparedness Coalition. The new member registration was paid for by the BOH as timing of new board member classes did not allow him to attend any Emergency Preparedness Classes which was a requirement this year to receive the funds from PHEP.

The Board of Health has been busy working on new Tobacco Regulations. The Commonwealth is also changing their Tobacco Regulations. Our old regulations were first put in place in 2001 and included workplace nonsmoking regulations. We are hoping to have our new Tobacco Regulations passed and in place at the same time that the Commonwealth Regulations become effective in March of 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,
Plympton Board of Health
Arthur Morin, Chairman
Kenneth Thompson, Treasurer
Harry Weikel, Jr., Clerk

#### REPORT OF THE PLYMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The year 2015 was a busy year for the Board of Selectmen. Selectman John Henry stepped down after several productive terms on the Board. Mr. Henry was vigorous in his work for the Town and is greatly appreciated for his years of service. In May, voters elected Christine Joy to the Board. Ms. Joy previously served on the Board in the early 2000s and the Board welcomed her back to public service. The Board reorganized, retaining Mark Russo as Chairman and Christine Joy replacing Colleen Thompson as Clerk.

The Board welcomed Briggette Martins as the new Selectmen's Assistant. Briggette is a long time Plympton resident. She comes to the job with an extensive insurance background which is an important part of the responsibility of the Selectmen's Assistant.

Several initiatives were begun and continued during the year. The highlights for 2015 follow.

- The Town received a generous land donation from Mr. Roger O'Neil. The transaction was completed in October. The O'Neil marsh offers access to Cato's Ridge Park from Ring Road. The Selectmen want to thank Mr. O'Neil again for his generosity.
- The Board completed the first edition of a Town Employee Personnel Policy Handbook. This book will be amended as the need arises.
- Plympton joined Carver and Halifax in the Area 58 Community Access Media. The PEG access studio records and broadcasts meetings for public viewing on cable television and on the internet through YouTube and through the Area 58 website.
- The Selectmen created a committee to help the Town implement the recommendations made by the Department of Revenue (DOR) in their report released in January 2015. This committee has made good progress and will continue their work.
- The Town received a Community Compact grant of \$45,000. and was able to enlist the help of the Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management. The Collins Center will assist the Town of Plympton in the development of a Five-Year Financial Forecast, a Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan and Financial Management Policies.
- The Selectmen created the Public Safety Building Committee in August. This
  committee is charged with determining the best way to provide the Town with much
  needed new police and fire stations. They hope to design and plan a Town Complex
  which is economically feasible, may be built in phases and will meet the Town's
  needs well into the future.
- As a result of our Green Communities designation and the work completed using the Green Communities grant money, electrical usage is down town-wide. In the first full year savings to the Town were well in excess of \$10,000.

As always the Selectmen would like to thank the residents of Plympton for placing your trust in us. If you feel you can donate some time to your community, please contact the Board of Selectmen. We give heartfelt thanks to all the hard working volunteers and employees that make our community such a great place to live.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Russo, Chair Colleen Thompson Christine Joy, Clerk

#### REPORT OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

2015 was once more an active year for our department displaying the same types of activity we have seen in recent years. The Building Department issued a total of 286 permits generating a combined total of \$45,110.20. In permit fees collected. The complete breakdown is as follow

Type_	Numbe	er <u>Fees (\$)</u>
Additions	8	5439.20
Antennas	1	270.00
Demolitions	4	435.00
New Homes	5	11,200.00
Outbuildings	10	2349.00
Pools	4	1084.00
Repairs/Renovations	26	4401.00
Roofs/Siding	11	1148.00
Sheet Metal	5	377.00
Solar	12	3274.00
Wood Stoves/Pellet Stoves	14	1018.00
Decks/porch	7	652.00
Electric/Wiring	80	6543.00
Plumbing	37	3645.00
Zoning	26	650.00
Gas	36_	2625.00
T	otal 286	\$45,110.20

2015 also witnessed some transitional changes in the Building Department. Tara Shaw filled in for several months after the departure of our Administrative Assistant to help us out revamping and organizing our procedures and proved to be a great help. In December we added Kathleen Wright to our staff as our new Administrative Assistant. Kathy is supporting all of the inspectors and working directly with the public. Kathy is quickly proving to be a great asset to our department. We also saw the addition to our staff of Bill Kelly as a Local Inspector. Local Inspector is the new state designation for Assistant Building Inspector. Bill brings with him many years of construction experience and is available to fill in when needed.

We again look forward to continued growth and prosperity for our Town in 2016. As always, the Building Department including all inspectors and administrative staff are committed to providing knowledgeable and capable personnel for the best service possible to the residents of Plympton.

Respectfully submitted for the Building Department,

Robert Karling, Electrical Inspector, Zoning Enforcement Officer

Douglas Hawthorne, Plumbing Inspector, Gas Inspector

Bill Kelly, Local Inspector

Kathleen Wright, Administrative Assistant

Tom Millias, Inspector of Building Commissioner

#### REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

2015 was another active year for the Plympton Community Preservation Committee (CPC). Throughout the year the CPC monitored ongoing projects approved in previous years. One new project application was received for possible consideration at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting.

The Plympton Recreation Commission continued work renovating the former Winnetuxet Swimming Hole area including the excavation, reclamation and conversion of the manmade swimming hole into a fishing pond, refurbishing benches, installation of historic sign, tree work and stump removal. Much of the work was accomplished by volunteers.

At Churchill Park, volunteers continued trail work, finished parking lot construction, installed benches and a kiosk, and constructed the 600 foot privately funded board walk which links Churchill Park to Cato's Ridge Park. The park opened in the autumn, was enthusiastically received, and is being enjoyed by many people. The process of completing the required Conservation Restriction is continuing.

During the year, the Plympton Open Space Committee (OSC) used Community Preservation Act funds approved at the 2014 Town Meeting to explore and pursue land preservation opportunities. After many meetings, consultation and research as well as an appraisal and environmental hazard assessment study of the USDA-owned former horse farm between Parsonage Road and Route 58, the OSC decided to discontinue further attempts to obtain this land.

With the help of Cape Cod Compact and CPA funds, the OSC was able to arrange the generous donation by Roger O'Neil of a large marsh area abutting the Cato's Ridge conversation area. It provides the only public access to Cato's Ridge from Ring Road.

During the summer, the CPC conducted its annual review of the Community Preservation Plan. Minor editorial changes were made.

In the autumn, the OSC submitted an application seeking \$30,000 to be used by the committee in conjunction with the Town's Open Space Plan to provide technical assistance and pre-acquisition costs which might be incurred as initial steps in the possible transfer, donation or acquisition of land suitable for C.P.A. funded uses. CPC met with the applicants; studied the project proposals; made suggestions; and sought input from town boards, departments and committees; and scheduled a public hearing to garner additional input. If approved by CPC, the project will come before the 2016 Annual Town meeting for approval.

The CPC takes very seriously its responsibility to administer CPA funds and is thrilled to have the opportunity to serve and improve the town through acquisition and protection of open space, historical preservation, community housing and increased recreational opportunities.

Respectfully submitted, Mark Russo, Chairman, David Chandler, Accounting Officer, Deborah Anderson, Vice-Chair, Judy Dudley, Secretary Richard Burnet, Irving Butler, Susan Ossoff, Jane Schulze

#### REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission (the "Commission") is the local environmental agency responsible for the promotion and development of natural resources and for the protection of watershed resources. Their authority comes from several sources: the Conservation Commission Act (MGL Chapter 40 section 8C) for open space protection; the Wetlands Protection Act (MGL Chapter 131 section 40) for protecting wetlands and waterways; the home rule provisions of the state constitution for non-zoning wetlands bylaws and the Town of Plympton Wetland Protection By-Law (Article XXVIII).

Under these powers, the Commission works closely with the Open Space Committee to undertake planning, acquiring and managing open space, and encouraging and monitoring conservation and agricultural preservation restrictions. The Commission also has the authority to adopt rules and regulations for the use of conservation land. Using Community Preservation Funds, the town acquired property to create Plympton's first parks – Churchill Park and Cato's Ridge Conservation Area which officially opened to the public in 2015.

In its regulatory capacity, the Commission is responsible for administering the Wetlands Protection Act (310 CMR). Any use or activity proposed within 100 feet of a wetland resource area or within 200 feet of a river must first be authorized by the Commission. If any entity intends to conduct such a use or activity, they must first submit a request for Determination of Applicability or a Notice of Intent along with an engineered site plan to the Commission. After a site visit, the Commission will hold a public hearing and vote on the proposal. A decision will be made in accordance with a majority vote. In addition to more traditional building projects, much of the Commission's focus continues to be the proposed development of solar field projects.

In 2015, one of the Commission's long time members, Tim Dempsey, moved out of town. We were fortunate to welcome Amy Cronin to the Commission. Her skills and experience have proven to be a wonderful asset. Unfortunately, we are still in need of one more member. If you have any interest in serving on the Conservation Commission, please feel free to contact us. We try to meet the first and third Tuesday nights of each month at the Town House.

Jeff Smith, Chair Rick Burnet Amy Cronin Ami Dion Linda Leddy John Mathias

#### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

In 2015 the Plympton Council on Aging continued to link seniors with resources and information. Our monthly newsletter was mailed to over 700 seniors to provide resources for legal services, fuel assistance, tax preparation, food and medication resources, health information and insurance, social events, exercise classes and library programs. COA also provided information on low income housing and handi-persons who assist with home repairs, housekeeping, yard work and snow removal. We also loaned adaptive equipment as needed. New volunteers came forward to help with delivery of Meals on Wheels to home bound seniors so we could increase delivery from two to four days a week.

We remain accessible to the needs of seniors by phone 24/7. Pat Mustacaros and I provide home visits as needed. Jim Mustacaros, van driver/Outreach Worker, provides transportation & support to those who need groceries, medications, home visits, or rides to doctor or rehabilitation. He keeps our van maintained since it is such a valuable asset to us! New door signs identify our vehicle proudly.

As well as our collaboration with our Outreach Worker, we maintain a close relationship with the Board of Health, Police and Fire Depts. Board of Health sets up Flu clinics which are well attended. The Blood Pressure clinics were cancelled due to poor attendance. The BOH sponsors the VNA who provides monthly newsletter entries on health issues. We collaborate with the church at the holidays to assist needy seniors with meals. Girl Scouts made Christmas Cards for us. We work with the TRIAD group on "Community Safety" locally and events with the Sheriff's Dept. in Plymouth County on such topics as fraud prevention, scams and surplus food programs.

We are most pleased this year about three big changes we initiated. The Senior Work-off Program enabled three seniors to volunteer 55 hours for the town in exchange for a \$500 real estate tax abatement. Voters at Town Meeting approved a \$5000 salary for the COA Director. There is now office space for COA in the Town House. With an official presence we can better collaborate and communicate with other town officials and departments as well as offer seniors a place to seek solutions for their needs and problems. The support we received from our community is appreciated.

The Healthy Harvest Surplus Food Program in Plymouth provided our town with a variety of produce items and other foods from August through October. The Upland Club again generously provided seniors with a Chicken Bake in August and a Roast Beef dinner in December. These events are a tradition seniors still look forward to annually and with gratitude. The Main Street Players entertained us at PHS October 4<sup>th</sup>. Octogenarians were treated to lunch and entertainment in April at the Town House. This event was so well received we plan to expand it to all seniors this coming year.

COA continues to gratefully rely on financial support from our town as well as grant funding from the state Dept. of Elder Affairs. We also received a grant for \$800 from the Plymouth Networking Group. The funds helped with purchase of transport chair & B/P kit for our van, admission on the Charles Riverboat cruise, and met the needs of an individual senior. P-H Express gave us Boston Flower Show tickets we enjoyed. The board works together to make Plympton a place where seniors can live happy and healthy lives.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Maiorano, Director Jim and Pat Mustacaros, Dorothy Cushman, Evie Hannigan, Barbara Knox, Jean Langley, Sue Walker, Shirley Martin. Barbara Allsopp, Sandi Henry-Advisor

### REPORT OF THE CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Plympton Cultural Council regrants funds for cultural projects that benefit our community to the greatest possible effect. The amount granted the Plympton LLC for fiscal year 2015-2016, \$4400

Public funding for the arts, humanities and interpretative sciences is provided through central agency, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, through appropriations from state Legislature and from the National Endowment of the Arts. The MCC in turn distributes funds to 320 local cultural councils, including the Plympton LCC, in order "to promote excellence, access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences, in order to improve vitality of our communities."

The amount of money allocated to each cultural council is determined by using one of the state's local aid formulas established by the legislature. The formula is based on population and equalized property values in order to provide low-income communities with relatively larger allocations. Bigger communities get bigger distributions, but greater weight is given to needier communities. A minimum funding level-which affects more than half LCC's – is set in order to insure that the smaller communities receive significant amount of money. Grant recipients this year are:

Plympton Council on Aging

Plympton Council on Aging

Fuller Craft Museum

Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra

Fuller Craft Museum
Pilgrim Festival Chorus
Plympton Public Library

Pied Potter Hamelin

Southeastern Ma Pine Barrens Alliance

Soule Homestead Education Center

The Pilgrim Society

Silver Lake Middle School

Maichack, Gregory

Respectfully submitted, Lisa Reilly, Chair Susan Healey David Badot Edward McCune Cathleen Drinan Fuller Craft Museum

Two Old Friends from Maine

<u>Artkitchen cafe performance series</u>

2015/2016 Concert Series

[Sense]ation Days 2015-2016 Season

Marvelous Marvin's Health Circus

Magical Potter's Wheel

Pine Fest

Harvest Fair and Folk Festival

**Treasure Hunts** 

**Exploring Social Emotional Intelligence** 

Pastel Paint Stunning Still Life like the masters

# REPORT OF THE DOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE/ COMMUNITY COMPACT COMMITTEE

January 14, 2015, the Massachusetts Department of Revenue provided the Town with a Review of Financial Operations completed by the Division of Local Services. This report was designed to assist the Town in improving our financial operations and contains findings relative to specific financial, budgetary, policy, personnel, and Municipal bylaws as suggested areas for improvement. The complete report can be found on the DLS website at www.mass.gov/dls.

The DOR Advisory Committee was tasked with review of the report, discussion and review of the contents with department heads, and working towards adaptation of DLS suggested practices or alternative, but suitable practices proposed by our department heads.

The DOR Advisory Committee prioritized the areas for improvement and chose to focus on financial issues first, many of which have already been resolved. We worked closely with the Town Accountant, Treasurer/Collector, and Asst. Assessor, who had already adopted many of DLS's suggestions prior to our meetings, which made our job easier.

We are working closely with the Collins Group, through a Community Compact Grant to address additional financial and policy issues and are proud to report we will have a 5-year financial forecasting tool, a 5-year Capital Improvement Plan, and financial policies to help ensure the Town continues with a sound and workable financial plan.

We will resume addressing the remaining issues in the DOR report upon completion of the Community Compact Grant.

Thank you, Christine Joy Susan Ossoff John Traynor Deb Anderson

#### REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

On behalf of The Plympton Fire Department it is my pleasure as your Fire Chief to present The 2015 Annual Report. I would like to take this opportunity to offer a summary of our year in review. The Plympton Fire Department is classified as a Career/Call Organization. It is made up of two Full-time Firefighter/ Paramedics, two Part-time Firefighter/ Paramedics and 34 call members made up of Firefighters, Paramedics, and EMT's. The Fire Department experienced an increase in call volume for the year 2015. We answered 496 calls for service. The calls were made up of 371 EMS calls, and 125 Fire Service calls. The station is manned with two members, 365 days a year, 24hrs. A day. This model insures a rapid response for service to our residents and guests at all times.

The Fire Department was faced with many challenges throughout the year. Responses to Structure Fires, Motor Vehicle crashes, Brush Fires and medical calls are part of our everyday duties. Mutual aid responses to our neighboring communities are on the rise. The winter of 2015 brought some substantial snow storms with high winds. This resulted with downed trees and power lines blocking our roads. The Fire Department responded to and mitigated all hazards that occurred. Throughout these demanding times The Plympton Fire Department continues to provide around the clock Emergency Services. We continue to annually inspect the businesses in our community. We inspect residential homes for fire code compliance. This Organization is active in Fire Safety and Prevention Programs. These programs promote Fire Safety Education for our elementary aged children as well as visits to our station from the various day-care centers in town. Each year we educate our seniors on Fire Safety and Storm Preparedness. Educating our residents to be proactive on how they manage the vegetation and combustible materials near their homes is part of the Firewize Program put on by the Federal Government. This has resulted in a better awareness and education for our residents regarding safety concerns at their school and homes. Our daily mission is to educate and assist our townspeople in any way that we can to insure their safety.

As the towns Emergency Management Director I am happy to announce the Plympton has established a permanent certified Local Emergency Planning Committee. This meets the requirements set forth by The State of Massachusetts for every town in The Commonwealth to have an LEPC plan in place. This provides a working plan for the public's safety that includes many departments and boards in town government. In addition it provides a portal for MEMA and FEMA to assist us effectively in the event of a natural or manmade disaster.

Once again it is my honor and privilege to serve this town as your Fire Chief. I would like to express my sincerest gratitude and thanks to the men and woman that make up this organization. They are an outstanding group of dedicated individuals. I would like to thank The Board of Selectman for their support and guidance throughout the year. My thanks to the many boards and committees that makes up our town. In closing I would like to thank the many residents that have the faith and trust in me to protect us all.

Respectfully submitted, Warren J. Borsari Fire Chief / EMD / Forest Fire Warden

# REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR 2015

# **CEMETERY DEPARTMENT**

Appropriated July Expended	1, 2014		8,850.00 -8,255.01
Ехрепаеа	Returned to Treasury		594.99
PARK DEPARTM	IENT		
Appropriated July	1, 2014		8,151.00 -8,013.01
Expended	Returned to Treasury		137.99
LABOR ACCOU	NT		
Appropriated July Expended	1, 2014		123,498.00 -123,498.00
SUPERINTENDE	NT'S SALARY		
Appropriated July Expended	1, 2014		61,977.00 -61,977.00
GENERAL HIGH	WAY		
Appropriated July	1, 2014		106,455.44
Fuel Utilities Electric Utilities Gas Meetings/Mileage Telephone Tools Road Maintenand Office Supplies Vehicle Repairs/S Building Maintena Uniform Items Miscellaneous Licenses Dues & Members Equipment Repair Labor/Overtime	ce Supplies ance hips	9,690.11 2,499.08 7,478.14 465.00 1,628.34 749.38 59,633.42 833.16 5,084.73 886.95 5,215.94 3,276.43 320.00 145.00 1,272.97 7,166.62	
Expended	Returned to Treasury	106,345.27	-106,345.27 110.17

## TRUCK & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Appropriated July Expended	1, 2014 Returned to Treasury		5,250.00 -5,236.67 13.33
SNOW & ICE			
Appropriated July Expended	1, 2014		40,000.00 -240,572.02 -200,572.02
WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL			
Appropriated July	1, 2014		162,744.00
Colorina Dont H	and	0.000.00	

Salaries, Dept. Head Salaries, Clerical 9,000.00 10,167.12 Salaries, Other 36,848.64 Utilities, electric 62.21 Disposal, Operating Services 93,452.55 Telephone 1,008.31 Office Supplies 2,443.79 Building Repair/Maintenance 5,631.66 Equipment Repair 1,257.86 Miscellaneous 1,944.71 Expended

Expended -161,816.85
Returned to Treasury 927.15

#### REPORT OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

There were no applications in 2015 for any changes within the Harrub's Corner Historic District (PHDC).

The PHDC reviews all changes to the built environment within the Harrub's Corner Local Historic District, which is comprised of seven properties centered on the intersection of County Road and Lake Street. The commission is charged under state law to protect and preserve the district's historic assets and character: building and demolition permits may not be issued within the district without either a certificate of appropriateness, a certificate of non-applicability, or a certificate of hardship issued by the Historic District Commission. Note that the town's demolition delay bylaw may in some instances require a separate permitting process run by the local Historical Commission. A permit under that process in no way implies that a permit may be forthcoming from the PHDC, which runs according to state mandates for the protection of the Commonwealth's historic resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Shaw, Chair Stuart Chase Vice-Chair Charles Nickerson Carol Quindley Richard Stover Marylouise Sayles (alternate)

### REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Plympton Historical Commission (Commission), the 5-member board, responsible for community-wide historic preservation planning and the administration of the demolition delay bylaw, continued to work closely with residents and town officials in 2015 to help mitigate the impacts of development pressure on the historical character of the town.

In mid 2015, the Commission reviewed two requests under the Demolition Delay Bylaw for Historically or Architecturally Significant Buildings. The Commission approved the first request to demolish the building with conditions due to the structural condition and historical significance of the building. The conditions included design changes that allowed the new building to better reflect the period of the house and the replication of the original cottage as part of the new structure. The second request resulted in a demolition delay of 18 months being placed on the building, as the Commission deemed the building to be historically and architecturally significant and structurally sound, though clearly in need of repair. The Commission was unable to reach a compromise with the buildings owners that would have resulted in the preservation of the structure, a portion thereof, or the preservation of its historic character. Additional details regarding these matters can be found in the Commission minutes which are posted on the Town's website.

The Commission also provided comments to the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) on the proposed installation of solar panels on a non-contributing building within the Plympton Village National Register of Historic District. Comments were provided due to the fact that the installation would be funded in part with a federal grant from the United States Department of Agriculture – as projects that involve federal or state funds within the National Register District require Commission input prior to approval. The Commission did not object to the proposed installation given the location of the installation within the District and the limited impact it would have to the surrounding historic character. The installation was completed in late 2015.

Over the coming months, the Commission plans to continue its inventory work in order to complete the Plympton Historical Asset Inventory. The Commission also plans to pursue consideration of two additional National Register of Historic Place District (NR District) nominations as recommended in the Phase 1 Final Report. The first NR District is under consideration for the area surrounding the old Town House (PHS Building) and the second would comprise the buildings within the existing Harrub's Corner Local Historic District.

The Commission looks forward to continuing to work in partnership with Plympton's residents and town government to promote the preservation an celebration of our town's historic character.

Respectfully submitted, Jon Wilhelmsen, Chair Jill Palenstijn Jane Schulze Rick Burnett (Associate Member)

### REPORT OF THE PLYMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

During 2015, the changing role of the public library brought several challenges our way. Growing interest in diverse formats challenged our limited budget. Interest in expanded programming and services stretched our limited staffing. However, we did our best to juggle the current interests of our patrons with our limitations.

One challenge for our limited budget is the increasing demand for diverse formats. Popular titles are now available in a wide variety of formats including: hardcover, large type, paperback, book-on-cd, downloadable audio and e-books. This fall, we started to purchase our own electronic books and audios to supplement the over 14,740 items currently offered through our SAILS network membership. We also continue to expand our collection of large type books and we now have a wide array of current titles available. An additional 2,297 items were added during the year bringing our total collection to 31,610 items.

Our town wide survey in April highlighted community interest in additional programming. We responded by adding our popular Joy of Coloring, E-bay workshops, a Babysitting course and other events during the year. The Library worked with many local community groups and volunteers to offer other special programs including the Veteran's Day Salute and Caring Cards. We are thankful for the support from Plympton Cultural Council, Scout leaders, Town officials, Council on Aging, South Shore Community Action Council, and so many more for stepping up and working with us. We really couldn't do it alone.

We must also thank our loyal crew of volunteers who provide assistance wherever it is needed. Special recognition goes to Pauline Nordahl, our 9 year Story Time volunteer, who stepped down this spring. A granite bench, donated anonymously this year, celebrates all our Story Time leaders. Thank you all.

The library is always just a click away 24 hours a day. You just need a library card to get started. Please visit our website at <a href="www.plymptonlibrary.org">www.plymptonlibrary.org</a> to review your account, to reserve a book or movie, to check out an e-book, to pay a fine, to access reference resources or to check on library events. You may also keep informed by friending us on our Facebook page or reading postings on Plympton Helping Plympton or the local Plympton-Halifax Reporter.

Please remember that we are here to help you navigate the library world. Be sure to ask if you have a question or need assistance using your electronic device with any library resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Batson, Director Kathy Keirstead, Sr. Technician Christine Champ, Circulation Karen Cook, Circulation, Story Time Patricia Detterman, Chair Christine Winslow, Vice Chair Kristine Boyles, Secretary Miranda Boyles, Tom Cosato, Dominque Sampson

### REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL DAY COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE 2015

This committee is made up of a dedicated group of people, who annually contribute to a town parade, pay tribute to our fallen soldiers in our two cemeteries, and conduct a ceremony at the gazebo on our Town green.

This year the committee decided to honor the Freitas Family as the Parade Marshals. The late Joe Freitas served as a selectman for 38 years and was a prominent part of Plympton. The committee wanted to come up with a tribute that Joe would of loved, and that love was a marching band! The committee for the first time in 10 years secured the Silver Lake Marching band for the parade, a huge accomplishment for the committee and a joyous addition for the spectators.

Another new addition to the parade this year was the newly restored 1936 Buffalo Custom Fire Truck. The truck was a real beauty.

Plympton's newest Boston Post Cane recipient, Doris Silva, age 97 rode in the parade. She holds the title of Plympton's oldest resident. Doris with her Boston Post Cane happily waved to the crowd.

Selectmen, Mark Russo, Colleen Thompson and newly appointed Christine Joy led the parade which made it's way from the Historical Society to the Town Green. Selectmen Christine Joy made the welcome speech followed by a moment of silence from Selectmen Mark Russo. Selectmen Colleen Thompson led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sydney Adams sang a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem and Rev. Anna "Nan" Eaton Butera performed a heartfelt invocation. Geoffrey Cook recited his winning essay "What Memorial Day Means to Me" and Rick Ducharme recited "Flanders Fields".

Steven Lewis, representing the Honor Guard read the list of our present Town's Veterans. Steve Lyons, retired US Navy, read the list of fallen soldiers. This was accompanied by the talented Betsy and Wesley performing Taps on their trumpet and bugle.

Boy Scouts, Andrew Adams, Wesley Kupic and Frankie Perfetuo placed wreaths at Gazebo.

Afterwards the Fire Department invited everyone to swing down to the station to "Touch a Truck". This was a fun filled activity that was enjoyed by all.

Special thanks to Peter Kupic for setting up and running the sound equipment for the ceremony. In addition, many thanks go to Kim Adams and Tim Snow, who oversee the parade line up and also organize the Girl Scouts, Eagle Scouts and Boy Scouts who help mulch and decorate the Town green and put new American flags at the Veteran's grave sites.

Respectfully submitted, Kristen LeVangie

### 2015 Committee Members:

Kim Adams
Tricia Detterman
Peter Kupic
Kristen LeVangie
Steve Lewis
Steve Lyons
Chris Rankin
Tim Snow

And a very special thanks to Plympton's Veterans' Agent Roxanne Whitbeck

### REPORT OF THE OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Plympton.

As your representatives to the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC), we are pleased to present this report on behalf of the Council for 2015.

The Old Colony Planning Council was established in 1967 by state statute and is authorized to prepare plans for the physical, social and economic development of the seventeen-member community region. OCPC is designated as: an Economic Development District by the U.S. Department of Commerce for the coordination of regional economic development activities; an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to plan, manage and coordinate elder services in a twenty-three community service area; and, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to plan and program transportation and transit improvements for the region.

In addition to the above-designated responsibilities, the Council also assists its member municipalities with technical planning, grant application preparation and current local and regional socioeconomic information.

During the past year, the Council completed the Old Colony Regional Transportation Plan (Moving U 2040); the 2015 Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Old Colony Region; the 2015 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Plan; the FFY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); the Brockton Area Transit Comprehensive Regional Transit Plan; the Plymouth Special Events Traffic Analysis and Management Plan; the Old Colony Regional Freight Study; and provided numerous Road Safety Audits, Intersection Analyses, and Transportation Technical Studies to the member communities; and, continued participation in the South Coast Commuter Rail Task Force, provided technical assistance to Bridgewater, and Stoughton, related to the potential rail service. The Council also provided technical assistance to member communities under the District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) Program. The DLTA funding was used in such areas as regionalization, including the investigation of water. wastewater, and the aggregation of electricity, as well as conducting a number of land use analyses, neighborhood economic and transportation analyses, the development of Community Business Guides, providing a variety of economic development technical assistance as well as Green Communities Designation and Grant Program technical assistance. The Old Colony Area Agency on Aging (AAA) during the past year, with assistance and guidance from member community advisory committee members, has continued the ongoing administration of over \$1.5 million dollars of Federal and State funding for elder services. The OCPC-AAA administers and oversees funding for services like nutrition, transportation, day care, legal services, and others to the more than 95,000 persons age 60 and over in the region. The OCPC-AAA continues to advocate on behalf of older persons from throughout the region. The OCPC-AAA Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program continues its efforts, with over 1,300 visits to nursing and rest homes, investigating over 300 issues of concern from residents or families. In Addition, OCPC continues to administer the Septic Loan Program for the Towns of Avon, Cohasset, Hanson, Kingston and Stoughton. During 2015 the Council processed approximately \$408,500 in loans for both septic systems and sewer connection for the communities under the Septic Loan Program.

Each member community of the Council is represented by one delegate and one alternate member. The Council members establish policy, develop the work program, and employ and oversee the activities of the professional staff. The Council meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the OCPC offices located at 70 School Street, Brockton, MA. In 2015, the Council elected Lee Hartmann, of Plymouth as Council President; Fred L. Gilmetti of Whitman as Council Treasurer; and, Frank P. Staffier of Avon as Council Secretary. Pasquale Ciaramella serves as Executive Director of the Council.

The Council gratefully acknowledges the generous support and cooperation of its member communities and the participation and involvement of the many individuals who participate as members of committees. Special thanks are extended to Joint Transportation Committee Chair Noreen O'Toole; Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Chair Mary Waldron; and, the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Committee Chair Richard Whitney for their commitment, dedication and leadership during the past year. The Council also recognizes the work of local boards and commissions and the government agencies, public and private institutions and individuals who assisted the Council in its efforts.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Joy, Delegate James M. Mulcahy, Alternate Troy E. Garron, Delegate At Large

### REPORT OF THE PLYMPTON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

2015 was a very busy time for The Open Space Committee. The year was highlighted by significant accomplishments, as well as a marked and welcome increase in the level of community participation in the Committee's land conservation efforts.

The most visible and exciting achievement of the OSC in 2015 was the construction of the new boardwalk in Churchill Park. Thanks to the efforts of a great many volunteers, visitors can now comfortably walk across the wetlands surrounding Jones River Brook on a sturdy boardwalk inscribed with dozens of family names, the names of local businesses, and remembrances of loved ones. In addition, 18 park benches – marked with brass plaques that also commemorate local families and businesses – have been placed at various locations throughout the boardwalk, Churchill Park, and the Cato's Ridge Conservation Area. Financial support for these improvements came primarily from the successful fund raising conducted by OSC in 2014. At the Main Street entrance to the conservation area, a parking lot was completed and a beautiful new informational kiosk was built. As the year progressed, the new parks became increasingly popular with young families taking their children out to experience the beauty of nature, joggers, walkers, and bird watchers. As planned, portions of the new parks were also open to hunting in the fall.

The gifting process of 17 acres of marshland bordering Cato's Ridge was completed in 2015. Thanks to the generosity of Ring Road resident Roger O'Neil, this parcel is now integrated with the parks and is a beautiful addition to our newly preserved lands, which now span a total of 105 acres.

Throughout the year, volunteers continued to contribute time and labor to help develop an attractive network of trails winding through the parks. Plympton now has a good start on its own "emerald necklace," given that it will be possible to walk from Upland Road past the Dennett School, across Ring Road, into Cato's Ridge, across the boardwalk and end at the access point on Main Street.

As the year came to a close, the OSC began the process of preparing for the development of a new Open Space Plan in 2016. We were fortunate to receive the able support of Emilie Wetzel, an AmeriCorps volunteer and Land Stewardship Coordinator working with Wildlands Trust. A vital step in the development of an updated Open Space Plan is to survey the town's residents. A broadly distributed and well-executed Open Space survey ensures that the values and priorities of Plympton residents will inform all future land conservation projects and initiatives.

OSC has continued to work closely with Wildlands Trust, the Plympton Conservation Commission, Friends of Plympton Parks, and other town boards to maintain and increase the positive momentum and high levels of community involvement that we have experienced in recent years. The Committee gratefully acknowledges the tireless and consistent support of these groups and of course the residents of the town.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Alberti – Co-Chair, Ted Taranto, Linda Leddy – Co-Chair, Frank Perfetuo, C.J. Quinn, Jane Schulze, Alan Wheelock

### **REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD 2015**

2015 Another busy year of the Planning Board. Along with Site Plans and Form A's we had plans submitted forthree

(3) Ground Mounted Solar Arrays:

An application for a Solar Array at 190 Brook Street was received on September 24, 2015. A Hearing was held on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Site approval was granted on December 1, 2015.

An application was received on October 19<sup>th</sup> for a Solar Array At 31 Winnetuxet Road. A Hearing was held on November 9<sup>th</sup>Has been continued. No decision has been made on this request.

An application for a Solar Array at 134 Brook Street was received On November 23<sup>rd</sup>. A Hearing has been scheduled for early 2016.

Deb Anderson was elected to the board in May, replacing Dominique Sampson.

Respectfully Submitted, Irving Butler Chairman. Planning Board: Irving Butler William McClellan Paul D'Angelo John Rantuccio Deb Anderson

### REPORT OF THE COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015** 

The role of the Plymouth County Cooperative Extension is to deliver research-based information to the Plymouth County residents through non-formal methods. The Plymouth County Extension staff work on behalf of Plymouth County residents, in concert with UMass Amherst faculty and Extension staff, and the United States Department of Agriculture, to provide valuable information in the program areas of 'Agriculture and Landscape' and '4-H Youth and Family Development'. The Extension System is supported by county, State and Federal funds, and operates under Federal and State laws and agreements. Local citizens, appointed by the Plymouth County Commissioners, serve as Plymouth County Cooperative Extension Trustees, directing the overall program. Volunteer advisory groups work with the Extension staff on developing programs.

Cooperative Extension resources and programs for Plymouth County residents include: 4-H Science and Technology workshops in the areas of embryology and plant science; accredited overnight 4-H summer camps; 4-H animal science summer day-workshops; 4-H Life Skills Training, 4-H Community Service Projects, 4-H Public Speaking Training, 4-H Babysitting program and 4-H partnerships with local farms and agricultural enterprises including the Marshfield Agricultural Society, Plymouth County Farm Bureau and Plymouth County Grange. New research findings are translated into practical applications and shared with residents and communities through workshops, lectures, conferences, office visits, phone calls, field demonstrations, radio, television, local libraries, technical assistance, and newspaper articles. Publications such as newsletters, booklets, and fact sheets bring information directly to those who need it. Additional information is delivered through UMass-Amherst Center for Agricultural and Extension web access www.ag.umass.edu .

### **Members of the Plymouth County Extension Staff:**

Molly Vollmer, Director Plymouth County Extension/Extension Educator Valerie Schell, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth and Family Development Program Evelyn Golden, Program Assistant, 4-H Youth and Family Development Program Cathy Acampora, Administrative Assistant

### **Board of Trustees:**

Michael Burnett, Jr. – Whitman Michael Connor – Bridgewater Jeff Chandler – Duxbury Aylene Calnan – Hingham

Meghan C. Riley – Chairman, Whitman John Illingworth – Abington Paul Nicol – Hanson

Sandra Wright, Plymouth County Commissioner – Bridgewater

The Plymouth County Extension office is located at 44 Obery Street, Plymouth, MA 02360 (781) 293-3541; fax (774) 773-3184

### REPORT OF PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

The Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project are pleased to submit the following report of our activities during 2015.

The Project is a special district created by the State Legislature in 1957, and is now composed of all Plymouth County towns, the City of Brockton, and the town of Cohasset in Norfolk County. The Project is a regional response to a regional problem, and provides a way of organizing specialized equipment, specially trained employees, and mosquito control professionals into a single agency with a broad geographical area of responsibility.

The 2015 season began dry with a low water table, dry conditions increased into the summer season. Efforts were directed at larval mosquitoes starting with the spring brood. Ground larvicided 4,500 acres and aerial larvicided 12,327 acres and this was accomplished using B.t.i., an environmentally selective bacterial agent. Upon emergence of the spring brood of mosquitoes, ultra-low volume adulticiding began on June 1, 2015 and ended on September 12, 2015. The Project responded to 16,344 requests for spraying and breeding checks from residents covering all of the towns within the district.

In response to the continued threat of mosquito borne diseases in the district, we increased our surveillance trapping, aerial and ground larviciding, and adult spray in areas of concern to protect public health.

Based on guidelines defined by the "Arbovirus Surveillance and Response Plan" in Massachusetts, three Plymouth County towns, Bridgewater, W. Bridgewater, and Kingston, were "Moderate Level" of EEE Risk for the season. All other towns in Plymouth County Mosquito Project were at the "Low Level Risk" category. We are pleased to report that in 2015 there were no human, mosquito, or horse EEE cases in Plymouth County.

West Nile Virus was also found within the district. A total of 6 mosquito pools tested positive for WNV in the following towns: (1) Abington, (1) Whitman, (2) Bridgewater, (1) Kingston, (1) Lakeville. All towns within the districts remained at the "Low Level Risk" category for West Nile Virus. We are also pleased to report that in 2015 that there were no human or horse West Nile Virus cases in Plymouth County Mosquito Control district. As part of our West Nile Virus control strategy a total of 21,336 catch basins were treated with larvicide in all of our towns to prevent WNV.

The Health threat of EEE and WNV continues to ensure cooperation between the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project, local Boards of Health and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. In an effort to keep the public informed, EEE and WNV activity updates are regularly posted on Massachusetts Department of Public Health website.

The figures specific to the town of Plympton are given below. While mosquitoes do not respect town lines the information given below does provide a tally of the activities which have had the greatest impact on the health and comfort of Plympton residents.

Insecticide Application. 911 acres were treated using truck mounted sprayers for control of adult mosquitoes. More than one application was made to the same site if mosquitoes reinvaded the area. The first treatments were made in June and the last in September.

Our greatest effort has been targeted at mosquitoes in the larval stage, which can be found in woodland pools, swamps, marshes and other standing water areas. Inspectors

continually gather data on these sites and treat with highly specific larvicides when immature mosquitoes are present.

Water Management. During 2015 crews removed blockages, brush and other obstructions from 2,280 linear feet of ditches and streams to prevent overflows or stagnation that can result in mosquito breeding. This work, together with machine reclamation, is most often carried out in the fall and winter.

Aerial Application. Larviciding woodland swamps by airplane before the leaves come out on the trees continues to be very effective. In Plympton this year we larvicided 500 acres.

Finally, we have been tracking response time, which is the time between notice of a mosquito problem and response by one of our inspectors. The complaint response time in the Town of Plympton was less than three days with more than 224 complaints answered.

Mosquito Survey. Our surveillance showed that the dominant mosquitoes throughout the district were generally *Culiseta melanura* and *Coquillettidia perturbans*. In the Town of Plympton the three most common mosquitoes were *Coquillettiia perturbans*, *Culiseta melanura and Anopheles quadrimaculatus*.

We encourage citizens or municipal officials to visit our website at <a href="https://www.plymouthmosquito.org">www.plymouthmosquito.org</a> or call our office for information about mosquitoes, mosquito-borne diseases, control practices, or any other matters of concern.

Anthony Texeira Superintendent

Commissioners:
John Kenney, Chairman
Michael F. Valenti, Vice-Chairman/Secretary
Kimberley King
Cathleen Drinan
John Sharland

### **Report of the Plympton Police Department**

As the Chief of Police, it is with great pride that I submit this town report. I am pleased to report that the department continues to provide efficient and effective law enforcement services. 2015 provided many challenges to our police department; all were met with a professional attitude and handled with competence by our police officers.

Due to the dedicated hard work of our officers, 133 criminal cases were successfully closed and the offenders prosecuted. We continue to hold a high priority on traffic enforcement and crime prevention in our community. Some of our community outreach programs still receive high praise and support from our residents. The D.A.R.E. program and "Babysitter Course" are two of our more popular programs. Both programs help provide preventive education to our residents. The Plympton Police Department now utilizes social media to communicate with our more tech savvy residents. If you are interested in doing so, please follow us on Facebook or on the web at plymptonpd.org.

All of our officers continue to be recertified annually in core tasks, including firearms, Tasers, first aid/CPR/defibrillator, defensive tactics and legal updates. As in previous years, most of this training was accomplished at the Plymouth Police Academy's training facility and in combination with instruction from trained Plympton officers. We continue to work with other communities and regional task forces to address common problems such as drug trafficking, burglaries, theft, juvenile crime and domestic violence.

One of the unfortunate trends in today's society is the illegal use and abuse of prescription drugs, opiods and heroin. The Governor of Massachusetts declared a public health emergency over rising heroin and opiate addiction. To help us fight this crisis Plympton officers are now equipped with an overdose reversing drug, Narloxone (Narcan). Since implementing this program, our officers have saved 3 lives with this important life saving tool. If you or a family member need help battling this type of addiction please contact us as we stand ready to assist you in any way we can.

In October, the Department said thank you and good bye to Sergeant Robert J. Costa Jr. Rob retired after 31 years of dedicated service to this town.

We are still very committed to working with Town officials and residents to improve or replace our outdated and obsolete police building. We must provide a good working, modern and most importantly, safe environment for our Police Officers and residents.

Please know that I welcome questions and comments from any of our citizens, businesses, and visitors. I ask that you call our department to report any suspicious activity that you may witness, and also to please remember to protect your property by securing your homes and locking your vehicles. The department wishes to thank the many members of the community who continue to support our police department and we will continue to provide the best possible service to keep Plympton a safe and pleasant community in which to live and work.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick S. Dillon Chief of Police

# PLYMPTON POLICE 2015

Citation Violation Breakdown Written Warnings Verbal Warnings Civil Criminal Arrests	471 370 171 107 <u>30</u> <b>1145</b>
Indecent A&B on Person 14 or Under A&B Simple A&B A&B on Child with Injury Resist Arrest Witness, Intimidate Telephone Calls, Obscene Threat to Commit Crime Arson of Dwelling house, Attempt Burglary/Breaking and Entering B&E Building Nighttime for Felony Larceny from Person Shoplifting by Concealing Evidence B&E into Boat/Vehicle for Misdemeanor Larceny Over \$250 Larceny under \$250 Credit Card, False Statement Credit Card, Larceny of Fraud/Cheat, Gross Identify Fraud Vandalize Property Destruction of Property +\$250 Destruction of Property -\$250 Motor Vehicle, Malicious Damage to Drug, Possess Class B Firearm without FID Card, Poss Larceny by Check Over \$250 Disturbing the Peace OUI Drugs OUI Liquor OUI Liquor 2nd Offense Liquor to Person Under 21, Sell Alcohol in MV, Possess Open Container Trespass Trespass with Motor Vehicle Warrant of Apprehension	1 1 5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 1

Abuse Prevention Order, Violate	2
A& B on Family Member	3
Trash, Litter	3
Noisy & Disorderly House, Keep	1
Dog/Cat, Motorist File Report	1
Attempt to Commit Crime	1
Warrant (Straight/Default)	11
Headlights, Fail to Dim	1
Marked Lanes Violation	17
Stop/Yield, Fail to	3
Unlicensed Operation of MV	4
License Not in Possession	2
Seatbelt, Fail to Wear	7
Inspection Sticker, No	13
Abandon MV	1
License Revoked/Suspended, Open	16
License Suspended for OUI, Open	1
License Suspended, Operating MV with	7
Number Plate Violation to Conceal	3
Registration Suspended, Operating MV	4
Leave Scene of Property Damage	9
Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle	4
Reckless Operation of MV	3
Identify Self, MV Operator Refuse	1
Stop for Police, Fail	1
Name/Address Change, Fail to Notify	1
Uninsured MV	20
Brakes Violation, MV	1
Lights Violation MV	2
Unregistered MV	25
Motor Vehicle Accidents	51
Record Requests	172
Firearms Licenses	35

### REPORT OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

In July of 2015 the Board of Selectmen (BOS) voted to form a Public Safety Building Committee (PSBC) to further the process of building new police and fire stations for the Town. The PSBC was asked to begin their work where the previous committees had ended. That is, the Town needs new public safety buildings, particularly a new police station, and a solution that looks pretty good is the use of modular manufacturing.

The PSBC held our first meeting on August 5, 2015 and has met 17 times through the autumn and winter thus far. We reviewed the work of the previous committees and set about developing some plans for the future. We decided that the best option for the Town was to keep all of the Town buildings on the Palmer Road site and develop a Town campus. This would include the current buildings (town house, library and fire station), a new police station and would keep the ball fields in the center of town. Public input was solicited and occasionally given. We even started having the meetings recorded for public cable TV and computer access.

The PSBC worked with Collins Engineering to develop plans to accomplish these goals. Several plans were reviewed, modified, rejected and eventually accepted. By this time, we had also met with the Town's FinCom and financial officers to try to figure out the financing of this project. It was decided that we would focus on the police station, as that was both the most pressing need and the most affordable part of the project.

Looking to the future, the PSBC asked the BOS to pursue the purchase of land contiguous to the site so that a new fire station and other possible uses could eventually be built. The BOS agreed and has been working on this.

In January 2016, the PSBC felt it was time to hire the consultant that was approved at the 2015 Town Meeting. A RFP (Request for Proposal) was written and posted to the Central Register, applicants were vetted and a final recommendation was brought to the BOS and FinCom. During this same time period, the Town received a grant to develop a five year capital plan. Common sense dictated that we step back a little and let this plan come to fruition.

It was decided by the BOS that the scope of the job for which we hoped to hire the consultant was not broad enough and that it would be better to write a new RFP to hire a consultant for a full and complete Town Complex project. This new consultant will help the Town develop plans, determine costs, and project a phasing plan for the campus. As of this writing (March 2016) the monies appropriated at the 2015 Town Meeting will not be used. A new Warrant Article will be written and brought to the 2016 Town Meeting to cover the cost of the new consultant.

The PSBC will continue to work on this project and will do our best to provide the Town with plans for a Town Complex that will meet Plympton's needs well into the future.

Respectfully submitted, Colleen Thompson, Chair

Nancy Butler Jake Jacobson

Bob Karling Art Morin

Harry Weikel Jon Wilhelmsen

### REPORT OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

In 2015, a significant amount of work was completed on the Winnetuxet Swimming Hole. The ongoing project is an effort to restore the site to its natural beauty. The completed work includes removing trees, brush and overgrowth from the banks and beach area. Picnic tables and benches have been renovated and the driveway has been updated. A sign was installed which explains the past history of the site.

Ongoing improvements and repairs took place at the Parsonage Road basketball and tennis court. The courts have had a great deal of use by Plympton residents since their installation and completion in 2014. The Recreation Commission continues to explore ways to improve the area.

The Recreation Commission continues to oversee the maintenance and operation of the Dennett Elementary School sprinkler system. The sprinklers are crucial for providing quality soccer and softball fields for Plympton youth sports programs.

Funding from the Recreation Commission budget provides portable sanitation units at the Holt Baseball Field and the Dennett soccer fields.

The Recreation Commission is looking forward to making needed improvements to the soccer equipment located at the Dennett field. Soccer goals and nets will be repaired and replaced as needed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Kaupp (Chair), Justin Keene, Chris Rankin, Dean Sylvester, Ann White

### **Superintendent of Schools 2015 Annual Report to Towns**

The Silver Lake Regional School District and Massachusetts School Superintendency Union 31 serves the towns of Halifax, Kingston and Plympton. The school systems work cooperatively to best meet the needs of all our students.

The year 2015 brought many administrative changes to the districts. John Tuffy, former Superintendent retired in June along with Mary Sullivan Kelly, former Administrator of Special Education. Halifax Elementary School also saw the retirement of former Principal Claudia Motta. On an Assistant Principal level Thomas Benvie retired from the Silver Lake Regional Middle School and Thomas Tracy resigned from the Kingston School Department. We would like to thank each of these individuals for their dedication to our students.

Joy Blackwood, former Assistant Superintendent, was named Superintendent while Christine Pruitt was named Assistant Superintendent. Marie Grable was named Administrator of Special Education and Sheila Pero was appointed as Assistant Administrator of Special Education. In Halifax the former Assistant Principal, Kayne Beaudry, was named Interim Principal and Brian DeSantes was named Assistant Principal. Silver Lake Regional Middle School welcomed Jason Conetta as Assistant Principal. The Kingston School Department appointed Mike Bambery as Assistant Principal at Kingston Intermediate School and Leslie Erikson as Assistant Principal at Kingston Elementary School. We all look forward to continuing the tradition of excellence in programming and academics within our schools.

Within the Superintendency Union 31 schools 12 new teachers were hired to replace retirements and resignations. Silver Lake Regional Middle and High Schools welcomed 2 new members to their teaching staffs to fill retirements and resignations. We thank our retiring staff for their years of dedication to our students and welcome our new staff to a wonderful community of learners.

The schools benefit from the assistance of the many parent groups and classroom volunteers who help to provide our students with learning opportunities that are not funded in the budgets. These groups are instrumental in providing enrichment opportunities including field trips to our students.

We greatly appreciate the continued support of the towns of Halifax, Kingston and Plympton in providing excellent educational and cultural opportunities for our students. The ongoing dedication and care provided by the administrators, professional staff and support staff to the students in their care is to be commended. My goal as Superintendent of Schools is to continue to provide our students with the highest quality education possible as well as a multitude of opportunities in the arts, on the playing fields, in technology as well as in the vocational fields. Thank you for the support provided to our students and staff.

Joy Blackwood, Superintendent of Schools

### 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

### PLYMPTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Town of Plympton, Massachusetts

Including a Report of the Silver Lake Regional School District

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mr. Jon Wilhelmsen, Chairman	Term Expires 2017
Mr. Jason Fraser, Vice Chair	Term Expires 2017
Ms. Stephanie Domey, Secretary	Term Expires 2016
Mr. Michael Antoine	Term Expires 2018
Ms. Lynn Kaupp	Term Expires 2018

The Plympton School Committee meets at 4:30 p.m., on the third Monday of each month in the Library of the Dennett Elementary School.

### ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Mrs. Joy Blackwood	Superintendent
Mrs. Christine Pruitt	Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Marie Grable	Administrator of Special Education
Mrs. Sheila Pero	Assistant Administrator of SpEd
Ms. Christine Healy	Director of Business Services

In addition to all legal holidays, schools will be closed on the Friday following Thanksgiving and on Good Friday.

*NO SCHOOL* announcements will be broadcasted on radio stations WATD (95.9 FM) and WBZ (1030 AM) and on television stations WBZ (Channel 4), WCVB (Channel 5), WHDH (Channel 7), WFXT (Fox 25) and WLVI (Channel 56) between 5:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

### REPORT OF THE PLYMPTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The 2015 Plympton School Committee (Committee) consisted of five elected members, each serving for three years on a staggered-year election schedule. The members of the Committee during the 2015 - 2016 school year are: Chair - Jon Wilhelmsen (2017); Vice Chair - Jason Fraser (2017); Secretary - Stephanie Domey (2016); Michael Antoine (2018); and Lynn Kaupp (2018). The years in parenthesis indicate the expiration of the member's current term.

The Committee is responsible for the Dennett Elementary School and those students who require out of district placement for special needs or vocational education. The responsibilities of the Committee include the preparation of the annual school budget; establishing and reviewing educational goals and policies; hiring and reviewing the Superintendent; and conducting collective bargaining with the Plympton Teacher's Association.

Work has continued this past year on the new water treatment system for the Dennett. The Dennett water treatment system warrant article, approved at the 2014 Annual Town Meeting, enabled the Committee to solicit bids for firms to recommend a drinking water filtration system and the costs associated with the designing, purchasing, installing and permitting of such a system. The Committee divided the project into two phases: design/permitting and implementation. After a lengthy process soliciting bids, Green Seal Environmental was selected to complete the design/permitting phase of the project. It is anticipated that this phase of the project will be complete in early 2016 which will allow the Committee to solicit bids for the second phase. The target for completion of the entire project is the summer of 2016.

Subcommittees of the Committee include Capital Improvement, Administrative Review, Policy, Negotiations and Pilgrim Area Collaborative. Each member of the Committee serves on one or more of these subcommittees. The subcommittees serve a critical function and help to ensure that the Committee's work is addressed in the proper forum which allows the full Committee to focus its attention as necessary.

The continued support of the Community and School Association (CASA) is greatly appreciated by the Committee which wishes to extend its sincere thanks for the many contributions it makes to the school. CASA organized and/or funded many of the programs at the school over the past year including the annual Thanksgiving Feast, Citizen of the Month Luncheons, numerous dances, events and enrichment programs. These great activities would not be possible without CASA's involvement and support - or the numerous volunteers that help make it happen. Their contributions are essential to educational and cultural life of our students and community.

The entire Dennett faculty, staff and administration, with the tremendous support of parents, students and community members continue to make our Dennett Elementary School a welcoming and comfortable place that encourages learning and growth to flourish.

Respectfully submitted, Jon Wilhelmsen, Chair Jason Fraser, Vice Chair Stephanie Domey, Secretary Micahel Antoine Lynn Kaupp

# PLYMPTON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

# MEMBERSHIP

October 1, 2015

Grade K SC 1 SC1 2	×	SC	_	SC1	2	3	3 4 5 6	v		7	œ	6	10	11	12	8 9 10 11 12 TOTAL
Elementary 34	34	1	1 16	w	30	26	26 33 33 41	33	41							219
Secondary										34	39	32	35	25	31	196
												GRA	GRAND TOTAL	TAL		415

### REPORT OF THE DENNETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### PETER S. VENETO JR., PRINCIPAL

2015 was another great year for the students of Dennett Elementary School. Our annual Spelling Bee was held in February and Benjamin Williams was crowned the champion.

In the spring, our students participated in MCAS testing in the areas of English/Language Arts, Mathematics and Science. Our students performed very well. In the annual report from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Dennett is considered a Level One school. That is the highest designation a school can receive. I am very proud of our students and staff for their hard work on MCAS.

We have some new staff members in the hallways this year. After many years of teaching here at Dennett, Mrs. Claire Kelley and Mrs. Alison McSweeney retired. I thank them for all the hard work they did for the children of Plympton. Mrs. Meghan Piccinin was hired to teach Kindergarten and Ms. Andrea Clawson was hired to teach first grade. Mrs. Betty James took a leave of absence for one school year and Ms. JaneMarie Sylvester was hired to teach Grade 3.

24 of our fifth and sixth graders participated in the Plymouth County District Attorney's DARE Summer Program held in July at Whitman-Hanson High School. First Student graciously provided transportation to and from the camp every day for the 5 day camp. Students enjoyed games, Olympic events, DARE lessons, arts and crafts and various entertainment programs. This was all free of charge. Many thanks go out to Officer Dana Smith for attending the camp and to Chief Patrick Dillon for his continued support of the DARE program.

Students and staff hold some kind of a fundraiser each year to benefit others in need. This year Grade 6 decided to support Pinktober. Students made a small donation each day and wore pink clothing to school each day for a week. The event was a lot of fun for the students and the money went to National Breast Cancer Foundation. Once again this Holiday season, families in need were assisted by the Ryan Benjamin Nicotri Fund. Thank you to Mrs. Sarah Nicotri for her generosity towards our students and families.

We now have two recycling bins on the property. One is for clothing and the other is for paper and cardboard. Up until now we have relied upon parent volunteers to handle the recycling. Thank you to those who have volunteered to keep our recycling program up and running. Another new addition to the property is a new full basketball court. Thanks to CASA and their volunteers for taking on that project.

Dennett Elementary is piloting a new breakfast program before school starts. Students can pay cash or use their Nutrikids PIN card number to buy a quick breakfast to start their day. Big thanks to our kitchen manager, Mrs. Pamela Taylor, for making this a success.

Dennett Elementary is a very technologically savvy school. Each classroom now has it's own dedicated interactive whiteboard. These devices turn an ordinary white board into a Smartboard with the ability to access the internet, project images using a document camera and play videos or DVD's with high quality sound. These are being used every single day by staff and students and they are a big hit.

Dennett served the community in a number of capacities this year. We hosted games and practices for the PYBA. The Boy Scouts held their Annual Pine Wood Derby here. Multiple Girl Scout troops met here throughout the year. The Girls Scouts hosted their Craft Fair here, as well. Youth Soccer and Girls Softball stayed busy on our fields all year long. Once again this year, Comcast assisted in airing the audio and video of our Town Meeting. Many wonderful things occurred here beyond students learning in classrooms.

Our Community and School Association, (CASA) once again provided a number of activities for our students. Mrs. Sarah Prario tirelessly served another year as Chairperson of CASA. They organized our Thanksgiving Feast, Winter Festival, Holiday Bazaar, dances, Teacher Appreciation Luncheon and many sixth grade events. I truly appreciate all of the people who volunteered for CASA to make special memories for our students.

I hope you all have a safe and happy year. It is my pleasure working as the Dennett School Principal.

### 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

### SILVER LAKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Towns of Halifax, Kingston, and Plympton, Massachusetts

Including a Report of the Silver Lake Regional School District

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mr. John Creed, Chairman	Term Expires 2016
Mrs. Paula Hatch, Vice Chairman	Term Expires 2016
Ms. Maureen Springer, Secretary	Term Expires 2018
Mr. Mark Aubrey	Term Expires 2018
Mr. Joseph Chaves	Term Expires 2018
Mr. Edward Desharnais	Term Expires 2017
Mr. Jason Fraser	Term Expires 2017
Mr. Mark Guidoboni	Term Expires 2017
Mr. James Lormer	Term Expires 2016

The Silver Lake Regional School Committee meets at 7:00 p.m., on the second Thursday of each month at the Silver Lake Regional High School or Silver Lake Regional Middle School.

### ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Mrs. Joy Blackwood	Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Christine Pruitt	Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Marie Grable	Administrator of Special Education
Mrs. Sheila Pero	Assistant Administrator of SpEd
Ms. Christine Healy	Director of Business Services

In addition to all legal holidays, schools will be closed on the Friday following Thanksgiving and on Good Friday.

*NO SCHOOL* announcements will be broadcasted on radio stations WATD (95.9 FM) and WBZ (1030 AM) and on television stations WBZ (Channel 4), WCVB (Channel 5), WHDH (Channel 7), WFXT (Fox 25) and WLVI (Channel 56) between 5:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

### 2015 ANNUAL REPORT SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The Silver Lake Regional School Committee represents Kingston, Halifax and Plympton. The District serves over 1800 student in grades 9-12.

The Committee welcomes our new Superintendent, Joy Blackwood, who served nine years as our Assistant Superintendent. The Committee also welcomes our new Assistant Superintendent, Christine Pruitt and Marie Grable, Administrator of Special Education.

The School Committee would like to extend their appreciation to all the community members and businesses that have supported the district programs through their donations of time, materials and money. We are extremely fortunate for their generosity.

As we begin to prepare for Fiscal 2017 we are continuing to be mindful of the economic challenges that face the towns of Halifax, Kingston and Plympton, while we strive to provide the quality education that is expected at Silver Lake.

The Silver Lake Regional School Committee would like to thank the Silver Lake Regional employees for their dedication to our schools. We are also grateful for the continued support of the three communities-Halifax, Kingston and Plympton. The Committee also invites residents of the three towns to attend the School Committee's regular meetings which are held on the second Thursday of each month.

Respectfully submitted,
John Creed, Chair, Legislative Agent
Paula Hatch, Vice-Chair
Maureen Springer, Secretary
Joseph Chaves, Treasurer
Jason Fraser, Assistant Treasurer
Mark Aubrey
Edward Desharnais
Mark Guidoboni
James Lormer

We began the 2015-2016 school-year with excitement and anticipation. As we continue to grow our rigorous academic programming, our focus remains on student achievement and maximizing growth for all students.

The State has classified all schools into one of five accountability Levels (1 - 5) with the highest performing in Level 1 and lowest performing in Level 5. The state of Massachusetts has deemed SLRMS a Level 2 School. Our classification was determined by the state MCAS scores, whereby we did not meet the performance target for High Needs in 2015. Our annual PPI score for 2015 was **95**, and our cumulative PPI score for 2015 was **80.** SLRMS exceeded the state target cumulative PPI score (75) in 2015. However, SLRMS had a cumulative PPI score for High Needs of **67**, and did not meet the cumulative PPI score (75) for High Needs, and therefore was deemed a Level 2 School.

SLRMS MCAS scores in ELA shows 88% (all time high) of our students scored Proficient or Above, and we are 14% above the State Average. In Mathematics, 69% of our students scored Proficient or Above, and we are 15% above the State Average. In Science, 63% (all time high) of our students scored Proficient or Above, and we were 21% above the State Average.

State PPI - Rating	
Above Target	100
On Target	75
Improved Below Target	50
No Change	25
Declined	0

All departments continue to dedicate their monthly meetings and professional development to meaningful collaboration and curriculum development. All departments are working on writing to text, common assessments, and evaluating student data. Each department will be incorporating literacy, numeracy and interdisciplinary units into their curriculum.

Also, we expanded our program of studies to include the following new courses at SLRMS:

**Math Lab (Grade Eight)** -- All eighth grade students will be enrolled in Math Lab for one-third of the school year. Instruction in Math Lab will focus on the learning standards associated with the Number System and Geometry domains of the Massachusetts Mathematics Curriculum Framework. Through problem solving, reasoning, and modeling students will be able to:

- Know that there are numbers that are not rational, and approximate them by rational numbers.
- Understand congruence and similarity using physical models.
- Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres.

Applied Technology/Engineering (Grade Seven Elective) -- Applied Technology & Engineering is a year-long, hands-on, project-oriented class that introduces STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) principles, concepts, and guidelines. Students will be involved in project-based learning opportunities that introduce the principle skills to develop, produce, use, and assess products related to engineering and technology. It will incorporate an understanding of materials, machines, and equipment as an important strategy to solve problems. Students will engage in a variety of projects individually and in cooperative groups, helping to develop their problem-solving skills. Activities are focused on content related to engineering and technology and will develop the students' abilities to:

- 1. Describe the structure and impact of engineering and technology in communication, construction, manufacturing, and transportation technologies.
- 2. Understand how engineering and technology is a system comprised of inputs, processes, outputs, feedback, goals, and impacts.
- 3. Apply technical processes and materials to manufacture products, construct structures, and deliver messages.
- 4. Use a variety of technical means to design, construct, and analyze models of systems and devices

Participation and completion of Applied Technology & Engineering prepares students to solve open-ended problems with an engineering mindset.

At SLRMS, we continue to improve our comprehensive ELA curriculum. In 2014, we incorporated the course, The Art and Craft of Writing, into the 7<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum as one of the rounds classes. Students are asked to gather information from multiple non-fiction sources, integrate and synthesize the information, and communicate a thesis in an engaging manner. The course largely focuses on the revision and editing process by integrating lessons on language and style. Students will revise multiple drafts of their compositions while learning skills they can apply across disciplines. As part of the course, students will integrate technology while developing their writing skills in digital portfolios.

In order to ensure students success at SLRMS and as lifelong learners, we are continuing our program modifications to support all students. We enhanced the math remediation model to support 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. We created a comprehensive Math Support course that extends throughout the year and meets every other day. In the model, the remediation exists within the math course curriculum.

In 2014, we increased our Foreign Language offerings (French I) in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students can now choose between Spanish I, Latin I or the newly added French I. French I will introduce students to the primary elements of the French language and its culture. Emphasis is placed on conversation and basic grammar structures. At the end of the year, students will be able to speak, read, write and show an understanding about topics of general interest such as: weather, home, family, foods, and social life.

In an effort to improve communication, we continue to utilize and expand the use of Blackboard Connect our communication platform. We use the Blackboard Connect messaging system to alert all homes of important events or announcements. Also, each faculty member has an email account and a phone extension to facilitate communication with parents. Each teacher is also

encouraged to have their own website and keep an updated electronic calendar on their website to post homework, projects, and upcoming assessments. Most sites provide additional exciting features such as a discussion board and blogging for our teachers.

Also, we publish a quarterly newsletter, a monthly parent information letter, schedule six days for parent conferences, and encourage parents to access PowerSchool regularly.

Our goal at SLRMS is to provide all students with a safe and nurturing environment in which they can grow and learn. We remain focused on our *Core Values of Respect, Responsibility, and Academic Excellence*, embracing the theme of *One World, One School, and One Family* as a school community.

### <u>Silver Lake Regional High School – James M. Mulcahy, Jr. , Principal</u> Highlights, 2015

This is truly an exciting time at Silver Lake Regional High School. Our academic program continues to get stronger and rigorous and our extra-curricular offerings remain top notch. Most importantly, student achievement is at an all-time high.

Based on the No Child Left Behind Act's report card program, the target has been met in the all students subgroup for both English/Language Arts and Mathematics. We continue to work in the high needs subgroups to regain level one status within the state. 2015 saw the high school's drop-out rate continue to be less than one percent.

The class of 2017 received MCAS results this past fall. 95% of the class passed math and 99% passed ELA on the first testing period. We are pleased to report that 97% received Advanced or Proficient scores in ELA and 85%, earned Proficient or advanced scores in mathematics. In June of 2015, members of the class of 2018 took the high stakes MCAS in the area of science. 99% of our students passed the Physics exam during the first testing period. The faculty and administration continues to be committed to our school-wide goal that **every** student scores in the Proficient or Advanced category for English/ Language Arts, Science and Mathematics. 77 students earned the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship for their performance on ELA and Math MCAS.

All of the 279 members of the class of 2015 met the rigorous requirements set forth by the Silver Lake Regional School Committee. In an historic graduation ceremony on May 30, 2015, the proud graduates were joined by members of the fiftieth anniversary class of 1965. Earlier that week, approximately \$142,000 in local scholarships and awards were bestowed upon members of the senior class. This amount does not include scholarships granted directly from colleges and universities.

Our Advanced Placement scores continue to be impressive. There were a total of 226 students that took 476 AP Exams in May 2015. Student achievement on the SAT exam continues to reach new heights. The average SAT scores for members of the class of 2015 was 528 in Critical Reading, 550 in Mathematics, and 521 in Writing. The College Board has identified Silver Lake Regional High School as a "School of Distinction" for our achievements with the Advanced Placement program.

In addition to the pursuit of academic excellence, students participate and make a difference in a variety of ways beyond the classroom. Over 89% of the student body participates in extracurricular activities and athletics. Musical and dramatic productions continue to inspire. Such exemplary events include vocal and instrumental concerts, the spring Shakespearean Festival, and last fall's musical, "Shrek The Musical".

As Silver Lake Regional High School continues to move forward, the school continues to offer a rigorous and stimulating curriculum in a state-of-the-art building. Students are encouraged to take full advantage of the opportunities offered in order to achieve academic and personal success.

### Silver Lake Regional High School Graduating Class of 2015

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Town
Katherine	Ann	Battle	Plympton
Peyton	June	Bryant	Plympton
Emily	Taylor	Cobb	Plympton
Grace	Helen	Detterman	Plympton
Daniel	John	Flaherty	Plympton
Kevin	Samuel	Heath	Plympton
Nicole	Mary	Huff	Plympton
Patrick	Christopher	Hutchinson	Plympton
Sydney	Allison	Kane	Plympton
Abigail	Rose	Karparis	Plympton
John	Charles	Killeen	Plympton
Mae	Rose	Killeen	Plympton
Michael	Charles	Killeen	Plympton
Briana	Juana	Kupic	Plympton
Jonathan	Michael	Lawson	Plympton
David	Richard	Murphy	Plympton
Kayla	Bree	O'Neil	Plympton
Robert	Patrick	Richter	Plympton
Shivam		Sachdeva	Plympton
Timothy	William	Sauchuk	Plympton
Jeffrey	Alan	Smith	Plympton
Alexander	Lee	Sullivan	Plympton
Matthew	David	Sylvia	Plympton
Kevin	Peter	Thompson	Plympton
Aaron	Michael	Trop	Plympton
Julia	Aster	Vautrinot	Plympton
Michael	James	Wasielewski	Plympton
Simone	Marie	Wooten	Plympton
Jessica	Lynne	Zeoli	Plympton

# SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET 2015 - 2016

REGULAF	R DAY	2014- 2015 BUDGET	2015 - 2016 BUDGET	% INC/DCR
1101 1201 2101 2201 2300 2350 2400 2450 2500 2600 2700 3200 3300 3500 4110 4130 4210 4220 4230 5100 5200 5300 5400	SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUPERINTENDENTS' OFFICE SUPERVISION PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE TEACHING PROFESSIONAL DEV. TEXTBOOKS INST. HARD & SOFTWARE LIBRARY AUDIO VISUAL GUIDANCE HEALTH TRANSPORTATION ATHLETICS CUSTODIAL UTILITIES MAINTENANCE/GROUNDS MAINTENANCE/BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE/EQUIPMENT RETIREMENT INSURANCE LEASE DEBT SERVICE	139,350 981,217 690,498 856,267 9,445,724 62,400 67,401 473,643 233,851 10,500 827,722 100,539 924,588 62,800 1,027,489 888,860 121,650 410,225 141,750 799,807 2,678,528 5,880 0	139,350 1,006,644 721,942 871,878 9,710,926 64,900 24,914 319,064 236,341 9,603 882,239 108,050 942,543 57,800 1,049,709 922,860 124,750 413,175 143,600 843,047 2,802,896 5,880 0	4.55% 1.82% 2.81% 4.01% -63.04% -32.64% 1.06% -8.54% 6.59% 7.47% 1.94% -7.96% 2.16% 3.83% 2.55% 0.72% 1.31% 5.41%
7300 7400	ACQUISITION/EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT/EQUIPMENT	10,500 66,200	70,450 17,698	570.95%
TOTAL RI	EGULAR DAY	21,027,389	21,490,258	2.20%
SPECIAL	EDUCATION			
2210 2300 2280 2330	SUPERVISION TEACHING PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION	270,761 1,112,656 50,461 52,853	274,157 1,121,866 91,505 61,510	1.25% 0.83% 81.34% 16.38%
TOTAL SI	PECIAL EDUCATION	1,486,731	1,549,038	4.19%
GRAND T	OTAL	22,514,120	23,039,296	2.33%

### SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES - UMAS BASIS For the Year Ended June 30, 2015

### UNAUDITED

		GOVERNMENT	TAL F	UND TYPES		TOTAL	
				Special			
		General	1	Revenue	Ju	ne 30, 2015	
Revenues							
Member town assessments	\$	14,657,656	\$		\$	14,657,656	
Tuition charges		286,738				286,738	
Charges for services		680,450		3,077,611		3,758,061	
Intergovernmental		9,292,533		1,808,661		11,101,194	
Investment earnings		6,924				6,924	
Departmental and other		325,018		2,556		327,574	
Total revenues		25,249,319		4,888,828		30,138,147	
Expenditures							
Administration		1,370,463				1,370,463	
Instructional services		13,847,606		1,822,110		15,669,716	
School services		1,116,686		2,215,936		3,332,622	
Operations and maintenance		2,824,004		824,388		3,648,392	
Employee benefits and other fixed charge	es	3,260,323				3,260,323	
Capital outlay		33,996				33,996	
Assessments		400,502				400,502	
Debt service							
Principal		950,000				950,000	
Interest and other charges		597,420				597,420	
Total Expenditures		24,401,000		4,862,434		29,263,434	
Revenues over (under) expenditures		848,319		26,394		874,713	
Other financing sources (uses)							
Transfers in				241,576		241,576	
Transfers out		(241,576)				(241,576)	
Total other financing sources and uses		(241,576)		241,576			
Revenues and other financing sources ov	er						
(under) expenditures and other financing	use:	606,743		267,970		874,713	
Fund balance - beginning of year		2,872,870		(39,064)		2,833,806	
Fund balance - end of year	\$	3,479,613	\$	228,906	\$	3,708,519	

### SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION COSTS 2014-2015 BUDGET

### SUMMARY OF TOWN ASSESSMENTS

CONSTRUCTION ASSESSMENT

TOWNS	TOTAL
Halifax Kingston Plympton	550,881.52 820,132.60 176,405.88
TOTAL	1,547,420.00
CONSTRUCTION - MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHO	OCL
Principal Due Interest Due	950,000.00 597,420.00
TOTAL PRINCIPAL & INTEREST	1,547,420.00

1,547,420.00

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS - UMAS BASIS June 30, 2015 SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

UNAUDITED	Ğ	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE	TAL F	UND TYPE	FIDUC	FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE	<b>⋖</b>	ACCOUNT GROUP		TOTAL
				Special			-	General Long-term		June 30,
SEE SE		General		Kevenue	Agency A	Agency Accounts		Debt		2015
Cash	↔	4,527,813	↔	228,906	<del>∽</del>	138,595	\$		<b>↔</b>	4,895,314
Amounts to be provided for payment of long-term obligations								14,250,000		14,250,000
Total assets	S	4,527,813	S	228,906	8	138,595	S	14,250,000	S	19,145,314
LIABILITIES										
Withholdings and benefits payable Accrued vacation	<del>&gt;&gt;</del>	747,957	↔		<del>\$</del>		<del>∽</del>		<del>∽</del>	747,957 300,243
Amounts due to students						129,118				129,118
Other liabilities						9,477		9		9,477
General obligation bonds payable								14,250,000		14,250,000
Total liabilities		1,048,200				138,595		14,250,000		15,436,795
FUND EQUITY										
Reserved for encumbrances Unreserved:		231,909								231,909
Undesignated		2,731,704		228,906						2,960,610
Designated for FY2016 budget capital improvements		216,000								216,000
Total fund equity		3,479,613		228,906						3,708,519
Total liabilities and fund equity	S	4,527,813	S	228,906	<b>∽</b>	138,595	S	14,250,000	<b>∽</b>	19,145,314

### PLYMPTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE 2014- 2015 BUDGET FINAL CLOSEOUT TRIAL BALANCE

		TOTAL AVAILABLE	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	BALANCE		
REGULAR DAY						
1100	SCHOOL COMMITTEE	14,165.00	13,276.82	888.18		
1200	SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE	53,753.00		-1,770.98		
2200	PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE	143,305.00	142,643.89	661.11		
2300	TEACHING	1,296,002.00	1,271,474.52	24,527.48		
2350	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOP.	6,000.00	1,710.99	4,289.01		
2400	TEXTBOOKS	13,300.00	12,459.89	840.11		
2450	<b>INST. HARD &amp; SOFTWARE</b>	40,918.00	82,327.93	-41,409.93		
2500	LIBRARY	84,568.00	87,669.87	-3,101.87		
2600	AUDIO VISUAL	2,300.00	1,715.94	584.06		
3100	ATTENDANCE	100.00	100.00	0.00		
3200	HEALTH	46,136.00	45,722.54	413.46		
3300	TRANSPORTATION	104,800.00	100,973.00	3,827.00		
3400	FOOD SERVICE	600.00	600.00	0.00		
4110	CUSTODIAL	128,897.00	137,065.13	-8,168.13		
4120	HEATING	38,500.00	34,106.41	4,393.59		
4130	UTILITIES	80,750.00	61,712.30	19,037.70		
4210	MAINTENANCE/GROUNDS	1,000.00	89.46	910.54		
4220	MAINTENANCE/BUILDINGS	90,000.00	84,715.78	5,284.22		
4230	MAINTENANCE/EQUIPMENT	15,000.00	14,402.20	597.80		
7300	ACQUISITION/EQUIPMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00		
7400	REPLACEMENT/EQUIPMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL RE	EGULAR DAY	2,160,094.00	2,148,290.65	11,803.35		
SPECIAL	EDUCATION					
2210	SUPERVISION	20,144.00	18,156.81	1,987.19		
2230	TEACHING	203,705.00	205,136.33	-1,431.33		
2270	GUIDANCE	67,307.00	69,237.49	-1,930.49		
2280	PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	36,300.00	31,252.35	5,047.65		
2330	TRANSPORTATION	81,370.00		4,341.30		
2900	PROGRAMS WITH OTHERS	499,974.00	494,080.13	5,893.87		
TOTAL SE	PECIAL EDUCATION	908,800.00	894,891.81	13,908.19		
GRAND T	OTAL	3,068,894.00	3,043,182.46	25,711.54		
9320	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	182,000.00	179,855.56	2,144.44		

### SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 2014 - 2015 OPERATING BUDGET FINAL CLOSEOUT TRIAL BALANCE

	TOTAL AVAILABLE	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
REGULAR DAY			
1100 SCHOOL COMMITTEE	139,350.00	133,137.39	6,212.61
1200 SUPERINTENDENTS' OFFICE	981,217.00	1,007,911.78	-26,694.78
2100 SUPERVISION	690,498.00	720,722.39	-30,224.39
2200 PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE	856,267.00	886,773.97	-30,506.97
2300 TEACHING	9,445,724.00	9,413,568.41	32,155.59
2350 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMEN	62,400.00	68,024.87	-5,624.87
2400 TEXTBOOKS	67,401.00	67,106.02	294.98
2450 INST. HARD & SOFTWARE	473,643.00	497,956.38	-24,313.38
2500 LIBRARY	233,851.00	236,690.46	-2,839.46
2600 AUDIO VISUAL	10,500.00	7,579.38	2,920.62
2700 GUIDANCE	827,722.00	846,103.28	-18,381.28
3200 HEALTH	100,539.00	106,092.58	-5,553.58
3300 TRANSPORTATION	924,588.00	885,946.89	38,641.11
3500 ATHLETICS	62,800.00	62,677.04	122.96
4110 CUSTODIAL	1,027,489.00	1,146,905.05	-119,416.05
4120 HEATING	0.00	0.00	0.00
4130 UTILITIES	888,860.00	876,484.26	12,375.74
4210 MAINTENANCE/GROUNDS	121,650.00	121,861.87	-211.87
4220 MAINTENANCE/BUILDINGS	570,225.00	621,381.99	-51,156.99
4230 MAINTENACE/EQUIPMENT	141,750.00	125,949.22	15,800.78
5100 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	799,807.00	795,466.00	4,341.00
5200 INSURANCE	2,678,528.00	2,517,101.57	161,426.43
5300 LEASE	5,880.00	4,720.08	1,159.92
5400 SHORT TERM INTEREST	0.00	0.00	0.00
7300 ACQUISITION/EQUIPMENT	10,500.00	9,890.00	610.00
7400 REPLACEMENT/EQUIPMENT	66,200.00	59,641.15	6,558.85
TOTAL REGULAR DAY	21,187,389.00	21,219,692.03	-32,303.03
SPECIAL EDUCATION			
2210 SUPERVISION	270,761.00	246,026.92	24,734.08
2230 TEACHING	1,112,656.00	1,026,719.78	85,936.22
2280 PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	50,461.00	82,740.02	-32,279.02
2330 TRANSPORTATION	52,853.00	58,970.44	-6,117.44
TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION	1,486,731.00	1,414,457.16	72,273.84
GRAND TOTAL	22,674,120.00	22,634,149.19	39,970.81







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### **PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

Fuel Assistance, Weatherization, Transportation, South Shore Early Education & Care, Consumer Aid, Emergency Services, Financial Stability Programs, Employment & Workforce Development, Food Resources, and Coordinated Family and Community Engagement.

### **GEOGRAPHIC SERVICE AREA**

South Shore Community Action Council serves Carver, Cohasset, Duxbury, Hanover, Hingham, Hull, Kingston, Marshfield, Norwell, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, and Scituate. Through our Fuel Assistance and Transportation programs, SSCAC serves an additional 58 towns in the Southeast, Cape Cod, and the Islands.

## SSCAC REPORT TO THE TOWN

### PLYMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

With roots dating back to the 1960's, South Shore Community Action Council, Inc. (SSCAC) is an agency that administers many federal, state and private grants that are available for low income and elderly persons.

During SSCAC's FY2015, a total of 251 Plympton households (duplicated) were served from October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015 through the many programs.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS	HOUSEHOLDS	EXPENDITURES
Fuel Assistance (Federal)	38	\$30,707
HEARTWAP (Burner Repair/Replacement)	6	\$1,324
Private Utility Funds for Weatherization and Burner Repair	1	N/A

RENT/MORTGAGE/UTILITY ARREARAGE PROGRAMS	HOUSEHOLDS	EXPENDITURES
Federal Emergency Management Assistance (FEMA)	2	\$1,244

OTHER PROGRAMS	HOUSEHOLDS	EXPENDITURES
Consumer Aid- The Attorney General	1	N/A
Head Start And All Early Education Programs	3	N/A
Individual Development Account Program (IDA)	1	N/A
SNAP	5	N/A
Transportation – Inter-Town Medical And Other Trips In Lift Equipped Vans (Total Trips)	189	N/A
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (Vita)	5	N/A

In addition, SSCAC's Food Resources program distributed 1,366 lbs. of locally grown fruits, vegetables and non-perishable food to the Plympton's Council on Aging and Head Start children's programs. (Approximately 1,027 meals.)

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### REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

OENEDAL ELIND	BAL	WN OF PLYMP ANCE SHEET ine 30, 2015		
GENERAL FUND Cash Petty Cash			\$ \$	1,325,746.18 50.00
Personal Property Real Estate	\$ \$	39,911.63 242,786.61	\$	282,698.24
Allowance for Abatements			\$	(184,484.47)
Tax Liens Tax Possessions Res. For Uncol. Receivables	\$ \$ \$	305,785.23 24,922.92 (330,708.15)	\$	-
Def. Property Taxes Dues Res. For Def. Property Taxes Due	\$ \$	4,968.89 (4,968.89)	\$	-
Motor Vehicle Excise Res. For Uncollected Excise	\$ \$	58,788.08 (58,788.08)	\$	-
Farm Animal Excise Def. Rev. Farm Animal Excise	\$ \$	-	\$	-
Betterments Assess. Conveyance Tax Veteran Benefits Receivable Allow. For Uncol. Receivables	\$ \$ \$	6,621.34 4,180.48 64,918.89 (75,720.71)		
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEBITS		:	\$	1,424,009.95
Accrued Payroll Withholdings Payroll & Warrant Payable			\$ \$	53,708.69 319,048.18
Other Liabilities Tailings Deferred Rev. Propert Taxes	\$ \$	17,425.46 98,213.77	\$	115,639.23
Reserve for Petty Cash Prior Year Encumbrances Bond Premium Snow & Ice Deficit Unreserved Funds			\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	50.00 304,155.87 9,142.94 (200,572.02)

Res. For Expenditures Undesignated Balance	\$ \$	325,807.90 497,029.16	\$ 822,837.06
TOTAL LIABILITIES			\$ 1,424,009.95
HIGHWAY FUNDS			
Cash	Φ	000 770 75	\$ (55,310.14)
State Aid to Highways Def. Rev. Ingevernmental	\$ _\$	299,770.75 (299,770.75)	\$ -
Fund Balance Chapter 90 Winter Rocervy Roads	\$ \$	(30,984.02) (24,326.12)	\$ (55,310.14)
SCHOOL GRANTS-FEDERAL & ST. Cash	ATE		\$ 23,385.23
Fund Balances EEO Grant Math Grant Circuit Breaker Grant Kindergarten Transition Title I Teacher Quality Emergency Education Grant	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	44.39 250.00 25,459.01 (1,762.17) (2,806.00) 200.00 2,000.00	\$ 23,385.23
TOWN GRANTS-FEDERAL & STAT Cash	Έ		\$ 34,155.94
Fund Balances Cultural Council Survey & Planning Grant Police Vests Board of Health Septic Handi Persons Grant Elder Affairs SIG Grant Right to Know Community Policing Pol. Dept. Safety Gran Board of Health Grant Tercentennial Grant Fire Dept. Grants Election Grant	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	4,100.52 10,000.00 2,836.99 5,055.19 - 19.63 873.00 1,220.98 1,680.83 2,000.00 884.77 3,786.26 1,697.77	\$ 34,155.94

# **REVOLVING FUNDS**

Cash		,	\$ 58,116.13
Fund Balances School Choice Student Activities Tax Title Revolving Recreation Dept. Library Recoveries	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	20,000.00 10,383.23 26,480.10 770.90 481.90	\$ 58,116.13
RECEIPTS RESERVED FUND Cash			\$ 673,051.60
Ambulance Receivalbes Def. Ambulance Rec. Community Pres. Receivables Def. Receivables	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	188,477.53 (188,477.53) 572.57 (572.57)	\$ _
		,	\$ 673,051.60
State Aid to Libraries Ins. Reimbursement over \$20,000 Ambulance Fee Fund CPA-Open Space CPA-Historic Resources CPA-Community Housing CPA-Undesignated Fund Balance CPA-Reserve for Expenditure TOTAL LIABILITIES  SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	13,301.73 217.64 269,070.27 - 6,228.50 56,859.00 273,088.97 54,285.49	\$ 673,051.60
Cash			\$ 182,623.59
Fund Balances Dennett Library Fund Sysco Escrow Sysco Road Gifts Highway Escrow School Gifts Board of Health Escrow Student Activities Gifts Fire Dept. Gift	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	77,152.91 5,368.48 143.90 4,510.00 905.09 (1,009.29) 10,901.07 19,339.56	

Sale of Town Property Library Gift Fund Planning Bd. Deposits Consevation Notice of Intent Agriculture Gift Town House Gifts Conservation Escrow Veterans Dept. Gifts Recreation Gift Police & Dare Gifts Historic Comm. Gift 300th Anniversary Gifts Building Dept. Escrow Jason Park Memorial Fund Appeal Esrow	***	2,514.90 8,881.42 14,388.75 7,358.75 30.00 900.94 1,146.89 6,691.25 450.00 1,718.09 250.00 3,817.63 35.00 405.53 16,722.72	\$ 182,623.59
CAPITAL PROJECTS			
Cash-Capital Projects Town Projects Amt. to be Provided Bans Payable A/R Septic Loans Def. Rev. Septic	\$ \$ \$ \$	978.51 378,028.00 (378,028.00) 6,038.57 (6,038.57)	
Fund Balances			\$ 978.51
Board of Health Tansfer Station Highway Equipment	\$ \$ \$	25.30 953.21	\$ 978.51
TRUST FUNDS			
Cash			\$ 1,594,709.46
Fund Balances Investment Funds Sale of Lots Cemetery Perpetual Care TOPLA Library Fund Law Enforcement Fund Capital Stabilization Stabilization	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	2,689.94 37,795.78 112,055.79 82,115.27 3,823.03 911,130.09 445,099.59	

1,594,709.49

# AGENCY FUNDS

Cash			\$	108,737.17
Agency Payables	_			
Performance Bonds Treasurer Red. Fees	\$ \$	80,828.37		
Collectors Liens	Ф \$	13,323.79 (117.70)		
Town Clerk Fees	\$	3,573.24		
State Fire Arms	\$	6,164.51		
Police Extra Detail	\$	4,964.96		100 707 17
			\$	108,737.17
DEBT				
Amount to be Provided			\$	659,325.35
The same of	Φ.	05 000 00		
Highway Equipment Septic Loans	\$ \$	35,000.00 19,325.35		
School Building	Ψ \$	605,000.00		
	<u> </u>		\$	659,325.35
Loans Authorized			\$	1,109,480.00
Louis Authorized			Ψ	1,100,400.00
Loans Authorized and Unissued			\$	1,109,480.00

Respectfully submitted, Barbara A. Gomez

ASSETS	\$	GENERAL FUND 1,325,796.18	- ↔	SPECIAL REVENUE 916,022.35	~ ↔	CAPITAL PROJECTS 978.51	↔	DEBT -	TRUST & AGENCY \$ 1,703,446.63	` <b>⊕</b> ღ	TOTAL ALL FUNDS 3,946,243.67
Real Estate & Personal Property Tax Liens & Possessions Farm Animal Def. Property Due Motor Vehicle Excise Departmental Other-Septic Intergovernmental & Loans	. \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ £	282,698.24 330,708.15 4,968.89 58,788.08 75,720.71	↔ ↔	189,050.10	<del>&amp;</del> &	6,038.57 378,028.00	€	659,325.35		\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	282,698.24 330,708.15 4,968.89 58,788.08 264,770.81 6,038.57 1,337,124.10
TOTAL ASSETS	8	2,078,680.25	8	1,404,843.20	↔	385,045.08	↔	659,325.35	\$ 1,703,446.63	83	6,231,340.51
LIABILITY & FUND EQUITY Liabilities Bonds Payable Warrants Payable Accrued Payroll Withholds Reserve for Abatements	8 8 8	319,048.18 53,708.69 184,484.47	↔	1	↔	•	€	659,325.35		& & & & &	659,325.35 319,048.18 53,708.69 184,484.47
Real & Personal Prop. Tax Liens & Possessions Farm Animal Def. Property Due Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	98,213.77 330,708.15 - 4,968.89 58,788.08			•	1				<b>\$\$\$\$</b>	33.0
Outer-Septic Intergovernmental Departmental Other Liabilities	8 8	75,720.71 17,425.46	<b>↔</b> ↔	299,770.75 189,050.10	o 69	378,028.00			\$ 108,737.17		0,030.37 677,798.75 264,770.81 126,162.63
TOTAL LIABILITIES	↔	1,143,066.40	↔	488,820.85	↔	384,066.57	↔	659,325.35	\$ 108,737.17	2 \$	2,784,016.34
Fund Equity Pr. Year Encumbrances Res. For Expenditures Undesignated Fund Balance Bond Premiums & Petty Cash R Overdrwn & Unprovided Teacher Defferals Loans Authorized Loans Authorized & Unissued	& & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & &	304,155.87 325,807.90 497,029.16 9,192.94 (200,572.02)	↔	916,022.35	↔	978.51	<del>↔</del> ↔	1,109,480.00	\$ - \$ 1,594,709.46	I	\$ 1,221,156.73 \$ 325,807.90 \$ 2,091,738.62 \$ 9,192.94 \$ (200,572.02) \$ 1,109,480.00
	છ	935,613.85	8	916,022.35	↔	978.51	↔		\$ 1,594,709.46	9	3,447,324.17
TOTAL LIABILITY & FUND EQUI \$ 2,078,680.25	\$	2,078,680.25	↔	1,404,843.20	↔	385,045.08	↔	659,325.35	\$ 1,703,446.63		\$ 6,231,340.51

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER/COLLECTOR

# EXPENDITURES 30-Jun-15

GENERAL FUND-DEPARTMENTS		
Town Meeting Moderator	\$	100.00
Town Coordinator	\$	48,748.00
Selectmen	\$	24,943.52
General Government Articles	\$	75,284.24
Finance Committee	\$	1,147.13
Reserve Fund	\$	-
Town Accountant	\$	32,830.42
Assessors	\$	65,658.66
Assessor's Articles	\$	1,600.00
Treasurer/Collector	\$	102,256.48
Treasurer's Tax Title	\$	-
Legal Department	\$	56,634.59
Wage and Personnel	\$	-
Town Services	\$	18,063.39
Capital Improvement Article	\$	-
Capital Expenditure Committee	\$	-
Town Clerk	\$	51,379.40
Election and Registrations	\$	13,545.97
Conservation	\$	5,288.04
Zoning Enforcement Officer	\$	5,675.00
Planning Board	\$	659.64
Appeals Boad		6.24
Industrial Commission	\$ \$ \$	-
Town Building & Land	\$	4,544.47
New Town House	\$	16,110.67
Old Town House	\$	-
Town Wide Utilities	\$	50,748.81
Police Department	\$	865,221.35
Police Vehicles	\$	53,406.23
Police Articles	\$	26,837.20
Fire Department	\$	74,210.45
Fire Articles	\$ \$	122,214.81
Fire Services		107,147.85
Fire EMS Services	\$	310,455.80
Building Dept.	\$	25,477.22
Plumbing and Gas	\$	4,875.00
Wire	\$	9,568.70
Cemetery Maintenance- Int. Trans.	\$	-
Town Forest Committee	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	-
Civil Defense		1,999.92
Dog Officer	\$	10,749.96

	_			
Animal Inspector	\$	1,488.00		
Tree Department	\$	17,069.32		
Plympton School System	\$	3,184,699.04		
School Articles	\$	-		
Silver Lake Regional School	\$	1,881,915.08		
Highway	\$	538,095.53		
Highway Articles	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	4,570.88		
Waste Collection and Disposal	\$	161,816.85		
Transfer Station Articles	\$	7,314.44		
Highway Projects	¢	7,014.44		
Cemetery Department	φ	8,537.15		
· ·	φ	0,557.15		
Cemetery Articles	Φ	-		
Health Offices	<b>Þ</b>	29,708.18		
Special Programs	\$	-		
Council on Elder Affairs	\$	25,022.79		
Veterans Services	\$	82,151.96		
Care of Soldiers Graves	\$	291.60		
Memorial Day Committee	\$	306.11		
Human Services	***	_		
Open Space Committee	\$	1,500.00		
Library		130,224.00		
Recreation Dept.	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	3,500.00		
Agriculture Commission	\$	-		
Park Dept.	\$	17,524.21		
Historic Commission	\$	-		
Debt Service	\$	92,203.45		
Interest	Φ	84,631.25		
Retirement	Φ	392,090.00		
	\$ \$	392,090.00		
Unemployment Insurance	Φ	-		
Group Health Insurance	\$ \$	292,269.53		
Other Miscellaneous		87,211.30		
Liability Insurance	\$	119,345.69		
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS			\$	9,350,875.52
FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS				
Road Work	\$	25,775.00		
Chapter 90 - State Funds	\$	321,393.29		
General Government Grants	\$ \$	106,162.50		
School Grants		155,004.35		
Government Study Grant	\$ \$ \$	_		
Dare Comm of MA	\$	1,401.89		
Community Policing Grant	\$	_		
Public Safety Grants		396.00		
Council on Aging Grant	\$ \$	4,704.00		
Cultural Council-Art Lottery	\$	4,500.00		
TOTAL FEDERAL AND STATE GRA	*	7,500.00	\$	619,337.03
IOTAL I LULIVAL AND STATE GRA	UNIO		Ψ	019,001.00

REVOLVING FUNDS Student Activity Fund Library Recoveries Tax Title Revolving Recreation TOTAL REVOLVING FUNDS	\$ \$ \$ \$	13,408.50 177.95 455.55	\$ 14,042.00
RECEIPTS RESERVED Ambulance Fees Conservation Preservation Act Library State Aid Conservation Appropriations TOTAL RECEIPTS RESERVED	\$ \$ \$	11,495.16 300.00 2,413.73 24,263.38	\$ 38,472.27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUND General Gov. Gifts Harry Jason Park - Gifts Agriculture Comm. Gifts Conservation Escrow Appeals Board Building Dept Escrow Planning Board Escrow Planning Board-Sysco Sysco Fire Dept. Gift Police Dept. Gifts Public Safety Dare Gifts Board of Heath Escrow Highway Dept. Escrow Library Gifts School Dept. Gifts Veterans Dept Gifts TOTAL OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	1.90 300.00 245.00 - 35.00 9,298.75 - 5,411.75 - 3,196.08 2,500.00 569.72 1,094.91 750.00	\$ 23,403.11
TOWN PROJECTS	\$	2,764.54	\$ 2,764.54
TRUST FUNDS Law Enforcement Trust TOTAL TRUSTS	\$	1,923.60	\$ 1,923.60
AGENCY FUNDS Collectors Fees Town Clerk Fees Police Extra Details State Firearms Funds AGENCY FUNDS	\$ \$ \$	13,597.24 609.25 50,073.25 2,575.00	\$ 66,854.74

# TOWN TREASURERS RECEIPTS 6/30/2015

TAX COLLECTIONS Real Estate-Current Year Real Estate-Prior Years Personal Property-Current Year Personal Property-Prior Years Conservation Preservation Act Motor Vehicle Excise-Current Year Motor Vehicle Excise-Prior Year Betterments Tax Title Interest Payments Farm Animal Excise In Lieu of Taxes TOTAL TAX COLLECTIONS	***	7,003,095.52 121,871.19 897,359.53 3,530.25 81,149.08 427,991.32 59,232.66 1,721.55 101,075.89 85,563.46 1,696.59 65,930.56 8,850,217.60	\$ 8,850,217.60
RECEIPTS Departmental Receipts Permits Court Fines Cemetery Department Library Fines Vendor Refunds Interest on Investments TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	231,151.40 225.00 3,750.00 1,396.40 38,615.63 1,146.07 276,284.50	\$ 276,284.50
State Receipts Payroll Withholdings Chapter 90	\$ \$ \$	924,648.35 1,368,945.48 334,896.61 1,703,842.09	\$ 2,628,490.44
GRANTS School Grants Cultural Council Public Safety Grants Town House Grants Elections Grant Elder Affairs Grant CPA State Contribution	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	162,955.11 4,100.24 3,805.75 70,775.00 869.00 4,352.00 25,180.00 272,037.10	\$ 272,037.10
REVOLVING FUNDS Library School Choice Student Activity Funds Tax Title Revolving	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	152.26 20,000.00 16,639.88 172.29 36,964.43	\$ 36,964.43

Ambulance Fees State Aid to Libraries Donations and Gifts Interest on Trusts Agency Funds			\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	198,136.39 3,522.35 17,674.18 8,814.54 56,454.26
Tax Collector/Treasurer Salary Appropriated Expended	\$ \$	53,507.00 53,507.00		
Tax Collector/Treasurer Expense Appropriated Expended	\$ \$	52,500.00 48,749.48		

### REPORT OF THE TREE WARDEN

The Year 2015 was a little warmer and a little drier than normal. The snowfall however was memorable at 78.3 inches. Despite the snow amounts there was little damage to tree structure caused by winter storms. Dead and damaged trees were a result of compounded years of caterpillar damage and drought.

Corrective maintenance pruning and tree removals are the core of the 2015 tree work activity.

Hazard trees were identified as part of patrols; major tree removal work occurred throughout the

town, many of the trees I removed or removed major leaders from them. The assistance given by the Highway Department in helping me with the tree work is much appreciated. I contracted tree companies for work that required aerial lifts because the trees were too hazardous to climb or could not be managed from the ground. Hazard tree work in 2015 was the overwhelming majority of cost.

2015 Insect & Disease season was dominated by Winter Moth and the monitoring of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Unlike many other invasive beetles, EAB kills ash trees quickly, within just 3-5 years, because it bores directly under the bark and disrupts the tree's conductive system. Ash is a main component of the Northern Hardwood forest in Massachusetts and is also a popular street tree in eastern Massachusetts. Unlike other invasive beetles, the EAB can kill a tree fast, within just a few years, because it bores directly under the bark, where the tree's conductive system is. Thankfully there are no signs of EAB in Plympton. Winter moth caterpillar damage was rather significant around town. Foliar damage is typical on species such as Maples, Oaks, Apples and Blueberries. Property owners can control the damage with a plant health care professional that will recognize the critical timing of an application(s). Be mindful of these pests as you consider tree management and planting.

Respectfully submitted,

William N Hayes Jr William Hayes Plympton Tree Warden

# REPORT OF THE PLYMPTON VETERANS SERVICES DIRECTOR VETERANS SERVICES

In 2015 the Veterans Services Division has continued to provide five primary missions and continue to expand services in the social work field.

## **Primary Mission**

To care for and assist low income Plympton Veterans, unemployed Veterans, Homeless Veterans, and Spouses of Veterans in obtaining financial assistance for food, shelter, clothing, fuel, and medical care from all sources available under both federal and Massachusetts General Laws to which they are entitled. Spouses of deceased Veterans are provided with the same benefits as if the Veteran were still living. Perform outreach programs to reach the widest audience possible to inform and educate the public what Veterans Services do for the Veterans and the Community.

#### Second Mission

To assist Veterans in filing Veterans Administration (VA) Compensation and Pensions, MA State Annuities, tax abatements and enrolling in the VA Health Care system. Assist family members in filing for benefits from both the State and Federal government that they are entitled too. Assist in obtaining military records, medical records, discharge papers, awards, grave markers, and tax abatements.

### Third Mission

Veterans Agent is a SHINE counselor who will assist Veterans in the complicated process of understanding the MEDICARE system to help them choose the best options in medical coverage, drug prescription plans, and how long-term care works. Services are also provided in assisting the elderly in applying for the Medicare buy-in program, MassHealth, Low-income Subsidy and Prescription Advantage.

#### Forth Mission

Helping Veterans obtaining assistance that are specific to elderly Veterans such as Adult Daycare and home health care working through VA Social Workers and Old Colony Elderly Services.

### Fifth Mission

The division continues to assist all veterans regardless of income with assistance in obtaining wheel chairs, power chairs, ramps, adjustable beds, and anything else that is a quality of life issue for Veterans through a network of Veterans Agents around the state. It also assists all veterans and family members regardless of income on other avenues of approach that may be available to them like Social Security or Department of Labor programs.

Plympton serves all Veterans and their families the best we can regardless of income.

The past year the Office of Veteran Services continued its outreach program. The office will assist the low income and needy veterans of Plympton, and the office provides them with medical and financial assistance that in many cases they did not know they were entitled to.

The office continues to assist veterans in filing for health care thru the VA Health Care System. A Community Based Outpatient Clinic has opened in Plymouth, and is serving the surrounding communities. Due to the rising cost of commercial health care, the VA provides comparable care, that in most cases the veteran would not otherwise be able to afford.

The office provides assistance in filing VA Compensation and Pension Claims. Plympton veterans received over \$68,338.01.

Through generous donations, we have established a gift account. This account has helped veterans who are not eligible for chapter 115, but need one time assistance get fuel and gift cards for groceries.

The DAV Auxiliary generously donated a food basket for Thanksgiving and Christmas to a family in need.

The Veteran Agent is available by phone anytime and will see clients by appointment.

Veteran Services honors the sacrifice of all of fallen hero's past and present.

## REPORT OF THE WAGE AND PERSONNEL BOARD

The Wage and Personnel Board reviewed payscales for the Clerical Support Staff for the Town of Plympton. Based upon this review, a merit increase of 2% was recommended for the Fiscal Year 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

**David Chandler** 

Alan Wheelock