



## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

March 23, 2015

6:00 pm

Plympton Town House  
Community Meeting Room

Approved.....3.30.15

Present: Chairman Mark Russo, Colleen Thompson & John Henry

Meeting began at 6:00 pm

Mr. Russo opened meeting with ground rules and a moment of silence.

### **Town Report Cover:**

- BOS reviewed photo submissions for the Annual Town Report Cover. Decision was made on cover. BOS Assistant, Kristen will send to Printer.

### **Annual Town Meeting Preparations:**

- Town Coordinator has not received any new warrant articles.
- Mr. Russo stated that some of the articles involve complex issues he suggested BOS offer a public education session on the warrant articles. Mr. Russo hopes this session will have a high turnout.

### **Public Safety Building:**

- Currently, the Finance Committee is not in favor of BOS proposed hiring of a Consultant for the Public Safety Building prior to Town Meeting.
- Mr. Russo recused himself to sit in audience as a citizen and not BOS. Mr. Russo believed Finance Committee came in cold to meeting last week and hadn't been made aware of the background work done leading to request for a consultant. BOS needs to do a better job of getting their point across on the need for the Consultant.
- Ms. Thompson stated that part of Finance Committee's reluctance on Consultant was that it was too soon to Town Meeting.
- BOS think a Special Town Meeting in fall will give them enough time to fully educate everyone on the Public Safety Building.

### **PEG Access Preparations:**

- Town Counsel is reviewing everything now; Mr. Russo is waiting to hear back from them.
- Mr. Russo stated that there was some confusion at last week's meeting regarding the Cable Advisory Committee. The Committee is one person right now, Karen Foye. She has done tremendous work and has much knowledge on this subject. Since it is a committee of one, Karen

is not obligated to have meetings, agendas or minutes. Mr. Russo stated that Karen would love volunteers for this committee. We need more members to join this committee of one.

- There are some issues with the televised meetings being played back. BOS meetings should be up and running soon on channel 15. They can also be viewed on YouTube. Carver-Halifax Studio recognizes problem and they are working hard to fix the issues.

#### **DOR Report:**

- A brief follow up regarding DOR report- one suggestion that BOS would like to implement is more meetings with all department heads to better communication.

#### **Town Coordinator:**

- Town Coordinator has heard from MA D.O.T and Plympton will be receiving \$25,700 to repair potholes and other road issues that were caused due to the numerous storms. The money will have to be used solely on road repairs and used by 6/30/15.
- There have been some ice dams and roof leaks in the Town House. The Treasurer's office has the most damage. The insurance company has come in and has put in dryers in the Treasurer's office. Service Master is coming in this week to investigate more. Treasurer's office can be possibly relocated to former Selectmen's room until room is repaired. Mr. Pleau thinks most of the damage will be covered under insurance.
- Mr. Pleau will have a full draft of articles to review with BOS at next meeting.

#### **Correspondence:**

- Plympton/Halifax Express
- Xfinity Annual License Fee & Annual Notice
- Old Colony Planning Council Agenda & Minutes from 2.25.15
- Sakr – Notice of Filing
- Resource Controls –Private Well Sampling Results
- Comcast Newsletter

#### **Future BOS Meeting Schedule:**

- The next BOS meetings are Monday 3/30 & 4/6 at 6:00 pm.

### **Minutes:**

**VOTE: Mr. Russo made motion to approve BOS meeting minutes from 2/23/15 as amended. Second Mr. Henry. 3/0**

**VOTE: Mr. Russo made motion to approve ES minutes from 3/5. Second Mr. Henry. 3/0**

**VOTE: Mr. Russo made motion to approve BOS meeting minutes from 3/2 as amended. Second Mr. Henry. 3/0**

**VOTE: Ms. Thompson made motion to approve Working Session minutes from 3/5 as amended. Second Mr. Russo. 3/0**

**VOTE: Mr. Russo made motion to approve BOS meeting minutes from 3/16. Second Ms. Thompson. 2/0/1. Mr. Henry absent from 3/16 meeting.**

### **Finance Committee Report:**

- Mr. Russo welcomed the Finance Committee to tonight's meeting. Mr. Russo stated the Committee and BOS had 3 major issues to discuss: Budget Projections, Silver Lake budget and Municipal Revenue Growth Factor.
- Finance Committee provided BOS a first rough draft of budget to review.
- Finance Committee thought it was a good idea for Plympton to set up a SPED account. The BOS agreed. We don't have to fund it yet but we should at least get started with setting up the account. Town Coordinator, Dale will look into this.
- Finance Committee stated that the Silver Lake School Committee will be voting on their budget this Thursday. Once vote and numbers are in Finance Committee will have better idea of Town budget.
- Finance Committee made it clear that financially we can't afford to do all improvements for all departments.
- Resident in audience made brief comment on why Plympton should start regionalizing certain departments, mainly Fire and Highway. Mr. Russo agreed we should look into regionalization and also how Plympton can make more revenue.
- Finance Committee would like feedback on draft budget from BOS. They will be back in two weeks to review again with BOS.
- Town Coordinator, Dale will get a rough estimate on the Public Safety Building.
- Finance Committee addressed that there are two openings on their committee and they would encourage residents to step up and join.

### **Municipal Revenue Growth Factor:**

- Marilyn, from the Finance Committee reported back to BOS that she spoke to Melinda Ordway from the D.O.R and the deadline for the Municipal Revenue Growth Factor waiver was October 1<sup>st</sup>. The only way we could get possible waiver now is through special legislation.
- Mr. Henry distributed a spreadsheet that shows how the Municipal Revenue Growth Factor for Plympton has been miscalculated. He has a call in to the D.O.R and is waiting to hear back. There needs to be an explanation of how they came up with Plympton's figures. The formulas are not consistent.

- Mr. Henry advised BOS and Finance Committee to look into a split tax rate for Plympton in the future. It should be something for new BOS Board to consider.

**Mr. Russo stated that election papers are due next Monday. There are still a lot of positions open and encourages residents to become involved in the town. Plympton needs more help and dedicated volunteers.**

**Meeting Adjourned 8:10 pm.**

Respectively submitted,



Kristen LeVangie

Board of Selectmen, Assistant

All Meeting Minutes are sent electronically to Town Clerk's Office and are posted on the Town website. A paper copy and electronic version is on file with the Selectmen's Office.

**TOWN WEBSITE: [www.town.plympton.ma.us](http://www.town.plympton.ma.us)**

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