

PLYMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
February 24, 2014

Present: John Henry and Mark Russo
Absent: Joe Freitas
The Regular Open Meeting began at 7:20 PM

All three Board of Selectmen met earlier, at 6:30 PM in Executive Session with the Board of Assessors.

Mr. Freitas left the meeting before the start of the Regular Open Session Meeting.

APPOINTMENTS:

7:00 PM Mr. Rick Burnet gave a progress report on the property at 59 Parsonage Road and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- USDA and Mr. Burnet have played phone tag – January made contact
- Wetland violation
- Title 5 goes with the house
- Suggested possible site for new Police and Fire Departments
- Main house – pipes froze and burst a few years ago
- Fire Chief needs to view for safety issues
- Old barn falling down
- Five abandoned trailers still on property
- Property ties in with a CPC/CPA project
- Wildlands Trust and Taunton River Water Shed are interested in property
- Property was the Fuller families and dates back to 1800's or earlier

Mr. Henry suggested Mr. Burnet contact U.S. Representative William Keating and appeal to him for support and federal funding for improvements to property.

REPORTS:

Mr. Henry and Mr. Russo discussed the upcoming meeting with Kingston and Halifax Selectmen and Finance Committees to discuss the FY14 School budget issues. Mr. Henry will not be able to attend. Mr. Russo will attend the meeting. Mr. Russo asked Mr. Henry to write-up his research on the subject and send to him. Mr. Henry stated Plympton, Halifax, and Kingston are all overpaying.

Mr. Larry Harju visited the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Harju stated that a summons/warrant was stuck in his door regarding the Cranberry Knoll property. Mr. Henry suggested he contact his Attorney and suggested he call the Selectmen Office to coordinate information with Town Insurer's legal counsel.

REPORTS/UPDATES Town Coordinator:

- Working on the Warrant – 22 so far and 2 Specials
- Plympton is certified as a Green Community – energy savings to Town

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Mr. Ken Thompson of the Zoning Board of Appeals and Mr. Morin attended the meeting. Their concern is the cost of doing business for advertising with "a News Paper of Record." Since the Halifax/Plympton Reporter no longer exists, there is a considerable increase to the public for hearing notices/legal ads. Mr. Burnet was also present and reported that all of the Town Departments should receive the same prices and fees can be negotiated. Mr. Morin will research the negotiation fees and report back to the Board.

8:00 PM APPOINTMENT:

Members of the Plympton Finance Committee: Lisa Hart, Susan Ossoff, Chair and Marilyn Browne were present. Also in attendance: Town Accountant, Barbara Gomez and Town Treasurer/Collector, Colleen Morin. Mr. Henry called the meeting to begin the budget process for FY15 and inform Town residents early in the process. Ms. Hart shared a concern that if there were no Real Estate taxes under-ride for two or three years; the following year you could see a 10% tax increase. Ms. Ossoff stated that a lot of Town Departments have "real needs" and it is too premature to predict budget. The Veteran's Agent has new clients. Increase of \$20,000 to \$25,000 (75% reimbursement from State – will not be counted for until the following year fiscal budget.)

There was much discussion regarding:

- Capital Stabilization Fund
- Dennett Elementary – quality of water issues \$60,000.00
- Comcast Studio negotiations \$10,000 to \$15,000
- Fire Department Equipment – breakdown (Dale Pleau)
- Pre and Post Sysco Equipment out of Stabilization Fund

It was noted that there will be difficult years ahead financially for the Town.

Ms. Ossoff will send the Board a list of the Capital request by next week.

Ms. Ossoff ended this portion of the meeting by saying, "the Finance Committee's function is to present a balanced budget at Town Meeting."

REPORTS:

Mr. Russo attended the Halifax Cable Advisory Committee meeting last Wednesday.

Mr. Buckley of Comcast and Mr. Epstein were also at the meeting. Halifax is close to finalizing their contract. The Town of Halifax and Plympton could share studio space. Town of Carver has their own studio and would accept Halifax and Plympton, if they want to join.

The largest expense will be the Non-Profit portion. A warrant article for \$5,000 - \$10,000 and \$3,000 for legal fees will be needed. Halifax encouraged Plympton to join them. It was agreed that Mr. Russo contact Mr. Epstein to negotiate the contract for Plympton. An estimate of \$3.50 a month would be passed onto the consumer for public access.

CORRESPONDENCE READ BY CLERK:

Filed in Selectmen Assistant's office unless noted otherwise:

Board of Selectmen Annual Town Report 2013

VOTED: Motion made by Mr. Russo accepts as written the Selectmen Report. Second Mr. Henry 2/0

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Two more submissions for consideration – photo for cover of Town Report.
D.A.R.E. Drug Abuse Resistance Education – 5th and 6th Grade Graduation Dennett Students.
Tuesday, March 22, 2014 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.
Plympton Girl Scout Troop 80210 – permission to collect donations for area animal Shelters.
A box is in lobby.
Email from Ms. Viola Ryerson former Selectwoman of Hanover – running for Mass State Senate
requesting an appointment with the Board on Monday, March 03, 2014.
MIIA – civil complaint – against Conservation Commission.
CPC – 3 projects for consideration.
Email from Bob Fennessy, Town Admin. of Kingston to confirm SLRSD budget meeting on
Wednesday, March 05, 2014 at 7:00 PM
MEGA – Notice of Annual Meeting for 2012-2013 Fund Year.
MEGA – Annual Membership Meeting – Marlborough, March 25, 2014
Plympton Firefighter Association – Fundraising Drive
Old Colony Planning Council – Agenda February 26, 2014
Old Colony Planning Council – Minutes of January 29, 2014
This concludes correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS:

Same.

DATES:

Wednesday, March 05, 2014 at 7:00 PM Tri-Town Selectmen/woman and Finance Committee
Members.
Friday, March 7, 2014 – MMA Breakfast Series E. Bridgewater
Monday, March 10, 2014 – 8:00 PM Finance Committee meets with Board
Annual Town Warrant closes, Monday, March 31, 2014 at 8:00 PM

Selectmen Meeting Minutes – hold till next week.

VOTED: Motion made by Mr. Russo to adjourn meeting 9:10 PM Second Mr. Henry 2/0

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Krance, 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
SELECTMENS' ASSISTANT: Selecemen.assistant@town.plympton.ma.us