



**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

1. RFP 2019-10, 2019 Small Cities Program Consultant
2. Tax Refunds - Addendum

**XII. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST**

**XIII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Land Acquisition

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Pugliese called the meeting to order at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Center, One Central Square. Also present were Vice Chairwoman Tompkins, Council Members Morante, Gnazzo, Cox and Carrier, Town Manager Lee, Assistant to the Town Manager Colby, Attorney Chomick and Town Clerk Skultety. Councilman Wazorko was absent.

Councilwoman Morante led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**I. PRESENTATIONS     Senator Martin & State Representative Petit  
- Upcoming Legislative Session**

State Representative William Petit addressed the Town Council with updates for the coming State budget sessions. Senator Martin was not in attendance but sent along his remarks with Representative Petit. Senator Martin is hoping for a bipartisan tone, he would like to focus on fiscal stability and economic growth given the report of the Fiscal & Economic Commission's recommendations. He is also concerned about overrides and structural changes made in the last budget and spending caps on bonding. In addition, Senator Martin has concerns about ECS Educational Cost Sharing.

Representative Petit commented on the Governor elect's plans to move forward with tolls, to legalize recreational marijuana, increase minimum wage to \$15/hr. and paid family medical leave. Representative Petit, with House Republicans, intends to submit several bills including reducing the rate of subsidization of CTfastrak; trying to reduce service during non-peak times, to push the State to adopt Municipal Aid by April 1 of each year, exempt Passport to Parks costs to seniors (over 65) and veterans. There will also be a push to stabilize ECS funds.

Representative Petit looks forward to hearing from the Town Council and residents regarding any issues they may have.

**II. PUBLIC HEARING**

### **III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the minutes of December 17, 2018 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Carrier and passed 6-0.

### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS**

No reports were given

### **V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATION**

#### **1. Fire Department**

Councilman Cox motioned to appoint:

- A. Kevin Toner as Fire Chief of the Fire Department for a 2-year term**
- B. Thomas Moschini as Deputy Fire Chief of the Fire Department for a 2-year term**
- C. Adrien Paradis as 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Fire Chief of the Fire Department for a 2-year term**
- D. Kurt Plourde as 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Fire Chief of the Fire Department for a 1-year term**

The motions were seconded by Vice Chairwoman Tompkins and passed 6-0.

#### **2. Fire Company Officers**

Councilman Cox motioned to acknowledge the Fire Company's Elected Officers for 2019 and recognize the Fire Company Captain and Lieutenants as Officers of the Fire Department as follows:

<b>Captain, PL5</b>	<b>David Massey</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, PL6</b>	<b>William Gammon</b>
<b>Lieutenant, PL7</b>	<b>John Myska</b>
<b>Lieutenant, PL8</b>	<b>Paul Brousseau</b>
<b>Lieutenant, PL9</b>	<b>Thomas Moschini, Jr</b>
<b>Lieutenant, PL10</b>	<b>Douglas Marcarelli</b>

The motion was seconded by Vice Chairwoman Tompkins and 6-0.

#### **3. Board of Assessment Appeals**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to accept with regret the resignation of Guy Doyon from the Board of Assessment Appeals. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 6-0.

#### **4. Inland Wetlands Commission**

**Councilman Gnazzo motioned to appoint Rejean Carrier (R), 28 Perron Road, to the Inland Wetlands Commission for the term ending 1/7/20. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 6-0.**

#### **VI. BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday Meetings Only)**

No report

#### **VII. REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY**

No report

#### **VIII. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER**

Town Manager Lee presented and discussed the following topics:

- **Valley Water Update**

Last year Valley Water engaged Tighe & Bond to perform a study to determine options to soften the water that they deliver to their Plainville customers. The engineering study was completed last May and Valley Water then conducted a survey to “solicit information from customers regarding concerns related to hard water and asked for input on what response they would like to see” from the Company.

According to Valley Water, 18% of their customers responded to the survey. They stated that two-thirds of those who responded said that the hard water was either a moderate problem which they could live with, or not a problem at all.

They went on to state that more than one-half of the respondents claimed they were unwilling to pay for any associated water rate increase for softening. The Valley Water Board of Directors have determined that, rather than constructing a costly treatment plant, they will pursue an alternate course of action through operational changes such as blending with their other water sources to reduce hardness as well as provide assistance and advice on how to deal with the effect.

Town staff will be meeting with representatives from Valley Water, the State Department of Health and PURA to get a better understanding of what they have proposed.

Notices have also been sent to all of all of their customers as well regarding the survey and their plans for moving forward.

- **2019 Small Cities Grant Application**

The Town recently advertised for consultants to assist in preparing a Small Cities application for the upcoming year. One response was received. It was submitted by A&E Services Group, LLC of Wolcott.

The owner of A&E worked for the Town's previous consultant – L. Wagner & Associates and is familiar with Plainville. Larry Wagner retired and his company is no longer providing consulting services.

A&E proposal submitted a fee schedule that mirrors the previous fee schedules of L. Wagner. Town staff is recommending that A&E Services Group, LLC of Wolcott be engaged to assist with the 2019 Small Cities application and other services relating to same.

- **Town Council/Board of Education Joint Budget Meeting – 1/15/19**

The Joint Meeting of the Town Council and Board of Education to discuss the FY20 budget is scheduled for Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 pm in the Peter Chase Auditorium at the Plainville Library. Presentations will be given by the Superintendent of Schools and the Town Manager. Residents are invited to attend this joint meeting as well.

- **Town Council Meeting Date Change**

The next Town Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, will be held on Wednesday, January 23, at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers due to scheduling conflicts

- **Public Information Session**

There will be a Public Information Session for the East/West Alignment, which deals with the Gap Closure between Plainville and New Britain, will be held on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the New Britain City Hall. The Draft Report is online at [www.GapClosureStudy.com](http://www.GapClosureStudy.com).

- **Budget Discussion – 10 Year Review**

Budget trends from FY09 to FY19 were presented to set the stage for the development of the FY20 Town Budget.

In summary:

In 2010, an independent study of all 169 cities and towns in Connecticut showed that Plainville had the 10<sup>th</sup> lowest effective tax increase over the ten-year period between FY99 and FY09.

Plainville's total budget increases over the last ten years (FY 09 to FY19) have been less than the rate of inflation (14% v. 16%) and less than the social security increases (14% v. 17.72%).

The overall mill rate has increased by 29% over the last ten years. The primary reason for the increase has been the reduction in state revenues, reduction in the use of fund balance, lower grand list increases, and lower interest rates on investments.

The increase of the mill rate has primarily impacted commercial and industrial properties with many residential properties seeing increases more in line with the rate of inflation and the social security increases.

During this same time period, the Town has been able to begin a Road Bond Program, enhance recreational facilities, enhance educational opportunities, and maintain infrastructure and continue to provide essentially the same level of service that maintains our quality of life.

Due to the budget difficulties facing the State Budget – the question becomes, how long can this pattern of relatively low increases to the local property tax continue going forward while maintaining the same level of service to which our citizens have become accustomed?

Town Manager Lee complimented staff for their efforts providing services day in and day out in an efficient manner and always looking to save money wherever possible. He is proud of the teamwork town staff has developed with the school administration and the cooperative relationship and respect, between the Town Council and the Board of Education. Town Manager Lee said he is also proud of the citizens of Plainville that have overwhelmingly supported the town budgets and other initiatives that have been proposed over the last 10 years. He would be proud to match the town's budget accomplishments against almost every other town that provides the level of services that Plainville offers.

- **Happenings**

Assistant to the Town Manager Colby activities and events in the Public Works department, Senior Center and Historical Society. He went on to mention effective January 9, 2019 District 19 Probate Court services for Plainville residents will be moving to the Farmington Regional Probate Court, 1 Monteith Drive, Farmington. More information can be found on the town's website at [www.plainvillect.com](http://www.plainvillect.com)

## **IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Katherine LaBella, 50 Pierce St comments included her opposition to Alignment C or any trail that will negatively impact residential neighborhoods

Roberta Lauria, 18 Perron Rd comments included her opposition to any trail or Alignment that will be on, next to or have an impact on any neighborhood in Plainville

Lou Frangos, 10 Fairbanks St. posed his questions to State Representative Petit

Gayle Black, 4 Cianci Ave spoke in favor of the trail and voiced her concerns regarding the hard water in her building

Joel Edman, 63 Hollyberry Ln. spoke in opposition to any trail through Plainville that does not adhere to the original design of rails to trails conceptual design

Dave Albert, 56 Hollyberry Ln comments included the trail going through Norton Park and Inland Wetland Commission

Joanne Edman, 166 West Main St. spoke in opposition to Alignment C and any trail alignments that impact neighborhoods and parks

David Spencer, 127 Milford St Ext spoke against the trail and any State funds to be used for it

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. RFP 2019-10, 2019 Small Cities Program Consultant**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to award RFP 2019-10, Small Cities Program Consultant, to A&E Services Group, LLC, Wolcott, CT, for the amount proposed in the fee schedule. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 6-0.

**2. Tax Refunds – See Addendum**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the tax refunds as listed on the Addendum. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gnazzo and passed 6-0.

**XI. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST**

**XII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**1. Land Acquisition Matter**

At 8:35pm a motion was made by Vice Chairwoman Tompkins to enter into Executive Session to discuss a Land Acquisition Matter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 6-0.

The session began at 8:40pm. Six Town Council members were present along with Town Manager Lee, Assistant to the Town Manager Colby and Attorney Chomick. Councilman Wazorko was absent. Discussion ensued regarding land acquisition.

Executive Session ended at 9:14pm. No action was taken

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:15pm Councilwoman Tompkins motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Carrier and unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted by,

Carol A. Skultety, Town Clerk  
& Clerk of the Town Council

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**Refunds**

**1/7/2019**

	<b>Sewer User</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1	Drezek, Edward or Jeanette, 7A Roseanne La	\$102.68
2	Larose, Ronald III, Cheshire CT	\$287.38
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$390.06</b>

	<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1	Doncet, James, 452 Camp St	\$38.38
2	Shortier, Paul, 1 Butternut Ln	\$65.69
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$104.07</b>