

**MINUTES
PLAINVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL CENTER
REGULAR MEETING
March 2, 2020 – 7:00p.m.**

- I. PRESENTATIONS:**
- II. PUBLIC HEARING**
- III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
February 18, 2020 Regular Meeting
- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS**
- V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS**
 - 1. Housing Authority Resignation
 - 2. Appointments and Re-appointments to Boards and Commissions
- VI. BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON (3rd Monday Meetings Only)**
- VII. REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY**
- VIII. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER**
 - 1. Coronavirus Update-Health Director Shane Lockwood
 - 2. IT Equipment for Wheeler School-RFP
 - 3. Tax Fixing Agreement-SMA Realty, LLC
 - 4. Happenings
- IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- X. OLD BUSINESS**
- XI. NEW BUSINESS**
 - 1. RFP #2020-05, IT Equipment for Wheeler School
 - 2. Tax Fixing Agreement-SMA Realty, LLC
 - 3. Tax Refunds

XII. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST

1. Town Manager Lee's FY2020 Proposed Budget-Presented by Town Manager and School Superintendent

XIII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Pugliese called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Center, One Central Square. Also, in attendance were, Vice Chairwoman Tompkins, Council members Morante, Gnazzo, Cox, Underwood, Town Manager Lee, Finance Director Buden and Town Clerk Skultety. Councilman Wazorko was absent.

Councilman Underwood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. PRESENTATIONS

II. PUBLIC HEARING

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Councilwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the minutes of February 18, 2020 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 6-0.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS

Councilwoman Morante was part of the Special Olympics welcome as Plainville hosted the gymnastics competition portion of the events.

Councilman Gnazzo took part in a "Ride-Along" with the Plainville Police Department and attended the Plainville Fire Company "Ladies Night".

Chairwoman Pugliese attended retirement parties for Corporal Patrick Buden and Fire Marshal Sutherland.

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATION

1. Housing Authority

Councilman Underwood motioned to accept with regret the resignation of David Coughlin from the Housing Authority. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 6-0.

2. Veterans Council

Councilman Underwood motioned to reappoint the following members to the Veterans Council for the new term March 1, 2020 – March 1, 2022:

- a. David Dudek (D), 20 Overlook Dr**
- b. Daniele Kulas (D), 34 Robert Holcomb Way**
- c. William Brayne (R), 5 Hemingway St**

The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 6-0.

VI. BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON (3rd Monday Meetings Only)

No report

VII. REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY

No report was offered.

VIII. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Lee presented and discussed the following topics:

- **Coronavirus Update – Health Director Shane Lockwood**

Regional Health Director Shane Lockwood and State Representative Dr. Bill Petit were in attendance and an update on the Coronavirus and the steps being recommended to prevent or minimize an outbreak across Connecticut.

The Regional Health District along with Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control have been actively working this since the beginning of January. A greater concern is for influenza.

There are no cases in Connecticut though that is expected to change with the risks remaining low. Plans are being made for the worst with hopes for the best. Hospitals and other facilities are making all necessary preparations. Testing for the virus has been approved in the State.

Advice given included:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Stay home when you are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue
- Clean and disinfect surfaces with regular household cleaning spray and wipe

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Residents are encouraged to visit the Plainville-Southington Regional Health District website at www.PSHD.org or www.ct.gov/DPH for more information and updates.

- **IT Equipment for Wheeler School – RFP**

The Capital Projects Building Committee, with the assistance of IT Director Kevin Ross, recently advertised for bid for computer equipment, namely, Network Gear and Uninterrupted Power Supply items. Eight bids were received on January 31, 2020.

On February 24th, the Capital Projects Building Committee reviewed the bids and unanimously recommended the purchase of the equipment from CDWG of Vernon Hills Illinois in the amount of \$37,410. While CDWG was not the low bidder – concerns were expressed regarding the proposals of the two lower bidders. After discussions with Kevin Ross, the recommendation to award the bid was passed.

The Wheeler School Building Project has a line item for Technology totaling \$353,544. With this purchase, the amount remaining in the line item is a little more than \$44K. It is anticipated that this line item will come in under budget when the project is completed.

- **Tax Fixing Agreement – SMA Realty, LLC**

At the meeting held on December 16, 2019, the Town Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding for SMA Realty for a tax fixing arrangement for property located at 10 Sparks Street.

The MOU called for a 30% abatement over three years for improvements made to this property. That work has now been completed and a Certificate of Approval has been issued by the Building Department. The improvements to the building were approximately \$455K.

Now that SMA Realty has satisfied the requirements in the MOU, the Tax Fixing Agreement is ready to move forward. There is an item under **New Business** to authorize the Town Manager to execute the tax Fixing Agreement with SMA Realty.

- **Pan Am Train Derailment**

Last evening (Sunday, March 1st) at approximately 10:15 pm, there was a train derailment in the vicinity of Russell Ave. north of Town Line Road. The train had just left the propane distribution facility located just over the town border with Southington.

The train was pushing three propane tankers that had been offloaded over the weekend and was returning the empty tanker cars to the rail yard. The Fire and Police Departments immediately responded to the call.

Emergency personnel were able to determine that the tanks were not leaking any residual gas as a result of the derailment. The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection also were dispatched to the scene.

Pan Am workers were on scene today to put the tanker cars back up on the rails. It is unclear at this time when train service will be restored.

This rail spur services three businesses including Forestville Lumber Co., J.W. Green as well as the propane facility. The train was backing up the track heading north with a train worker located on the forward tanker when it derailed. He was tossed from the train but suffered only minor bumps and bruises according to the fire personnel.

Currently the cause of the derailment is undetermined. Town Manager Lee spoke to D.O.T. rail officials this morning who informed him that the Federal Rail Administration (FRA) is responsible for overseeing the safety of this track since it is owned by Pan Am Rail. D.O.T. will be requesting a "high rail" inspection for the entire line to determine if there are any deficiencies that need to be addressed.

D.O.T will keep the Town informed of the response to their request for an inspection. Town Manager Lee will also be contacting the FRA directly to request that they review the conditions of the track as well.

A Code Red was issued as well by the Police Department informing residents of the incident. Unfortunately, the Code Red had some issues with distribution of the call. It appears that some of the phone providers had computer issues with the distribution of the Code Red. Chief Catania is following up on this issue to assure that it is corrected.

Town Manager thanked all the Volunteer Fire Company personnel that responded to the scene. Both Chief Catania and he met with Deputy Chief Tom Moschini and Asst. Fire Chief Adrian Paradis on scene and were updated with status reports. Some Fire Department personnel stayed all night at the site to provide control of the scene as well.

The Town is very fortunate to have such dedicated and professional volunteers to assist in these emergency situations.

- **Happenings**

Town Manager Lee reviewed programs and activities which included the Healthy Plainville initiative, Tax & Assessing and Senior Center. More information can be found on the Town's website at www.plainvillect.com.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Kisluk, 65 Forestville Ave comments included a FOI request regarding disposition of funds collected by the personal property audit.

Katherine LaBella, 50 Pierce St comments included the coronavirus situation in Washington State and the availability of alternate intensive care beds if necessary, here.

Dr. Petit responded most hospitals have excess capacity beds. Alternate plans are in place at the State level in event of a pandemic. Agencies are meeting everyday regarding the virus.

Joel Edman, 63 Hollyberry Ln comments included his opposition to any alignment through Plainville that will impact the mule haul trail and the proximity to homes in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Roberta Lauria, 18 Perron Rd comments included her opposition to any trail or alignment that will be on or next to or have an impact on any neighborhood in Plainville. She went on to request of the Town Council to appoint members to the Ethics Commission per Charter.

Dave Albert, 56 Hollyberry Lane comments suggested the hiring of a professional ombudsman to handle complaints.

David Spencer, 127 Milford St Ext commented on the budget presentation and asked the Town Council to consider more cuts.

Joanne Edman, 166 West Main St comments included her opposition Alignment C through Plainville and her concerns of the budget costs.

Lou Frangos, 10 Fairbanks St comments included liaison reports and direction when residents have complaints or concerns.

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. RFP #2020-05, IT Equipment for Wheeler School

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to award RFP #2020-05, IT Equipment for Wheeler School, to CDW Government, LLC, Vernon Hills, IL, in the amount of \$37,410, as recommended by the Capital Projects Building Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 6-0.

2. Tax Fixing Agreement-SMA Realty, LLC

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve and authorize Town Manager Lee to execute the Tax Fixing Agreement for SMA Realty, LLC, as recommended by the Economic Development Agency. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 6-0.

3. Tax Refunds-See Addendum

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

At 8:00pm a 10-minute recess was taken, and the meeting resumed.

XI. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST

1. Town Manager's FY2021 Proposed Budget-Presented by Town Manager Lee and School Superintendent LePage.

Financial summary:

	Appropriated FY 2020	Requested FY 2021	Proposed Budget Increase/(Decrease)
Town Government	\$ 18,017,484	\$ 18,656,366	\$ 638,882 3.55%
BOE	38,229,105	39,227,677	998,572 2.61%
Debt Service	4,734,233	4,430,350	(303,883) (6.42)
Capital Projects	800,000	800,000	- 0.00%
Total	\$ <u>61,780,822</u>	\$ <u>63,114,393</u>	\$ <u>1,333,571</u> 2.16%

Mill Rate Calculation

Gross expenditures	\$ 63,114,393
Less direct revenue estimates	<u>(14,353,829)</u>
Net budget	48,760,564
Use of fund balance	(200,000)
Adjusted for uncollected taxes @ 2.60%	<u>1,296,278</u>
Amount to be raised	<u>49,856,842</u>

Value of 1 mill at 97.4% collection rate \$ 1,412,301

Calculated mill rate $\frac{49,856,842}{1,412,301} = 35.30$ mills

Mill Rate Change

Current Mill Rate – FY 2020	34.64
Proposed Mill Rate – FY 2021	35.30
Difference in mills	0.68
Percent difference	1.97%

XII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

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

Refunds		3/2/2020	
		Current Year	Amount
1	ACAR Leasing LTD, Fort Worth, TX		\$257.12
2	ACAR Leasing LTD, Fort Worth, TX		\$215.48
3	ACAR Leasing LTD, Fort Worth, TX		\$492.71
4	Favian Rocha LLC, 12 W Main St Apt 7		\$70.97
5	Finkenstein, Claudia, 258 W Main St		\$5.09
6	Honda Lease Trust, Holyoke, MA		\$409.55
7	Parlow, Dorothy, New Britain, CT		\$10.00
Total			\$1,460.92
		Prior Year	
1	ACAR Leasing LTD, Fort Worth, TX		\$111.44
2	ACAR Leasing LTD, Fort Worth, TX		\$196.85
Total			\$308.29
		Sewer User Fee	Amount
1	Wueke, Joseph or Mary Ann, 6 Beckwith Dr		\$275.26
Total			\$275.26