

**MINUTES
PLAINVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL CENTER
REGULAR MEETING
October 19, 2020 – 7:00p.m.**

- I. PRESENTATIONS:**
- II. PUBLIC HEARING**
- III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
October 5, 2020 Regular Meeting
- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS**
- V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS**
 - 1. Firefighter Appointments
 - 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. White Oak Proposal Discussion
 - 2. Cooke Street/Pinnacle Road Crosswalk Discussion
 - 3. 1-Ton Rack/Dump Truck-Roadways
 - 4. COVID-19 Update
 - 5. Financial Dashboard
 - 6. Happenings
- IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- X. OLD BUSINESS**
- XI. NEW BUSINESS**
 - 1. Bid#2021-06, 1 Ton Rack/Dump Truck

2. Tax-Refunds-Addendum

XII. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST

XIII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Center, One Central Square. Present were Chairwoman Pugliese, Vice Chairwoman Tompkins, Council members Wazorko, Morante, Gnazzo, Rocco Underwood, Town Manager Lee, Assistant Town Manager Daskal and Town Clerk Skultety.

Councilman Wazorko led the Pledge of Allegiance

I. PRESENTATIONS

II. PUBLIC HEARING

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the minutes of October 5, 2020 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS

Councilwoman Morante commented on the Library Board of Trustee meeting and the re-opening phase for the Library.

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATION

1. Firefighter Appointment

- a. Councilman Gnazzo motioned to appoint Thomas Moschini, Sr. as Fire Chief of the Plainville Fire Department effective January 4, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wazorko and passed 7-0.
- b. Councilman Gnazzo motioned to appoint Tracy Justynski as a Probationary Firefighter to the Plainville Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairwoman Tompkins and passed 7-0.

- c. **Councilman Gnazzo motioned to appoint Noel Roche as a Regular Firefighter to the Plainville Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wazorko and passed 7-0.**

2. **Board of Assessment Appeals**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to reappoint Robert Michalik, Sr. (D), 8 South Ridge Road to the Board of Assessment Appeals for the new term 10/1/20 – 10/1/26. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wazorko and passed 7-0.

3. **Zoning Board of Appeals**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to reappoint Jody Autunno, (U), 33 Maria Road to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the new term 10/1/20 – 10/1/25. The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

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

VII. REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY

VIII. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER

- **White Oak Proposal Discussion**

The Town has received two proposals for the White Oak property on West Main Street. The White Oak property consists of two parcels totaling approximately 15 acres. It was formerly the headquarters and construction yard for the White Oak Corporation that went out of business over twenty years ago.

The Town currently has an agreement with the current property owner to acquire the property for the value of the back taxes. The current amount of principal, delinquent interest and lien fees owed on the two parcels total approximately \$1M. This includes principal of \$496K, and interest and lien fees totaling \$523K.

The two proposals received were submitted by D'Amato-Meyer and Manafort-Newport Realty et.al. Last Thursday evening both developers attended a Special Town Council meeting held at the High School Cafeteria to present their proposals.

The D'Amato-Meyer proposal would relocate the D'Amato Construction Company from Bristol to Plainville. It would also relocate the Myer Enterprises business operations to the property as well. The proposal includes the construction of a 35,000 sq. ft. addition to the back of the existing industrial building for servicing their equipment.

The Manafort-Newport Realty proposal included a mixed-use development consisting of a 25,000 sq. ft. medical office building, the construction of eight multi-family residential units consisting of 160 one and two bedroom apartments, a 4,000 sq. ft. community building, the creation of

pedestrian walkways to the center of Town, the dedication of approximately 7 acres of land for public use and re-locate the westerly entranceway adjacent to the firehouse.

Both proposals include the renovation of the existing office building and the accommodation of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail.

The next step is for the Town Council to determine how they would like to proceed with respect to the two proposals. One suggestion could be to consult with the Planning & Zoning Commission, Economic Development Commission, The Downtown Merchants Association and the Chamber of Commerce to solicit their thoughts on both proposals.

- **Cooke Street/Pinnacle Road Crosswalk Discussion**

In mid-September a resident wrote a letter requesting that Town staff explore potential safety improvements to the crosswalk at the intersection of Cooke Street and Pinnacle Road. This crosswalk is used by children walking to and from Wheeler School as well as the general public at other hours of the day.

The crossing guard for the Town at this location also expressed concern regarding the speed in this area.

Town staff reviewed the area and noted that there are several trees that create shade during certain times of the day which can make it more difficult to determine whether there is someone looking to cross the street. Distracted drivers are a problem as well.

After review, Town staff is proposing to install flashing warning lights that can be activated to warn drivers that someone is getting ready to use the crosswalk. These warning lights have been used in similar situations in Farmington and at bike trail crossings. While certainly not foolproof, the warning lights would create a much safer situation for both the driver and those crossing the street.

The cost to install these warning lights are in the \$25K range. There are state monies in the Town Aid Road account that would be utilized. If there are no objections from the Town Council, Town staff will proceed with the installation.

There were no objections.

- **1-Ton Rack/Dump Truck – Roadways**

The Capital Improvement Plan includes an appropriation of \$60K to replace a 1998 rack body truck and snowplow combination.

Town staff is recommending utilizing a state bid contract to purchase a 2021 truck with a plow from Northwest Hills Automotive LLC of Torrington in the amount of \$61,886.24. The additional \$1,886.24 above the \$60K appropriation would come from prior capital budget savings.

There is an item under **New Business** that would authorize the purchase of the 2021 GMC 3500 Crew Cab 4x4 truck from Northwest Hill Automotive, LLC of Torrington in the amount of \$61,886.24.

- **COVID-19 Update**

The Senior Center is planning to hold what they are calling their “gradual re-opening” beginning Thursday, November 5th. Safety is their number 1 priority as they service our most at-risk elderly population. The Senior Center must also abide by the state guidelines for three different sectors namely: Senior Centers, Indoor Recreation and Fitness Centers.

Seniors will be required per state guidelines to make reservations to attend a program or service at the Senior Center. The wearing of masks will be mandatory for anyone entering the building. A listing the requirements for the Senior Center will be in the November Senior Newsletter and can also be found on the Town website at www.plainvillect.com

The latest COVID-19 statistics for Connecticut indicate that over 62,000 residents have been infected and that 184 are currently hospitalized. There have also been over 4,500 COVID-19 associated deaths in CT. To date, Plainville has had 216 confirmed cases of COVID-1 as well. Residents are encouraged to stay diligent in their efforts to protect themselves and others as we enter the flu season and the colder weather.

- **Financial Dashboard**

The Dashboard was included in the meeting package information and has been posted on the Town website.

- **School Administrator’s Contract**

A letter dated October 19, 2020 was received from Superintendent Steve LePage notifying the Town Council of a newly negotiated contract between the Plainville Association of School Administrators and the Plainville Board of Education. The contract is for the period beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

The Agreement calls for a 2% wage increase, with a step increase and includes a \$500 increase to their tax-sheltered annuity. There would be no change to the premium cost share for health insurance. The employees would continue to pay 19% towards the health insurance premium cost share.

The Town Council has 30 days to accept, reject or do nothing with regards to the one-year contract extension. This will be scheduled for consideration at the November 16th meeting.

- **Happenings**

Assistant Town Manager Daskal announced activities and updates regarding elections, bulk waste, Senior Center and sewer user bills. Detailed information can be found on the Town’s website www.plainvillect.com

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joanne Edman, 166 West Main St spoke in opposition to proposed trail alignments

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. Bid #2021-06, 1-Ton Rack/Dump Truck

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to award Bid #2021-06, 1 Ton Rack/Dump Truck, under State Contract #19PSX0161 to Northwest Hills Automotive, LLC, Torrington, CT, in the amount of \$61,886.24. The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

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 7-0.

XI. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST

XII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Town Manager Evaluation

At 7:45pm Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to enter into Executive Session for the Town Manager's Evaluation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gnazzo and passed 7-0.

Discussion ensued with the Town Council, Town Manager Lee and Assistant Town Manager Daskal. No action was taken.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

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

Refunds

10/19/2020

Current Year

Amount

1	Bouchard, Rosemary, 10 Washington St	\$165.49
2	CCAP Auto Lease LTD, Dallas, TX	\$836.77
3	Cimino, Donald, 138 Red Stone Hill	\$41.20
4	Nissan Infiniti LT, Dallas, TX	\$103.86
6	Robertson, Dejaqweoshua, 250 Woodford Ave Apt 16	\$15.87
7	Sabatino, Nora, 123 Laurel CT	\$74.09
8	Wowk, Luke, 4 James Pl	\$40.51

Total	\$1,277.79
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Prior Years

Amount

1	CCAP Auto Lease LTD, Dallas, TX	\$886.95
2	Nissan Infiniti LT, Dallas, TX	\$103.86

Total	\$990.81
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Sewer User Fee

Amount

1	CB Plainville LLC, Greenwich, CT	\$50.00
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Total	\$50.00
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