

**MINUTES
PLAINVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL CENTER
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 2018 – 7:00p.m.**

- I. PRESENTATIONS:**

- II. PUBLIC HEARING**
 - 1. GAP Closure Trail Study Report – Tim Malone, CCROG

- III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of January 11, 2018 Special Meeting and January 16, 2018 Regular Meeting

- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS**

- V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS**
 - 1. Firefighter Appointments
 - 2. Conservation Commission Appointment
 - 3. Insurance Commission Resignation
 - 4. 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. WPC Phosphorus Project Update
 - 2. Grand List
 - 3. Northwest Paving Project
 - 4. Happenings

- IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- X. OLD BUSINESS**

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Tax Refunds – See Addendum

XII. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST

XIII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Pugliese called the meeting to order at 6:00pm in the Auditorium of the Middle School. Also present were Vice Chairman Saunders, Council members Wazorko, Morante, Gnazzo, Tompkins and Cox, Town Manager Lee, Assistant to the Town Manager Colby and Recording Secretary Dahlstrom. Additional Staff present was Mark Devoe, Town Planner and Garrett Daigle Assistant Town Planner

Councilman Cox led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. PRESENTATIONS: Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

II. PUBLIC HEARING

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF PLAINVILLE
PUBLIC HEARING
FEBRUARY 5, 2018**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Plainville Town Council will hold a public hearing at 6:00pm on Monday, February 5, 2018 in the Middle School of Plainville Auditorium, Northwest Drive, to hear public comment regarding the proposed draft Gap Closure Study Report followed by the regular Town Council meeting.

Dated at Plainville, Connecticut this 1st day of February, 2018.

Tim Malone, Regional Planner for CCROG presented the proposed Alignment C for the Trail GAP Closure as fully described online at gapclosurestudy.com.

*Chairwoman Pugliese shared that 40 emails were received both in favor of and opposed to the proposed Alignment C for the Trail. She then opened the meeting to public comments.

Gerald Ledger, Granby, CT - spoke in favor of Alignment C and talked about maintenance once the trail is open.

Barbara Davison, 28 Northampton Lane - spoke in favor of the bike trail. She commented that it is healthy for families to have a place to walk and spend time outdoors.

Val Dumais 43 Reliance Road – Chairman of the Economic Development Agency - spoke in favor of the proposed alignment and trail. He commented that it will be beneficial to local businesses.

Dave Bocerello, 67 Shuttlemeadow Road - spoke in favor of the trail and proposed alignment. He commented that it will increase business in Plainville.

Craig Delapenta, Florence MA – spoke in favor of the trail. He owns a bed and breakfast on the trail in MA. It has been beneficial for his business.

Theresa Harper, 245 Farmington Avenue – spoke in favor of Trail.

Seth Winklemen, 37 Tyler Farms Road - spoke in favor of the trail, great for kids.

Katherine LaBella, 50 Pierce Street, - spoke in opposition to the trail. Her contact with DOT revealed there are no funds currently available for this project. Katherine feels it is irresponsible for Plainville to spend any funds.

Pamela Jacobs – Depaolo, Southington - spoke in favor of the Trail. She commented that issues of safety and damage, graffiti need to be addressed prior to opening trail.

William Davison, 28 Northampton Lane - Commissioner from Planning and Zoning -spoke in favor of Trail and Alignment C and added it falls within the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development.

John Thomas, 103 Broad Street - spoke in opposition to Alignment C. He feels there are safety and traffic issues in the area currently and thinks an alternate route should be considered.

Barbara Martin, 6 Condale Lane - spoke in opposition to the proposed Alignment C. Her backyard will be where the proposed trail is going. She is concerned about privacy and asked that the alignment to be pushed away from her backyard further.

Jeff Discosmo, 260 East Street - Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce spoke in favor of trail and proposed Alignment C. He commented that it will bring business to Plainville.

Rich Williams, owner of 1 Northwest Drive - Chairman of the Economic & Development of the Chamber of Commerce spoke in favor of trail and Alignment C. He commented that it will bring business to Plainville.

Linda Ferguson, 8 Perron Road – spoke in opposition to trail. Considering the funding she questioned if now is the right time to be doing a project like this when residents recently received an additional tax bill due to State budgetary cuts.

Barbara and Larry Pelletier, 160 Broad Street - spoke in opposition to Alignment C. He feels there are safety and traffic issues in the area currently and thinks an alternate route should be considered.

Douglas Nobel, Cheshire, CT - spoke in favor of trail. He commented that they just completed the trail in Cheshire and it is very successful. Part of the location of the trail in Cheshire is on a busy street, West Main Street. There are no issues.

Toby Higgim, Cheshire, CT - spoke in favor of the trail. Great for families, safe.

Roberta Lauria, 18 Perron Road - spoke in opposition of the Trail. Trail should be on the railroad or not at all. Proposed Alignment would go behind her back yard. Concerned about the impacts to properties and funding.

Tim Miller, 19 Neil Court – Police Officer – spoke in favor of trail. Safe, healthy way for families to exercise.

Ethan Frankel, West Hartford - spoke in favor of the trail.

Gayle Dennehy, 28 Perron Road – is not opposed to a trail but to the impact it will have to the residents of Perron Rd. Alternate routes should be looked at.

Rebecca Martinez, 8 Irving Road - spoke in favor of the trail. Home values are shown to increase when they are close to a trail.

Thomas Warnat, 11 Eastwood Drive - Chairman of the Park and Recreation Board spoke in favor of the trail. It will be a benefit for all residents and businesses in Plainville.

Joel Edman, 63 Hollyberry Lane - spoke in opposition. Concerns about cost of maintenance and the burden on the Town. If the trail goes through he would like to see it moved 200ft back from the current alignment.

Pete Salomone, 176 Redstone Hill Road – spoke in favor of the trail and the alignment. He commented that in his experience that people that live near the trail love it and add bridges from their yards to the trail.

Lynda Prigodich, 11 Sachem Road - spoke in favor of the trail and has used others with family members.

Mary Fish, 69 Broad Street - spoke in favor of the trail.

Foster White, 7 Overlook Road - spoke in favor of the trail.

Henry Tessier, 190 Tomlinson Ave - spoke in favor of the trail and a safe place to exercise.

David Spencer, 127 Milford St Ext. - spoke in opposition. Concerns about possible cost to tax payers and potential property damage.

Marge Burris, 2 Mountain View Drive – Chairwoman of the Conservation Commission - spoke in favor of a trail, but not in the current proposed Alignment C. She feels it is too close to residences.

Roberta Brown, Coalition for Positive Youth Development in Plainville – spoke in favor of the trail and it will be a safe place for families to exercise.

Joann Edman, 166 West Main Street – spoke in opposition. She believes that the trail should only be constructed on the rails or not at all. Concerns about taxes and burdens on the town for trail maintenance.

Tom Fote, 15 Bradley Street – spoke in favor of trail. He has a young daughter and they live on a busy street so it will give them somewhere safe to ride bikes.

John (inaudible) Cheshire, spoke in favor of the trail and suggested residents take a look at the trail in surrounding towns.

George Fensick, 2 Pinecrest Drive – Vice Chairman of the Recycling Committee – in favor of the trail and the proposed Alignment. This trail would also benefit those in wheelchairs.

Carrie Zack, 87 Hollyberry Lane – voiced concern with the proposed alignment will be behind her house. She is concerned about privacy and safety and requested the alignment be moved back from her property.

Gayle Black, 4 Cianci Ave - spoke in favor of the trail and Alignment C.

Candace Hall, 113 Shuttlemeadow Rd – spoke in opposition.

Carol Nocolucci, 8 Condale Lane – spoke in opposition. Too close to houses, an alternate route should be considered. She is concerned about the loss of privacy.

Kathleen Cook, 62 Pierce Street – spoke in opposition. The current Alignment is on too many busy streets.

Roberta Gould, 4 Perron Road – spoke in opposition. Privacy concerns.

Laura Rosato, Burlington – spoke in favor of the trail.

Bob Ferguson, 8 Perron Rd questioned the economic benefits on Perron Rd.

Rich Rollinson, Avon CT – spoke in favor of the trail.

Dave Albert, 56 Hollyberry Lane – raised concerns because of the wetlands located in the current proposed Alignment C.

Marilyn Shorette, 10 Milford Street – enjoys exercising but feels alternate routes should be considered other than Perron Rd., Pierce St and Broad St.

Mark Swanson, 78 Metacomet Road – spoke in favor of a trail and urged the Town Council to accept the report.

Deb Hardy, 17 Maria Road – spoke in favor of the trail. She commented that it will be great for Plainville.

Robert Balkow, 22 Perron Road – spoke in opposition of the proposed alignment, alternate routes need to be considered.

Steve Massey, Bristol CT – spoke in favor of the trail.

Dave West, Windsor CT – spoke in favor of the trail.

Patrick Zapatka, DOT – spoke in favor of the trail. The Town has a great opportunity.

Sue Waters, Monroe – is an avid rider and spoke in favor of the trail.

Lou Frangos, 10 Fairbanks Street – is not opposed to a trail but feels there is a straighter and easier route through Town other than the proposed alignment.

Garu Oliviera, 14 Perron Road – spoke in opposition to trail. It will go behind his back yard. Privacy concerns.

Joe Gary, Farmington – spoke in favor of trail.

Hearing no further comments Chairwoman Pugliese closed the public hearing.

At 8:30 pm the public hearing was closed and a brief recess was taken.

At 8:45 pm Chairwoman Pugliese continued the Regular Town Council Meeting.

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Councilwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the minutes of January 11, 2018 Special Meeting and January 16, 2018 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 7-0.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS

No reports were offered.

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATION

1. Fire Department

- A. Vice Chairman Saunders motioned to appoint Christina Philibert, 62 Franklin Avenue as probationary Firefighter for the Plainville Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gnazzo and passed 7-0.
- B. Vice Chairman Saunders motioned to appoint Joel Rosado, 14 School Street as a probationary firefighter for the Plainville Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gnazzo and passed 7-0.

2. **Conservation Commission**

Councilwoman Morante motioned to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Jason Arnold to the Conservation Commission for a term ending January 15, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gnazzo and passed 7-0.

3. **Insurance Commission**

Councilwoman Tompkins motioned to accept with regret the resignation of Linda Ferguson from the Insurance Commission effective March 1, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wazorko and passed 7-0.

4. **Housing Authority**

Vice Chairman Saunders motioned to reappoint David Mazurek to the Housing Authority for another term. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 7-0.

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

Will be addressed at next meeting.

VII. **REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY**

No report was offered.

VIII. **REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER**

Town Manager Lee presented and discussed the following topics:

1. **WPC Phosphorus Project Update**

- Last Tuesday, January 30th, the WPC Phosphorus Project referendum was approved with 193 voting yes and 31 voting no. 85% of those who participated voted yes.

- The next step in the process is to finalize a Construction Administration Contract with Tighe & Bond and go out to bid for the project. This will most likely happen in March.
- After the bids are received, the Town will make a formal request for funding under the Clean Water Fund. A formal application could not be submitted until the Town had approved the appropriation and had received bids on the project.
- It is anticipated that the construction of the improvements could begin this summer. Construction is anticipated to last for approximately 2 years.

2. Grand List

- On January 22nd the October 1, 2017 Grand List was completed and signed by the Town Assessor Ann Marie Henning. The Grand List, after exemptions, totals \$1,388,894,859. This is an increase of \$7,821,477 from the previous Grand List.
- The 0.56% increase included real estate increasing by \$2.4M, Personal property increasing by \$2.7M and motor vehicles increasing by \$2.75M. Overall, the October 2017 Grand List would generate \$203,757 under the current mill rate of 33.43.

3. Northwest Drive Paving Project

- On January 19th the Department of Transportation sent a letter confirming that grant funding is in place to proceed with repaving a portion of Northwest Drive. The project would repave Northwest Drive from the Pequabuck River Bridge to the intersection of Perron Road.
- The estimated cost of the project is \$1.1M and will be funded entirely by a state grant through what is known as the LOTCIP Program.
- Town staff is now preparing to bid this project in March with construction beginning over the summer months. I want to thank Town Engineer John Bossi and Town Development Director Mark DeVoe for putting together the grant application that was submitted to CRCOG. This was a competitive grant application whereby many other municipalities in the Capital Region were competing for limited monies.

4. Happenings

Assistant to the Town Manager Colby reported on activities and events in Town. To view more activities please visit the Town's website at www.plainvillect.com.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Katherine LaBella, 50 Pierce Street, - read a transcript of the voicemail from the DOT confirming monies have not been specifically set aside for the GAP project in Plainville at this time. If the Town Council votes yes, the message will be they don't care about the additional

burden this will place on taxpayers while at the same time they are sending out supplemental tax bill.

Linda Ferguson, 8 Perron Rd - commented that the proposed trail will be right on her property. The comments earlier were both in favor and opposed and she asked the Town Council to take into consideration the property owners who will be directly affected by the trail.

Roberta Lauria, 18 Perron Rd – asked the Town Council to listen to the dozen of constituents who have voiced their concerns regarding the trail and to do what is right when making their decisions. If there are no true rails there should be no trails.

Joel Edman, 63 Hollyberry Ln, spoke at length in opposition to the trail.

Jason Arnold – appreciated the work that has been put into the project, thinks it's a great opportunity and spoke in favor of the trail.

Joann Edman, 166 West Main Street – spoke at length in opposition to the trail.

Lou Frangos, 10 Fairbanks St, would like to see the Capital Projects Building Committee Town Council liaison attend the meetings. He feels the projects they are currently overseeing are important and it's important to have a member in attendance.

Tom Fote - 15 Bradley St voiced his concerns about the sidewalks in Rt177. He would like to be able to ride his bike in the area with his daughter but is unable at this time.

X. OLD BUSINESS

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Tax Refunds - Addendum

Councilwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the tax refunds as listed on the Addendum. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 7-0.

XII. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST

XIII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Tompkins motioned to adjourn at 9:25pm. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gnazzo and passed unanimously.

*Additional letters and emails received, are available for review through the Town Manager's office. They are included in all the documentation of the Trail Project.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer Dahlstrom

Jennifer Dahlstrom
Recording Secretary
Town of Plainville