

**MINUTES
PLAINVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL CENTER
REGULAR MEETING
May 17, 2021 - 7:00pm**

I. PRESENTATIONS:

II. PUBLIC HEARING

- 2021 Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Proposals
- Proposed Amendment to Open Burning Ordinance
- Additional Appropriation of \$490,000 to Capital Fund
- Additional Appropriation of \$43,431 to Capital Fund

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

May 3, 2021 Regular Meeting

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

1. Inland Wetlands Commission Appointment
2. Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment
3. Advisory Recreation & Park Board Appointment
4. Planning & Zoning Commission Appointment
5. Library Board of Trustees Resignation
6. Planning & Zoning Commission Resignation
7. 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. GE Request for Monitoring Wells in Town ROW
2. Refunding of Clean Water Fund Loans
3. FY2022 Mill Rate Discussion
4. Concessions Bid
5. COVID-19 Update
6. Financial Dashboard
7. Happenings

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

X. OLD BUSINESS

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. 2021 Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Proposals
2. Proposal Amendment to Open Burning Ordinance
3. Additional Appropriation of \$490,000 to Capital Fund
4. Additional Appropriation of \$43,431 to Capital Fund
5. Monitoring Wells – Right of Entry Agreement
6. Set Mill Rate

7. Bid #2021-20, Concessions

8. Tax Refunds – Addendum

XII. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST

XIII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Chairwoman Pugliese, Vice Chairwoman Tompkins, Town Council members Wazorko, Morante, Gnazzo, Rocco, Underwood, Town Manager Lee, Assistant Town Manager Daskal, Town Attorney Mastroianni, Finance Director Buden, and Town Clerk Porrini.

Councilman Wazorko led the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to:**

1. **Ratify establishing a public hearing in the Municipal Center for Monday, May 17, 2021 at 7:00pm to hear public comment regarding an additional appropriation of \$490,000 to the Capital Fund and an additional appropriation of \$43,431 to the Capital Fund. The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.**

The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

2. **Add agenda items:**

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

7. Fire Department Appointments

8. Appointments and Re-appointments to Boards and Commissions

The motion was seconded by Councilman Wazorko and passed 7-0.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

8.* Bid #2021-23, Mt. View Pump Station Pumps

9. Tax Refunds

The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

I. PRESENTATIONS

II. PUBLIC HEARING

Town Clerk Porrini read the following legal notice:

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF PLAINVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
MAY 17, 2021**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Plainville Town Council will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday May 17, 2021 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Center, One Central Square in Plainville to hear public comments on:

1. Proposals for the 2021 Neighborhood Assistant Act
2. Proposed amendments to an ordinance entitled, "Open Burning"
3. An additional appropriation of \$490,000 to the Capital Project Fund
4. An additional appropriation of \$43,431 to the Capital Project Fund.

Copies of the proposed amendments and appropriations are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

Dated at Plainville, Connecticut this 13th day of May 2021.

Cindy A. Porrini, Town Clerk &
Clerk of the Town Council.

Chairwoman Pugliese opened the first public hearing topic for comments.

1. 2021 Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Proposals

Town Manager Lee explained the Neighborhood Assistance Act tax credit program, is designed to provide funding for municipal and tax-exempt organizations by providing a corporate business tax credit for businesses who make cash donation to these entities. Applications must be approved in the Town in which services are provided. Three applications have been received. One from the Congregational Church of Plainville and the other two from the Prudence Crandall Center, Inc.

2. Proposed Amendment to Open Burning Ordinance.
3. An additional appropriation of \$490,000 to Capital Fund
4. An additional appropriation of \$43,431 to Capital Fund

Lou Frangos, 10 Fairbanks Street commented on this appropriation

Joanne Edman, 166 West Main St spoke off topic

No more comments were made, and the hearing was closed.

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the minutes of May 3, 2021 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS

Councilwoman Morante reported on activities for the Conservation Commission, Library Board of Trustees, and the Commission on Aging.

Chairwoman Pugliese attended the May 10th Board of Education Meeting and was happy to report a 2021 Graduation will be held, additional details will be forthcoming.

V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATION

1. Inland Wetlands Commission

Councilman Gnazzo motioned to appoint Sandra Talbot (U), 7 Robidoux Drive, as a regular member of the Inland Wetlands Commission for a term ending January 7, 2023. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairwoman Tompkins and passed 7-0.

2. Zoning Board of Appeals

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to appoint Rizwan Mumtaz (D), 6 Harvest Lane, as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending October 2, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

3. Advisory Recreation & Park Board

Councilman Rocco motioned to appoint Colin Cassidy (D), 285 West Main Street, to the Advisory Recreation and Park Board for a term ending May 1, 2022. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairwoman Tompkins and passed 7-0.

4. Planning and Zoning Commission

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to appoint Kurt Stephens, Jr. (R), 20 Eastwood Road, to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term ending January 2, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gnazzo and passed 7-0.

5. Councilwoman Morante motioned to accept with regret the resignation of Jay Steeves from the Library Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairwoman Tompkins and passed 7-0.

6. Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to accept with regret the resignation of Julianne Ramia from the Planning and Zoning Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gnazzo and passed 7-0.

7. Fire Department

Councilman Gnazzo motioned to:

a. Appoint Anthony Cruz, 45 Maple Street, Apt. 30, as a Probationary Firefighter to the Plainville Fire Department

b. Appoint Dana Gronowski, 146 Stillwell Drive, as a Probationary Firefighter to the Plainville Fire Department

c. Appoint Alex Wynkoop, 48 Fawn Drive, as a Probationary Firefighter to the Plainville Fire Department

The motion was seconded by Vice Chairwoman Tompkins and passed 7-0.

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

No report was given.

VII. REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY

No report was given.

VIII. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER

- **GE Request for Monitoring Wells in Town ROW**

General Electric is requesting approval for the installation of groundwater monitoring wells in Town rights of way to support ongoing remedial activities associated with the former GE facilities located at 10 New Britain Ave. and 41 Woodford Ave. G.E. is remediating groundwater on these properties under the oversight of the CT DEEP. Arcadis U.S., Inc. has been performing that work on behalf of G.E. As part of their ongoing remediation activities, due to the detection of chlorinated solvents at concentrations slightly greater than CT DEEP standards, it is necessary that environmental testing occur at locations beyond the former GE property boundaries to meet CT DEEP requirements.

G.E. is requesting access to install and sample groundwater monitoring wells at two locations within Town rights of way along roadways. The wells would be 120 feet deep, with a borehole that is approximately 12 inches in diameter and enclosed with flush mount well covers set inside an approximately 2-foot by 2-foot concrete pad and secured with a lock and expandable plug.

Quarterly groundwater samples would be taken, and they anticipate doing this for approximately two years. The location of the two wells would be on Norton Place and Jefferson Street. G.E. is also planning to install a third monitoring well on east side of Farmington Ave. (State Road) just north of the Route 72 overpass.

There is an item under New Business that would authorize the Town Manager to execute the Right of Entry Agreement with G.E. to install the two monitoring wells in the Town R.O.W.

- **Refunding of Clean Water Fund Loans**

The Town recently sold General Obligation Bonds to pay off four Clean Water Fund Loans to the State of CT totaling \$10,050,000. These loans were borrowed in 2006, 2009, 2010 and 2012 and were used to make improvements to the wastewater treatment plant located at the end of Cronk Road. The interest rate on those loans were at 2%. As a result of the bond sale, the Town will be able to lower the interest rate on the remaining years of the bond from 2% to 0.68%.

The overall Gross (Budgetary) Savings through FY21 to FY30 is \$521,757. These Savings will be in the sewer fund. The sewer fund will save \$206,552 in the current fiscal year (FY21) as the Town will not have to make future Clean Water Fund payments. The Town will save an average of \$35K over the remaining nine years of the loan.

These savings will assist in helping to minimize future sewer user charge increases.

- **FY2022 Mill Rate Discussion**

Since the budget has been approved at the All-Day vote, several Town Council members have expressed a desire to consider a “no tax increase” when the mill rate is set. This would entail adjusting revenues by \$317,639 to attain a zero mill increase. Since the April 5th Town Council meeting, the State Legislative Committees have brought forth their recommended budget which is expected to be acted upon by the end of the Legislative Session on June 5th.

Based upon news reports and several CCM meetings (which included key legislative participants), there is strong support to restore the phase-in of the ECS formula. This would result in \$192,639 in additional revenue to support the FY22 budget leaving \$125,000 to attain a “no tax increase”.

Town staff (Rob Buden, Matt Daskal, and I) discussed several alternatives for consideration regarding the setting of the mill rate. They are:

1. Set the mill rate at 34.71. This would result in a mill rate increase of 0.09 mills or 0.25% increase in taxes.
2. Set the mill rate at 34.62 (current mill rate) by increasing the Unassigned Fund Balance Contribution from \$400,000 to \$525,000. (+\$125,000)
3. Set the mill rate at 34.62 (current mill rate) by increasing the following revenue line items: Building Permit Fees +\$50,000; Police Fees +\$20,000; Recording Fees +5,000; Unassigned Fund Balance +50,000.

Please note that revaluation is currently underway for the October 1, 2021 Grand List. It is anticipated that the Grand List will increase - meaning that the mill rate will decrease- based upon all other factors staying the same (i.e., revenues and expenditures). However, the impact on the different types of taxable categories could shift depending upon the changes to industrial & commercial property, residential property, motor vehicles and personal property. In other words, all taxable property during a revaluation year will have a different tax change (increase or decrease) based upon their relative change in value.

- **Concessions Bid**

Each year the Town solicits bids for ice cream and concession services in the Town's parks. This bid provides for a minimum \$550.00 payment by the vendor for the right to sell in the Town's Parks. The bid also includes provisions that allow the Town to limit vending during special events (example a youth organization fundraiser).

Due to the pandemic the Town did not seek vendors during the summer of 2020. This year's solicitation resulted in one bid- from the 2019 vendor Two Brothers Ice Cream. Town staff is recommending that the

Town Council award Plainville Bid# 2021-20 Town Park Ice Cream and Concession Rights to Two Brothers Ice Cream of Waterbury, Connecticut in the amount of \$601.00.

There is an item under New Business regarding this recommendation.

- **COVID-19 Update**

Connecticut's seven-day COVID positivity rate had dropped below 2% for the first time in six months. The state also became the first in the nation to fully vaccinate 50% of its adult population. Governor Lamont's emergency orders regarding the COVID-19 pandemic are scheduled to expire on May 20th. Last week the State Senate and State House granted final legislative approval for another extension of the Governor's emergency COVID-19 powers until July 20th. It is unclear at this time whether the indoor mask mandate will remain in place.

Additionally, late last week FDA approved COVID-19 vaccinations for children between 12 and 15 years of age. The CDC has stated that fully vaccinated people can largely ditch wearing masks indoors, however, the Governor's emergency orders require them to be worn indoors at least until May 20th. The CDC guidance still requires wearing masks in crowded indoor settings.

The Municipal Center will allow people to enter without a mask if they are fully vaccinated according to the CDC Guidelines beginning this Wednesday. Notices will be displayed on the entryways to the building. People will be asked to comply via the "honor system".

- **Mountainview Pump Station Improvements**

The FY22 Capital Improvement Budget includes \$82,010 to replace the two pumps at the Mountainview Pump Station plus a spare pump. Superintendent Joseph Alosso is recommending that they purchase the pumps directly from Fleet Associates in the amount of \$63,407 and have them installed by Blake Equipment for \$11,950. The WPC has Fleet Pumps at the other pump stations in Plainville.

The total cost for the replacement and installation is \$75,357. There is an item under New Business that would waive the bid process and authorize the purchase of the pumps for the Mountainview Pump Station in the amount of \$63,407 from Fleet Associates of White Plains.

- **Financial Dashboard**

The Financial Dashboard for the period through April 30, 2021 has been included in the meeting package and has been posted on the Town website.

- **Happenings**

Assistant Town Manager Daskal reported on activities in the Town Clerk's Office, Tax Office and Senior Center details can be found on the Town's website: www.plainvillect.com

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joanne Edman, 166 West Main St opposed Alignment C of the proposed Trail.

Lou Frangos, 10 Fairbanks St, spoke regarding the Police Department overtime.

X. OLD BUSINESS

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the following proposals for the 2021 Neighborhood Assistance Act:

- a. Prudence Crandall Center, Inc.
Annual Appeal
\$150,000.00
- b. Prudence Crandall Center, Inc.
Energy Efficiency
\$89,281.00
- c. The Congregational Church of Plainville, United Church of Christ
Energy Efficiency Initiative
\$150,000.0

The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

2. Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to adopt the Amendment to the Open Burning Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gnazzo and passed 7-0.

3. Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to appropriate \$490,000 from Account # 0100-000-32110-0000, Unassigned Fund Balance to Account # 0100-840-55511-0000, Transfers Out – Town Capital. The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

4. Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to appropriate \$43,431 from Account # 0100-000-32110-0000, Unassigned Fund Balance to Account # 0100-840-55511-0000, Transfers Out – Town Capital. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wazorko and passed 7-0.

5. Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve and authorize the Town Manager to execute

the Right of Entry Agreement with the General Electric Company subject to review by the Town Attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wazorko and passed 7-0.

6. Vice Chairwoman motioned to set the mill rate at 34.56 for Fiscal Year 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

7. Vice Chairwoman motioned to award Bid #2021-20, Concessions, to Two Brothers Ice Cream, Waterbury, CT, in the amount of \$601. The motion was seconded by Councilman Underwood and passed 7-0.

8. 7. Vice Chairwoman motioned to waive the bid process and award Bid #2021-23, Mt. View Pump Station Pumps, to Fleet Associates, White Plains, NY, in the amount of \$63,407. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wazorko and passed 7-0.

9. Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the tax refunds as listed on the Addendum. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wazorko and passed 7-0.

XII. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST

XIII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:21 pm Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wazorko and passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted by,



**Cindy A. Porrini, Town Clerk
& Clerk of the Town Council**

Amendment of Town Ordinance 219-9, 219-10.

1. Current language for ordinance 219-9 is as follows:

219-9 Permit requirement; revocation of Permit
Section E (3) An extreme or high fire danger level.

Proposed amendment for above ordinance as follows:

219-9 Permit requirement; revocation of Permit
Section E (3) high, very high or extreme fire danger level.

2. Current language for ordinance 219-10 is as follows:
Section (A) 8

(8) The forest fire danger, as determined by the State Forest Fire Warden, is high or extreme.

Proposed amendment for above ordinance as follows:

The forest fire danger, as determined by the State Forest Fire Warden, is high, very high or extreme.

Refunds		6/7/2021	
		Current Year	Amount
1	ACAR Leasing LTD, PO Box 1990, Fort Worth TX		\$301.71
2	ACAR Leasing LTD, PO Box 1990, Fort Worth TX		\$427.90
3	ACAR Leasing LTD, PO Box 1990, Fort Worth TX		\$298.60
	Nissan Infiniti		
	LT, PO Box		
	650214 Dallas,		
4	TX	\$393.18	
	Nissan		
	Infiniti LT, PO		
	Box 650214		
5	Dallas, TX	\$360.02	
6	Nissan Infiniti LT, PO Box 650214 Dallas, TX		\$377.01
7	Nissan Infiniti LT, PO Box 650214 Dallas, TX		\$32.54
	Carrington Mortgage Serv., c/o Corelogic, Coppell		
8	TX		\$1,364.37
9			
	Total		\$3,555.33