

# PLYMOUTH SELECT BOARD

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023

GREAT HALL, TOWN HALL, 26 COURT STREET, PLYMOUTH, MA – 6:00 PM  
HYBRID PARTICIPATION IN-PERSON OR VIA ZOOM WEBINAR

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## 6:00 PM - CALL TO ORDER

Betty Cavacco, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked Select Board Member, Harry Helm to read the opening statement.

In accordance with S2475, and pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted via remote means and in-person. Members of the public who wish [to watch the meeting may do so](#) in the following manner: tune into PACTv government cable access channels Comcast Channel 15 or Verizon Channel 47 and watch the meeting as it is aired live, or watch the meeting live the PACTv website at <https://pactv.org>. Members of the public who wish to PARTICIPATE in the meeting may do so in the following manner:

**Remote Participation:** please go to the Town website under the Select Board page and click on the Zoom Webinar Registration box or simply click on the link below.

[https://pactv.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_-cge\\_yk\\_Q9KtC8f1ydH61g](https://pactv.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-cge_yk_Q9KtC8f1ydH61g)

Present: Betty Cavacco, Chairman  
Richard Quintal, Vice Chairman  
John Mahoney Jr.  
Harry Helm  
  
Derek Brindisi, Town Manager  
Brad Brothers, Assistant Town Manager

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## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Evelyn Strawn, League of Women Voters representative, said that there is an event sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the No Place for Hate Committee called “Race and Song a Musical Conversation”, on Thursday, May 11, 2023.

Sharl Heller, President of Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barrens Alliance, said that Mr. Quintal at a Candidates Forum asked for someone to talk at a Board meeting regarding the Forestry Legacy Program. Ms. Heller said that SEMPBA received a U.S. Forest Service Landscape Scale Restoration grant in 2017. Ms. Heller described grant program opportunities for the Inflation Reduction Act. Ms. Heller said that she believes these grants could be utilized when negotiating with Holtec.

Richard Serkey, Precinct 2 Town meeting member said that on July 29, 2019, the Town entered into a lease agreement with the SEMPBA, and he believes there is a termination date of July 31, 2024. Mr. Serkey said and described a letter signed by the Select Board Chair written to SEMPBA regarding Attorney Margaret Sheehan’s association with 158 Center Hill Road and SEMPBA. Mr. Serkey said that he believes the statements in the letter are true, however, he believes they are irrelevant. Mr. Serkey said that he believes that the statements in the letter do not mean that SEMPBA has violated the terms of its lease. Mr. Serkey said that he believes that Community Land & Water Coalition donations to SEMPBA were charitable and that he believes that Attorney Sheehan did not receive any benefit or service or

expected to receive any benefit or service in exchange for their donations. Mr. Serkey said that there are other organizations he believes utilize 158 Center Hill Road. Ms. Cavacco said that information was brought before the Board's attention and that she follows Town Counsel's legal opinion.

George McKay said that he wanted to respond to a question Mr. Mahoney asked during a previous presentation he gave. Mr. McKay said that the PL Vanity License plate numbers are generated and distributed randomly. Mr. McKay said that 2065 license plates are generating revenue. Mr. McKay said that someone paid \$10,000 for a PL 1 plate.

Patrick Farah, Planning Department said that on Saturday, May 13, 2023, the Town of Plymouth is holding a Town-wide clean-up. Mr. Farah said that trash bags can be picked up at Town Hall, Planning and Development Office.

David Golden said that the Chair of the Charter Commission has said that the Attorney General's Office has issued that the entire proposed Charter is legal. Mr. Golden said that claim, he believes is false, and that some of the revisions have not yet been reviewed by the Office of Attorney General.

Irene Caldwell said that she is concerned with public access to Morton Park. Ms. Caldwell said that she understands traffic issues and recommends there be public transportation to Morton Park.

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## **ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES**

On a motion by Richard Quintal and seconded by Harry Helm, the Board voted to approve Administrative Notes as a group.

*Voted 4/0 By Roll Call: Mahoney-Yes, Cavacco-Yes, Helm-Yes, Quintal-Yes*

### ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

1. The Board will vote to approve and execute the institution of non-essential watering restrictions by the Town of Plymouth's Water Management Act Withdrawal Permit.
2. The Board will vote to grant the Town Manager to authorize an immediate ban on all non-essential water use should an emergency water supply situation develop.
3. The Board will vote to approve and execute the Local adoption of M.G.L. c. 166 § 32A: Inspection by Assistant Inspector.
4. The Board will vote to approve a Tax Bill Insert regarding the announcement of the implementation of a new electronic payment portal, Invoice Cloud.
5. The Board will vote to increase the revolving spending cap for the Recreation Division by \$125,000, from \$500,766 to \$625,766, pending approval from the Advisory & Finance Committee.
6. The Board will vote to approve the Plymouth Beaches Research/Activity Permit from the Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barrens Alliance for horseshoe crab monitoring at Plymouth Long Beach.
7. The Board will vote to approve the request of exclusive vending rights to the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce for the Plymouth Bark in the Park event, on Saturday, June 10, 2023 (rain date June 11, 2023).
8. The Board will vote to approve and execute the South Shore Recycling Cooperative (SSRC) Intermunicipal Agreement Extension for a sixth five-year term through June 30, 2028.

9. The Board will vote to approve and execute the Agreement of Lease Transfer from Sam Diego's East, Inc. to Anejo Plymouth, Inc.
10. The Board will vote to approve the amendment to Consent and Agreement of Lessor for Plymouth Town Wharf, Lots 3, 3A, 4, 4A, and 5A.
11. The Board will vote to approve the amendment to Consent and Agreement of Lessor for Plymouth Town Wharf, Booth for Ticket Sales of "Captain John Whale Watching & Fishing Tours and all of the Finger Pier".
12. The Board will vote to approve the amended Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) Policy, effective immediately.
13. 13. The Board will authorize the application for, and (if awarded) acceptance of, a grant in the amount of \$1,950,000 through the Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program, to be applied towards the construction of the Bartlett Road Culvert Replacement & Stormwater Management Improvement Project.
14. The Board will authorize the application for, and (if awarded) acceptance of, a grant in the amount of \$150,000 through the Massachusetts Seaport Economic Council's Local Maritime Economic Development Planning Program, to be applied towards the drafting of Plymouth's first Blue Economy Development Plan.

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## **STREETLIGHT PURCHASE & LED RETROFIT COST/ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS PRESENTATION**

Patrick Farah, Energy Officer provided an update to the Board regarding the feasibility of streetlight purchasing and LED retrofitting. Mr. Farah said that the Town hired Power Options to conduct a cost and environmental benefit analysis, and Power Options retained Guardian Energy Management Services to assist with project cost estimates. Mr. Farah said there are approximately 2,600 high-pressure sodium, metal halide, and mercury light fixtures, not including downtown decorative lighting and some subdivision lighting. Mr. Farah said that the non-LED fixtures consume 856,000-kilowatt hours annually and emit over 220 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. Mr. Farah said that the Town pays \$315,000 for utility-owned light fixtures a year. Mr. Farah said that if the Town retrofitted all the lights to LED, there would be approximately a 544,000-kilowatt-hour decrease on an annual basis. Mr. Farah said that the Town would save approximately \$228,000 per year, and over \$750,000 over 10 years. Mr. Farah said that there would be an eight-year project payback period. Mr. Farah said that it would cost \$250,000 to purchase the lights, and then it would cost \$1.49 million to retrofit the lights to LED, with a total estimated cost of \$1.75 million.

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## **STEPHENS FIELD UPDATE**

David Gould, Director of Marine and Environmental Affairs said that after the departure of Jonathan Beder, the Town Manager asked Mr. Gould to take on the role of project lead for the Town, along with Nick Faiella. Mr. Gould said that in two months, the Town assessed the building for lead paint, disconnected the buildings from electrical, sewer, and water, and received the zoning permits in place to get the buildings ready for demolition. Mr. Gould said that there were underground storage tanks, however, there were hydrocarbons left in the soil that needed to be remediated. Mr. Gould said that the Town has done a significant amount of testing, and the Town saved money utilizing DPW resources. Mr. Gould said that four areas of concern have required more testing, and some areas may require the removal of soil. Mr. Gould said that there will be new bathroom buildings, a new concession building, a new playground structure, three new tennis courts, three new pickleball courts, new parking lots, sidewalks, green space, and landscaping. Mr. Gould said additional bid alternates include

funding (if available) for improvements to the baseball field, fencing to the backstop and the bleachers, and the basketball court. Mr. Gould said that Town staff will get all documentation to the Procurement Office on Monday, June 5, 2023, and the project will go out to bid. Mr. Gould said that bids will be due on Thursday, July 6, 2023. Mr. Gould said that he anticipates the construction would begin in August, September, and October, and work through portions of the winter and Spring of 2024. Mr. Gould said that he hopes the park would be open in late Spring 2024.

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## **DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATIONS**

Mr. Young and Mr. Senesi regarding the new website redesign. Mr. Young provided a presentation regarding the previous designs of the Town's website, compared to the newly redesigned Town website. Mr. Senesi described the new features, including a more succinct and cohesive agenda and minutes center. Mr. Senesi described the opportunities for more engaging email communications. Mr. Senesi described how the homepage operates.

Mr. Nick Mayo, Inspectional Services Director described the OpenGov Online E-Permitting System. Mr. Mayo went through how builders, contractors, and homeowners can file a permit online using OpenGov. Mr. Mayo described how Town staff can be dispatched to work sites, and how staff can communicate to applicants through OpenGov. Mr. Mayo described how the Town can take online payments through OpenGov. Mr. Mayo described the positive feedback regarding the implementation.

Mr. Young described SeeClickFix as the Town's new online reporting system (311 system). Mr. Young described how residents can report concerns on their computers or through the mobile app. Mr. Young described how Town staff are communicating with the public when their concerns are resolved.

Kelly McElreath, Town Clerk, described voting and elections technology upgrades to make voting more efficient, which includes electronic pole pads.

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## **PROPOSED REORGANIZATION (PHASE 2)**

Mr. Brindisi recommended that the 911 Dispatch Center be housed at the Plymouth County Sheriff's Office. Mr. Brindisi said that the Town has not been able to meet the 911 call answering standards, which is why the consolidation of Fire, EMS, and Police dispatch in one location is planned to be implemented. Mr. Brindisi said that the Town can accommodate existing dispatch staff needs and requests.

Mr. Brindisi recommended that the Harbormaster's Office would be transferred under the Police Department, as opposed to the Marine and Environmental Affairs Department. Chief Dana Flynn said that currently having the Harbormaster's Office not under the Police Department is a liability for the Town regarding the Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission. Chief Flynn said he has concerns regarding quality training and liability, and for the Town that currently has two law enforcement agencies with different standards and regulations. Chief Flynn said that the POST Commission has established four Town Harbormasters as certified Police Officers. Chief Flynn said that he recommends that the Harbormaster be under administrative control, not the operational control of the Plymouth Police Department.

Captain Jason Higgins, Professional Standards Division, Police Department said that the POST Commission has set forth standards for all Police Officers in the Commonwealth. Captain Higgins said that POST Commission tracks annual training, and if training does not occur, officers may become uncertified. Captain Higgins said that the Town has been 100% compliant with POST. Captain Higgins said that the Police Department has recently completed its second accreditation. Captain Higgins said that the Plymouth Harbormaster's Office is the only Harbormaster's Office that is accredited by POST.

Chad Hunter, Harbormaster, said that he agrees with everything Chief Flynn and Captain Higgins previously said. Mr. Hunter said that the Harbormaster's Office has been very proactive in training, including the BRIDGE Academy. Mr. Hunter agrees with the transfer to the Police Department. Mr. Hunter thanked Mr. Gould for his leadership, regarding the Plymouth Harbor improvements that have occurred over several years.

Wrestling Brewster, Harbor Committee, commends the Harbormaster's Office under the leadership of the Department of Marine and Environmental Affairs. Mr. Brewster said that it would be a benefit of the Town to keep the relationship between the Harbormaster and Marine & Environmental Affairs.

On a motion by John Mahoney and seconded by Richard Quintal, the Board voted to approve the recommendations made by the Town Manager, for the Phase 2 Reorganization Plan, contingent upon the executed MOA between the Police Chief and the Harbormaster.

*Voted 4/0 By Roll Call: Mahoney-Yes, Cavacco-Yes, Helm-Yes, Quintal-Yes*

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## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Brindisi said that the Building Committee awarded the Manomet Fire Station reconstruction project to Siever Construction, and it was within the projected budget. Mr. Brindisi said that the State 2 project is on time and budget.

Mr. Brindisi said that he attended the CAL Volunteer luncheon. Mr. Brindisi said that the Town has saved over \$783,000 in staffing costs, by utilizing volunteers at CAL.

Mr. Senesi said that interested volunteers for boards and committees can apply online using an online form.

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## **SELECT BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION**

Ms. Cavacco said that she has received concerns from residents who have sold their vehicles and did not keep their original beach stickers. Ms. Cavacco said that the Town should consider that when issuing replacement stickers.

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## **ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION**

On a motion by John Mahoney and seconded by Harry Helm, the Board voted to adjourn the Open Session at 8:26 p.m.

*Voted 4/0 By Roll Call: Mahoney-Yes, Cavacco-Yes, Helm-Yes, Quintal-Yes*

**Recorded by:** Anthony Senesi

*Assistant to the Select Board/Town Manager*