

Town of Plymouth
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Minutes

February 3, 2026

Call to Order: Mayor David Sekorski called the scheduled February 3, 2026, Plymouth Town Council Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

Roll Call: Present for the meeting were Town Councilwoman Susan Boilard, Town Councilman Raymond Engle, Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor David Sekorski, Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, and Town Councilman T. J. Zagurski.

Fire Exit Notification: Mayor David Sekorski noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor David Sekorski led the Town Council Members and the Public audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Town Councilwoman Susan Boilard presented and read the Innovocation for the Town Council and the Public audience.

Mayor David Sekorski stated if any other Town Council Members would like to present and read the Invocation at a future Town Council meeting they should contact him.

Acceptance of Minutes (January 6, 2026 Regular Minutes and January 23, 2026 Special Minutes)

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Raymond Engle, to accept the January 6, 2026, Town Council Regular Minutes with the following amendment/correction: Page three: Town Councilman Joe Green was referenced as the Town Council Liaison to the Board of Finance in error; Town Councilman Raymond Engle being the correct Board of Finance Liaison to the Board of Finance. This motion was approved unanimously as amended.

Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Raymond Engle, to accept the January 22, 2026, Town Council Special Minutes as presented. This motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, requested the Council prioritize the Capital Improvements listing and briefly elaborated.

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Mayor's Report

Mayor David Sekorski read his Mayor's Report as follows: I received a thank you letter addressed to the Town Hall Staff for our Friday Dress Down Day collection from Larry Chicucarello, Director, Plymouth Community Food Pantry. The letter noted the Town Hall donations helps them meet their goals and provided a summary of their activities, programs and service statistics.

The recent large snowstorm has brought to light several issues. Mayor David Sekorski stated he wanted to thank the Town crew and all additional Staff and Vendors who got us through the storm and are continuing the cleanup. The total crew of 11, and at some points 12 people, worked 32 hours in a 48-hour timeframe, from Sunday morning until Monday evening. An additional 10-hour shift on Tuesday. We used 200 tons of salt. We do not always have the amount of sand at times, so a sand and salt mixture was used, and several tons were made available to Town residents on a self-serve basis. Clean up is still ongoing as it is in many towns across the state. Fortunately, we avoided a second storm this past weekend.

Several issues surfaced because of the large amount of snow, primarily snow removal for sidewalks and fire hydrants. The Town has an existing Ordinance that requires property owners to clear sidewalks on their property. That said, we must be reasonable and we all have a responsibility to work together to ensure everyone's safety. Over the past several years the Town crew has had the capacity and equipment to assist with sidewalk clearing. In this storm that simply could not be supported as residents have been used to. Several residents voiced concern over this issue. When possible, the Town crew provides support. In several cases Public Works or the Mayor's Office were contacted by concerned residents who simply could not physically remove the snow for a variety of reasons. We were grateful for that level of communication, and it helped us prioritize the removal. Again, safety is the priority. Several concerns were raised regarding clearing of fire hydrants, including whether some hydrants function at all. Although we do not have an 'Ordinance' regarding hydrants, I think it is reasonable to ask residents to assist with clearing or notify the Town of the location of hydrants that cannot be cleared, so we can prioritize. I have followed up with Connecticut Water Company regarding hydrant maintenance. If residents believe a hydrant is not functioning, please contact Public Works and we'll have Connecticut Water verify and remove any hydrant that is inoperable. All hydrants are flushed and serviced yearly and based on our current information all hydrants should be functional. That said, we will ensure they are. Also, we are working on an "Adopt a Hydrant Program" to assist the Fire Department. Details on this program will be released soon.

Update on the proposed Solar Farm Project at 270 Preston Road, Terryville. The State of Connecticut Siting Council has granted a Public Hearing regarding the proposal on March 31st. There are two parts to the hearing process. At 2:00 p.m., there is an evidentiary session when the applicant will present information and 6:30 p.m., when public comment will be heard. These meetings will all be conducted via ZOOM conference.

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Mayor's Report Cont'd.

There are very specific rules and procedures to how the meetings are conducted. We will be posting all the information regarding the hearing on the Town's website. We will also be working on making a space available in the Town Hall at the meeting time for residents to utilize. You can also go to the Siting Council's website at siting.council@ct.gov and look for Petition number 1696. Details on the hearing can also be found there.

The Town's Communication Commission and Fire Department have been working with Norcom Industries to upgrade our communication towers. This effort has been ongoing for many months and is needed to eliminate radio 'dead spots' in various sections of Town, as well as modernization of the equipment.

Regarding Public comments received at our January meeting: The budget development process is underway, and all departments are evaluating their needs. This includes Police Department revenues, expenses, patrol and support autos, and long term Capital needs. We are working with our Assessor's office to evaluate the impact of re-evaluation and Tax Abatement Agreements. As we go forward, we'll work with the Economic Development Commission to carefully weigh the impact of any Tax Abatement Agreements on future revenue. Tax Abatement Agreements that are already in place cannot be modified. Charges and fees assessed to delinquent tax collections are being investigated to ensure the Town practices are within reason.

We recently launched the Mayor's Facebook page and will continue to respond to suggestions made by the public to improve our communication.

Regarding the Mayor's Citizen Advisory Board. We are looking to cap the board to nine members. We will confirm with the individuals that have contacted the Mayor's office if they are still committed to participating and that we plan to start meeting in March.

Town Website revision is ongoing, and I hope to have a 'completion date' to share at our March meeting or sooner.

In the meantime, we will continue to post vital information on the Town website and the Mayor's Facebook page. As always, don't hesitate to call my office with questions or concerns. Many residents have reached out, and we'll continue to respond as rapidly as possible.

Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilman Raymond Engle stated at the January Board of Finance meeting the members covered some credits; noting the first one was tabled for a Worker's Comp issue because there were questions about the budget allocation. He further stated the second was for a generator repair, which had passed.

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Town Council Liaison Reports Cont'd.

Town Councilman Raymond Engle stated the Board of Finance handed out a new budget expense report which he found interesting and encouraged everyone to look at the report. Town Councilman Raymond Engle stated the 2024 FY Audit was processed to OPM and work has started on the FY 2025 Audit.

Mayor David Sekorski stated OPM does have the 2024 Financial Statements.

Town Councilman Raymond Engle stated the Inland-Wetlands Commission has a Public Hearing schedule for January 21, 2026, for a parcel on Schroback Road. Another for Greenline Home Builders for a one-unit apartment building on South Street, Plymouth.

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia stated the Planning and Zoning Commission is working on the Solar Field farm proposal, which is very important. Town Councilman Ron Tiscia stated the Commission had heard the former Walgreen Plaza might have a renter.

Mayor David Sekorski stated he did not have any information about a renter for the former Walgreen Plaza.

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia stated the Richards Corporation had put an application in for a new building at their property on North Harwinton Avenue.

Town Councilman Joe Green stated he had nothing to report on at this time.

Town Councilwoman Susan Boilard stated she had been on vacation, so she was unable to attend the January Police Commission meeting. She further stated that although she missed that meeting she did touch base with Chief Krasicky to catch herself up. Town Councilwoman Susan Boilard stated she had attended the Fire Commission meeting and noted they were putting their budget together. She further stated they were amazing and have the budget process down pat. Town Councilwoman Susan Boilard stated she was unable to attend the Human Services Commission meeting due to a meeting schedule conflict however she was able to speak with the person in charge at Town Hall. Town Councilwoman Susan Boilard stated she was still working on the Veteran's Council, noting there are some protocols to finish; it needs to be run by several people, and then it should be up and running next month.

Town Councilman T.J. Zagurski stated the WPCA meeting was cancelled due to a snowstorm. Town Councilman T.J. Zagurski stated the Town's new Public Work's Director Joe Sopczneski is learning the ropes and his job. Town Councilman T.J. Zagurski stated that discussions will be taking place over the next couple of months regarding the fleet, purchasing verses leasing or purchasing trucks outright.

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Town Council Liaison Reports Cont'd.

Town Councilman T.J. Zagurski stated discussion took place regarding increasing the price of materials sold out of the quarry by the fairgrounds from \$2.00 per yard to \$7.00 per yard. Town Councilman T.J. Zagurski stated the Parks and Recreation Commission has basketball currently going on. Town Councilman T.J. Zagurski stated the Parks and Recreation Commission is working on Summer Camp, noting some things are in limbo and they will be attending the February 11th Board of Education meeting where they will present the Boys and Girls Club information to see if it would be feasible to run a Town program for Summer Camp this year, noting more to come.

Mayor David Sekorski stated the Economic Development Commission has a scheduled meeting next week. He further stated that he has spoken with Vance Taylor, Economic Development Consultant, and most of the Economic Development Commission members. Mayor David Sekorski stated that he has also spoken with Town Attorney Hamzy, who is the Chairman of the Downtown Revitalization Committee, noting we can expect a lot more information from both groups., Economic Development Commission needs to be repurposed a little because their original charge was based upon the Industrial Park and the Park is now filled, so there will be a formative meeting, election of a new Chairman and we expect to have more coming from them. If any Council members are interested in being a Liaison to the Economic Development Commission, let the Mayor know, noting that he will be the Liaison until that time. We have plenty of commercial space in the community, so we need to identify developers and make sure we offer real estate at a competitive level and not give away too much money in the form of Tax Abatements.

Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Wesley and Jacquelyn Donahue \$292.36; Richards Corporation \$638.81, \$752.10

Town Councilman T.J. Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Joe Green, to refund the overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Wesley and Jacquelyn Donahue \$292.36; Richards Corporation \$638.81, \$752.10. This motion was approved unanimously.

Presentation by Capital Improvements Committee re. 2026-2027 Budget Department Requests and Priority Process

George Castle, Chairman, Capital Improvements Committee Chairman, introduced the Capital Improvements Committee Members as follows: Vincent Gualtieri, Jim Klaneski, and Michael Maffia. He further stated Vicky Carey is the Board of Finance Liaison, noting her assistance has been outstanding and invaluable. George Castle stated Pam Pelletier is their Recording Secretary who has been great about keeping their forms together, etc.

George Castle stated the Capital Improvement Committee members were present this evening to present the 2026-2027 Budget Department requests and the priority process they followed.

Presentation Capital Improvements Committee 2026-2027 Budget Department Cont'd.

George Castle stated the Capitals Plan goes out six years with Capital projects being ranked and prioritized for budgetary reasons. George Castle stated the Capital Improvements Committee went online and searched out and modeled some of their Capital work based on how other towns/cities in different States ranked their Capitals, noting it was very helpful in ranking Plymouth's Capitals.

Jim Klaneski, Capital Improvements Committee member, briefly explained the methodology and work in calculating the Town Department's Capital Projects in detail and at length, noting they tried to model some of their work from what they were able to glean online from similar towns and cities nationally. Jim Klaneski stated a request form was sent to all Town Hall Department Heads from the Capital Improvements Committee, which listed the criteria the members would be basing their scores on and a comparison through all the departments. Jim Klaneski stated there were three primary criteria on their scoring sheets and detailed the Capital requirements, strategic alignment and the value to the Town citizens with a one to nine ranking scale. Jim Klaneski stated other ranking criteria included Public Employees Health and Safety, regulatory mandates (local/Federal/State) and the availability of funding also factored into the scoring, noting they were focusing on funding this year and briefly elaborated on the different ways to fund their requests instead of relying on the taxpayer. Jim Klaneski outlined and explained the ranking sheets in detail.

Vincent Gualtieri, Capital Improvements Committee member, stated the Capital Improvements Committee was present to make sure the Town succeeds. He further stated the rankings help the Capital Improvements Committee get to a Capital Plan. Vincent Gualtieri stated the Capital Improvement Committee members would like to implement each project in accordance with established priorities and that was their reasoning for ranking the projects in order. He further stated the goal was to have similar shovel-ready projects on the shelf prepared for a quick launch and outlined in detail the criteria the Capital Improvements had used in their ranking of departmental requests. Vincent Gualtieri also spoke on the various funding opportunities that are potentially available at length.

Mayor David Sekorski stated that all of the materials that the Capital Improvements Committee had provided and presented this evening would all be made available to the Public on the Town website.

Vicky Carey read the final scoring priorities that the Capital Improvements Committee members had finalized for all the Town department submissions, noting there were a lot of projects that needed to be done.

Town Councilman Raymond Engle noted Terryville High School's roof was 20 years old and questioned if that was one of the Board of Education's Capital requests. He further stated the other three schools had made roof requests.

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Presentation Capital Improvements Committee 2026-2027 Budget Department Cont'd.

Vicky Carey stated what was shown was what the Board of Education had submitted.

Town Councilman Raymond Engle stated the windows at the Harry S. Fisher school were only 15 years old and questioned why that request was submitted.

Jim Kaneski stated the windows were submitted as a security concern because the locks were not operating properly.

George Castle stated at the current time, any project over \$5,000.00 would be a Capital item, noting the Mayor could change that amount if he needed/wanted to.

When questioned by Town Councilman Joe Green as to why some of the line items do not have amounts shown, i.e. Fire Department Headquarters Station 1, Jim Klaneski stated the Fire Department gave the Committee Members an estimated cost of \$1,600,000 but it wasn't for that one building; it was for Station 1 Building 3, updates.

Jim Klaneski stated the \$1,600,000 figure was for all the items they were requesting. Jim Klaneski read the report out loud to clarify the requests submitted.

Vincent Gualtieri stated the Fire Department had broken down all the repairs by priority; however, the amounts were not included on the line item sheets.

Mayor David Sekorski stated the spreadsheet was extensive, noting he will be working with the Finance Department.

Mayor David Sekorski stated the Finance Department will have all of the amounts available, as well as the recommendations for the final Budget. He further stated tonight's presentation was to explain the efforts and the phases that the Capital Improvements have gone through and briefly elaborated.

When questioned by Town Councilman Raymond Engle, Board of Finance Liaison Vicky Carey stated the Capital mill rate may be a little more than 3.6.

Mayor David Sekorski stated he hadn't looked at in detail as yet, so he did not have an answer at this time.

Mayor David Sekorski thanked the Capital Improvements Committee for their efforts, noting their points were well taken. He further stated as a community we will do our best to prioritize and move the Town forward within our means. Mayor David Sekorski stated the budget process will begin, noting it is due into the Board of Finance next week.

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Presentation Capital Improvements Committee 2026-2027 Budget Department Cont'd.

Mayor David Sekorski stated the Board of Finance will start their processes beginning with their February meeting and will meet all the deadlines as required by Charter.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville, stated the Town Council should have a time study done because of the large dollar amount of Capital requests. Melanie Church stated she would like to have the Town Manager option looked at again and briefly elaborated.

George Castle stated the Capital Improvements Committee does not have money to distribute, noting people make their requests and the Capital Improvements Committee members prioritize those requests.

Town Council Comments

Town Councilman T.J. Zagurski stated he had no Town Council comments at this time.

Town Councilwoman Susan Boilard stated she had no Town Council comments at this time.

Town Councilman Joe Green stated he wanted to thank the Capital Improvements Committee for their work noting he was on the Capital Improvements Committee for 12-14 years and he understands the work they go through. He further stated that it is important to have a future Capital Plan so we know what we will have to deal with.

Town Councilman Ron Tiscia stated he had no Town Council comments at this time.

Town Councilman Raymond Engle stated that he wanted to thank the Capital Improvements Committee for their work, noting as an employee in the public sector he understands what goes into the budgets and the many hours involved.

Mayor David Sekorski stated he wanted to thank everyone for coming out to the Town Council meeting this evening, noting public engagement is an absolute necessity for success.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council, Town Councilman Joe Green made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Ron Tiscia, to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted, Patricia A. Hale, Recording Secretary