

Town of Plymouth

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Plymouth Town Council

80 Main Street

Terryville, Connecticut 06786

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TOWN CLERK

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Regular Meeting Minutes – May 5, 2026

Call to Order: Mayor David Sekorski called the Plymouth Town Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at Plymouth Town Hall, Community Room.

Roll Call: Mayor David Sekorski, Councilor TJ Zagurski, Councilor Sue Boilard, Councilor Joe Green, Councilor Ron Tiscia, and Councilor Ray Engle were present.

Fire Exit Notification: The Mayor provided fire exit instructions to those in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation: The Mayor offered a moment of recognition for veterans and those currently serving in the Middle East conflict, closing with a blessing for America and the Town of Plymouth.

Accept Meeting Minutes from April 14, 2026 Special Meeting:

The Mayor noted that the April 14 meeting was a special meeting held for a specific purpose.

Motion to accept the meeting minutes from the April 14, 2026 Special Meeting was made by Councilor Tiscia and seconded by Councilor Zagurski. The motion carried unanimously.

Accept Meeting Minutes from April 21, 2026 Special Meeting:

The Mayor clarified that the Board of Finance is responsible for the minutes of the public hearing held that evening, and that the minutes before the Council pertained specifically to the special Tri-Board meeting. He noted that references to the Board of Finance appear in the minutes due to that board's formal transfer of the budget to the Town Council during the session. The Mayor recognized the Town Clerk for her exceptional work in keeping track of the complex proceedings of that evening.

Motion to accept the meeting minutes from the April 21, 2026 Special Meeting was made by Councilor Green and seconded by Councilor Zagurski. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

Melanie Church of 328 Main Street addressed the Council with a question regarding the recently announced state supplemental education aid, asking whether those funds would be used to offset the tax burden on residents or whether the school district would receive the funds in addition to what was already appropriated. The Mayor acknowledged the question and indicated he would address it during his Mayor's Report.

Mayor's Report:

Bond Sale. The Mayor reported that the Town completed the bond sale this morning for \$3,000,000, the first half of the \$6,000,000 approved by referendum for road and bridge repair projects. The sale was organized by the Town's financial advisors, Phoenix Advisors, and bond counsel Robinson and Cole, and drew 10 active bidders. Attendees included the Mayor, Town Treasurer, and Finance Director. Full details of the sale will be available following the closing, scheduled for May 20, 2026. The Mayor reported that S&P Global assigned the Town a bond rating of AA minus, which he described as an excellent rating by Connecticut standards. The Town will work with the Finance Department, Board of Finance, and Phoenix Advisors to identify areas for improvement ahead of the planned second bond issuance next spring.

Road and Bridge Projects. The Public Works Department has completed its review of the road and bridge projects under the referendum. Work planned for this year includes full depth reclamation and drainage improvements on Oakdale, Fountainhead, and Tumblebrook Roads; sections of North Street; Phase 1 of the chip seal program; and replacement of the Todd Street bridge. Outside of bond funding, emergency repairs are underway on Keegan Road and Knight Lane, where severe winter conditions and high-water tables resulted in sinkholes and road collapse near drainage infrastructure. The Mayor stated that a full plan for this year and next will be published on the Town website the following week, and that a five-year plan is also in development.

Vietnam Era Veterans Recognition Event. The Mayor announced a recognition event for Plymouth veterans who served during the Vietnam era, planned in conjunction with the Connecticut Veterans Affairs Commission. The event will be held on Monday, June 8, beginning at 4:00 PM at Borkowski Auditorium at Terryville High School. Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz and Commissioner Ron Welch are expected to participate. The Mayor noted that over 70 veterans have been invited, though many others have moved away or are deceased.

Supplemental State Aid. The Mayor distributed updated information regarding newly confirmed supplemental state funding. The Town has been awarded \$392,084 in Supplemental Education Aid and \$133,545 in Supplemental Town Aid. The Mayor noted that full details regarding the timing of disbursement and any spending constraints are still pending, and that the Town is working with its law firm, CCM (its lobbying firm), and other contacts to obtain clarity. The Mayor's personal view is that the intent of the funding is to provide tax relief to residents, but given that the budget has already been adopted, the situation is complex. He indicated he will coordinate with the Board of Finance and the Capital Improvements Committee once the parameters are better understood.

Assistant Town Clerk Recognition. The Mayor recognized Cassie Culver of the Town Clerk's Office, who received a letter of gratitude from a former resident for her work researching town archives to help locate critical family history information. The Mayor noted that the town's archives contain fascinating historical documents.

Town Council Liaison Reports:

Councilor Engle reported that none of his assigned boards or commissions had met since the previous Council meeting.

Councilor Tiscia reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission, at its April 23 meeting, approved a single-family dwelling at 7 South Street. He also noted an upcoming Friends of the Terryville Library tea party event.

Councilor Joe Green had nothing to report.

Councilor Boilard reported that the Police Commission cancelled its most recent meeting due to a lack of quorum. The Fire Commission met, though she was unable to attend due to concurrent Board of Finance obligations. Human Services is actively planning for winter heating assistance and met with the Rotary to coordinate efforts and avoid duplication of services. Additionally, the Town is in the process of renewing a one-year contract with Veterans Strong of Bristol, which provides 40 hours per week of veterans' services. Discussions are ongoing about providing coverage outside those hours.

Councilor Zagurski reported that the Water Pollution Control Authority is working to finalize surveys on town sewer systems and water infiltration and is preparing a public hearing in June to adopt the budget and set new sewer rates. A new Vac truck is also expected in June, with work underway to arrange storage and retire older equipment. On Public Works, Zagurski highlighted the contributions of two new hires, Joey and Alan, noting that Alan had identified and put to use several pieces of town equipment, including a hot box—that had been purchased but previously left idle. He also reported that Parks and Recreation has a fishing derby scheduled for the coming weekend and a kids' fun run on May 20th.

Discuss and Take Action As May Be Necessary to Refund Overpayment of Property Taxes:

The Mayor presented the item and noted that a detailed sheet from the Tax Collector's Office was supplied in their packets. Councilor Green inquired about a recurring name appearing on the list, and the Mayor clarified that the listings represented different properties and tax types, including prior motor vehicle taxes and real estate. Councilor Boilard offered additional context, explaining that the Board of Assessment Appeals handles these matters, with motor vehicle appeals typically processed in September and residential property appeals in March, which accounts for multiple line items appearing under a single name.

**Motion to approve the refund of overpayment of property taxes as listed—
Anderson, Brett D \$286.63; Schwalb, Robert & Suzanne \$40.34; Schwalb, Robert &**

Suzanne \$41.34; Schwalb, Robert & Suzanne \$42.34—was made by Councilor Green and seconded by Councilor Boilard. The motion carried unanimously.

Discuss and Take Action to Rename and Modify the Charge of the Current Ad-Hoc Municipal Facilities Committee:

The Mayor provided background on the committee's evolution, noting it originated as the Police Building Committee before being renamed the Ad-Hoc Municipal Facilities Committee to reflect the possibility of reusing existing town property. He explained that further exploration of options is needed, and that the broader scope of the committee's work warranted a new name and expanded charge. He noted that the intent is to contact existing committee members to determine their willingness to continue; no member names were presented at this time. Councilor Zagurski expressed strong support for the expanded scope, noting that a public safety complex approach could attract greater state and federal funding and produce long-term savings for the town.

Motion to rename the current Municipal Facilities Ad-Hoc Committee to the Municipal Facilities Planning Committee and further the charge of the committee to Research and consider any and all options for renovation, additions to existing town owned facilities and or, new construction as necessary to establish a community service and safety facility. Other duties shall include, but are not limited to, evaluation of town buildings (including schools), developing a long-term plan and making recommendations for future use, replacement and or sale of said buildings was made by Councilor Boilard and seconded by Councilor Engle. Upon roll call vote: Councilor Zagurski – Yes; Councilor Boilard – Yes; Councilor Green – Yes; Councilor Tiscia – Yes; Councilor Engle – Yes. The motion carried 5-0.

The Mayor indicated that he would reach out to prior committee members individually, and that any vacancies—including that of member Mr. Audette, who had expressed his intent to resign—would be advertised and brought back to the Council for action.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

Melanie Church of 328 Main Street addressed the Council on two matters. First, she raised concern about payments made by multiple town departments—including Public Works, Sewer, and Parks and Recreation—for costs from which the Town was contractually exempt. She stated she had notified the relevant departments and the Board of Education and urged the Council to pursue recovery of those funds. She called for greater transparency and accountability, noting that a lack of oversight had allowed the situation to persist across departments already under budgetary strain.

Second, Ms. Church offered her perspective on the newly renamed Municipal Facilities Planning Committee, encouraging the Council to approach the work in a way that benefits all residents rather than displacing existing services. She proposed that a three-tier public safety complex housing police, fire, and ambulance services could free up the existing fire station for use as a combined senior and youth center, describing it as an opportunity to build community cohesion. She urged the Council to prioritize the needs of residents in all planning decisions.

Town Council Comments:

Councilor Ray Engle offered a comment related to the supplemental state aid discussed earlier in the meeting. Drawing on his experience as a former school business manager, he noted that supplemental funding of this nature has historically been treated as a grant when budgets are already finalized and suggested this may be the approach taken with the current award. He acknowledged that he had not yet seen the signed bill and that the outcome remained uncertain.

Adjournment:

**Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Ron Tiscia, second by Councilor Engle.
The motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2026.

Linda Konopaske

Linda Konopaske
Recording Secretary