

# Town of Plymouth

80 Main Street, Terryville, CT 06786  
[www.plymouthct.us](http://www.plymouthct.us)

# Board of Finance

Telephone: 860-585-4001  
Fax: 860-585-4015

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Jim Kilduff, Chairman called the regular April 3, 2025, Board of Finance meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. in the Assembly Room. Members in attendance: Victoria Carey-Vice Chairman, Jennifer Brunnoli, Eugene Croce, Tony Osipiak, David Sekorski, and Vijay Dora, Town of Plymouth Finance Director. Also Present: Maureen Cappetto, Parks and Recreation Director
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Jim Kilduff, Chairman led the group and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Notice of Fire Exits** – Jim Kilduff noted the Fire Exits for the record.
4. **Review Parks and Recreation section of the Budget**

Maureen Cappetto, Parks and Recreation Director discussed in detail line items regarding the Parks and Recreation sections of the Budget – some highlights included:

Account Description	\$ Change	Requested	Comments
Part-Time Seasonal Employees	4,305	25,830	3 workers for 12 weeks for summer
Other Professional/Tech Services	360	7,560	Prices have gone up
Grounds Maintenance	638	13,388	Supplies cost more, price increases
Water/Sewer	300	1,000	Adjusted
General Office Supplies	25	600	Increase
Electricity	(500)	1,500	Adjusted
<b>Parks Total</b>	<b>5,128</b>	<b>54,178</b>	

Department Head	4,068	65,503	
Part-Time/Seasonal - Rec	5,150	56,650	
Field Trips/Excursions - Rec	4,000	15,000	
Contract Services - Rec	500	11,500	

PLYMOUTH, CT  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
2025 APR - 7 PM 3:25  
TOWN CLERK

Supplies - Recreation	375	7,875	
Internal Transfers	(10,025)	(116,325)	
<b>Recreation Total</b>	<b>4,068</b>	<b>65,503</b>	

Jennifer Brunoli questioned the water and sewer amount.

Maureen Cappetto, Parks and Recreation Director re. The soccer club in town was reimbursed for excessive water, noted trial and error, and briefly elaborated.

Maureen Cappetto, Parks and Recreation Director re. Recreation noted -initiatives for Summer camp, the biggest program - will have no grant money available and will continue to try to keep quality along with extended hours, which needs to be balanced out and briefly elaborated.

Maureen Cappetto, Parks and Recreation Director stated Lanterns on Lake Winfield noted this is new and was well received and briefly elaborated.

Maureen Cappetto, Parks and Recreation Director confirmed any reimbursements regarding water go directly to WPCA. Noted have not received any as of yet - due by June 30, 2025.

## **5. Continue Pass Thru of Budget FY 2025-2026**

Jim Kilduff stated the motion that was made the other night has gone to the Mayor and forwarded to the Town Attorney for opinion.

Jim Kilduff stated have added a special meeting, on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 – will meet at 9:00 am for a walk-thru Plymouth Center School (re. 2 sites/ two sinking fund requests) - noted this is a public meeting then will adjourn and then meet at Fisher to look at one other request. Will meet at the town hall at 7 pm that same evening on April 8, 2025, for further discussion/decision and briefly elaborated.

Jim Kilduff stated will continue pass-thru of Budget FY 2025-2026 and briefly elaborated.

Vijay Dora, Town of Plymouth Finance Director distributed and discussed in detail the Police – Extra Duty Fund Balance - 2825.42.4201.000000.44201/51640 Pg. 1 dated 4/2/2025

Vijay Dora, Town of Plymouth Finance Director stated adjusted Balance as of 6/30/26 was \$460,549 and Projected 2026 Expenses were (380,604) (1)

(1) This is a projected expense for the FY 2026 budget, contingent upon the approval of all capital assets for the Police Department.

Vicky Carey stated prefers to work with firm numbers to work with, not projected or abstract, and briefly elaborated.

Eugene Croce stated the expenditures include the capital expenses we make every year, plus contributions, pensions – and other things.

Vijay Doran, Finance Director confirmed “correct”

Eugene Croce stated would be nice to have those broken out.

Vijay Doran, Finance Director stated can break those out. (follow-up)

Dave Sekorski stated this is fluid, we need a firm policy based on either percentage of whatever is available, additional funds – noted cannot drain the fund, and briefly elaborated.

Vicky Carey stated re. Motor Vehicle Grand List – we should be able to add according to the Tax Collector and Assessor \$400,000 to the Motor Vehicle Grand List. Can we do that?

Vijay Doran, Finance Director stated “Yes”

Eugene Croce stated that 94% of that should be available, and this is a brand new process, and noted collection rate may change.

Dave Sekorski stated should be conservative on that number and briefly elaborated.

Jim Kilduff stated the importance of not being overzealous.

Vicky Carey requested Vijan Doran to speak with Pam Pelletier, Tax Collector to get the exact number and see if we can adjust the Motor Vehicle Grand List. (follow-up)

Jim Kilduff stated when we craft and the board makes changes we can see where we are in budget and briefly elaborated.

Vicky Carey questioned re. Revenues we are a half a million down on revenues. Noted Building Department (22,000) (follow-up)

Vicky Carey questioned the ECS grant. (follow-up)

Vicky Carey questioned Other Revenue – Government Grants (miscellaneous grants) (322,000) -If anyone is searching/looking for grant money to increase revenues, and briefly elaborated. (follow-up)

Jim Kilduff stated proposals in Hartford, re. ECS Grants - which may not be decided until after the budget and briefly elaborated.

Vicky Carey stated when the Police Department comes in - would like to look at their revenue. Re. Course hosting, parking tickets (follow-up)

Jim Kilduff noted insurance increase – Board of Education (follow-up)

Dave Sekorski stated concerns about Police Budget in general and capital requests. (follow-up)

Dave Sekorski stated worry about risks, concerned if we reduce this budget in certain areas are we increasing exposure to the town to some risks and briefly elaborated.

Dave Sekorski stated any extra revenue that we have needs to be spread - to address some of the big concerns that we heard and briefly elaborated.

Dave Sekorski stated in favor of the library request and briefly elaborated.

Dave Sekorski noted Board of Education can't possibly give the full amount requested and briefly elaborated.

Jim Kilduff stated SRO – Terryville High School – needs to stay in this environment today– we only give them a number and briefly elaborated.

Vicky Carey stated they can manipulate their budget to get their extra officer or do whatever they want and briefly elaborated.

Vicky Carey questioned re. Three clerks who are presently helping out, do they have time to help the town clerk?

Jennifer Brunoli stated the issue with the town clerk is that she needs a certified assistant, not a floater, and briefly elaborated. (follow-up)

Jennifer Brunoli noted maybe the money from the extra duty money, could be used instead for a full-time position – but split between registrars during the election and a part-time clerk and briefly elaborated.

Jim Kilduff stated if you're using that money to fund that position, then you have to understand that you have added a position and need to fund it every year in some way and that is how things expand.

Jennifer Brunoli stated “Understood”.

Jim Kilduff stated you always have to fund the positions that make the town run the other ones may be ancillary -important but there are vital ones, records, noted the importance of prioritization, and briefly elaborated.

Vicky Carey stated I didn't like taking the \$600,000 that we saved from debt service and funding our budget. We should just leave that \$600,000 as savings from debt service and just work with what we have, you know, just from the taxes and that, and if we have to increase or decrease and penny-pinch then we have to penny pinch.

Vicky Carey noted the importance of the \$200,000 from capitals is going towards the downtown development – we have to do that for the next 3 years (state mandated) to get the grant and briefly elaborated.

Vicky Carey noted the importance of a firm number re. Motor vehicles and briefly elaborated.

Eugene Croce noted we could give the Board of Education what we approved last year – minus the decrease in ECS (State law). Probably no one is supporting that! The original number proposed by the Superintendent was lower than the department requested - the Board of Education put in 2-3 positions and briefly elaborated.

Jim Kilduff stated we have the Mayor's number and the Supt. had taken out 3 positions, a total of \$288,000 but the Board of Education decided to put those positions back in and briefly elaborated.

Eugene Croce stated we should look at just the number, not specifically within their line items - since they can do what they want and briefly elaborated.

Dave Sekorski confirmed the Board of Education Proposal \$1,158,997 which is considerably different than the Mayor's recommended \$ change of \$763,096 a 2.85% change.

Jim Kilduff stated give number is the extent of what we can do, we cannot authorize positions, and briefly elaborated.

Tony Ospiak stated I would like to stay under the 3% to avoid referendum and stay under 40 Mills.

Tony Ospiak stated re. Education budget – we need to talk about number, whatever number we give they can do whatever they want. Glancing back at past budgets - line items were budgeted a certain amount for something and it wasn't something they couldn't control oil, gas, and/or water, etc. and instead, they spent eleven times what they budgeted and briefly elaborated.

Tony Ospiak stated every time you add positions, noted union dues, etc. The average taxpayer has difficulty understanding math coaches (teachers teaching teachers), we can only give number.

Tony Ospiak stated I agree with the Mayor's number and I could probably even settle lower than the Mayor's number and I want to reach a consensus. I'd like to see it lower than the Mayor's number!

Tony Ospiak stated re. Police Extra Duty fund – I certainly think taxpayer relief is part of it, and the Board of Finance would be wide open to options that still would benefit police. I think there are things in the municipal budget that qualify for funding out of that i.e. hypertension – town picks up 100% of that – police due to extra hours might develop this condition and would be entitled to it and it is part of what they earned.

Tony Ospiak stated if we had a new Police Department part of the interest payment from debt could possibly come out of that.

Tony Ospiak questioned if we need a full-time person in town clerks or do we want to just catch up. We all understand that even if a position is established doesn't preclude that down the line you can defund that position and briefly elaborated.

Tony Ospiak stated open to a lot of ideas, I think we could use it for other things. I think that we are able to project – ie capitals (projects) we have been funding capital requests for the Police Department and we are projecting that there is money in that fund to pay for those capitals.

Tony Ospiak stated looking from an employee standpoint, the extra duty – it is so that the officer could have extra money and briefly elaborated.

Tony Ospiak noted Capitals - the importance of bulletproof vests, police need - otherwise, we would have funded this out of general revenue.

Tony Ospiak stated one point they voted to close school, they based it on data, now fewer students, and briefly elaborated.

Tony Ospiak noted the importance of test scores, one state raised their test scores in one year after COVID-19 - How did they do that -they eliminated coaches and went back to the way they used to teach, and briefly elaborated.

Tony Ospiak stated I am sure coaches are working hard. We have to deal with reality and there is only so much money to go around and briefly elaborated.

Vijay Doran, Finance Director stated re. Cities Waterbury, New Britain, and Hartford have a lot of funding but the result is still not there, scores are down re. SAT scores. A good measure to see if the

Board of Education is making any progress is by looking back 2-3 years. Noted money is not the only solution, it's how the kids are taught and briefly elaborated.

Eugene Croce clarified do not go my mill rate. When a mill rate is lower there then is usually an exaggerated property value in that town which lowers the mill rate but they are still collecting the revenue.

Dave Sekorski questioned the Freightliner truck – money budgeted last year.

Vicky Carey stated it had been approved.

Dave Sekorski stated Arial Ladder truck.

Vicky Carey stated still on, air packs still on, when they come off - then their tanker would take its place and briefly elaborated.

Vicky Carey noted the roadside mower and tractor will not be financed this year since we need to add a Freightliner and briefly elaborated.

Vicky Carey stated informed the Public Works Chairman will have to hold off on two of the ten-wheel dump trucks, prices up, and tariffs.

Tony Ospiak confirmed we will be tackling capitals, and requested that the Capital Committee give their recommendations and scoring before meeting to look over.

Vicky Carey stated they (Capital Committee) agreed with what the Mayor had, their scoring matches, they can explain their scoring, very unbiased and briefly elaborated.

Vicky Carey stated will request spreadsheets from the secretary. (follow-up)

## **6. Public Comment**

Maureen Capetta, 55 Heather Lane, Terryville, CT re. Board of Education number, Noted Capitals – 3 items questioned from last year's request, noted did not remove capital requests.

Dave Sekorski confirmed that they are still on the capital list – not funded except for Senior Lounge Renovation \$25,000 funded by the general fund.

Melanie Church, 128 Main Street, Terryville, CT - questioned the 3-minute rule – and did not agree with the rule.

## **7. Correspondence**

**None**

**8. Board Member's Comments**

Dave Sekorski - None

Jennifer Brunoli - None

Vicky Carey - Board of Education figure after meeting (follow-up)

Eugene Croce - None

Tony Osipiak - believes in operating on data, complimented Vijay Dora on the Extra Duty fund information provided, questioned before capital requests, if we purchased or ordered - how many police cruisers in the current budget we are in now. How many body cameras have we ordered this current budget year (2024-2025), cost of body cameras?

**9. Adjournment**

**There being no further business of the Board of Finance, a motion was made by Vicky Carey seconded by Tony Osipiak to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Michele Yokubinas*

Michele Yokubinas  
Recording Secretary