

Town of Plymouth
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Public Works Board
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Minutes
SPECIAL Meeting
Thursday, April 10, 2025

Assembly Room, Plymouth Town Hall, 5:45PM

1. Call Meeting to Order – The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Carey at 5:45 p.m. on April 10, 2025 in the Assembly Room of Town Hall, 80 Main St., Terryville, CT.
2. Roll Call – Members in attendance included: Chairman Joe Carey, Nate Brown, Peter Ganesini, Mark Lewandoski, Director Carl Johnson, Highway Sup't. Jim Schultz, Vicky Carey – BOF, Councilman T.J. Zagurski – Liaison and Pam Pelletier-Recording Secretary.
3. Fire Exit Notification – Pointed out by the Chairman.
4. Pledge of allegiance – Led by the Chairman.
5. Draft Resolution – Review and Discussion – Reviewed and Discussed by the Board.
Nate Brown comments that by the time the resolution goes out for a vote, we will lose the 2025 construction season. Director Johnson advised that he did include escalation in the bids that were received, and the contract includes a provision that allows for it to be extended up to 2 years. He also used prevailing wage to calculate costs. Inflation and cost escalation includes an additional 15%.

Nate Brown questioned the estimates for Oakdale and Fountainhead Roads; why is the estimate for Oakdale higher than Fountainhead when it is a shorter road? Director Johnson explained that Oakdale will need some full depth reconstruction in areas and Fountainhead will not.

Pricing includes curbing and aprons.

CORRECTION UPON ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES AT 5/27/2025 MEETING- NATE BROWN made a motion to correct the minutes of 4/10/2025 to read OAKDALE & FOUNTAINHEAD ARE BOTH GETTING FULL DEPTH RECONSTRUCTION paving. – voted on Unanimously.

There is discussion regarding the types of funds that will be used from the budget. The plan is to use ARPA money for Mountainview and Crestview. Allentown and Judd Roads will be starting as soon as possible. Carriage Drive will be full depth reconstruction, and we will use concrete curbing by our vendor. Mark Lewandowski questions how we are billed by the vendor. Sup't. Jim Schultz advised that we buy the materials and are billed by the hour by the vendor.

Chipseal and repairs are planned for: Minor, N Harwinton, Sawmill, Swicklas, Burnham St., including curb repairs.

Improvements on Main St. and the downtown area are planned through CIF and STEAP Grant; DOT is also taking on some of the improvements.

Nate Brown questions whether the bid estimates were calculated using prevailing wage? Director Johnson will confirm with the vendor – these are off of the posted State Bid pricing. Chairman Carey reviews the bids from Allstate Construction; he too has questions regarding pricing. We should not be breaking pricing up; we do not want to run into the issue of not using the correct pricing and then running out of money.

Nate Brown comments that it would be the vendor that would have the issue once he submits his certified payroll.

Chairman Carey feels we need to get clarification before acting on the resolution. We do not want to have to come back to taxpayers for more money because the price did not include prevailing wage.

Nate Brown feels we should be asking for an additional 10,000,000 for roads and that a separate referendum is needed for the Police Department. If the Police Department fails, we shouldn't have to go back to the Town for additional funding.

Director Johnson agrees that this would put us in a better position to use the grants on other needs.

Nate Brown states that instead of wasting people's time we should be letting them decide what they want; he does not feel lumping the requests together is a good plan.

Chairman Carey advised that he approached the Town Council with the Boards recommendation for three (3) options – they are the final body that makes the decision.

Mark Lewandoski feels that other options were available that were not given a fair chance. The Building Committee looked at repurposing Fisher School and renovating Town Hall; nothing came of the reviews. Has anyone considered Rite Aid Plaza?

Nate Brown comments that we need to compromise, we can't always get what we want, we have to look at affordability.

MOTION: Nate Brown made a motion that we wait for additional information before voting on the resolution. He also clarified that this should not affect the schedule on work to begin by the Highway Department for use of other funds (ARPA, LoCIP, STEAP, etc).

The motion is seconded by Peter Giancesini and voted unanimously.

6. Public Comment

7. Melaine Church, Main St., Terryville, CT

Melanie Church also reminded the Board that the Sewer Plant will also need to be addressed in the near future; the estimated cost currently stands as \$26,000,000. In her opinion she does not think that any referendum will pass.

Vicky Carey, Greystone Rd., Ext., Plymouth, CT

Recommends that Director Johnson increase the escalation on his road estimate up to 20% She also comments that she does not like cold patch and hopes that we do not use

this product. She also recommends that staff contact the Finance Director for information on the effect on the budget if the bond request is increased to \$10,000,000.

8. Chairman's Report –

Chairman Carey will contact the Mayor to advise him of the Boards discussions and recommendations.

9. Commission Member Comments

Peter Giancesini comments that this is a lot to digest; he feels that staff have provided great information for the Board to use to make their decision. We need to remember that we are in an uncertain financial time. We need to work on our infrastructure, but taxpayers are hurting and may not be supportive.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: Nate Brown made a motion, which was seconded Mark Lewandoski to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was voted on unanimously.

Pam Pelletier

Recording Secretary

JC/ pp