

Town of Plymouth
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Plymouth Town Council
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[Signature]
TOWN CLERK

Special Meeting Minutes – June 16, 2026

Call to Order: Mayor David Sekorski called the Plymouth Town Council Special Meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at Plymouth Town Hall, Community Room. Mayor Sekorski noted that the meeting was classified as a special meeting, called in place of the regular June meeting due to the inability to field a full council for quorum at the originally scheduled time.

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: Councilor TJ Zagurski led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation: The Mayor offered a short blessing – “God bless America and God bless the Town of Plymouth.”

Accept Meeting Minutes from May 5, 2026 Regular Meeting:

Motion to accept the meeting minutes from May 5, 2026, regular meeting was made by Councilor Zagurski and seconded by Councilor Tiscia. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: Melanie Church of 328 Main Street addressed the Council on two matters. Regarding Item 10 on the agenda, the proposed land purchase agreement, Ms. Church expressed concern about a lack of transparency in the written item, noting that existing police department infrastructure was already located on part of that land, and suggesting that any change of use should be put to a public vote. On the matter of supplemental state funding, Ms. Church asserted that because the total amount exceeded \$50,000, it was required to be brought to a referendum rather than allocated by the Council alone.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Sekorski delivered an extensive report covering several topics:

1) 2026 Budget & Supplemental State Aid: The state legislature passed a bill providing cities and towns with a one-time supplemental aid amount. Plymouth is to receive a total of \$525,629 — \$392,084 directed to the Board of Education and \$133,545 for municipal town aid. Mayor Sekorski reported that conflicting guidance existed as to whether the Board of Education's portion would arrive in a single payment or be split across fiscal years 2027 and 2028, and that this uncertainty made it impossible to reopen the budget and recalculate a mill rate.

2) Route 6 Reconstruction — Agney Avenue & Main Street: A meeting was held on June 10th with Connecticut DOT officials, the contractor representative from Schultz Corporation, and members of the town's police and public works departments. The project involves the removal and replacement of the concrete deck and road base of Route 6 from Prospect Street to Park Street. Overnight road closures and detours are planned to begin mid-to-late August and may last six to eight weeks. A total shutdown of Route 6 will be avoided, and updates will be communicated via the town website and the Mayor's Facebook page.

3) Community Investment Fund (CIF) Downtown Project: The town is nearly complete in finalizing the paperwork to secure the CIF grant, with Mayor Sekorski meeting with Town Attorney and Committee Chairman Bill Hamzy. The effort began in 2022. A dedicated project page will be established on the Town website in August.

4) Information Technology: The Police Department's transition to the Next Gen communication system is nearly complete. Mayor Sekorski thanked all police personnel who dedicated extensive time to training. The Town website launch was pushed to the end of June due to priority issues including system backup, cybersecurity, and a power outage incident in which Eversource maintenance unintentionally cut power to Town Hall. The generator and systems were restored and tested.

5) Town Hall Staffing: Interviews for the Land Use Compliance Official position are underway, with the interim official remaining through the summer on a three-day-per-week schedule. A full-time Building Official position will be advertised in July.

6) Financial Department Updates: Account setup for road bond projects and the CIF grant has been completed. The 2025 audit is ongoing, with a target completion date of August. Department heads are reviewing their budgets in preparation for closing fiscal year 2026.

7) Public Safety — Lake Plymouth July 4th Weekend: At the request of the Police and Fire Chiefs, temporary one-way traffic and parking restrictions will be enacted on Lake Plymouth Boulevard from Thursday evening, July 2nd through Sunday morning, July 5th, to ensure emergency vehicle access following serious incidents during the prior year's July 4th celebration.

8) Vietnam Veterans Recognition: Mayor Sekorski formally thanked all those who assisted with the June 8th program honoring Vietnam veterans, including the Assessor's Office, Town Clerk's Office, Mayor's Office staff, volunteers, Councilor Boilard, the Main Street Foundation, and the Board of Education. Mayor Sekorski noted that the event was genuinely moving for many of the veterans in attendance.

Town Council Liaison Reports:

***Councilor TJ Zagurski** reported on several boards. Public Works has begun road construction on the bond package, with work currently underway in the Farms neighborhood on drainage, underground utilities, and road prep. Keegan Road has been patched, Knight Lane is being redone, and chip sealing is set to begin the following week on several roads near the fairgrounds. The Transfer Station is accepting bids for a new trash compactor.

Park and Recreation summer camp enrollment is significantly lower than the prior year, with only 5 children signed up for the first week.

The Capital Improvements committee reviewed the bond package and future road projects. The Sewer Commission received an engineering estimate of approximately \$50 million for nitrogen and phosphorus treatment upgrades, and voted to increase sewer use fees by \$25, bringing the annual fee to \$530. Mayor Sekorski added that the town would be meeting with WPCA staff and engineers to better understand financing options for the sewer project, noting that no town could absorb a \$50 million rebuild without significant external support.

***Councilor Sue Boilard** echoed praise for the Vietnam Veterans event, specifically recognizing Kevin and Linda for their contributions. She noted that the Mayor had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Veterans Strong in Bristol, as required by state statute, to provide a resource for veterans.

Councilor Boilard announced a 250th birthday town-wide public potluck dinner scheduled for July 3rd.

She reported that the Fire Department Commission is actively recruiting members and follows a thorough vetting and training process, including reimbursing Firefighter 1 certification. On the Police Commission, she noted that while the town has relatively low crime, residents are encouraged to lock their vehicles to prevent opportunistic crimes.

Human Services is wrapping up winter utility assistance programs and is collaborating with partner organizations for greater efficiency.

***Councilor Joe Green** reported that the Industrial Park is at capacity and the commission is exploring other properties in town, including a potential zone change for a parcel near the Dollar General on North Harwinton Avenue and Preston Road.

***Councilor Ron Tiscia** reported that PVAC handled 151 calls in May, 90 of which were transport calls, and noted that the annual fundraiser is ongoing through June 28th at PVAC111.com.

Planning and Zoning approved a tire shop at 130 South Riverside Avenue, a rail track renovation and expansion at 370 South Main Street for Inland Fuels LLC, and a garage renovation at 18 Allen Street for Michael Bak.

From the Board of Education, Councilor Tiscia congratulated Casey DeSocio as Teacher of the Year and John Christiana as Paraeducator of the Year, and recognized retiring educators Diane Boylan, who has taught since 1987, and Robert Nave, who has taught since 1995.

***Councilor Ray Engle** had no report, having been on vacation.

Discuss and take action; Authorization for the Mayor to negotiate and enter into land purchase agreement: Mayor Sekorski provided background for the public, explaining that the property at 86 Main Street — immediately adjacent to Town Hall — had been offered for sale and that the town was approached to gauge interest. He framed the opportunity as a potential avenue to expand the existing Town Hall footprint, a concept previously considered by the facility planning committee before it was set aside in favor of a new police station proposal. He emphasized that no firm plans existed for the property and that the full range of required

financial and legal approvals, including any appropriation through the Board of Finance and a town meeting for expenditures over \$50,000, would need to be observed.

Councilor Zagurski asked whether there was a ballpark price. Mayor Sekorski acknowledged that figures had been discussed but declined to state a number publicly to avoid prejudicing negotiations, characterizing the current asking price as reasonable based on market research. Councilor Zagurski also asked whether the property lines would allow a physical addition to the building. Mayor Sekorski indicated the alignment appeared reasonable and could accommodate additions to a degree. Councilor Zagurski raised the concern that removing taxable property from Main Street ran counter to revitalization goals and urged that a clear plan be in place before proceeding further.

Councilor Engle inquired whether any architectural drawings existed for potential expansion. Mayor Sekorski confirmed that no such drawings exist — only a prior renovation study of the existing footprint — but noted the facility planning committee's first meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 29th, at which such planning could begin.

Board of Finance Member Victoria Carey clarified the procedural sequence, confirming that any purchase over \$50,000 would require a public hearing and town meeting, with the Board of Finance and Town Council ultimately playing key roles in approving the appropriation. Mayor Sekorski acknowledged the extensive process and stated that the purpose of the motion was simply to authorize him to begin negotiations on behalf of the town.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to negotiate and enter into an agreement to purchase property located at 86 Main Street, contingent on the required Town of Plymouth financial and legal process approvals, was made by Councilor Joe Green and seconded by Councilor Ray Engle. The motion carried 5-0, with all councilors voting in favor.

Boards and Commissions – Resignations/Appointments: Mayor Sekorski noted that a comprehensive review of vacancies on boards and commissions is ongoing, and that some appointments presented this evening are reappointments of members who had continued serving past the expiration of their terms.

Beautification Committee — Susan David: A motion was made and seconded to appoint Susan David to the vacancy on the Beautification Committee. During discussion, a question was raised as to whether Ms. David is a registered voter, as her application indicated she was not with no party affiliation listed. The Town Clerk indicated this could be verified. The motion was subsequently withdrawn pending confirmation of her voter registration status.

Historic Properties Commission — Reappointments: Mayor Sekorski presented the reappointments of Robert C. Green, Erin R. King, and Helen R. Nejfelt to the Historic Properties Commission, each for a term ending August 1, 2029.

Motion to reappoint Robert C. Green, Erin R. King, and Helen R. Nejfelt to the Historic Properties Commission with terms ending August 1, 2029, was made by Councilor Ray Engle and seconded by Councilor TJ Zagurski. The motion carried, with one abstention from Councilor Joe Green.

Municipal Facilities Planning Commission — Robert C. Green: Mayor Sekorski noted that Fire Chief Mark Sekorski had submitted his resignation from the Municipal Facilities Planning Commission, creating a vacancy. Robert C. Green was nominated to fill that vacancy.

Motion to appoint Robert C. Green to the Municipal Facilities Planning Commission was made by Councilor Ron Tiscia and seconded by Councilor TJ Zagurski. The motion carried, with one abstention from Councilor Joe Green.

Mayor Sekorski personally thanked Robert C. Green for his dedication and knowledge of planning and property matters.

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

Motion to refund the overpayment of property taxes in the amount of \$159.83 to Pamela Green was made by Councilor Sue Boilard and seconded by Councilor Joe Green. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

Anthony Roveto of 57 Watchtower Road reported on the Inland Wetlands Commission, noting that at its previous meeting, funds earmarked for Arbor Day beautification were voted to be directed toward landscaping at the new War memorial in the park, with the Beautification Committee to handle the work.

Victoria Carey of 665 Greystone Road encouraged Council members to read Chapter 9, Section 3 of the Town Charter and asked whether the town has a Board of Ethics. She also raised concerns about deferred maintenance in the schools, specifically mentioning the laboratory at Harry S. Fisher School, and suggested that a portion of the supplemental state funds might be directed toward school repairs. She reiterated that any expenditure over \$50,000 would require a public hearing. Mayor Sekorski responded that OPM's guidance is clear that the town council does not have the authority to override the designated direction of the supplemental funding and committed to forwarding the OPM correspondence to the Board of Finance.

Melanie Church of 328 Main Street submitted a written report to the Council concerning a pattern of conduct by a town police officer, asserting it was previously documented by a former female officer and had occurred on at least three occasions. She expressed concern that the town could face legal liability for ignoring a documented pattern and urged the Council to rescind any related votes, review the report she was distributing, and refer the matter to the State's Attorney.

Town Council Comments:

Councilor Ray Engle and Councilor Ron Tiscia raised substantive questions about the OPM parameters governing the supplemental state aid. Councilor Engle specifically asked whether the funds could legally be used to offset or supplant money already allocated in the budget — for example, whether the \$65,000 previously allocated for sidewalk capital improvements by the Board of Education could simply be swapped out — and warned that using grant funds as a supplant could result in significant financial penalties. Mayor Sekorski acknowledged this was uncharted territory and committed to raising the question directly with OPM and the Finance Director.

Board of Finance Member Victoria Carey clarified that if the Board of Education no longer needs the sidewalk funds, the money could potentially remain in the capital account under a broader description or be returned to the undesignated fund balance after three years if unspent.

Councilor Joe Green offered a caution to the Board of Education regarding its plan to use the supplemental funds to create a new preschool staff position, noting that doing so would create an ongoing budget burden in future years once the one-time grant funding is exhausted. Mayor Sekorski added that OPM had confirmed the supplemental funding would not be added to the Minimum Budget Requirement (MBR), which was a notable factor in how the funds may be used.

Councilor TJ Zagurski requested that Council members receive meeting packets earlier than just before the meeting, recalling that materials had previously been distributed by the Thursday prior to the meeting. Mayor Sekorski accepted responsibility and committed to improving the timeliness of packet distribution.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Mayor Sekorski thanked all attendees and those watching online. Motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM was made by Councilor Green. Second by Councilor Tiscia. The motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 4, 2026. There is no July meeting due to lack of quorum.

Linda Konopaske

Linda Konopaske
Recording Secretary