

PLYMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
January 5, 2009

Attendees: Joe Freitas, John Henry, and Barry DeCristofano

Meeting called to order at 7:15 pm.

Mr. Henry will call Town Counsel regarding a postponement of the ABC-C hearing on the Plympton Convenience license issue until March. This will allow the Town time to hear and consider the proposal that Mr. Kang has for us.

The Police Chief update the Board on his efforts to codify the policies and procedures the department will follow when enforcing the new State laws regarding marijuana possession. The system of fines will come under the "21D" process of municipal fines that the Town authorized at Town Meeting a few years ago. He will work with the Town Clerk to coordinate the publishing of a bylaw book and with the Town Accountant regarding how the revenue would/could be used.

At 7:40 p.m., the Board voted to enter into Executive Session with the Chiefs of Police and Fire and the Highway Surveyor, for purpose #4, to discuss the deployment of security personnel. Motion – Mr. Freitas, 2nd- Mr. DeCristofano. Roll call: Mr. Freitas – yes, Mr. Henry – yes, Mr. DeCristofano – yes

At 8:35 p.m., the Board resumed its Open Meeting with three members of the Finance Committee present (Ms. Norrie, Ms. Hart, and Mr. West). Discussions centered on how best to handle potential budget cuts in this year's State assistance funding. For the coming year, it was stressed that budgets will possibly have to be smaller than the current year due to the current economic conditions in the State. On the revenue side, Mr. Henry reviewed actions that he has been pursuing such as collection of unpaid taxes, reviewing Town-owned land that may be sold for conservation purposes (or at least with deed restrictions to prevent development), and seeking economic stimulus funds (for "shovel-ready" projects) that may become available at the Federal level (through the State). FY10 budget requests were due to the FinCom on January 2nd. Mr. DeCristofano committed the Board to having their requests in by January 26th. FinCom agreed to that timeline.

Mr. Freitas asked the Board's opinion about sending a letter to Halifax and Kingston regarding a joint meeting with the Regional School Committee to discuss their FY10 budget. Mr. DeCristofano felt that it was a useless exercise based on the outcome of last year's meetings. Mr. Freitas will contact each town by phone in the coming week and ask about their thoughts on the question prior to the Board taking any action.

The Board approved and signed a Class II license for Plympton Service and Repair. Motion – Mr. DeCristofano, 2nd – Mr. Henry 3-0-0

A copy of a letter from residents to the Police Chief commending Officer Joudrey on his efforts to bring a suspect in a series of local break-ins into custody. The letter will go into Officer Joudrey's personnel file. Motion – Mr. DeCristofano, 2nd – Mr. Henry 3-0-0

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NSTAR has petitioned the Town to permit the installation of a new light pole on Main Street. Mr. Freitas will find out the correct procedure for allowing this, and setup the appropriate hearing notices for it. The hearing date was set for February 2nd.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. on motion of Mr. Henry, 2nd – Mr. DeCristofano. 3-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Barry DeCristofano
Clerk, Board of Selectmen