

Preliminary Minutes

Town of Plymouth, Vermont

Select Board - Regular Meeting

Monday, November 25, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

Municipal Building Meeting Room

<u>Board Members Present:</u>	Jay Kullman	Rick Kaminski	Keith Cappellini
<u>Staff Members Present:</u>	Angela Kissell	Cherry Nicoll	Natasha Bochkov
<u>Others Present:</u>	Richard Martin Rebekah (OVTV) Carol Goodwin Michelle Pingree	William Lambert Dave Olster Rich Ruggiano Justus Pingree	Bruce Pauley Henry Shipman Jim Allen

1. Call to Order:
 - a. Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Jay Kullman. Jay asked that everyone who was going to speak to please use the microphone so everyone could hear.
2. Budget Workshop (1 hr allotment):
 - a. There was a discussion from residents pertaining to the budget. Questions pertained to the Sheriff's Contract, Phase II of the Municipal Building work as well as loan payments and interest received.
 - b. Fire Chief, Jim Allen asked for an increase in the allotment that the Plymouth Volunteer Fire Department receives each year. The department has received \$30,000 from the Town for the last 10 years or so. Jim discussed how expensive first responder equipment has become and our need to replace older items. He did add that the department has received several grants this year that have helped obtain items. Chief Allen, requested an increase from \$30,000 to \$50,000. He also talked about an equipment fund. Starting the equipment fund after the new engine is paid for. We got a gator because of a grant and there will be a trailer coming that is being donated as well. We are going to need a pick-up truck to pull it that people can drive, in the near future, Chief added.
 - c. Rick Kaminski first, wanted to thank the Fire Department for their response to the fire on Grand View Lodge Road. He said he heard a lot of good things and wanted to share that.
 - d. Cemetery Board Member, William Lambert spoke about the need for an increase to the allotment paid to the Cemetery Commissions. William spoke about each cemetery location and gave an estimate of the cost to repair items at those locations. He spoke of how things have changed over the years. They used to have more people volunteer over the years which helped and that is no longer the case.

- e. Talks continued about the increased expenses and high taxes. Select Board Member, Keith Cappellini talked about the breakdown of his tax bill and how a small portion of it was for local tax while the majority was for education. He said the education tax is out of hand.
 - f. Jay Kullman concluded that the Select Board will continue to work on the budget report and make some minor changes based on the conversation(s) tonight and discuss it at the next Select Board meeting being held on December 2, 2024.
3. Review And Possibly Approve Purchase of Short-Term-Rental – Internal Software:
 - a. Lister, Natasha Bochkov spoke of a Short-Term-Rental software that her and Frank Vetere had discussed that would help them maintain a better tracking system for current as well as non-compliant STRs. Natasha talked about how the software would pay for itself. She also discussed how surrounding Towns were using a software, but they were five times more than what this software costs.
 - b. Several people in attendance expressed their concerns and gave opinions on how they think it should be handled and/or tracked.
 - c. Discussion was going to be tabled until the next meeting.
 4. TRORC Shared Services:
 - a. The Select Board had a discussion about the services that TRORC offers. The Board was in agreement that the Town does not require TRORC Shared Services at this time.
 5. Review and Possibly Approve Software Company for Enhanced Firewall / Security Protection:
 - a. Jay Kullman mentioned how he had discussed, at a previous meeting, that the Town looked at two companies to use for the Town Office Firewall/Security Protection. Jay Kullman thinks that Network Solutions will provide the best service to meet our needs and they are closer than the other choice. **Keith Cappellini made a motion to approve Network Solutions. Rick Kaminski seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
 6. Review and Possibly Approve 2023 AFG Grant for Plymouth Volunteer Fire Department:
 - a. Jay Kullman opened the Bid that was received from Fire Tech & Safety for SCBA & Compressor. This was a grant that was joint with Bridgewater Fire Department. There was a discussion on the split and what is needed from both departments. Dave Olster added that Bridgewater Fire Department would like 45-minute bottles and that will increase the cost by \$3,500, which Bridgewater will pick up the additional expense. **Jay Kullman made a motion to accept the bid in the amount of \$266,193.00. Rick Kaminski seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
 7. Review and Approve Demolition Work & Payment Agreement of 4283 Route 100A:
 - a. The Select Board reviewed the bill from Grand View Property Maintenance for work at 4283 Route 100 (FEMA purchase site). **Rick Kaminski made a motion to approve the bill. Jay Kullman seconded the motion. The motion carried.**
 8. Next Select Board Meeting Date:
 - a. December 2, 2024

9. Adjourn:

- a. **Jay Kullman made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 pm. Rick Kaminski seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted.

Angela Kissell
Recording Secretary
Town Clerk

Select Board

Jay Kullman, Chair

Rick Kaminski

Keith Cappellini