

# PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2011

TOWN HALL MAYFLOWER ROOM

The Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall in the Mayflower Room.

Present: William P. Hallisey, Jr., Chairman  
John T. Mahoney, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Sergio O. Harnais  
Mathew J. Muratore

Mark Stankiewicz, Town Manager  
Melissa Arrighi, Assistant Town Manager

Absent: Selectman Richard J. Quintal, Jr.

## CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hallisey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

**Plymouth Regional Economic Development Foundation** – Town Manager Mark Stankiewicz reported that he and Chairman Hallisey attended the January meeting of the Plymouth Regional Economic Development Foundation (“the Foundation”), during which members were updated on several matters, including the Foundation’s earth removal project off Beaver Dam Road and its efforts to promote commercial opportunities in Plymouth. Mr. Stankiewicz noted that the Foundation’s Executive Director, Denis Hanks, will provide the Foundation’s annual report to the Board of Selectmen in May.

**Eel River Watershed Association / Department of Environmental Protection** – Mr. Stankiewicz informed that Board that the Eel River Watershed Association has filed an appeal of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection’s (“DEP”) issuance of the groundwater discharge permit for Plymouth’s Waste Water Treatment Facility. In the appeal, he explained, the Association alleges that (1) the permit should be modified for stricter limitations for nitrogen and phosphorus; (2) the permit does not meet anti-degradation provision for high quality waters; and (3) the permit does not meet Federal Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) ambient water quality criteria. Mr. Stankiewicz reported that DEP will defend its issuance of the permit but noted that Plymouth’s Town Counsel will monitor the status of the legal matter as it progresses through Superior Court.

**Seawall at Plymouth Beach** – Mr. Stankiewicz noted that Plymouth’s DPW Environmental Manager, David Gould, has received a preliminary engineering estimate for the repair of damage to the seawall at Plymouth Long Beach caused as a result of the December 26-27, 2010 storm. According to the report, Mr. Stankiewicz said, the recent storm caused extensive damage to the concrete gravity seawall that was constructed by the Army Corps of Engineers in the 1960’s, to the point that nearly 50% of the wall will need to be replaced. Mr. Stankiewicz explained that an in-depth analysis will be required to determine the appropriate seawall elevation to balance shore protection and environmental impacts. Preliminary estimates, he said, put the reconstruction of the structure between \$1,800 and \$2,200 per linear foot—amounting to an approximate construction cost of \$1.3M to \$1.5M, with engineering, design and permitting estimated at \$190,000 to \$310,000. Mr. Stankiewicz stated his hope that the U.S. government will declare a federal disaster area along the coastline, through which the Town can apply for funding to repair the seawall.

**MUNIS Payroll Conversion Complete** – Mr. Stankiewicz was happy to announce that both the Town and the Schools have successfully transferred payroll operations to an in-house system. The implementation of the MUNIS system, facilitated by Finance Director Lynne Barrett, will consolidate all payroll and personnel information in one place and will assist the town in tracking sick and vacation time, he said. Mr. Stankiewicz congratulated Ms. Barrett, the entire Finance Department, and the School Administration for their outstanding efforts to complete this transition.

**Plymouth Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting** – Mr. Stankiewicz informed the Board that he and Selectman Muratore attended the Chamber of Commerce’s 2011 Annual Meeting, at which Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray was the featured speaker. During the meeting, he said, the Plymouth Industrial Development Corporation (“PIDC”) was presented with the “Business of the Year” Award. Mr. Stankiewicz noted that the PIDC’s 50-year charter is set to expire in April 2012, after which the PIDC will disband.

**Public Works Director Candidates** – Mr. Stankiewicz reported that the Town received 36 applications for the Director of Public Works position, as of the January 15, 2011 closing date. The applications are currently being reviewed, he explained, with the goal of interviewing candidates and selecting a finalist by February.

**Bradford Inn / ABCC Hearing Scheduled** – Mr. Stankiewicz announced that the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (“ABCC”) has re-scheduled the appeal hearing pertaining to the Selectmen’s denial of a liquor license for the Bradford Inn on Water Street. The new date and time of the hearing, he said, will be Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. at the ABCC offices on Causeway Street in Boston, in the event that anyone concerned with this matter wishes to attend.

**Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant Tritium Levels** – Mr. Stankiewicz noted recent news articles regarding tritium levels at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station and informed the public that reports on the tritium levels are available on-line at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health’s website.

## LICENSES

### **VEHICLE FOR HIRE OPERATOR (NEW)**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to grant the following Vehicle for Hire Operator license, as detailed. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

- ❖ For **Plimoth Transportation, Inc. d/b/a Mayflower Taxi**, 166 Gunners Exchange Road
  - Matthew Cooper, 33 Bonney Briar Drive, Plymouth, MA 02360

Issuance of the above licenses is subject to review of the CORI background check and driving record.

### **VEHICLE FOR HIRE (NEW)**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to grant the following Vehicle for Hire license, as detailed. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **Plimoth Transportation, Inc. d/b/a Mayflower Taxi**, 166 Gunners Exchange Road, Scott Vecchi, Owner:
  - Applying for one vehicle – Livery: 2006 Dodge Grand Caravan

Vehicle has been inspected by our Inspectional Services Department.

## ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

**Meeting Minutes** – On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board approved the minutes of the December 28, 2010 Selectmen’s meeting, with a correction made to the section on “Committee Appointments,” as noted by Selectman Muratore. Voted 3-0-1, approved, with an abstention from Chairman Hallisey, who did not attend the December 28, 2010 meeting.

**Contribution / ZBA Case # 3515 / Hedges Pond Road** – The Board accepted a contribution in the amount of \$18,105.00 from P.A. Landers, Inc., in compliance with the conditions set forth in the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals for Case # 3515—Jeannine Anderson Realty Trust, 143 Hedges Pond Road—for the purposes of the engineering, study/evaluation, and maintenance/repair of Hedges Pond Road.

**Hedges Pond Road Gift Account** – The Board created a Hedges Pond Roadway Gift Account for the engineering, study, evaluation, maintenance, and repair of Hedges Pond Road.

**Exclusive Vending Rights** – The Board granted exclusive vending rights to Ryan’s Ride, Inc. for an event to be held from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on June 25, 2011 at Pilgrim Memorial State Park.

**Composition of Memorials Advisory Committee** – The Board (a) designated one of the three seats on the Memorials Advisory Committee for the Town’s Veteran’s Services Agent and (b) appointed Veterans Agent Roxanne Whitbeck to that seat, for a term effective through June 30, 2013, as recommended by the Memorials Advisory Committee.

**Temporary Moratorium on Memorials Applications** – The Board imposed a one-year moratorium on the submission of applications to name or place memorials on public property, effective through January 1, 2012, as recommended by the Memorial Advisory Committee.

**Stipends for Elected Officials Committee** – The Board appointed Richard Knox of 1 Blackmers Lane to the citizen-at-large seat on the Stipends for Elected Officials Committee, for a term effective January 19, 2011 through April 1, 2011. Note: Mr. Knox was the only applicant for this seat.

**Memorials Advisory Committee** – The Board re-appointed Nicole Rivers-Kustanovitz of 65 Montgomery Drive to a citizen-at-large seat on the Memorial Advisory Committee, for a term effective through June 30, 2012. Note: Ms. Rivers-Kustanovitz was the only applicant for this seat.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Robert Ball, head custodian at Hedge Elementary School, expressed frustration that Town plows are repeatedly depositing snow back onto the sidewalks he has cleared around the school, causing him to repeat clearing efforts up to three or four times per day. Mr. Ball offered his assertion that the Town and Schools should work cooperatively to keep both the streets and sidewalks cleared without interfering with each other’s efforts.

Assistant Town Manager Melissa Arrighi noted that she would raise this matter at the next meeting of the Consolidation Committee, as the committee is discussing the coordination of efforts between the Town and School departments.

**COMMITTEE INTERVIEWS – COUNCIL ON AGING**

Chairman Hallisey noted that there were two applicants for one seat on the Council on Aging:

Susan Buxbaum	29 Hitching Post	new applicant
Barbara Pridham	84 Nicks Rock Road, Unit N22	new applicant

Chairman Hallisey gave each applicant the opportunity to introduce herself to the Board and speak about her interest in serving on the Council on Aging. Ms. Buxbaum and Ms. Pridham each responded to questions from Selectmen Muratore about the experience and qualifications she could bring to the Council, if chosen to serve. Selectman Muratore was pleased to see that there was more than one candidate interested in serving on the council, and he

recommended that the applicant not chosen consider joining the Friends of the Plymouth Council on Aging.

When Chairman Hallisey called for a vote, Selectman Harnais and Vice Chairman Mahoney voted for Ms. Pridham. Selectman Muratore and Chairman Hallisey voted for Ms. Buxbaum, leaving the Board with a 2-2 split vote.

After some brief discussion, the Board decided to revisit its vote on the matter at the end of the meeting.

## **TOWN MEETING ARTICLES**

### **ARTICLE 12**

**To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money to fund the Town Promotion Fund pursuant to Chapter 4 of the Acts of 1993, or take any other action relative thereto.**

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Lee Hartmann, Director of Planning & Development, presented the annual article pertaining to the Town Promotion Fund. The Town Promotion Fund, he said, was established by Special Act back in the 1990's to support projects and events that will generate and sustain tourism activity within the Town. The Visitor Services Board ("VSB"), he noted, oversees the allocation of expenditures from the Fund.

Mr. Hartmann outlined the way in which receipts collected through Plymouth's 6% hotel/motel surcharge tax are allocated into the Fund, reporting that the total FY2012 Town Promotion budget to be approved by Town Meeting is \$404,007. This amount, he pointed out, is up \$146,000 from figures in FY2011.

Mr. Hartmann reviewed a list of expenditures from the Fund during the previous year and outlined fixed expenses anticipated for FY2012. The Town Promotion Fund, he explained, is a vital resource used to leverage other private funds that will help promote Plymouth and generate business for the local economy.

Seeing no questions from the Board, Chairman Hallisey asked if any members of the Visitor Services Board wished to speak on Article 12.

After fielding a brief question from Selectman Harnais, VSB Chairperson Genevieve Jaeger explained that her committee will continue to work collaboratively with the Plymouth County Development Council and Destination Plymouth to find the most effective ways to spend Town Promotion funding.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to recommend Article 12 to the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

## **ARTICLE 20**

**To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 79 of the Acts of 2006 “AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING MEETINGS OF MUNICIPAL BOARDS” for the Conservation Commission, or take any other action relative thereto.**

### **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Mr. Hartmann explained that Chapter 79 of the Acts of 2006—commonly known as the “Mullin Rule”—gives members of a municipal commission the ability to vote upon a matter, after-the-fact, even if they have missed a public hearing. In 2006, he noted, Town Meeting accepted the Mullin Rule provision for the Planning Board, which has used this provision only once since its adoption. Article 20, he said, represents a request to apply the provision to the Conservation Commission.

More specifically, Mr. Hartmann described, the Mullin Rule allows commission members missing one session of a public meeting to vote on the matter after the hearing has closed, so long as the member has fully reviewed the minutes, audio/video recording, and/or information submitted for the hearing. In the case of the Conservation Commission, he said, one member of the commission is actively serving in the military and has been stationed in Afghanistan. By adopting the Mullin Rule provision, Mr. Hartmann said, the member will not be put into the position of resigning his seat on the commission because of his military obligations. In addition, he added, the Mullin Rule is advantageous for applicants, as it will reduce cancellations and multiple meetings caused by the failure of the commission to meet quorum.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to recommend Article 20 to the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

## **ARTICLE 21**

**To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer, or borrow a sum of money for the purposes of financing the following water pollution abatement facility projects: repair, replacement and/or upgrade of septic systems, pursuant to agreements with the Board of Health and residential property owners; including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto.**

### **OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Hartmann reported on the success of the Title V Betterment Loan Program that the Office of Community Development has facilitated for Plymouth homeowners over the past 15 years. Through the program, he explained, the Town administers state-funded loans to taxpayers for the repair or replacement of a failed septic system.

Mr. Hartmann informed the Board that the Town borrows money from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust at 0% interest. With these funds, the Town loans up to \$15,000 per household at 5% interest, with terms ranging from five to fifteen years, depending on the amount borrowed. The loans are recorded as property liens and are billed back through the homeowner’s quarterly tax bill and, to date, no loan defaults have occurred.

The 5% interest paid on the loan is deposited into the Town's General Fund, to offset the costs associated with administration of the program.

Because of the success of the program, Mr. Hartmann explained, the \$200,000 that is typically allocated for each round of Title V Betterment loans is quickly exhausted, leaving a list of applicants wishing to take advantage of the program. The Department of Planning & Development is recommending that, this year, the Town borrow \$400,000 from the state's Water Pollution Abatement Trust, to meet the increasing demand for these low-interest septic improvement loans.

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Muratore, the Board voted to recommend Article 21 to the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

## **ARTICLE 2**

**To hear the reports of the several Boards and Officers and Committees of the Town thereon.**

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Ms. Arrighi explained that Article 2 is a standard, annual article that allows the Town's boards, commissions, and committees to provide their annual reports to Town Meeting.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to recommend Article 2 to the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

## **ARTICLE 11**

**To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money to fund a household hazardous waste collection day or other activity, or take any other action relative thereto.**

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Ms. Arrighi explained that Article 11 represents the annual request to allocate \$50,000 for the Town's two yearly household hazardous waste collections and other hazardous waste issues. As the collection program becomes more and more popular each year, she said, the Fire Chief has devised a system by which the Town no longer needs to shut down the collection if funds from the annual allocation are exhausted. Any remaining funds from this annual allocation, Ms. Arrighi noted, are used for unexpected clean-ups of hazardous waste.

Ms. Arrighi responded to a handful of questions from the Selectmen about the collection program and the amount requested by the Fire Chief. Ms. Arrighi explained that the town partners with the South Shore Recycling Cooperative to support two collection days each year—once in the Spring and once in the Fall—at which residents can dispose of two “household equivalents” of hazardous waste (i.e. paint, chemicals), free of charge. The Town now charges \$20 for each household equivalent beyond the initial free allowance of two, she explained, which helps to offset costs and provide the service to a greater number of residents.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to recommend Article 11 to the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

## **ARTICLE 13**

**To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available funds as the State's share of the cost of work under G.L. c.90, §34 (2)(a) of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.**

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Ms. Arrighi provided an explanation of Article 13, the annual Town Meeting action that authorizes the acceptance of Chapter 90 State Aid funds for the maintenance of public roads. Though the amount that the State will allocate for Plymouth for FY2012 is not yet known, she reported, last year's Chapter 90 funding was \$1,112,007.00.

Selectman Muratore made a motion to recommend Article 13 to the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Vice Chairman Mahoney seconded the motion.

Selectman Harnais noted that the Roads Advisory Committee has been discussing the significant amount of roadwork that needs to be addressed throughout town. The committee, Selectman Harnais said, plans to make a recommendation that all Chapter 90 funding be earmarked for road maintenance, only. Ms. Arrighi responded with her belief that Chapter 90 funds can only be used for roadway purposes. Mr. Stankiewicz informed the Board that, when Chapter 90 allocations are announced, the Engineering Department develops a roadway project list. The projects are put out to bid, the Town fronts the expense of the work, and then the Town applies for reimbursement for those expenses from Chapter 90 funds, Mr. Stankiewicz explained.

When discussion came to a close, the Board voted 4-0-0 in favor of recommending Article 13 to the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting.

## **ARTICLE 17A**

**To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money from available funds to fund a contract to assist the School Department in recovering Medicaid reimbursements, or taken any other actions relative thereto.**

### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Ms. Arrighi explained that school-related Articles 17A and 17B are heard annually with regard to Medicaid reimbursements (17A) and transportation for out-of-district Agricultural Vocational students (17B). Article 17A, she said, requests the appropriation of \$268,350 for the recovery of Medicaid reimbursements for services provided to students.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to recommend Article 17A to the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.



## **ARTICLE 17B**

**To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to fund the transportation costs of out of district Agricultural Vocational students, or any action relative thereto.**

### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Ms. Arrighi informed the Board that, as required by Chapter 393 of the Acts of 2004, municipal school departments are required to provide transportation for students who attend out-of-district agricultural and vocational programs that are not provided within the local school system. These transportation expenses, she noted, are estimated at \$67,211 for FY2012. In response to a question from Selectman Muratore, Ms. Arrighi reported that—to her knowledge—there are four or five students that will need these transportation services during the 2011-2012 school year.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to recommend Article 17B to the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

## **DISCUSSION ON HIRING FREEZE**

Mr. Stankiewicz proposed that the Board consider lifting the 60-day hiring freeze it implemented during its meeting of November 30, 2010, now that the Board has had an opportunity to review the FY2012 budget. There are several positions that need to be filled, he said, including the permanent Assistant DPW Director position, crossing guards, and a position at the Council on Aging.

Selectman Muratore sought to clarify his understanding that Mr. Stankiewicz could have brought certain positions forth before the Board during the hiring freeze for a case-by-case review, if he deemed those positions necessary. Mr. Stankiewicz noted that, when the Board implemented the hiring freeze, some open positions for which finalists had already been selected were filled. Other positions were held, Mr. Stankiewicz said, because the 60-day wait was not so significant that it would create a hardship on those positions' respective departments. Mr. Stankiewicz noted that he is philosophically opposed to hiring freezes, because there is no way to know when a position will be vacated; if the position is needed, then it should be filled.

Selectman Muratore made a motion to lift the hiring freeze, effective immediately. Selectman Harnais seconded the motion.

Both Selectman Muratore and Selectman Harnais stated that they felt more comfortable going forth with filling vacant positions, now that budget numbers are available. Selectman Harnais explained his belief that hiring someone during uncertain financial times—only to have to lay that person off shortly thereafter for lack of funding—would give the Town a bad reputation and discourage good candidates from seeking employment in the future. Chairman Hallisey expressed mixed emotions about the hiring freeze, noting that he still believes that it may be best for the Board to authorize the filling of positions on a case-by-case basis. Vice

Chairman Mahoney pointed out that, though the Town Manager should have the ability to go forth with those positions that need to be filled, the Board has the ability to review the FY2012 budget books and bring forth any concerns.

At the close of discussion, Chairman Hallisey called for a vote on Selectman Muratore's motion to lift the hiring freeze, effective immediately. Voted 3-0-1, approved, with an abstention from Chairman Hallisey.

Mr. Stankiewicz requested that the Board consider waiving the two-week probationary period (typically applied to the appointment of a department or division head) for Dennis Westgate, the candidate chosen for the Assistant Director of Public Works position. Mr. Westgate, he said, has performed well as the Acting Assistant DPW Director for several months, and now that the hiring freeze has been lifted, it would be fair to make his appointment permanent, immediately.

Selectman Muratore made a motion to waive the two-week probationary period relative to Dennis Westgate's appointment as the Assistant Director of Public Works. Vice Chairman Mahoney seconded the motion.

Before calling for a vote on the motion, Chairman Hallisey allowed public comment on the matter.

Richard Knox of Precinct 4 cautioned the Board against going back on its initial decision to hold the line on hiring new employees. If the State Aid figures come in lower than expected, he said, the Town will be forced to raise taxes to maintain staff positions, at a time when the Board should be cutting expenses. Mr. Knox urged the Board to make a commitment to the taxpayers that there will be no tax increases.

The positions that the Town Manager will fill, Selectman Muratore explained, are not new and were already included in the FY2012 budget. The filling of vacant positions, he said, does not necessarily mean that the tax rate will increase. Selectman Muratore noted that it is up to the Advisory & Finance Committee and Town Meeting to determine whether the tax rate will increase or remain the same.

Mr. Stankiewicz explained that the appointment of the Assistant Director of Public Works came after the resignations of two DPW division heads: the Water Utilities Superintendent and the Maintenance Superintendent. These two positions were not filled, he said, and, thus, the appointment of an Assistant DPW Director to cover those responsibilities has resulted in a net decrease in payroll expenses.

Ken Buechs of Manomet expressed his belief that the Selectmen must allow the Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, and other department managers do what they were hired to do, without interference in the day-to-day responsibilities given to each. If there are specific concerns or issues that members of the Board may have, then those should be brought to the Town Manager in individual, private discussions, he said.

Chairman Hallisey stated that he did not object to the appointment of Mr. Westgate as the Assistant DPW Director but noted his concerns about removing the hiring freeze. The Board, he suggested, should be apprised of the Town Manager's plans to fill positions. Chairman Hallisey questioned why the Town would consider adding staff, if there are overlapping duties and fully-staffed departments during a stalled economy.

Seeing no further discussion, Chairman Hallisey called for a vote on Selectman Muratore's motion to waive the two-week probationary period relative to Dennis Westgate's appointment as the Assistant Director of Public Works. The Board voted 4-0-0, in favor.

## **COMMITTEE INTERVIEWS FOR COUNCIL ON AGING – REVISITED**

Selectman Muratore reminded the Board to revisit its vote on the appointment of a new member of the Council on Aging. Chairman Hallisey called for a vote on the two candidates who were interviewed earlier during the meeting, Susan Buxbaum and Barbara Pridham.

By unanimous vote (4-0-0), the Board appointed Susan Buxbaum of 29 Hitching Post to a seat on the Council on Aging, for a term effective January 19, 2011 through June 30, 2011. Selectman Harnais asked the Board's assistant, Ms. Park, to thank Ms. Pridham for applying and encourage her to become involved with the Friends of the Plymouth Council on Aging.

## **OLD BUSINESS / LETTERS / NEW BUSINESS**

**PGDC / Former Police Station** – Vice Chairman Mahoney referenced a letter the Board received from the Plymouth Growth & Development Corporation ("PGDC"), in which the PGDC's chairman, Leighton Price, expressed his organization's interest in acquiring the Town-owned facility on Russell Street that formerly served as the police station.

Mr. Stankiewicz informed the Board that he forwarded the PGDC's letter to the Department of Public Works, because the Town's DPW sign shop is currently housed in that facility. The DPW will need to determine whether the sign shop can be accommodated, elsewhere, if the Town is going to consider selling the property.

Selectman Harnais expressed his belief that the purpose of purchasing the DPW Annex facility was to house all of the Public Works divisions. If the sign shop cannot be consolidated within the annex building, he said, it is a disservice to Town Meeting's vote to purchase the facility.

**Condensed Work Week** – Chairman Hallisey reported that he received a call pertaining to a septic system installation, whereby the property owner could not get his septic system inspected on a Friday, due to Town Hall's new hours. He expressed concern about the safety and inconvenience of leaving a resident's septic trench open for inspection over an extended weekend when Town Hall is closed on a Friday and then again on a Monday holiday.

Ms. Arrighi expressed her belief that the Town's Inspectional Services staff has been able to make accommodations for such circumstances that have arisen from new hours at Town Hall. She noted, however, that she would speak with Inspectional Services to re-confirm what is being done to avoid issues like this.

## **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at approximately 8:11 p.m. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

*Recorded by Tiffany Park, Clerk to the Board of Selectmen*

*A complete copy of the January 18, 2011 meeting packet is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen's office.*