

# **PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2011**

TOWN HALL MAYFLOWER ROOM

The Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall in the Mayflower Room.

Present: John T. Mahoney, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Richard J. Quintal, Jr. [Arrived at 6:18 p.m.]  
Sergio O. Harnais  
Mathew J. Muratore

Mark Stankiewicz, Town Manager  
Melissa Arrighi, Assistant Town Manager

Absent: Chairman William P. Hallisey, Jr.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chairman Mahoney called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Selectmen voted to hold an Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21, Paragraphs 3 and 6, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation and to consider the value of real property, as an open meeting on these matters may have a detrimental effect on the Town's negotiating position. By roll call: Harnais – yes, Muratore – yes, and Mahoney – yes.

Vice Chairman Mahoney noted that, following executive session, the Board would reconvene in open session.

## **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Vice Chairman Mahoney reconvened the meeting in open session at approximately 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

**State Local Aid** – Town Manager Mark Stankiewicz reported that Senate President Therese Murray has announced the local aid distribution for Fiscal Year 2012. According to the most

recent state budget figures, he said, Plymouth is likely to receive \$3,074,658 in unrestricted general government aid (a decrease of \$239,637) and \$21,778,007 in Chapter 70 education funds (an increase of \$224,251). Mr. Stankiewicz noted that Plymouth's Finance Director, Lynne Barrett, has begun calculating the potential impact of these proposed—but not yet approved—figures on the Town's FY2012 budget.

**Department of Public Works (DPW) Day** – Mr. Stankiewicz invited the public to attend the Department of Public Works' annual "DPW Day" event at the Plymouth Public Library on Thursday, May, 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The fun and family-oriented event, he explained, is an opportunity to provide Plymouth's residents with information on public works-related matters and services while offering children the ability to see and experience the DPW's heavy equipment up close.

**Assistant Procurement Officer** – Mr. Stankiewicz was pleased to announce that he has appointed Patty Morgan as Plymouth's new Assistant Procurement Officer. Ms. Morgan who comes with 10 years of municipal procurement experience, started on Monday, April 11, 2011, he reported. Mr. Stankiewicz noted that the appointment of the Assistant Procurement Officer position will help to expedite the Town's public bidding and contract processes.

**Volunteer Appreciation Concert** – Mr. Stankiewicz reported that he had the opportunity to attend the Volunteer Appreciation Concert held on April 13, 2011 at the Plymouth Public Library. The Plymouth Public Library Corporation, he said, has sponsored the annual event for over 20 years to honor its numerous volunteers, without whom it could not provide the exceptional service that library patrons have come to expect. Mr. Stankiewicz noted that, of the Library's 90 volunteers, approximately 70 attended the event, at which light refreshments were served and music was performed by a professional Jazz duo.

**Council on Aging Accreditation** – Mr. Stankiewicz announced that the Plymouth Council on Aging ("COA") has scheduled a "Kick-Off" event to formally commence their efforts to gain program accreditation. The Kick-Off, he said, will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at Alden Park in the Village at Colony Place. Mr. Stankiewicz explained that the COA hopes to recruit twenty to thirty citizens who will sign-on to participate in one or more of the nine Accreditation Standard Committees that will produce accreditation standards and a five-year strategic implementation plan for the senior center. The Friends of the COA, he said, have agreed to donate \$500.00 for the cost of the preliminary "Intent to Self-Study," while the staff at the COA is busy developing press releases to solicit potential sponsors. Mr. Stankiewicz encouraged those who would be interested in participating or sponsoring the accreditation program to contact Conni DiLego at the COA.

**Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station / Entergy** – Mr. Stankiewicz was pleased to report that Entergy officials have confirmed their participation in the Selectmen's Forum on Nuclear Power scheduled for May 10, 2011 at Plymouth North High School. On another note, he said, Entergy has informed the Town that the power station was recently shut down for a 30-day re-fueling process. Mr. Stankiewicz stated that Entergy has been notified of a public rally planned at the plant for May 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, at which the Plymouth Police Department will be stationed to maintain public safety.

**State Fire Marshal / Crowd Management** – Mr. Stankiewicz pointed out that, at the last Selectman’s meeting, a question arose as to new regulations issued by the State Fire Marshal pertaining to crowd management within bars and nightclubs. The State Fire Marshal’s Office, he explained, will be implementing Chapter 304 of the Acts of 2004 in response to the 2003 fire at the Station Nightclub in Rhode Island. The new regulations will (a) require the designation, training, and testing of individuals responsible for the operation of nightclubs, dance halls, discotheques, or bars with an occupant load of 100 persons or more and (b) require the designation of one crowd manager for every 250 occupants. Mr. Stankiewicz noted that, though the State Fire Marshal’s Office is expected to “oversee” the new regulations, local fire departments will likely be given the responsibility of direct enforcement.

**Lt. William Goodwin Memorial** – Mr. Stankiewicz announced that a ceremony will be held at 11:00 a.m. at Depot Square on Saturday, April 23, 2011 to dedicate a public memorial to Lt. William Goodwin and other servicemen from Plymouth who were killed in action or held as prisoners of war.

## **LICENSES**

### **ONE DAY ALL ALCOHOL LIQUOR LICENSE**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Quintal, the Board voted to grant the following One Day All Alcohol License, as detailed. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **Plymouth Guild, Inc.** (Nancy Sealey, 11 North Street) requested a One Day All Alcohol License for a fundraiser to be held at 11 North Street from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on May 20, 2011. Liquor liability insurance will be in place before the license is released.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES**

**Meeting Minutes** – On a motion by Selectman Quintal, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board approved the minutes of the February 22, 2011 Selectmen’s meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

**Seasonal Beach Sticker / White Horse Beach Parking Lot** – The Board added the Taylor Avenue / White Horse Beach Public Parking Lot as one of the lots covered by the Seasonal Beach Sticker.

**Voting Registrar** – The Board appointed Margaret A. Keohan of 19 Fremont Street as Voting Registrar (Democrat) for a term effective April 20, 2011 through March 31, 2014.

**Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid** – The Board accepted Chapter 40, Section 4J of the Massachusetts General Laws, authorizing the Town to opt-in to the provisions pertaining to Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid under Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2010.

**Denial of Snow Plow Service Request / Herring Way** – The Board denied a request to add Herring Way to the Town’s Snow Plow Service list, as recommended by the Roads Advisory Committee and Department of Public Works.

**Denial of Snow Plow Service Request / Cobbs Hollow** – The Board denied a request to add Cobbs Hollow to the Town’s Snow Plow Service list, as recommended by the Roads Advisory Committee and Department of Public Works. *[Note: the DPW and Roads Advisory Committee have identified Cobbs Hollow as a privately-owned common driveway.]*

**Denial of Snow Plow Service Request / Ellisville Drive** – The Board denied a request to add a portion of Ellisville Drive to the Town’s Snow Plow Service list, as recommended by the Roads Advisory Committee and Department of Public Works.

**Denial of Snow Plow Service Request / 24 Pierce Avenue** – The Board denied a request to add 24 Pierce Avenue to the Town’s Snow Plow Service list, as recommended by the Roads Advisory Committee and Department of Public Works. *[Note: the DPW and Roads Advisory Committee have identified the roadway in question as a privately-owned common driveway.]*

**PUBLIC HEARING: ANNUAL ALL ALCOHOL RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE**  
**RELIABLE FISH INC. D/B/A THE SHANTY ROSE, 16 TOWN WHARF**

Vice Chairman Mahoney opened a public hearing to consider the application for a new annual All Alcohol Restaurant Liquor License from Reliable Fish, Inc. d/b/a The Shanty Rose, 16 Town Wharf, Rosemary Millmore named as Manager. Vice Chairman Mahoney read the description of the premises at 16 Town Wharf and affirmed that notice of the hearing was given in accordance with Chapter 138 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Attorney Edward Angley addressed the Board on behalf of Reliable Fish, Inc. d/b/a The Shanty Rose. Attorney Angley explained that the Millmore family plans to operate the 19-seat restaurant from 10:00 a.m. to midnight during the summer and 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the off-season.

Selectman Quintal sought to confirm that alcohol will only be consumed indoors at the establishment. Attorney Angley noted that the outdoor patio was not included in the license application and, thus, no alcohol will be served / consumed outdoors. Selectman Quintal then asked if the owners of The Shanty Rose planned to apply for any entertainment permits, to which Attorney Angley replied that the owners have no plans to provide entertainment at the restaurant beyond the installation of a television.

Seeing no further questions from the Board, Vice Chairman Mahoney opened the hearing to public comment.

Plymouth resident Steve Lydon noted that he attended all of the hearings before the Zoning Board of Appeals on the Reliable Fish / Shanty Rose matter. Mr. Lydon stated his belief that The Shanty Rose will be a good addition to the Town Wharf.

No other citizens came forth to speak, and, thus, Vice Chairman Mahoney closed the hearing to await a motion of the Board.

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Quintal, the Board voted to grant an annual All Alcohol Restaurant Liquor License from Reliable Fish, Inc. d/b/a the Shanty Rose (16 Town Wharf), as detailed in the license application. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

## **LICENSES IN CONJUNCTION WITH A PUBLIC HEARING**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Quintal, the Board voted to grant the following licenses to Reliable Fish Inc. d/b/a The Shanty Rose (16 Town Wharf, Rosemary Millmore, Manager) in conjunction with the request for a new Annual All Alcohol Restaurant Liquor License. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

- Common Victualler
- Comprehensive Entertainment – Radio, TV only

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nancy Carroll of Alvin Road spoke to the Selectmen about the litter she has observed throughout the downtown / waterfront district during daily walks in the area. Ms. Carroll was disappointed to report that she has encountered everything from broken glass, coffee cups, and plastic bags to dog waste, hypodermic needles, and the body parts of deceased animals strewn about the Town's beaches, parks, sidewalks, roadways, Town wharf, and jetty. Ms. Carroll questioned if the Town wished to project such an image to its residents and visitors, and she urged the Selectmen to step up efforts to educate the public about—and enforce—the Town's littering bylaws.

Richard Knox of Precinct 4 asked the Selectmen to consider the implementation of a carry-in, carry-out (litter reduction) program like that which Gloucester and Rockport have successfully enacted for their visitors.

Steve Lydon expressed concerns about what he perceives as a lack of progress being made by the Plymouth Redevelopment Authority ("PRA") on the 1820 Courthouse project. Mr. Lydon pointed to the success of other area restoration projects (the Simes House, 134 Court Street / Chamber of Commerce) and questioned whether the Town will be equipped to take the historic courthouse (and accompanying property) back, should the PRA fail in its endeavor.

## **WATER, SEWER, TRANSFER STATION FEES**

Vice Chairman Mahoney opened a public hearing to consider proposed changes to the Town's water, sewer, and transfer station fees/rates for Fiscal Year 2012.

Jonathan Beder, Director of Public Works, provided a presentation on his recommendations to increase the Town's water, sewer, and transfer station fees. Mr. Beder was accompanied by Lynne Barrett (Finance Director), Gary Frizzell (Wastewater Manager), Rich Tierney (Acting Water Superintendent), and Doug Gardner of Pioneer Consulting.

Mr. Beder explained that, though the Water Enterprise Fund requires no current subsidy from the Town's General Fund, the balance in the fund has been depleted by approximately 39% following the Selectmen's decision to refrain from increasing the Town's water rates for FY2011. Plans to implement a new water metering system in FY2013—along with several capital projects that are already underway—will draw further on the current fund balance of \$1,878,210. Mr. Beder recommended that the Selectmen approve an incremental increase to the Town's water rates, to maintain the financial solvency of the Water Enterprise Fund.

With regard to the Town's sewer rates, Mr. Beder recommended a 1% across-the-board increase to all three usage tiers, in order to further reduce the subsidization of the Sewer Enterprise Fund. Mr. Beder noted that the DPW will soon begin the task of developing and implementing a Sewer Master Plan to address the Town's needs for future sewer improvements and expansion. The recommended 1% increase will help to bolster the earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund for such improvement and expansion projects.

Mr. Beder reported that the Town must increase its transfer station fees for another consecutive year in order to adequately address considerable infrastructure and equipment needs, in addition to the requisite closure and future redesign of the South Street Transfer Station.

Mr. Beder then turned the presentation over to Doug Gardner of Pioneer Consulting, who provided the Board with a more detailed explanation of the proposed rate increases and the means by which the proposed rates were determined.

## **WATER**

Mr. Gardner explained that, because the Town's water rates have not been raised since FY2009, the retained earnings in the Water Enterprise Fund have been reduced below \$2 million as a result of usage for capital projects and improvements. Mr. Gardner reviewed the proposed FY2012 rate structure for water service:

Minimum Charge	\$25.00 (no consumption in minimum)	no change from FY2011
0 – 3,000 cubic feet	\$1.29 per 100 cubic feet	+11.21 % from FY2011
3,000 – 9,000 cubic feet	\$2.00 per 100 cubic feet	+21.95 % from FY2011
Over 9,000 cubic feet	\$2.43 per 100 cubic feet	+23.98 % from FY2011

Though the increases to each usage rate may seem high in terms of percentage, Mr. Gardner explained, an impact analysis chart (which he provided within his presentation) demonstrates how the cumulative impact to customers will generally not be as dramatic. Essentially, he said, the more a customer uses, the more he/she will see the impact of the rate increases.

Mr. Gardner and Mr. Beder responded to questions from Selectman Muratore regarding average household usage and the number of households on the Town's water system. Mr. Gardner indicated that the typical family of four in a single-family home uses 5,000 cubic feet (1 cubic foot equals 7.5 gallons) of water per billing cycle. Mr. Beder noted that approximately 70% of Plymouth's households are connected to the municipal water supply.

Selectman Quintal questioned why the Town would increase its water rates, when there is currently \$1,878,210 in retained earnings in the Water Enterprise Fund. Both Mr. Gardner and Mr. Beder discussed the amount of research, analysis, and planning that goes into determining water usage rates and the figures necessary to maintain a financially solvent enterprise fund. Mr. Stankiewicz explained that improvements, expansion, and repairs to the Town's water system are funded by the retained earnings in the Water Enterprise Fund. If the Board does not increase its rates on an incremental basis to cover costs and maintain a fund surplus, the surplus will be depleted, inevitably compelling the Town to either (a) seek funding for water-related capital improvements from Town Meeting or (b) force a significant rate increase on water customers to replenish the Water Enterprise Fund.

Selectman Quintal stated that he would not vote to increase water rates prior to seeing a plan for use of the \$1.8 million balance in the Water Enterprise Fund. Mr. Beder sought to explain that a stable Water Enterprise Fund balance provides the Water Department with the ability to adequately plan projects, address important infrastructural improvements, and maintain compliance with state and federal guidelines.

Finance Director Lynne Barrett noted that it took the Town several years to accumulate the \$3 million balance that was in the Water Enterprise Fund three years ago. During the past two years, she said, the Water Enterprise Fund has run at a deficit, and thus the retained/surplus earnings were drawn-upon to maintain services and rates. Ms. Barrett informed the Board that the Massachusetts Department of Revenue ("DOR") will not certify the Town's tax rates if the Town cannot demonstrate the ability to fund its enterprise operations. Until the rates are adjusted, she reported, the Water Enterprise Fund will continue to run at a deficit, retained earnings will be exhausted, and DOR will eventually refuse to certify Plymouth's tax rates.

Ms. Barrett, Mr. Stankiewicz, Mr. Beder, and Mr. Gardner responded to additional questions from the Selectmen about the Water Enterprise Fund, the proposed water rate structure, and the financial requirements imposed on municipalities by DOR. When there appeared to be no further questions with regard to the proposed water rates, Mr. Gardner continued his presentation on the proposed sewer rates for FY2012.

## **SEWER**

Mr. Gardner reported that, though the Sewer Enterprise Fund continues to require a subsidy from the General Fund, the fund has become somewhat stabilized as a result of previous increases enacted by the Selectmen. It would be best, he said, if the Town could completely eliminate the need for the General Fund subsidy, and, thus, a minor increase (1%) for sewer rates is recommended.

Mr. Gardner listed the proposed FY2012 rate structure for sewer service:

Minimum Charge	\$85.00 (no consumption in minimum)	no change from FY2011
0 – 3,000 cubic feet	\$4.14 per 100 cubic feet	+1 % from FY2011
3,000 – 9,000 cubic feet	\$5.61 per 100 cubic feet	+1 % from FY2011
Over 9,000 cubic feet	\$6.60 per 100 cubic feet	+1 % from FY2011

Mr. Gardner reviewed an impact analysis chart and several graphs comparing Plymouth’s FY2011 rates to that of other communities, noting that Plymouth’s rates fell on the lower end of the spectrum. There are approximately 4,000 customers on the Town’s sewer system, he reported.

Gary Frizzell, Wastewater Manager, responded to questions from Selectman Quintal regarding the wastewater treatment plant and the DPW’s plans to expand the Town’s sewer infrastructure to the Exit 5 / Long Pond Road area. Mr. Frizzell explained how the DPW opted to install a pump station for Long Pond Road that not only corrected an issue on Nook Road but opened up options to expand sewer infrastructure to the Exit 5 area.

**SOLID WASTE**

Mr. Gardner provided the Board with an explanation of the reasons behind the proposed increase to the Transfer Station fee. The DPW, he said, has recommended an \$8 increase to both the regular and senior/handicapped fees to address solid waste debt service, capital projects, and improvements to the South Street Transfer Station. He recommended the following rate structure:

Annual Regular Transfer Station Fee	\$190	+ \$8 from FY2011
Annual Senior / Handicapped Transfer Station Fee	\$145	+ \$8 from FY2011
Annual Recycling Only Fee	\$ 15	+ \$3 from FY2011

In response to a question from Selectman Muratore, Ms. Barrett reported that both the Solid Waste and Water Enterprise funds have prompted concerns with DOR in recent years. It should be noted, however, that recent rate increases to the Transfer Station Fee have helped to manage previous deficits and provide some minor retained earnings in the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund, she said.

Selectman Muratore questioned whether the Selectmen should hold off on increasing the Transfer Station Fee until the Town has a clear vision for the future of the South Street Transfer Station. Mr. Stankiewicz explained that the capping of the South Street Transfer Station will be funded through the tax rate, while post-capping improvements will be funded by the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (i.e. transfer station fees).

Ms. Barrett acknowledged that anticipated future improvements to the South Street Transfer Station are factored into the proposed rate increases; eliminating the expenditures for improvements to South Street would reduce the overall recommendation for increase. Ms. Barrett noted, however, that the proposed rate increase also includes capital items that were voted upon by Town Meeting. Mr. Gardner listed several items—from compactors to open-



top containers and 50-yard receivers—that comprise part of the \$264,262 budgeted for FY2012 solid waste capital improvements.

The Selectmen posed a handful of remaining questions to Ms. Barrett and Mr. Gardner regarding the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund. Ms Barrett affirmed that the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund does not require a subsidy from the General Fund. Mr. Gardner explained the importance of maintaining a level of retained earnings within an enterprise fund, so that unexpected emergencies and contingencies can be addressed.

Seeing no further questions from the Board, Vice Chairman Mahoney opened the discussion to public comment.

Noting that he is neither a water nor sewer service customer, Steve Lydon of Precinct 12 stated his belief that enterprise funds should be funded only by those who use the services—not subsidized by the general taxpayer.

Richard Knox of Precinct 4 described fee increases as the Town's way of collecting another tax from its citizens.

Seeing no further comment from the public, the Board debated the merits and drawbacks of the proposed rate increases. Selectman Quintal expressed concern for the financial burden placed on the Town's water, sewer, and solid waste customers by additional rate increases. Vice Chairman Mahoney stated that he would rather address the need for rate increases in an incremental fashion, as opposed to saddling ratepayers with a drastic increase every few years.

Selectman Harnais made a motion to approve the proposed rates, as presented by staff. Selectman Muratore recommended that the Board address each rate structure, individually. Selectman Harnais then made a motion to approve the FY2012 water rates, as presented by staff. Selectman Muratore seconded the motion.

Selectman Quintal again reiterated that he would not vote to increase water rates prior to seeing a more comprehensive plan for use of the money in the Water Enterprise Fund. Selectman Muratore commented that DOR's concerns about the Water Enterprise Fund leave the Board with little choice but to increase the rates. Selectman Harnais acknowledged his hesitancy to raise rates, but noted that, had the Board increased rates in a more incremental fashion in previous years, the proposed increases for FY2012 would have been less severe.

Mr. Stankiewicz and Mr. Gardner reiterated the challenges posed by running an enterprise fund at a deficit. If the Town's rates do not generate enough revenue to cover costs, Mr. Stankiewicz said, then the Town must draw from its savings. Mr. Gardner explained that, while there is no magic number to retain within an enterprise fund, it is prudent to have at least \$2 million on hand to address emergency infrastructure needs and avoid long-term debt.

At the close of discussion, the Board voted 3-1-0 in favor of approving new Water Service rates for FY2012, as presented by staff [*see fee schedule listed on page 11*]. Selectman Quintal cast the opposing vote.

Selectman Harnais made a motion to approve the FY2012 sewer rates, as presented by staff. Selectman Muratore seconded the motion for discussion.

Selectman Muratore recommended that the Board defer making such a small, token increase to the Town's sewer rates in favor of awaiting a master plan from the DPW Director. Selectman Harnais contended that, by approving a 1% increase, the Board can help to eliminate the need for subsidization of the Sewer Enterprise Fund from the General Fund.

Discussion turned to the prospect of adding more customers to the Town's sewer system, in an effort to offer this service to more residents/businesses and (thus) distribute service costs amongst more ratepayers. Mr. Frizzell explained that nearly every household and structure along the Town's sewer infrastructure is connected to the system (i.e. at full capacity). Though the wastewater treatment facility can accommodate additional flow, Mr. Frizzell said, the significant capital expense to expand the Town's sewer infrastructure will neither be immediately nor completely offset by the addition of new ratepayers. Mr. Beder stressed the importance of a sewer master plan to address the expansion of the Town's sewer infrastructure. Vice Chairman Mahoney asked Mr. Beder if he could have a sewer master plan report ready by Labor Day, to which Mr. Beder said that he could possibly be ready by September. Mr. Stankiewicz offered his suggestion that the Town consider mandating connections for those households/structures that fall along any newly-expanded sewer infrastructure. Selectman Quintal stated his belief that Plimoth Plantation and the Algonquin Heights housing complex should be considered top-priority areas for sewer expansion.

Seeing no further discussion, the Board voted 4-0-0 in favor of approving new Sewer Service rates for FY2012, as presented by staff *[see fee schedule listed on page 11]*.

Selectman Harnais made a motion to approve the FY2012 Transfer Station rates, as presented by staff. Vice Chairman Mahoney seconded the motion.

Selectman Muratore stated that, in light of the uncertainty surrounding the future of the South Street Transfer Station, the Board should cut the proposed rate increases to the transfer station rates in half (i.e. increase the rates by \$4, not \$8).

Selectman Harnais withdrew his motion, and Vice Chairman Mahoney withdrew his second.

Selectman Muratore made a motion to increase the Transfer Station fees as follows:

Annual Regular Transfer Station Fee	\$186	+ \$4 from FY2011
Annual Senior / Handicapped Transfer Station Fee	\$141	+ \$4 from FY2011
Annual Recycling Only Fee	\$ 15	+ \$3 from FY2011

Selectman Harnais seconded the motion, and the Board voted 3-1-0 in favor. Selectman Quintal cast the opposing vote.

Vice Chairman Mahoney called for a five-minute recess.

<b>APPROVED FY2012 WATER RATES &amp; FEES</b>	<b>FY2011</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Approved FY2012</b>
Minimum Charge (no consumption in minimum)	\$25.00	No change	\$25.00
Metered charges per 100 cubic feet – 1 <sup>st</sup> Step: 0-3,000 cf	1.16 per 100 cf	+ 11.21%	1.29 per 100 cf
Metered charges per 100 cubic feet – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: 3,001-9,000 cf	1.64 per 100 cf	+ 21.95%	2.00 per 100 cf
Metered charges per 100 cubic feet – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step: over 9,000 cf	1.96 per 100 cf	+ 23.98%	2.43 per 100 cf
Private Fire Protection – Annual Charge: 3”	60.00	No change	60.00
Private Fire Protection – Annual Charge: 4”	90.00	No change	90.00
Private Fire Protection – Annual Charge: 6”	180.00	No change	180.00
Private Fire Protection – Annual Charge: 8”	420.00	No change	420.00
Private Fire Protection – Annual Charge: 10”	700.00	No change	700.00
Private Fire Protection – Annual Charge: 12”	900.00	No change	900.00
Cross Connection Testing	50.00	No change	50.00
Connection Fee – 1” service	650.00	No change	650.00
Connection Fee – 1.5” service	850.00	No change	850.00
Connection Fee – 2” service	950.00	No change	950.00
Meter Fee	250.00	No change	250.00
System Development – Residential, per lot	250.00	No change	250.00
System Development – Commercial, per 1,000 sq. ft.	150.00	No change	150.00
Meter Pit	300.00	No change	300.00
Non-Emergency Turn On / Shut Off	60.00	No change	60.00
Seasonal Turn On / Shut Off	25.00	No change	25.00
Final Reads	25.00	No change	25.00
<b>APPROVED FY2012 SEWER RATES &amp; FEES</b>	<b>FY2011</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Approved FY2012</b>
Minimum Charge (no consumption in minimum)	\$85.00	No change	\$85.00
Metered charges per 100 cubic feet – 1 <sup>st</sup> Step: 0-3,000 cf	4.10 per 100 cf	1% increase	4.14 per 100 cf
Metered charges per 100 cubic feet – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: 3,001-9,000 cf	5.55 per 100 cf	1% increase	5.61 per 100 cf
Metered charges per 100 cubic feet – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step: over 9,000 cf	6.53 per 100 cf	1% increase	6.60 per 100 cf

## **CREATION OF DISTINGUISHED VISITORS COMMITTEE**

Vice Chairman Mahoney reconvened the meeting at approximately 9:25 p.m.

Selectman Harnais reminded the Board that the creation of a Distinguished Visitors Committee (“DVC”) was discussed in mid-March, but was postponed when the earthquake and tsunami disaster struck Japan. The primary focus of the DVC, he explained, shall be Plymouth’s sister city relationships and visits from official delegations. The committee, which will be advisory to the Selectmen, will be responsible for coordinating the itinerary of distinguished visitors when visiting Plymouth. The DVC will also assist in determining the makeup of any delegation from Plymouth that is travelling in an official capacity (e.g. Shichigahama, Japan; Plymouth, England, etc.). In addition, Selectman Harnais noted, the DVC will be the entity responsible for interviewing and selecting the Plymouth students who will be visiting Shichigahama and/or international destinations as part of a sister/twin city relationship.

Selectman Harnais reviewed the proposed composition of the seven-member committee, noting that, following suggestions made during the Board's previous discussion on the DVC, seats were added for representatives of Destination Plymouth and the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce.

- Term 1 – Member of the Board of Selectmen
- Term 2 – Member of the School Committee
- Term 3 – Member of the Visitor Services Board
- Term 4 – Member of the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce
- Term 5 – Member of Destination Plymouth
- Term 6 – Member of Town Meeting
- Term 7 – Citizen at Large

Upon establishment of the committee, Selectman Harnais explained, the initial terms of each member will be staggered, so that three terms expire in one year (Town Meeting, Visitor Services Board, and citizen-at-large), two terms expire in two years (School Committee and Destination Plymouth), and two terms expire in three years (Selectman and Chamber of Commerce). All terms, thereafter, shall be three years in length. If an appointee is no longer a sitting member of the designating board/committee/organization, that appointee will no longer be eligible to serve. Subsequently, the designating board/committee/organization will appoint a replacement to fulfill the vacated term.

Selectman Harnais expressed his belief that, given the work involved in maintaining sister city relationships and official trips / visits, the establishment of a Distinguished Visitors Committee is essential.

Seeing few questions from the Board, Vice Chairman Mahoney opened the discussion to public comment.

Margie Burgess, School Committee member and long-time member of the (now-defunct) Sister City Committee, offered her support of the creation of the DVC, as presented.

Selectman Harnais reiterated the composition of the committee, upon a request from Manomet resident Ken Buechs.

Belinda Brewster of Precinct 4 inquired as to how the Selectmen would define a "distinguished visitor." Selectman Muratore expressed his belief that the DVC should develop the definition, as part of its mission/charge. Selectman Harnais noted his opinion that the committee should be given the flexibility to further define its responsibilities and goals.

Selectman Quintal made a motion to approve the creation of a Distinguished Visitors Committee, as presented. Selectman Harnais seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously in favor. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

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

**Shichigahama Relief Fund** – Selectman Muratore was pleased to report that pledges for the Shichigahama Relief Fund have reached \$88,400. It is his hope, he said, that the goal to raise \$100,000 for Plymouth’s sister city can be reached within the next 30 days.

**Pilgrim Memorial State Park / DCR** – Selectman Quintal informed the Board that he met with Senate President Therese Murray and representatives of the Department of Conservation & Recreation (“DCR”) to discuss the use of Pilgrim Memorial State Park for community events. DCR’s recent implementation of new guidelines for use of the park, he said, has caused some conflict and hardship with several of the promoters who produce free events at the park for the benefit of residents and visitors. Selectman Quintal noted that, like the Town, the State is faced with financial challenges that have forced them to change rules and operations. It is his hope, Selectman Quintal stated, that both sides can reach an amicable agreement, so that summer concerts and events may go forth as planned.

## **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

On a motion by Selectman Quintal, seconded by Selectman Muratore, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at approximately 9:35 p.m. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

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

*A copy of the April 19, 2011 meeting packet is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen’s office.*