

PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2011

TOWN HALL MAYFLOWER ROOM

The Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 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
Belinda A. Brewster

Mark Stankiewicz, Town Manager
Melissa Arrighi, Assistant Town Manager

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

Legislative Breakfast – Town Manager Mark Stankiewicz reported that the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce recently held a “legislative breakfast” with Plymouth’s legislative delegation. During the breakfast, the delegation shared some positive news, he said, noting that the State’s tax collections are totaling \$400 million more than anticipated. In addition, Mr. Stankiewicz announced, the State’s unemployment rate and other economic factors are showing some gains, which may serve as an indicator that State Aid for municipalities has leveled.

September 11th Dedication Ceremony – Mr. Stankiewicz shared an account of the ceremony held to mark the 10th anniversary of the September 11th attacks. The ceremony was held at the Town’s memorial on Spooner Street, he said, during which a remnant steel beam from the World Trade Center was dedicated for installation at the site. Mr. Stankiewicz thanked former Selectman Richard Quintal, Jr. (who established and donated the memorial to the Town) and Deputy Fire Chief Michael Young for their work in organizing the event.

Selectman Harnais commended former Selectmen Quintal for the amount of time, effort, and money that he invested in creating the memorial on Spooner Street. Because of the significance of this memorial, Selectman Harnais asked that the Town erect decorative signage on the waterfront and near Spooner Street to direct visitors to the site.

MassWorks Infrastructure Application – Mr. Stankiewicz informed the Board that DPW Director Jonathan Beder has submitted an application for funding from the MassWorks

Infrastructure Program to perform work in the downtown/harbor district in preparation for the Town's 400th Anniversary. The proposed projects, totaling 13.2 million, include improvements to roadways, sidewalks, utilities, street lighting, restroom facilities, landscaping, and existing tourist sites.

Wellness Fair – Mr. Stankiewicz noted that the Town's Wellness Committee, in collaboration with Jordan Hospital, will hold its annual Town Employee Health & Wellness Fair at Memorial Hall on October 18, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

LICENSES

CHANGE OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS (LIQUOR LICENSE)

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to approve the following Change of Officers/Directors, as detailed. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **Plymouth Memorial Post** (22 Seven Hills Road) requested a Change of Officer/Directors, as listed in the license application.

ONE DAY ALL ALCOHOL LIQUOR LICENSE*

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to approve the following One Day All Alcohol Liquor License, as detailed. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **Plymouth Guild Inc** (Richard Mulcahy, 11 North Street) requested a One Day All Alcohol Liquor license for a jazz concert to be held at the Plymouth Center for the Arts (11 North Street) from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on October 2, 2011.

Liquor liability will be in place before the license is released.

*One day liquor licenses shall automatically cover the day before and the day after the event for the purpose of proper delivery, storage and disposal of alcoholic beverages purchased.

VEHICLE FOR HIRE OPERATOR LICENSE (NEW)

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to approve the following Vehicle for Hire Operator License, as detailed. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **For Mayflower Taxi** (130 Camelot Drive, Scott Vecchi, Owner):

- Andrew Hill (11 Braley Rd, Plymouth)

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

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Meeting Minutes / May 17, 2011 – On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Muratore, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2011 Selectmen’s meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

Meeting Minutes / May 26, 2011 – On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Muratore, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2011 Selectmen’s meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

Rescind Vote on Article 30 – The Board voted to (a) rescind its previous vote to recommend Article 30 (By Petition – Change Date of Fall Town Meeting) and (b) recommend no motion/no action on Article 30.

Add Article 19 to Change Date of Fall Town Meeting – The Board voted to add and recommend the following Fall Town Meeting warrant article:

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 173-3 of the Town General Bylaws by changing the convening date of the Fall Annual Town meeting to the first Saturday in November, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gerald Sirrico, Town Meeting Member from Precinct 3, noted a recent issue within his precinct whereby a woman in a motorized wheelchair could not access the new sidewalk near 69 Newfield Street, because (it appeared that) the curb cut was too high. The new sidewalk, he noted, already has a number of cracks. On another note, Mr. Sirrico reported that he has received some calls from residents of Birch Avenue as to how the Town came to its recent decision to implement two-way traffic on the one-way street. Mr. Sirrico asked if such action should have required a formal vote of the Selectmen.

Mr. Stankiewicz explained that the decision to allow two-way traffic on Birch Avenue was made out of necessity, because the bridge over Town Brook on Newfield Street cannot sustain the weight of school buses and fire trucks until it is fully repaired. The change, he asserted, is temporary, and, thus, does not require a formal vote of the Selectman.

Vice Chairman Mahoney recommended that the Selectmen take a formal vote on Birch Avenue during its next meeting, because it may be a number of years before the Newfield Street bridge can be fully repaired.

Ed Russell sought to correct a comment that was made during the previous Selectmen’s meeting that the Town of Plymouth needs a bowling alley and a movie theater. Mr. Russell clarified that Plymouth does, in fact, have a movie theater in the form of Plimoth Cinema at the Plimoth Plantation. The cinema, he said, is in its fourth year of running independent

films twice per day, seven days per week, and, as such, he encouraged Plymouth's citizens to visit the cinema's website, plimothcinema.org, for more information.

Steve Lydon of Precinct 12 stated that he received many calls from residents within his precinct who were dismayed at the (alleged) lack of traffic management and safety measures used during a recent running event held on Long Pond Road. The "Run to the Rock," he said, forced motorists to travel in the oncoming lane to accommodate the runners participating in the event, eventually creating an unusual amount of traffic back-up at the intersection of Clark Road and Long Pond Road. Mr. Lydon stated his belief that Long Pond Road and Herring Pond Road are not designed to safely host such events.

Helen Hapgood of Lake View Boulevard in South Plymouth thanked the Department of Public Works for their efforts to correct a drainage issue that has plagued her neighborhood since 1952.

FALL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow a sum of money for the construction and/or repair and/or purchase and/or lease and/or replacement of departmental buildings and/or equipment and/or capital facilities and/or for feasibility studies and other types of studies for the various departments of the Town substantially as follows:

- a) **Stephen's Field**
- b) **Capping Landfill**
- c) **Fuel Tanks Purchase, Installation, and Relocation**
- d) **Police Cruisers**
- e) **Town Green Monument**
- f) **Runway Improvement Project**

Or take any other action relative thereto.

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ARTICLE 4A – STEPHENS FIELD

Assistant Town Manager Melissa Arrighi explained that Article 4A seeks to appropriate \$50,000 to complete an environmental site investigation on the former Public Works properties which abut Stephens Field. The site investigation, she said, will be the first step in annexing and utilizing the properties as part of the recreation area. Ms. Arrighi noted staff's expectation that there will be some level of contamination at the site that will require remediation, and, thus, more funding may be requested at the Spring Town Meeting.

Joan Bartlett spoke on behalf of the Friends of Stephens Field and the Open Space Committee with regard to Article 4A. The Friends group and the Open Space Committee, she said, fully support the annexation of the former DPW parcels to the park, and, thus, she encouraged the Selectmen to vote in support of Article 4A.

Gerald Sirrico of Precinct 3 acknowledged the challenges of the current economic situation but noted the importance of Stephens Field as one of Plymouth's few waterfront recreation areas.

Selectman Muratore made a motion to recommend Article 4A to the 2011 Fall Annual Town meeting. Selectmen Harnais seconded the motion. Following some brief remaining discussion, the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting Article 4A.

ARTICLE 4B – CAPPING OF SOUTH STREET LANDFILL

Public Works Director Jonathan Beder presented Article 4B, which represents approximately \$3.2 million in funding needed for the capping of the South Street Transfer Station (which was formerly used as a landfill). Mr. Beder explained that he is still working closely with the County towards a joint resolution to the capping (which will likely be mandated by the State's Department of Environmental Protection). At this time, he explained, the request in Article 4B is for the expense to cap and monitor the site, only—the cost to construct a new transfer station at the site, he said, has been removed from the equation.

Mr. Beder provided some further details with regard to the work necessary to cap the site and the negotiations the Town has conducted with the County. Mr. Stankiewicz reiterated that, if the Town does not proceed with capping the landfill, the Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") will issue an executive order to do so.

Mr. Beder and Mr. Stankiewicz responded to questions from the Selectmen concerning the proposed appropriation of funds and the County's role in the resolution. Mr. Stankiewicz explained the way in which the money will be allocated for this project, and he discussed the means by which the County may be able to shoulder the burden of the capping—if not through a monetary contribution, then through the provision of property.

Chairman Hallisey expressed concern that the County was not shouldering its portion of the responsibility to cap the site. Selectman Muratore questioned why this article could not be delayed until the Spring Town Meeting. Mr. Stankiewicz explained that Article 4B authorizes the Town to borrow the funds for the project; if the funds are not used, they are returned. The Town, Mr. Stankiewicz informed the Board, may be able to recoup some of its costs by accepting slightly contaminated fill from other communities to cap the site (which is allowed by DEP). The County, Mr. Stankiewicz said, has some strategically-located property that might be important to the Town, and further discussion with the County is necessary to work out the details of how the resolution will be shared. If both parties do not appear to be making a good faith effort to voluntarily resolve the issues at the former landfill, Mr. Stankiewicz noted, DEP will issue the order to do so.

The Selectmen discussed the merits of Article 4B. Chairman Hallisey recommended that Article 4B be delayed until the 2012 Spring Town Meeting. Selectman Brewster sought to have assurances that the County would take responsibility for its share of the capping before the Town borrows any money.

Mr. Stankiewicz stated that the Town and the County will need to develop a pro-forma plan to proceed with the capping. The pro-forma will be submitted to DEP, he said, to determine whether the plan will be acceptable, and, if approved, a final agreement will be executed between the Town and the County, prior to the borrowing of any funds. Mr. Stankiewicz noted that he would invite representatives from the County to speak with the Board as a show of good faith.

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to recommend Article 4B to the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

ARTICLE 4C – FUEL TANKS (PURCHASE, INSTALLATION, AND RELOCATION)

Fire Chief G. Edward Bradley reported that Article 4C represents the replacement of failing fuel tanks located at the Town's T-Wharf. Chief Bradley detailed plans for the removal, replacement, and relocation of the tanks to Town Wharf, noting that the lessee (who currently operates the fueling station) will be responsible for some remediation work and expenses as part of the replacement. The tanks can be purchased and installed for approximately \$125,000, he said, and each will be encased in its own vault. If the Town does not act, Chief Bradley noted, the State's Fire Marshal and the Department of Environmental Protection will mandate the Town to do so.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to recommend Article 4C to the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

ARTICLE 4D – POLICE CRUISERS

Ms. Arrighi reported that two police vehicles have been "totaled" by the Town's insurance carrier. Under state law, she explained, Town Meeting must vote to appropriate the cost to replace the vehicles, in order to recoup the insurance proceeds for the totaled vehicles. In response to a question from Selectman Harnais, Ms. Arrighi noted that the appropriation of insurance proceeds to replace the vehicles does not qualify as a capital expenditure.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to recommend Article 4D to the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

ARTICLE 4E – TOWN GREEN MONUMENT

Ms. Arrighi informed the Board that the historic Civil War Monument located on the Town's Training Green is in need of repair. The estimated cost to complete the necessary work upon the monument is \$20,000. Article 4E, she said, seeks only \$10,000 in support of the repair, because a local group of citizens hope to raise the remaining \$10,000 from private donations.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to recommend Article 4E to the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

ARTICLE 4F – RUNWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

On behalf of the Town's Airport Manager (who was unable to attend the meeting), Ms. Arrighi presented Article 4F, which represents a request for use of Airport Enterprise surplus funds to execute the final permitting and design plans for the Airport Runway Improvement Project. This is the third phase of the four-phase process that is necessary to complete the extension of the Airport's north-south runway, she noted.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to recommend Article 4F to the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

PUBLIC HEARING: ARTICLE 23 AND ARTICLE 25

Chairman Hallisey opened a public hearing to consider the layout of Armstrong Road and a portion of Cherry Street as Town ways. Chairman Hallisey affirmed that notice of the hearing was properly given and that those wishing to be heard on the matter were encouraged to attend.

Sid Kashi, Town Engineer, presented Articles 23 and 25, which represent the proposed layouts for Armstrong Road and Cherry Street, respectively.

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to release all of the Town's right, title and interest in the easement area containing approximately 0.51 acres and shown as Parcel "B" (Plymouth Assessor's Parcel No. 101-000-053H000) on the plan entitled "Plan of Land in Plymouth Massachusetts prepared for Plymouth Industrial Development Corporation," dated September 22, 1981 and recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 22, Page 994; and accept perpetual easements for public way purposes over the properties located on Armstrong Road, Plymouth, MA and shown as Plymouth Assessor's Parcels No. 102-000-012A-007, 102-000-012D-000, 102-000-053G-000, 102-000-053F-000, 101-000-053H-000, 101, 000-053C-000, 101-000-055-000, 101-000-056A-000; and further to accept and allow as a public way the following street or portion thereof as laid out by the Board of Selectmen and reported to the Town, and as shown on plans on file with the Town Clerk; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain an easement to use said ways for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Plymouth, and all associated easements; and further, to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, accept gifts or borrow a sum of money for this purpose and any expenses related thereto; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this acquisition or take any other action relative thereto:

Armstrong Road, A Portion of;

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Mr. Kashi informed the Board that Armstrong Road was built in 2005 and is located off Industrial Park Road. The Town seeks to establish Armstrong Road as a public way, Mr. Kashi reported, but, before the road was constructed, an easement had been given to a private developer. There is no further need for the private entity to hold the easement, he explained, and, thus, Article 23 asks Town Meeting to accept the private road as public and abandon the former easement. Mr. Kashi noted that the road remains in good condition and is appropriate for acceptance as a public way.

Chairman Hallisey opened the hearing to public comment. No citizens came forth to speak.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to recommend Article 23 to the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to accept and allow as a Town Way the following street or portions thereof as laid out by the Board of Selectmen and reported to the Town, and as shown on plans on file with the Town Clerk; and further to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money for the payment of expenses of the acquisition of title, and for the payments of damages, where necessary, and for such other incidental legal expenses related thereto; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute all instruments and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this acceptance or take any other action relative thereto:

Cherry Street, Re-Establish, and alter A Portion Thereof

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Mr. Kashi reported that the Town was granted an easement for the alteration of a portion of Cherry Street, near the intersection of Cherry Street and Court Street (Route 3A). Though the easement was granted in 1996, he said, the Town will finally take action on the layout alteration via Article 25.

Seeing no comment from the public, Chairman Hallisey closed the hearing to await a motion of the Board. On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to recommend Article 25 to the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

FALL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, management, and control of A Portion of Assessor's Plats 101-000-056A000, and 102-000-012D000 from the Board of Selectmen for General Municipal purposes to the Board of Selectmen for Highway purposes in conjunction with the acceptance of Armstrong Road Extension as a Public Way, or take any other action relative thereto.

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Mr. Kashi informed the Board that Article 24 requests a change of use for portions of two Town-owned properties on Armstrong Road. Portions of Armstrong Road run through these properties, which are designated for "Water Supply Use," he reported. For 'housekeeping' purposes, Mr. Kashi explained, the Selectmen and Town Meeting are being asked to change the use of only those portions of property over which the road travels from "Water Supply Use" to "Highway Purposes."

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to recommend Article 24 to the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to exchange Lot 1B of Town of Plymouth Assessor's Map Plat 94, for a portion of Lot A204, on Plat 78C consisting of 3.75 acres more or less owned by Pine Hills LLC, to provide access to Old Sandwich Road, and as shown on a plan entitled, "Proposed Municipal Property/Easement at the Pine Hills" dated December 4, 2009, or take any other action relative thereto.

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Aaron Wallace, Plymouth's Emergency Management Director, presented Article 22, by which the Town seeks to conduct a parcel exchange with Pinehills, LLC for the purpose of access to properties adjacent to the Pine Hills fire tower. Article 22, he said, will exchange a Town-owned, landlocked parcel (Lot 1B on Map 94) for a portion of Pinehills-owned property (Lot A-204 on Map 78C). Mr. Wallace explained that the exchange was proposed by a concerned citizen who recognized an opportunity to provide the Town with (a) improved access to the current fire tower and (b) 3.75 acres on which to erect future vertical emergency communications infrastructure.

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Muratore, the Board voted to recommend Article 22 to the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

ARTICLE 33

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and convey all of the Town's right, title and interest, if any, in all or a portion of Lot 58A on Map 56 of the January 1, 2011 Plymouth Assessors Maps, or take any other action relative thereto.

BY PETITION: Richard Serkey, et al.

Ms. Arrighi explained that Town Counsel needed additional time to review Article 33.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to table its decision on Article 33 until the September 20, 2011 meeting. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

1820 COURTHOUSE: ARTICLES 14 AND 15

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to fund a reimbursement to the Plymouth Redevelopment Authority for expended stabilization costs of \$26,584.08 and to pay for one year of property and liability insurance of the Courthouse Building for \$9,600 to begin October 22, 2011 for a total of \$36,184.08.

PLYMOUTH REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to fund \$200,000 for Phase II redevelopment planning of the 1820 Courthouse Corridor.

PLYMOUTH REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Prior to the commencement of the Plymouth Redevelopment Authority's ("PRA") presentation on Articles 14 and 15, Selectman Harnais initiated discussion on whether the Selectmen should consider hearing the articles, at all. Selectman Harnais noted that he already viewed the 1820 Courthouse Consortium's presentation during the recent meeting of the Advisory & Finance Committee, and he stated that he did not support any further funding of the 1820 Courthouse project.

Selectman Harnais made a motion to withdraw Articles 14 and 15 from the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Selectman Muratore seconded the motion. Selectman Brewster noted that the PRA's representatives were not yet in the hearing room to begin their presentation, and, thus, she recommended that the Board give them the opportunity to be heard on the matter, prior to taking a vote.

The Board continued its discussion while the representatives of the PRA situated themselves in the hearing room. Selectman Muratore noted that he, too, saw the presentation that the PRA provided to the Advisory & Finance Committee. The project, he speculated, will not succeed without some sort of participation from a private developer. Selectman Muratore offered his recommendation that the Selectmen take the helm of the project and steer it away from personality conflicts towards a more cooperative effort.

As discussion appeared to conclude, the Board voted 4-0-1 in favor of Selectman Harnais's motion to withdraw Articles 14 and 15 from the 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Vice Chairman Mahoney did not cast a vote.

Dean Rizzo, secretary of the PRA and chairman of the 1820 Courthouse consortium, urged the Board to rescind its vote to withdraw Articles 14 and 15. In order to properly preserve and redevelop the historic courthouse property in a manner that best fits the public's interests, Mr. Rizzo said, it is imperative to fully research and plan such an undertaking—anything less, he noted, would be irresponsible. The PRA has submitted a grant application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") to fund the initiatives outlined in Articles 14 and 15, he noted, with the ultimate hope that neither articles will be necessary, if the grant is awarded.

Dialogue ensued between Mr. Rizzo and the Selectmen on the merits of Articles 14 and 15. Mr. Rizzo questioned why the Selectmen would refuse to fund the maintenance of the courthouse property after Town Meeting spent \$1.4 million to purchase it. Selectman Muratore again recommended that the Selectmen become involved in the planning process, to eliminate personality conflicts and facilitate a collaborative approach to the redevelopment of the courthouse between various interested parties. Chairman Hallisey acknowledged the value and importance of the Historic Structures Report (completed by the consulting firm of CBT Architects) as a tool with which the Town can attract private developers to the project. Vice Chairman Mahoney noted that he did not support the withdrawal of Articles 14 and 15, when projects of such magnitude take time to adequately develop. It would be a shame, Vice Chairman Mahoney said, to spend millions on the 400th Anniversary event and have the historic 1820 Courthouse sit vacant and overlooked during the celebration. Selectman Brewster noted her desire to see the historic courthouse preserved but questioned the

feasibility of sustaining such an endeavor, if the end result will not generate enough revenue to provide a return on the taxpayers' investment. Based on her perception of the discussion, Selectman Brewster said, it appears that the Selectmen and the PRA share the same goals, and, thus, she echoed Selectman Muratore's recommendation to gather the talents of the various interested boards/commissions to work towards those shared goals.

At the close of discussion, Chairman Hallisey made a recommendation to schedule the matter for further conversation at an upcoming meeting.

BOARD LIAISON / DESIGNEE UPDATES

400th Anniversary Committee – Selectman Brewster noted that she and the members of the “Plymouth 400” recently met to hear a presentation from a consulting group on a number of exciting plans for the year-long 2020 celebration. The consulting group, she reported, will bring its presentation before the Board in the coming weeks.

OLD BUSINESS / LETTERS / NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

Civil War Reenactment on Training Green – Selectman Brewster reported that the Town will hold a Civil War reenactment on the Town's Training Green to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War and to raise awareness and funding for much-needed repairs to the Civil War monument at the green. The event, she said, will be held on Saturday, November 12, 2011.

NEW BUSINESS

FY2013 Budget – Selectman Muratore asked that the Board schedule a discussion on the FY2013 Budget, to provide the Town Manager with its direction on the formulation of the budget. He expressed his personal belief that the Town must do everything possible to hold its current tax rate at \$13.04 (per \$1,000 valued), because the rate has increased so dramatically from 2008 to 2011. As such, Selectman Muratore offered his recommendation that the Selectmen consider making a commitment to hold the tax rate at the FY2012 amount.

Discussion ensued upon Selectman Muratore's proposal and the ways by which such a directive from the Board could be accomplished. Mr. Stankiewicz explained the reasons why it may be extremely difficult for both the Town and the School Department to build a FY2013 budget based on the current tax rate, considering the fact that the new high school and senior center will be opening next year. The Board, Mr. Stankiewicz said, will have to determine its priorities as the budget is evaluated, piece by piece, as many sacrifices will need to be made in order to satisfy such a tall order.

Chairman Hallisey and Selectman Harnais expressed support for Selectman Muratore's proposal. More specifically, Chairman Hallisey stressed the importance of encouraging commercial growth in Plymouth, to offset the tax burden upon residents. Vice Chairman Mahoney acknowledged the role of commercial growth in balancing the tax burden, but noted that the Town's insurance costs have risen in recent years to the point that a dozen Wal-Mart shopping plazas could not offset such expenses. With the reduction in revenue from the nuclear power station (due to deregulation) and a \$75 million School budget, Vice Chairman Mahoney said, it will be impossible to maintain the current tax rate without reducing staff levels in departments that are already woefully understaffed.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at approximately 9:15 p.m. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

Recorded by Tiffany Park, Clerk to the Board of Selectmen

A copy of the September 13, 2011 meeting packet is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen's office.