

~ PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN ~

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

TOWN HALL MAYFLOWER ROOM

The Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall in the Mayflower Room.

Present: Mathew J. Muratore, Chairman
John T. Mahoney, Jr., Vice Chairman
Belinda A. Brewster
Kenneth A. Tavares [arrived at 7:10 p.m.]

Melissa Arrighi, Town Manager

Absent: Selectman Sergio Harnais

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Muratore called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prior to proceeding with the evening's agenda, Chairman Muratore held moment of silence for the victims of the September 11th, 2001 tragedy.

URBAN LAND INSTITUTE TECHNICAL PANEL: 1820 COURTHOUSE

Chairman Muratore welcomed the members of the Urban Land Institute's Technical Assistance Panel and thanked them for choosing Plymouth's 1820 Courthouse Redevelopment Project as the subject of one of its one-day professional workshops. Chairman Muratore acknowledged the members of the Plymouth Redevelopment Authority ("PRA") and Plymouth Growth & Development Corporation and thanked them for facilitating the panel event.

Chairman Muratore explained that the Urban Land Institute ("ULI") is an internationally-known, not-for-profit research/educational planning & development organization that assists communities with challenging land-use problems and opportunities. The panel, he said, spent the earlier part of the day touring the downtown/waterfront district and meeting with local stakeholders to discuss the Courthouse and its surrounding properties.

Chairman Muratore listed the volunteer panelists chosen by ULI to serve upon the Technical Assistance Panel ("TAP"):

Derek Osterman of SMMA, TAP Co-Chair
Scott Payette of Scott Payette Architects, TAP Co-Chair
Josh Allston, PE, LEED AP *Nitsch Engineering*

Todd Finard	<i>Finard Properties, LLC</i>
Jonathan Greeley	<i>Boston Redevelopment Authority</i>
Fern Kanter	<i>Capital Hotel Management, LLC</i>
Victor Karen	<i>Citybuilding Enterprises</i>
Nyal McDonough	<i>The Berkshire Group</i>
Ryan Pace	<i>Anderson & Kreiger, LLP</i>
Ken Turino	<i>Historic New England</i>
Virginia Quinn	<i>ULI Report Writer</i>
Michelle Landers	<i>Director of ULI Boston</i>

ULI Co-Chair Scott Payette introduced the panel discussion, noting that the TAP’s charge—as requested by the PRA and PGDC—was to evaluate the 1820 Courthouse and its adjacent properties and provide a master plan of redevelopment options and economic development strategies. Mr. Payette reviewed the composition of the panel and discussed the TAP’s tour of the downtown and courthouse properties.

Nyal McDonough discussed the importance of “wayfinding” within tourist communities and offered recommendations upon parking, transportation, and connectivity between points of interest in the downtown/waterfront district.

Jonathan Greeley expanded upon Mr. McDonough’s comments about parking, transportation, and connectivity, noting the emphasis that should be placed upon improving the Town’s primary east-west connectors between the waterfront and the downtown: Leyden, North, and Brewster streets. In terms of transportation, he said, the Memorial Hall parking garage is an important step in the right direction, but a consistent connection from the downtown / waterfront district to the commuter rail is lacking.

Ken Turino extolled the features of the courthouse and its central location, remarking upon the significance that the historic building appears to hold with the community stakeholders with whom the panel spoke.

Joshua Allston discussed the courthouse location’s features relative to potential future uses, noting that the building’s distance (setback) from the street does not make it an ideal location for retail use. In addition, he said, it is clear that the Town wishes to preserve the courthouse façade and maintain some public access to the historic Daniel Webster Courtroom, but it is unclear as to how such access and preservation restrictions might affect potential development.

Fern Kanter talked about the way by which the panel identified and considered a number of uses for the building, based not only on input from the local stakeholders group but also from a developer’s perspective. Plymouth’s tourist economy is too seasonal to offset the expense of converting the courthouse to a hotel, she said, while the setback from the street will likely discourage retail uses. Ms. Kanter explained that the use of the courthouse as a Town Hall or Visitors Center is worth consideration, but such uses, she added, would generate no revenue to offset the expense of renovating the building.

Todd Finard gave an account of the current retail market and explained why only locally-

based retailers would consider the courthouse as a place to do business. In order to attract tenants, however, the Town would be required to make a significant investment to adequately renovate the building to standards that would be compatible with retail or office use. Mr. Finard utilized maps to illustrate the courthouse and the “Courthouse Corridor” properties. He recommended that the Town consider employing the use of a zoning overlay district that would allow for increased building heights, to accommodate residential development at the rear portion of the corridor.

ULI Co-Chair Derek Osterman acknowledged the value of the 1820 Courthouse as a public landmark and central anchor for downtown business establishments. Burial Hill, he said, is a spectacular but underutilized site, and, thus, it would be sensible to integrate the adjoining courthouse properties and historic burial ground as joint destinations. Mr. Osterman recommended the modification of Brewster Street from a wide roadway to a narrowed, pedestrian friendly-boulevard (with wider sidewalks), to encourage foot traffic from the waterfront to the downtown. The panel, he said, agreed that the municipally-owned properties located towards the rear of the corridor would be best suited for residential development (i.e. a mix of apartments and townhouses).

Victor Karen expanded upon Mr. Osterman’s comments regarding residential development within the Courthouse Corridor, noting that, despite the current economic downturn, there is always a demand for housing. Plymouth’s downtown character, he said, is likely to attract a demographic of younger residents who seek an urban and culturally-diverse lifestyle. Mr. Karen explained how the construction of residential units might be the best means of attracting a developer to participate in a joint venture that will generate both public and private benefits. A project of such uniqueness and magnitude will require national marketing, he indicated, as well as the formulation of a real estate development plan that will satisfy both public and private needs.

Ryan Pace discussed the challenges that real estate developers face when doing business in Massachusetts, due to the strict zoning and conservation laws that are characteristic of communities across the State. Mr. Pace recommended that the Town use Community Preservation funds to preserve and stabilize the courthouse prior to issuing a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for the development of residential units within the Courthouse Corridor.

Mr. Payette closed the TAP’s presentation with recognition of the work done by Lieza Dagher (1820 Courthouse Consortium), Leighton Price (PGDC Chairman), Larry Rosenblum (1820 Courthouse Consortium), Lee Hartmann (Town Planning Director), Melissa Arrighi (Town Manager), Dean Rizzo (PRA and 1820 Courthouse Consortium), and the members of the PRA and PGDC to assist ULI with the TAP.

Chairman Muratore opened the discussion to public comment.

Lieza Dagher, member of the 1820 Courthouse Consortium, thanked the members of the ULI panel for donating their time and for choosing the 1820 Courthouse as the subject of one of ULI’s one-day professional workshops. Noting the Town’s forthcoming 400th Anniversary Celebration and the urgency to generate activity at the courthouse, Ms. Dagher asked Mr.

Pace to discuss his recommendation upon the “next steps” and timeframes associated with the redevelopment of the Courthouse Corridor.

Mr. Pace recommended that the Town begin working upon a zoning overlay district that would allow residential development within the corridor while concurrently stabilizing and preserving the historic courthouse. Both of these activities, he said, will begin generating significant development interest in the site.

Larry Rosenblum, member of the 1820 Courthouse Consortium, speculated whether there might be some way to utilize or redevelop the ancillary buildings within the Courthouse Corridor without completely demolishing them.

[Selectman Tavares arrived at 7:10 p.m.]

Kevin Doyle of Precinct 6 inquired if the panel theoretically included the existing residential homes within the corridor as part of the area that should be considered for redevelopment. Mr. Finard responded that the panel feels that the existing residential homes should remain as they are—unless, of course, the owners were interested in selling their properties.

At the close of public comment, Mr. Finard and Mr. Karen responded to a handful of questions and comments from the Board regarding the panel’s recommendation that the Town pursue residential development within the Courthouse Corridor. Mr. Karen discussed the ways by which Tax Increment Financing Agreements (“TIF”) can be utilized as catalysts for public-private projects.

After taking the opportunity to thank all those who participated in the ULI TAP, Chairman Muratore called for a brief recess to allow the panel members an opportunity to exit the meeting. He then reconvened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

Appointment of Special Assistant to the Town Manager – Town Manager Melissa Arrighi was pleased to announce that she recently appointed Elizabeth Sullivan to the position of Special Assistant in the Town Manager’s Office. Ms. Sullivan, she said, is a Plymouth resident who has served for many years as the Town’s Conservation Agent in the Office of Planning & Development. Ms. Arrighi indicated that Ms. Sullivan, who will start in her new position as Special Assistant on September 24, 2012, holds a Bachelor’s Degree and is currently enrolled in the Public Administration Program at Suffolk University.

Ms. Sullivan took an opportunity to address the Board regarding her appointment. She thanked Ms. Arrighi for providing her with the opportunity to continue serving her hometown of Plymouth in a new capacity as the Special Assistant.

Vote Recount in Governor’s Council Primary Election – Ms. Arrighi informed the Board that a primary election recount has been requested for the democratic candidate in the race for

Governor's Council. She asked Town Clerk Laurence Pizer to provide further explanation of the recount process.

Mr. Pizer noted that a close race between democratic candidates for Governor's Council (First District) during the recent primary election has prompted a district-wide recount. Plymouth, he reported, will publicly conduct its recount on Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 5:00 p.m., at an expense of approximately \$1,500.

Ms. Arrighi noted that she would speak with the Town's Finance Director to determine how best to fund the unanticipated expense of the recount.

Solid Waste Options – Ms. Arrighi reported that, on Friday, September 7, 2012, she, Selectman Brewster, and DPW Director Jonathan Beder met with the Town Manager's Advisory Group on Solid Waste. The seven members of the advisory group were identified as Pat Adelmann, Linda Benezra, Mary LeSueur, William Lindsey, Paul Martinelli, John Patrick Minerella, and Richard Rothstein. Ms. Arrighi explained that the charge of the group is to examine and understand the costs, structure, implementation, and details of the proposed curbside pickup solid waste program for Plymouth. The group, she said, will (1) monitor and participate in the public outreach and education sessions for the curbside program, (2) assess public reaction and possible public participation in the program, and (3) advise her and the DPW Director upon the merits and challenges of the program prior Town Meeting in April 2013.

White Horse Beach Parking Committee – Ms. Arrighi asked the Board to create a temporary committee to research parking options for the White Horse Beach area. Throughout the past few summers, she said, the Town has received numerous complaints regarding parking in that area, particularly along Taylor Avenue. Ms. Arrighi reported that, following a recent visit from some residents who presented the Town with a petition to implement a resident permit parking program, she recognized the merit of providing the citizens of White Horse Beach with a means through which they might research and devise a recommendation upon a parking program for their area. The proposed committee, she noted, will be charged with the task of (a) researching parking plans in coastal areas with cluster development and (b) developing possible strategies to mitigate or improve the seasonal parking situation. The committee's proposal, Ms. Arrighi explained, shall include an assessment of current parking; a plan for implementation of a new program that will achieve some type of resident/visitor balance; recommendations on enforcement procedures; and a projected timeline and budget for the implementation of the parking program. The committee would be expected to present its final recommendation to the Board of Selectmen in the Spring of 2013.

On a motion by Selectman Tavares, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to create a temporary White Horse Beach Parking Committee, as presented by the Town Manager. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

At the invitation of the Town Manager, Cheryl Damiano briefly spoke to the Board about the reasons why a number of White Horse Beach property owners have requested resident-designated parking in their neighborhood between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends.

Ms. Damiano identified herself as the owner of property on White Horse Beach and the secretary of the White Horse Beach Association.

Employee Recognition – Ms. Arrighi was pleased to report that Kim Michaelis Tower of the Environmental Management Division recently received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Herring Pond Watershed Association, a group that she has been working with for years on water quality, sampling, and stormwater issues related to Herring Pond.

Department of Conservation and Recreation – Ms. Arrighi announced that, on Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at 9:30 a.m., the Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation will hold an official press conference at Town Brook to release \$750,000 for the Town Brook/Off Billington Street dam removal project. This grant, she explained, is half of the \$1,500,000 in State bond bill funds allocated for this project.

Advertising on Town Hall Web Page – Ms. Arrighi was pleased to inform the Board that the Town will begin displaying local advertisements on its website. The idea for allowing paid advertising on the Town’s home page was presented to the Consolidation Committee by the Information Technology Director, Joe Young, as a means for the Town to generate additional revenue.

Town Meeting Members Handbook – Ms. Arrighi noted that the Committee of Precinct Chairs has developed a handbook for new Town Meeting Members. The Town Clerk, she said, will distribute the handbook (electronically to those with e-mail access and in hard copy to those without e-mail access) to all Town Meeting Members. Ms. Arrighi thanked the Committee of Precinct Chairs—Christine Pratt (COPC chairman), in particular—for the amount of work they invested in creating such an important tool for Plymouth’s legislative body.

COMMITTEE LIAISON / DESIGNEE UPDATES

Nuclear Matters Committee – Vice Chairman Mahoney reported that a representative from Congressman Keating’s office will attend the September 17, 2012 meeting of the Nuclear Matters Committee to hear the committee’s concerns and relay information back to the Congressman.

Energy Committee / Energy Expo – Chairman Muratore announced that the Town’s Energy Committee, in partnership with a number of other local organizations, will host an Energy Expo at the new Plymouth North High School from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. on September 23, 2012. The expo, he explained, is intended to be the first in a series of annual events at which citizens can become more aware of energy-saving initiatives.

Council on Aging Survey – Chairman Muratore was pleased to report that, at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 13, 2012, the Council on Aging will unveil the results of the programmatic accreditation survey that it issued to Plymouth’s seniors. The Council, he said, will bring the results forth to the Selectmen during an upcoming meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Muratore opened the meeting to public comment. No citizens came forth to address the Board.

LICENSES

There were no license applications submitted for September 11, 2012.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Meeting Minutes – The Board approved the meeting minutes of the May 15, 2012 and May 22, 2012 Selectmen’s meetings.

Deed of Easement for Drainage on Samoset Street – The Board approved the acceptance of a *Deed of Easement* from Barry and Donna Jean Tassinari for easement over a certain parcel of land at 37 Samoset Street, shown as Lot 7 on Map 13, for the purpose of drainage, as recommended by the Engineering Department.

UPDATE ON 2012 SEASON AT MORTON PARK

Recreation Director Barry DeBlasio provided the Board with a follow-up report on a number of improvement measures undertaken at Morton Park to enhance the visitor experience at the recreation area and protect the natural features of the park from degradation.

In November of 2011, Mr. DeBlasio explained, the Department of Public Works (“DPW”) came before the Board to request permission to (1) limit vehicular access to the remote areas of the park via the installation of gates, (2) designate the boat ramp area for ramp use only, and (3) increase daily parking fees from \$15 to \$20.

Mr. DeBlasio noted that the new gates were successful in limiting vehicular access to remote areas of the park, resulting in fewer calls for assistance from the Police Department. While the DPW anticipated resistance to the gates from local fishermen, he said, most seem to have come to understand the reasons behind the precautionary measure. The improved signage and revamped parking areas at the park have had a generally positive impact on the season. Despite a five-dollar increase in the day parking fee (from \$15 to \$20), Mr. DeBlasio noted, visitor/usage numbers at Morton Park were consistent with that of the previous year. One change to note, Mr. DeBlasio said, is that there appears to be a growing number of local residents using the park on Saturdays.

Mr. DeBlasio reported that the Billington Sea boat launch is still difficult to manage, as swimming in that area is prohibited and, thus, there are no lifeguards monitoring activity. Despite improved signage at the launch and visits from the Harbormaster’s Office, visitors

still migrate to this area. Litter continues to be a problem following busy weekends at the park, requiring multiple pickups from DPW crews. Mr. DeBlasio indicated that there are a number of visitors who tend to distance themselves as far away from the supervised areas of the park, causing concern that there are visitors swimming in unmonitored areas.

At the close of his presentation, Mr. DeBlasio responded to questions and comments from the Selectmen regarding safety issues at the park. Mr. DeBlasio acknowledged that there was an increase in the presence of hypodermic needles strewn with litter in the park this summer, prompting his request for enhanced police patrols during the evening hours. The Town, he said, cannot completely block off access to the park at night, because one of the access points to the park also serves as a right-of-way to a number of private residential properties.

Ms. Arrighi noted that she would speak to the Police Chief about increasing seasonal bicycle patrols in the park. Mr. DeBlasio recommended cruiser patrols during the evening hours.

Mr. DeBlasio spoke more specifically about the way by which the Recreation Department is trying to improve its management practices on July 4th, when an inordinate influx of visitors fills the park. Staff, he said, must arrive at the park entrance as early as 5:45 a.m., as parking typically reaches capacity (200 vehicles) on July 4th by 7:30 a.m. It would be sensible, he said, to consider implementing a dedicated park ranger or park police program to manage the crowds at the park on weekends and holidays, simply because the seasonal lifeguards and parking attendants are not trained or equipped to handle issues beyond their respective responsibilities. Mr. DeBlasio noted that the park was deeded to the Town with the understanding that it would be “open to the public,” and, therefore, the Town cannot restrict its use exclusively to Plymouth residents.

Mr. DeBlasio reiterated his recommendation that Morton Park be regularly patrolled with law enforcement staff, because the reduction of public drinking at the park will solve the majority of problems that occur at the recreation area.

Selectman Tavares recommended that the Town set aside funds in next year’s budget to provide for additional patrols at the park, to better manage the volume of visitors. In addition, he said, the Town should consider raising the day parking fee even further, to ensure that the park can be adequately managed to the point where Plymouth residents will no longer feel discouraged to utilize the park because of overwhelming out-of-town crowds.

Selectman Brewster echoed Selectman Tavares’ comments and asked that the DPW Director, Police Chief, and Recreation Director work together to deter public drinking and littering at Morton Park..

Seeing no further discussion, Chairman Muratore opened the meeting to public comment.

Ken Buechs expressed concern about the number of hypodermic needles that are being found throughout the Town. He encouraged citizens who find these needles on or near their property to contact the police for proper disposal.

2012 FALL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

ARTICLE 2A

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 7A of the 2012 Annual Town Meeting warrant, and, as necessary, to raise, appropriate, transfer or borrow funds for the purpose of supplementing departmental expenses, and/or to reduce certain departmental expenses or otherwise amend said vote, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Finance Director Lynne Barrett provided the Board with an explanation of the modifications she has proposed to the FY2013 budget (Article 7A of the 2012 Annual Town Meeting) for each of the following budget line items:

- Line Item #6 – Town Clerk Expenses: Postage
- Line Item #20 – Inspectional Services: Health Salaries
- Line Item #21 – Inspectional Services: Health Salaries
- Line Item #34 – Salary Reserve
- Line Item #45 – Non-Enterprise Fund Debt
- Line Item #46 – School Budget
- Line Item #48 – Sewer: Personal Services
- Line Item #53 – Water: Personal Services
- Line Item #55 – Water Enterprise Fund Debt

[The Board voted to recommend Article 2A in the same vote with Article 2B – see vote under next item (page 9).]

ARTICLE 2B

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 7B, 7C, 7D and 7E of the 2012 Annual Town Meeting warrant, and, as necessary, to raise, appropriate, transfer or borrow funds for the purpose of supplementing enterprise departmental expenses, and/or to reduce certain departmental expenses or otherwise amend said vote, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Ms. Barrett explained that Article 2B represents a request from the DPW to transfer a part-time position from the Water Division to that of the Sewer Division, to provide much-needed clerical support to the Wastewater Manager.

On a motion by Vice Chairman Mahoney, seconded by Selectman Tavares, the Board voted to recommend both Article 2A and Article 2B to the 2012 Fall Town Meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 9, Item A-16, B-3 of the 2009 April Town Meeting, pursuant to which funds were appropriated for the reconstruction and making of roadway improvements on Standish Avenue from Samoset Street to Alden Street, to now authorize such funds to be

expended for the reconstruction and making of roadway improvements to Standish Avenue in its entirety, or take any action relative thereto.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Sid Kashi, Town Engineer, explained that Article 19 would allow the DPW to utilize the remaining balance from the Standish Avenue improvement project to extend the improvements beyond Alden Street south to Cherry Street (as the previous vote in April of 2009 only allowed the project to run from Samoset Street south to Alden Street). From the initial \$750,000 set aside for the project, he explained, \$120,000 remains unused.

On a motion by Vice Chairman Mahoney, seconded by Selectman Tavares, the Board voted to recommend Article 19 to the 2012 Fall Town Meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of care, custody, management and control of the following parcel from the Town Treasurer for the purpose of sale at auction to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes and for the purpose of conveyance of easements, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant to NSTAR Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc., a perpetual non-exclusive utility easement in that portion of Town owned property located at 262 Billington Street, more particularly described in deeds recorded with Plymouth County Registry of Deeds in Book 1703, Page 534 and shown on Town Assessors' Map 89 as Parcel 12A, or take any other action relative thereto.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Kashi indicated that Article 27 provides an easement to NSTAR and Verizon for the installation of electric and telecommunications service to the Lout Pond Well Pumping Station. Currently, he explained, there is a temporary license agreement in place that already provided for the installation of the equipment, but Article 27 will eliminate the need for a temporary license agreement in favor of a permanent utility easement to the pumping station.

On a motion by Vice Chairman Mahoney, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to recommend Article 27 to the 2012 Fall Town Meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

SOLID WASTE OPTIONS / PROPOSAL FOR CURBSIDE PICKUP

Jonathan Beder, Director of Public Works, provided the Board with a PowerPoint presentation on the latest information related to the proposal for a curbside solid waste pickup program in the Town of Plymouth.

In January of 2015, Mr. Beder stated, two significant deadlines will pass related to the Town's solid waste program:

1. The Town's lease with Plymouth County for the use of the property where the South Street Transfer Station is situated will expire.
2. The Town's contract for waste disposal with Covanta/SEMSS will expire.

Mr. Beder explained that, if the Town makes no changes to its current program, costs per household for trash disposal will inevitably increase. Due to low recycling rates, dwindling transfer station pass sales, and the potential for the closure of the South Street Transfer Station, he said, the DPW is recommending that the Town consider a curbside pickup program. As such, the Town issued a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for curbside collection, in order to research and analyze costs.

Within his presentation, Mr. Beder reviewed the work that has been done to date on the proposal for curbside collection. The objectives of the DPW related to the solid waste program, he said, are:

- Provide residents with the ability to receive the best in trash collection services, meeting current and future community needs
- Increase recycling and reduce the overall waste generated by Plymouth households

Dennis Westgate, Assistant Director of Public Works, reported that the average household in Plymouth generates 1.29 tons of waste per year. A reasonable goal, he said, is to encourage residents to reduce that amount to 0.79 tons per household, per year, through recycling.

Mr. Beder listed the costs associated with curbside collection:

- Proposed curbside contract with a capture rate of 18,000 subscribers: \$2,379,240
- Projected tipping and disposal cost for 18,000 subscribers: \$534,060
- Projected carry-over costs from Solid Waste Enterprise, including Schools: \$326,700

Mr. Beder identified the estimated cost per household for curbside pickup at \$170-180, if all 18,000 households in Plymouth opt for the service. Whether the Town retains its transfer station program or whether it opts for a curbside program, he said, costs will inevitably increase when the SEMASS contract expires in 2015.

Ms. Arrighi advised the Board to consider that this first-year cost estimate does not include the expense of capping the South Street landfill (approximately \$2.2 million) or any costs associated with keeping one transfer station open (should the Town choose to do so).

Mr. Beder resumed his presentation with a list of immediate benefits of transitioning to a curbside program:

- Increased recycling
- Lowered municipal solid waste
- Less traffic on road
- Less roadside litter

Mr. Beder discussed the next steps related to moving forth with the curbside proposal. Much needs to be done, he said, to conduct public outreach and address residential concerns about the program. He provided the Board with a preliminary schedule:

- September 2012: Agreement with Hauler
- Sept-January 2013: Public Forums

- January 2013: Final Presentation Details
- April 2013: Town Meeting
- September 2013: Potential Implementation

Mr. Beder was asked to discuss the questions and concerns that he has received from residents on the curbside proposal.

- *“Garbage trucks won’t be able to fit down my street.”* – Mr. Beder reported that haulers like ABC Disposal have smaller trucks to provide pickups on narrow streets.
- *“What if it snows?”* – Generally, Mr. Beder said, haulers are still able to collect trash during inclement weather, with the occasional extreme weather circumstance.
- *“There will be trash everywhere.”* – Mr. Beder indicated that statistics show otherwise in communities that use curbside pickup.
- *“How will I get rid of...”* – Mr. Beder explained that there are a number of items that can be handled by private haulers.
- *“What if the hauler misses my stop?”* – Based on conversations with ABC Disposal, Mr. Beder said, the DPW is confident that there are sufficient customer service controls in place to address the occasional oversight.
- *“What about after the holidays?”* – Mr. Beder noted that this question was addressed within the RFP, requiring the hauler to provide pickups after holidays, but he added that extra household trash generated during the holidays would require a request for an additional tote, for a fee.
- *“There will be more trucks on the street.”* – Mr. Beder contended that, by eliminating the Town’s transfer stations, there will be less traffic on the roads—and, therefore, fewer emissions polluting the air.
- *“I can’t bring my trash to the end of my driveway.”* – Mr. Beder stated that individual circumstances can be addressed by the hauler.
- *“Animals will get into the trash bins.”* – Mr. Beder indicated that the trash totes/carts are bullet proof, but residents will need to be sensible in securing the trash within the containers.

At the close of his presentation, Selectman Brewster recommended that representatives from ABC Disposal be present at the next presentation, to provide further details about the way by which special circumstances can be managed.

The conversation then turned to the eventual need to cap the South Street Transfer Station. Mr. Beder reminded the Board and the public that the former landfill is generating methane gas, which is migrating underground towards the Police Department’s headquarters. Once the capping process begins, he explained, the South Street Transfer Station must close. The Cedarville and Manomet stations cannot handle the traffic that flows through South Street (at

which 60% of the Town's total waste is processed), Mr. Beder said, and if the County does not cooperate within the capping process, the completion of the project will be further delayed.

Ms. Arrighi noted that the Town and County continue to engage in conversations about the requirement to remediate and cap the site. It is likely, however, that the County will charge the Town additional rent to utilize the site when the current agreement to use the site expires in January of 2015, which will ultimately drive up the cost for residents, she noted.

Chairman Muratore inquired about the "ash for cash" proposal from SEMASS. Mr. Beder explained that the Town of Bourne negotiated a deal with SEMASS for the acceptance of "bottom ash" from SEMASS's Rochester facility. Ms. Arrighi noted that the Town is looking at accepting other types of fill material (i.e. from harbor dredging and dam removal projects) for the landfill capping that will ultimately offset the Town's projected expenses to dispose of minimally-contaminated sediment.

Selectman Tavares asked that the Board be provided with further detail on the proposed curbside program, along with other potential alternatives. Chairman Muratore requested that the DPW Director draft a comparison chart that addresses projections after 2015.

Seeing no further comment or questions from the Board, Chairman Muratore opened the meeting to public comment.

Ken Buechs questioned how the Town would provide service to residents of remote areas like Saquish and Long Beach. Mr. Beder stated that, based on a questionnaire that went out to Saquish residents—in which the majority expressed no interest in curbside pickup—the Town will not be providing curbside service to that particular remote area of town. With regard to Long Beach, Mr. Beder speculated that there may not be a sufficient number of year-round residents to justify service to homes along Ryder Way.

Kevin Doyle indicated that he has no problems with the curbside service he receives at his other home in another town, but he acknowledged the challenges that disposal haulers could encounter in a town the size of Plymouth. Mr. Doyle asked for an estimate of the annual cost for curbside service, and he questioned whether seniors would be offered a discounted rate. Mr. Westgate responded that the cost for curbside service per household is estimated at \$170-180 per year for the first year of service. Ms. Arrighi responded that staff has not yet determined if a senior discount will be provided.

Steve Lydon stated his observation that he and many of his neighbors would be interested in curbside service. Mr. Lydon asked for more information on how the Town will handle recycling. Mr. Beder assured Mr. Lydon that the DPW intends to make recycling as easy as possible, with single-stream carts collected on a bi-weekly pickup system.

Rich Rothstein questioned how a reduction in tonnage (from increased recycling) could affect the Town's tipping fee for disposal. Mr. Beder explained that it is difficult to predict how the tipping fee will change due to increased recycling without knowing what will happen after the contract with SEMASS expires in 2015.

Joe Notini of Manomet expressed his opinion that the Town appears to be simply privatizing waste disposal by handing the service over to a private hauler. Property owners already have the ability to utilize private hauling services, he said, and though it appears that the cost for curbside pickup might seem less expensive than the Transfer Station Pass, the rate for the second and third years of the curbside program will likely increase dramatically.

At the close of public comment, Chairman Muratore asked the DPW Director to return before the Board with a detailed cost analysis, to illustrate what disposal costs will be in the initial and subsequent years of the curbside program.

OLD BUSINESS / LETTERS / NEW BUSINESS

Plymouth 400, Inc. – Selectman Brewster reported that Plymouth 400, Inc. met on September 10, 2012 to discuss sending a contingent of members on the trip (planned by the Chamber of Commerce) to Plymouth, England. As part of the effort to begin the conversation with Plymouth about international participation in the Town's 400th Anniversary Celebration, she said, Plymouth 400, Inc. would like to present Plymouth, UK officials with a commemorative booklet. On behalf of Plymouth 400, Inc., Selectmen Brewster asked the Board for permission to utilize the Town Seal on the front of the booklet.

On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Tavares, the Board voted to allow Plymouth 400, Inc. the use of the Town Seal on a printing of 100 commemorative booklets. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

Bylaws Pertaining to Street Musicians – Selectman Brewster noted a letter the Selectmen received from Plymouth resident Graham Allen regarding the Town's bylaws pertaining to street musicians. In the letter, she said, Mr. Allen questioned why the Town's bylaws appear to prohibit street music, and he encouraged the Town to change such laws. Selectman Brewster stated her support for allowing street musicians to perform in public areas.

Ms. Arrighi noted that she (or her staff) would contact Mr. Allen to discuss the ways by which Town bylaws can be changed. She advised the Board, however, to consider the possible ramifications of changing a longstanding bylaw, even if, at first glance, it appears to be overly-stringent.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

On a motion by Vice Chairman Mahoney, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at approximately 9:40 p.m. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

Recorded by Tiffany Park, Clerk to the Board of Selectmen

A copy of the September 11, 2012 meeting packet is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen's office.