

# ~ PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN ~

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2012**

TOWN HALL MAYFLOWER ROOM

The Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at 7:00 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

Melissa Arrighi, Town Manager

Absent: Selectman Sergio O. Harnais

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **JOINT MEETING: MSBA FEASIBILITY FOR PLYMOUTH SOUTH H.S.**

### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Dennis Begley, Chairman  
Michelle Badger, Vice Chairman  
Robert Bielan  
Margie Burgess  
Kim Hunt  
Gary Maestas, Superintendent of Schools

Dennis Begley called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:03 p.m.

Gary Maestas provided a presentation on the process of entering the feasibility stage for funding from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”) for the construction or renovation of Plymouth South High School (“PSHS”).

Mr. Maestas provided some brief history on the School Department’s pursuit of consideration for MSBA funding for PSHS, noting that the Selectmen and School Committee met in joint session on July 23, 2012 to vote upon entering the eligibility phase. Upon review of the Town’s request, he said, MSBA granted eligibility status to the PSHS proposal. The School Department then provided MSBA with a great deal of data on the

characteristics of PSHS and the need for construction/renovation of the facility, and, at a meeting held on October 11, 2012, MSBA voted to invite the Town to enter the feasibility phase.

Mr. Maestas displayed a flow chart illustrating MSBA's funding procedures and noted the current status of the PSHS project within the process. Once the Selectmen and School Committee vote to enter the feasibility phase, he explained, the Town will assign an Owner's Project Manager to facilitate the process from the feasibility study to the design stage. Mr. Maestas stated that the total approximate expense for the feasibility and design phases will not exceed \$1.5 million.

Mr. Maestas reported that MSBA staff will meet on November 15, 2012 to discuss the Town's application for feasibility status for PSHS—hence the reason behind scheduling the meeting of the Selectmen and School Committee on such short notice. Should MSBA eventually approve the project, he said, the base reimbursement rate will be no lower than 49.74% of the entire project cost. Much like the Plymouth North High School ("PNHS") project, however, the Town will have the opportunity to earn additional reimbursement points for design enhancements and efficiencies, Mr. Maestas noted.

Mr. Maestas responded to questions and comments from the Selectmen regarding the School Department's ultimate plans for PSHS and the potential costs associated with the process. The feasibility and design phases, he reiterated, are estimated to cost no more than \$1.5 million. Mr. Maestas was pleased to report that the PSHS project will start at a higher base reimbursement rate than PNHS (which the School Department was able to push to 58.24% through design components). The highest reimbursement rate possible (80%), he indicated, is typically awarded to the most economically-challenged communities.

Selectman Brewster expressed concern that, based on her impression of the speeches delivered during the ceremony for the grand opening of PNHS, the School Department and MSBA will ultimately propose the construction of an entirely new PSHS. Selectman Tavares echoed Selectman Brewster's sentiments, noting his belief that the taxpayers may not be so eager to take on the expense of replacing a school that is only 25 years old.

Mr. Maestas listed a number of issues currently plaguing PSHS that warrant repair or replacement, ranging from problems caused by age and deterioration to some that stem from poor design decisions. It will be MSBA's choice, he explained, whether PSHS will be renovated or reconstructed. Mr. Maestas acknowledged his understanding that residents will likely question why the 25-year-old PSHS would require significant renovation, when the Town's historic facilities like Nathaniel Morton Elementary and Hedge Elementary remain functionally intact.

Finance Director Lynne Barrett indicated that, if the MSBA accepts the Selectmen and School Committee's vote to proceed with the feasibility stage, the Town will temporarily borrow \$1.5 million. If the MSBA then decides to fund the PSHS project, Ms. Barrett explained, the temporary note (for \$1.5 million) will be added to the long-term note for the full expense of the renovation/construction. Payment for the significant portion of the

borrowing, she said, would not be added to the tax rate until the renovation/construction phase is underway.

Mr. Begley opened the discussion to questions or comments from the School Committee. Seeing none, Mr. Begley took the opportunity to briefly relate some of the discussions that the School Committee has had pertaining to the application for MSBA funding for PSHS.

Mr. Maestas commented that the Town could have spent \$30 million in repairs for PNHS that the community would have never noticed with the naked eye. PSHS is currently on warning status for accreditation, he noted, based on the condition of the facility and the inadequacy of a number of features within classrooms and the school's library. Mr. Maestas caution the Selectmen and School Committee that some of the issues at PSHS, such as roof leaks and a flawed ventilation system, cannot be delayed much longer.

Patricia Fry, Principal of PSHS, reported that the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (the organization that oversees the accreditation of Massachusetts' schools) recently took PSHS off of warning status due to the efforts made by school administration to address a number of problems. The NEASC has been very clear, however, that until PSHS relocates its math classes out of the library and fixes the ventilation system in the carpentry shop, the school will be in danger of losing its accreditation, Ms. Fry said.

Seeing no further comment from the Selectmen or members of the School Committee, Chairman Muratore opened the discussion to public comment.

Plymouth resident Harry Mentas expressed concern about the expense of undertaking another major high school renovation or reconstruction project. He questioned how Town officials can guarantee that a brand-new PSHS facility would be any more adequately designed and long-lasting than the current 25-year-old facility, which is now considered to be of poor design and in a state of deterioration. Mr. Mentas stated his belief that the Town should not make the assumption that it will receive reimbursement at a rate of 60% of the entire project cost, because the current condition of the economy may not allow the MSBA to offer more than the base rate.

Mr. Begley acknowledged Mr. Mentas's concern about the level of trust—or distrust—that residents may have in the design of a new school, based on the resulting lifespan of PSHS. The MSBA, however, now knows that it is better to mimic the designs of successful school projects than to trust the ego of an individual architect, he said. Mr. Begley noted that much was learned from the process of constructing the new PNHS—which was modeled after the design of the Whitman-Hanson facility—that can be applied to the process of designing the construction/renovation of PSHS.

Seeing no further discussion or public comment, Vice Chairman Mahoney read into the record the following motion:

*That it is hereby determined that the costs of a feasibility study, including expenses associated with funding the owner's project manager up to and including schematic design review for the replacement or renovation of or addition to Plymouth South High School,*

*located on 121 acres of Town-owned land in South Plymouth, and specifically at 490 Long Pond Road, Plymouth, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), and for which the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (the "MSBA"), are necessary architectural and preliminary expenses within the meaning of the votes of the Town passed June 26, 2006 (Article 1) and September 19, 2006 (together, the "Votes"), and that such expenses are to be financed with a \$1,500,000 portion of the proceeds of the \$199,000,000 borrowing authorized by said Votes; and*

*Further, that the Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town of Plymouth incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town of Plymouth, and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the Town of Plymouth and the MSBA; and*

*Further, that it is hereby determined in accordance with the Votes that, based on correspondence and other communications with representatives from the MSBA, that the Board expects that the Project will receive approval by the MSBA for a feasibility study grant relating to the eligible costs of the Project; and*

*Further, that each member of the Board of Selectmen, the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.*

Selectman Tavares seconded the motion.

Selectman Brewster stated that she would vote to explore the feasibility phase for PSHS, in an effort to honor the original override approved by the taxpayers to improve both high schools. She expressed her concern, however, that the outcome of the feasibility study could ultimately put the Town on a path towards the full construction of yet another new high school, and, thus, the Selectmen and School Committee need to seriously consider the burden that such an expense will place on the taxpayers.

Vice Chairman Mahoney noted his belief that the Town should at least explore the feasibility phase to determine if there is a way to make the necessary improvements to PSHS. Selectman Tavares shared Selectman Brewster's concerns that the reconstruction of PSHS will place too much of a burden on the taxpayers. Though acknowledging that there are defects that must be addressed at PSHS, Selectman Tavares stated his prediction that Plymouth's taxpayers will not react well to the idea of replacing a facility that is only 25 years old.

At the close of discussion, the Selectmen voted 4-0-0 in favor of the motion issued by Vice Chairman Mahoney.

On a motion by Michelle Badger, seconded by Margie Burgess, the School Committee voted 5-0-0 to approve the motion read by Vice Chairman Mahoney.

Mr. Begley adjourned the meeting of the School Committee at approximately 7:52 p.m.

Chairman Muratore called for a brief break, prior to reconvening the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

## **COMMITTEE LIAISON / DESIGNEE UPDATES**

**Hometown Clean-Up** – Vice Chairman Mahoney reminded the public that the Network of Open Space Friends will again be partnering with the Town on a Town-wide litter clean-up on Saturday, November 3, 2012. He encouraged citizens who are interested in volunteering to contact Patrick Farah in the Town’s Planning Department at extension 204.

**Wellingsley Brook** – Vice Chairman Mahoney was pleased to report that the Wellingsley Brook improvement project is currently underway (whereby the brook is being realigned to its original course to restore fish passage) under the direction of the DPW’s Environmental Management Division. He thanked Cynthia Buttner and Jeffrey Fischer for allowing the Town an easement over their property to conduct the work.

## **LICENSES**

### **ONE DAY WINE & MALT LIQUOR LICENSE\***

On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Tavares, the Board granted a One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License to the following applicant, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **Michelle Riley / Cage Titans Fighting Championship** requested a One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License for a Mixed Martial Arts Event to be held from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. at Memorial Hall on October 20, 2012.

On a motion by Selectman Tavares, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board granted a One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License to the following applicant, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **Ed Buccigross / St. Bonaventure Parish** requested a One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License for an Italian Night Dinner to be held from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the St. Bonaventure Parish Hall (803 State Road) on October 20, 2012.

Liquor liability will be in place before these licenses are 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 Brewster, seconded by Selectman Tavares, the Board granted a Vehicle for Hire Operator License to the following applicant, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

❖ For **Special Occasion Limousine, Inc.:**

- David McQuade (42 Filmore Street, Plymouth)

Issuance of above license is subject to a CORI background and driving record check.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES**

**Meeting Minutes** – The Board approved the minutes of the July 17, 2012 and July 23, 2012 Selectmen’s meetings.

**2013 Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant** – The Board voted to open the Saturday, April 6, 2013 Town Meeting Warrant on Tuesday, October 30, 2012 and close the warrant on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

**Appointment of Municipal Hearing Officer for Fire Code Violations** – The Board appointed Elizabeth Sullivan as the Municipal Hearing Officer for Non-Criminal Fire Code Violations under M.G.L. Chapter 148A, to become effective upon her completion of the Municipal Hearing Officer Training Program.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

## **PRESENTATION ON THE TRIP TO PLYMOUTH, UNITED KINGDOM**

Denis Hanks, Executive Director of the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce, provided the Board with a presentation on the trip that officials recently took to Plymouth, United Kingdom.

The key goals of the ambassadorial trip, Mr. Hanks explained, were to connect with Plymouth, UK’s government, business, tourism, and cultural representatives on the following initiatives:

- Re-energizing the sister city relationship between Plymouth, USA and Plymouth, UK
- Establishing partnerships for the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the *Mayflower* voyage
- Fostering international commerce
- Reinforcing tourism connections

Mr. Hanks discussed the similarities between Plymouth, USA and Plymouth, UK, noting that both are seaside communities with active seaport and tourism industries. During the visit, he explained, both groups met several times and shared a number of presentations on subjects ranging from international trade and tourism to the planning of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Mr. Hanks described the measures undertaken by Plymouth, UK's government and business leaders to invest in and revitalize its boroughs and city center. Plymouth, UK, he noted, is home to a sizeable university and an active military naval base, both of which are major drivers behind the city's economy.

Mr. Hanks indicated that Plymouth, UK officials are very interested in partnering with the Town on the lead-up events to the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Mayflower* voyage. Plymouth, UK, he said, does not have a formal organization of descendants and, thus, many of its leaders were surprised to learn of the extensive genealogical connections between both communities.

At the close of the exciting and productive visit, Mr. Hanks reported, both groups established the following list of action items to pursue via regularly-scheduled video conferences:

- Facilitate e-commerce connections for purchasing goods, back and forth
- Research and discuss the communities' historical and genealogical connections
- Establish Plymouth-to-Plymouth trade
- Initiate educational transfers and communication
- Encourage Plymouth-to-Plymouth tourism
- Coordinate plans to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Mayflower* voyage
- Engage the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism, MassPort, and the Massachusetts Cultural Council to be involved with international planning and marketing on such items as cruise ships, cultural exchanges, Plymouth-to-Plymouth sailing adventures (sailing races following *Mayflower* route), and the establishment of a Boston/Logan to Exeter International airport route

At the close of the presentation, Chairman Muratore thanked Mr. Hanks and Amy Carpenter of the Chamber of Commerce for the extensive work they invested into planning and facilitating the Plymouth-to-Plymouth visit.

## **UPDATE FROM THE PLYMOUTH CULTURAL COUNCIL**

Denis Hanks, Executive Director of the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce and member of the Plymouth Cultural Council ("PCC"), provided the Board with a report on the Council's activities for 2012. Mr. Hanks acknowledged three members of the PCC who were in the audience to represent the Council during the presentation: David Bond (co-chair), Cathy Baranofsky (co-chair), and Harry Mentas (treasurer).

Mr. Hanks explained that, nearly a year prior, a number of veteran PCC members left the committee for various reasons (term limitations, resignations, etc.), requiring the new

membership to familiarize itself with Council policies and procedures. Because of the lapse in experience on the PCC, he said, the new members did a great deal of work to bring the Council back on track.

Mr. Hanks began his presentation with an explanation of the relationship between the Massachusetts Cultural Council (“MCC”) and its local municipal affiliates. The MCC, he said, acts as the major funding source for the grants distributed by each local affiliate to community applicants. Each local affiliate, or council, is responsible for conducting its own annual fundraising events to supplement the MCC’s annual allocation.

Mr. Hanks provided a brief overview of the types of projects and initiatives that the PCC funds each year. In 2012, he indicated, the PCC granted over \$17,000 to local projects, and for 2013, the PCC plans to match the MCC’s allocation (\$9,080) through its own fundraising efforts, dollar-for-dollar.

At the close of his presentation, Mr. Hanks was pleased to report that the PCC is slated to launch its new website, [www.plymouthculturalcouncil.org](http://www.plymouthculturalcouncil.org), in the near future. In the meantime, however, basic information on Plymouth’s council is available through the MCC’s website.

## **MARINE & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT**

Town Manager Melissa Arrighi introduced a presentation on the creation of a Marine & Environmental Affairs Department. Under the Town’s Charter, she explained, the Town Manager may, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, consolidate any department. Ms. Arrighi said that, for some time now, the Town has lacked the ability to fully provide services related to Plymouth’s extensive inventory of open space, natural resources, ponds, rivers, dams, and coastline. As such, staff has been considering and studying the potential for consolidating the Environmental Management Division (now under the Department of Public Works) and the Harbormaster Office into one department under the name of “Marine and Environmental Affairs.”

As the Town continues to invest in open space, Ms. Arrighi explained, it must be prepared to steward these lands. In addition, she said, the Town must monitor, protect, and comply with all environmental regulations pertaining to its natural resources. Ms. Arrighi indicated that both the Environmental Manager and the Harbormaster are actively engaged in activities that are educational and ecological in nature, such as aquaculture initiatives, water monitoring, and clean harbor issues. By combining these two divisions, she said, the Town will achieve the best efficiency, economy, and best use of its resources to properly steward its miles of coastline, hundreds of ponds, and thousands of acres of open space.

Ms. Arrighi pointed out that the Consolidation Committee, made up of members from the Board of Selectmen, Advisory & Finance Committee, School Committee, and Committee of Precinct Chairs, recognized the value in combining these two divisions and voted to recommend the creation of the new department. As such, Ms. Arrighi asked the Selectmen



to consider supporting her recommendation to create the Department of Marine & Environmental Affairs (“DMEA”).

Plymouth’s Environmental Manager, David Gould, resumed the discussion with a PowerPoint presentation on the proposal to create the DMEA.

Mr. Gould explained how his position with the Town has evolved since he began employment with Plymouth eleven years ago. As the need for environmental services grew, he said, his position changed from Natural Resources Officer under the Parks Department to Natural Resources Director/Assistant Parks Superintendent. In 2004, he said, the Division of Environmental Management was established under the Department of Public Works (“DPW”), and he was appointed as Manager of the division.

Geographically, Mr. Gould continued, Plymouth is the largest town within the Commonwealth with thousands of miles of open space—much of which remains unmonitored. The Town, he said, has done an amazing job of acquiring and protecting lands under conservation restrictions, but there is no mechanism in place to actually monitor and steward the acquisitions. Mr. Gould identified a number of areas where fragmented departmental and divisional responsibilities have left a void in the level of services that the Town must dedicate to its forests, ponds, rivers, beaches, and harbor.

Mr. Gould talked about the number of environmental regulations—both State and Federal—that pertain to the Town’s forests and waterways. The Town’s recent decision to open its harbor to commercial aquaculture operations, for example, will require a great deal of attention from both the Environmental Management Division (“EMD”) and the Harbormaster’s Office. Mr. Gould displayed pictures of White Horse Beach, Morton Park, the footbridge at the Eel River Headwaters preserve, and damage created by all-terrain vehicles (“ATV’s”) within the Town’s various conservation parcels to illustrate the need for enhanced services for these resources. He also noted the great deal of oversight that is necessary to monitor fishing licenses, hunting licenses, and the use of all-terrain vehicles (“ATV’s”).

Mr. Gould briefly described the way by which a number of upcoming regulatory impositions—pertaining to shellfish beds, stormwater management, endangered species, and nutrient management within Plymouth’s estuaries, to name a few—will require the collaboration of the EMD and the Harbormaster’s Office. The consolidation of the two divisions into one DMEA, Mr. Gould said, would be a sensible and effective solution to the Town’s environmental needs. The proposal, he noted, is supported by the Consolidation Committee, the Network of Open Space Friends, the Harbor Committee, and the Natural Resources & Coastal Beaches Committee.

Mr. Gould talked about the qualifications held by the staff of the EMD and Harbormaster’s Office, and he described the way by which the DMEA would be structured. Plymouth’s EMD, he noted, has acquired over \$8 million in grants and is recognized by its peers as a leader in a number of environmental areas. The Town Manager has recommended that he serve as the Department Head for the DMEA, and, if approved, he will begin focusing his

efforts immediately on such projects as the T-Wharf and the reopening of the shellfish beds in Plymouth Harbor.

Mr. Gould responded to some brief questions and comments from the Board. In response to an inquiry from Selectman Brewster, Harbormaster Chad Hunter discussed the ways by which the creation of a DMEA might enhance the services provided by he and his staff. Mr. Hunter listed three harbor-related areas that would benefit from the consolidation of his office with the EMD: (1) the improvement and seeding of the harbor, to reopen Plymouth's shellfish beds, (2) the expansion of commercial aquaculture in Plymouth Harbor, and (3) the management and maintenance of the Town's wharf and boating access points.

Mr. Gould briefly discussed the ways by which a basic level of cross-training between Harbormaster staff and Natural Resource Officers will provide some staffing flexibility and enhanced oversight over the Town's resources.

The conversation briefly turned to the encouragement of ecotourism in Plymouth, the extension of the crossover season on Long Beach beyond Labor Day, and the Town's mooring program. At the close of discussion, Chairman Muratore opened the discussion to public comment.

John Lebica of Whiting Street stated his support for the creation of the DMEA. As a downtown resident and commercial lobsterman, Mr. Lebica said that he has seen the way by which the Town's historic fish passages and harbor have been directly affected by environmental factors. Having had the opportunity to work on various matters with staff from both the Environmental Management Division and the Harbormaster's Office, Mr. Lebica expressed his belief that the consolidation of both divisions will be a great benefit to Plymouth.

Ken Buechs encouraged the Board to support the proposal to create a DMEA, noting his belief that the consolidated and enhanced resources of both divisions will do much to address the various issues plaguing the Town's ponds, parks, trails, and beaches.

At the close of public comment, Selectman Brewster made a motion to approve the consolidation of the Environmental Management Division and Harbormaster's Office into the Department of Marine and Environmental Affairs, as outlined within the presentation provided by the Town Manager and the Environmental Manager. Vice Chairman Mahoney seconded the motion.

Chairman Muratore noted that he was impressed with the process by which staff and the Consolidation Committee worked collaboratively to find a more efficient and effective way to address the Town's environmental needs. The creation of the DMEA, he said, is a decision that will not only address today's service voids but tomorrow's environmental challenges.

The Board voted 4-0-0 in favor of the motion to consolidate the Environmental Management Division and Harbormaster's Office into the Department of Marine and Environmental Affairs, as outlined within the presentation provided by the Town Manager and the Environmental Manager.

## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

**New Sewer Pump Station Now Operational** – Ms. Arrighi was pleased to announce that, as of October 9, 2012, the Town's new sewer pump station went on line and received a favorable inspection from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"). The Town, she said, has assumed full operational responsibility for this station and the next step is to request that DEP lift the administrative consent order that currently restricts new sewer connections/flows on Long Pond Road, Nook Road, and Obery Street. Ms. Arrighi extended her appreciation to DPW employees Gary Frizzell and Sheila Sgarzi for their commitment to completing this much-needed project.

**Solid Waste Outreach Initiative** – Ms. Arrighi noted that the first solid waste outreach event will be held during Town Meeting, where there will be an informational booth in the cafeteria at Plymouth North High School. The next educational forum on solid waste options, she reported, will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the Council on Aging on Wednesday, October 24, 2012. Ms. Arrighi explained that the three core messages that the Town will promote to residents are: (1) Plymouth must reduce its solid waste tonnage; (2) Plymouth must increase its recycling efforts; and (3) the Town must provide and maintain a good level of customer service within its solid waste program.

**EEE Threat / Lifting of Recreational Restrictions** – Ms. Arrighi announced that the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration ("NOAA") has indicated that Plymouth recently experienced a hard freeze. The freeze, she explained, had a detrimental effect upon the population of mosquitoes, therefore greatly reducing the threat of the spread of Eastern Equine Encephalitis ("EEE"). As such, Ms. Arrighi said, the Town may now lift its restrictions on the use of recreational fields during the late afternoon and early evening hours.

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

**Memorial Hall** – Selectman Tavares requested that the Board be provided with a presentation on a business plan for Memorial Hall, to see how the Town plans to promote activities at the Hall, increase revenue, and maintain the facility.

**Parking for Lobstermen on Waterfront** – Selectman Tavares noted correspondence the Board received regarding the Plymouth Growth & Development Corporation's ("PGDC") plans to discuss reserved parking for Plymouth's commercial fishermen and lobstermen. The fishermen and lobstermen, he said, must continue to have a means of accessing the

wharf area, and it is his hope that the PGDC will continue to provide reserved spaces at the wharf for the holders of commercial fishing parking permits.

Ms. Arrighi indicated that she attended the PGDC's October 10, 2012 meeting at which this matter was discussed. A number of members from the Plymouth Lobstermen's Association attended the meeting, she said, to explain the importance of providing localized parking for commercial lobstermen and fishermen at the wharf. Ms. Arrighi reported that the members of the PGDC understood the lobstermen's concerns and, thus, made no changes to the current practice of providing reserved parking for commercial fishing permit holders.

**Structural Report for 25½ Court Street** – Selectman Tavares asked if a qualified professional would be available to provide the Board with an analysis of the structural report that was just recently provided by Churchill Engineering for 25½ Court Street (Fall Town Meeting Article 16A). It may be wise, Selectman Tavares said, to have a policy on how the Town will analyze such reports when projects of this magnitude are brought before Town Meeting. Ms. Arrighi noted that she would ask the Town's Engineering Department to look at the structural report for 25½ Court Street.

Upon a specific request from the audience, Chairman Muratore allowed public comment on the structural report for 25½ Court Street.

Keven Joyce, Town Meeting Member for Precinct 15, noted that he attended the official tour of 25½ Court Street that was provided to Town Meeting members on Saturday, October 13, 2012. Mr. Joyce reported that, though he was not initially supportive of the proposal to purchase the property, he was impressed by the historic structure and the plans to transform the facility into a performance center. The side of the building is noticeably bowed, he said, but several individuals (who are familiar with the building) have reported that it has remained this way for several decades, seemingly without incident. Mr. Joyce noted that his only concern about the project is the ability for the balcony structures to handle the increased occupancy that is expected during theater performances.

**Coalition of Nuclear Communities** – Selectman Brewster indicated that Elizabeth Sullivan, the newly-appointed Special Assistant to the Town Manager, will resume work upon the Coalition of Nuclear Communities. Ms. Sullivan, she said, will initiate outreach—in writing and by phone—with other nuclear host communities to encourage participation in the Coalition.

**Wellingsley Brook and Town Brook Dam Projects** – Vice Chairman Mahoney asked for an update on the Wellingsley Brook and Town Brook dam projects, once the projects have been completed.

**Senior Center Ribbon Cutting** – Vice Chairman Mahoney inquired if the grand opening of the Town's new senior center would be held on December 8, 2012. Ms. Arrighi responded that she had not yet received the official word on the grand opening, but noted

that Dinah O'Brien would be visiting the Selectmen on October 30, 2012 with more information.

**Legal Appeal of Long Beach Management Plan** – Selectman Brewster requested an update on the legal appeal that was filed by The Goldenrod Foundation against the State's decision to approve the Town's Beach Management Plan for Long Beach. Ms. Arrighi noted that she would provide the Board with an update on the status of the appeal within one of her upcoming Town Manager reports.

**Fall Town Meeting** – Chairman Muratore reminded citizens that the Fall Annual Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 20, 2012. The meeting, he said, will be cablecast live on Comcast Channel 14 and Verizon Channel 45.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION / ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION**

At approximately 9:45 p.m., the Board voted to enter executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21, Paragraph 6, to consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, as an open meeting on this matter may have had a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the body. By roll call: Tavares – yes, Mahoney – yes, Brewster – yes, Harnais – yes, and Muratore – yes.

Chairman Muratore noted that, following executive session, the Board would not reconvene in open session.

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

*A copy of the October 16, 2012 meeting packet is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen's office.*