

# ~ PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN ~

**TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2013**

TOWN HALL, MAYFLOWER ROOM

The Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall in the Mayflower Room.

Present: Mathew J. Muratore, Chairman  
John T. Mahoney, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Sergio O. Harnais  
Belinda A. Brewster  
Kenneth A. Tavares

Melissa Arrighi, Town Manager

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Muratore called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Selectmen voted to enter an executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chap. 30A, Sec. 21, Paragraph 6, to consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, as an open meeting on these matters may have 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 the Board would reconvene in open session, following executive session.

## **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

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

## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Revenue Idea Task Force** – Town Manager Melissa Arrighi reported that Special Assistant to the Town Manager Elizabeth Sullivan has completed a draft mission for the Revenue Idea Task Force, as recommended by the Selectmen during their January 22, 2013 meeting. The general mission of the Revenue Idea Task Force, she explained, shall

be to serve as a temporary cross-government task force to investigate new revenue streams. Specifically, the Revenue Idea Task Force will take into consideration the issues brought forth during the budget process in 2013. Ms. Arrighi reported that, in conjunction with Town and School staff and the Advisory & Finance Committee, the Task Force shall host at least one financial forum aimed at brainstorming and prioritizing new revenue ideas.

Referencing the proposed structure of the Task Force that was outlined within the Town Manager’s Report, Selectman Brewster offered her recommendation that there be only one representative, each, from the Board of Selectmen and School Committee (as opposed to the two proposed within the draft structure). By apparent consensus, the Board appeared to agree with Selectman Brewster’s recommendation.

**Grant for Safety Equipment** – Ms. Arrighi was pleased to inform the Board that the Town’s application for a Loss Control Grant from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (“MIIA”) has been approved in the amount of \$2,240 for the purchase of miscellaneous safety equipment for Airport employees.

**FY2014 Budget / Chapter 70 Funding** – Ms. Arrighi informed the Board that the Massachusetts House of Representatives has issued figures for Chapter 70 and General Municipal Aid:

	2014 Level Fund	House #'s	Difference
Ch 70	22,208,459	22,413,184	204,725
GMA	3,314,295	3,392,638	78,343
			283,068

Ms. Arrighi explained that the State’s figures have come in \$283,000 higher than originally anticipated; therefore, if the final figures remain at these higher levels, the Town will make adjustments to the budget at the Fall Town Meeting. The Town also anticipates an increase in Chapter 90 funds, she said, but if the Town’s Charter School Reimbursement is reduced by \$500,000 or more, the result will be another \$0.05 cents on the tax rate. Ms. Arrighi assured the Board that she, Superintendent Gary Maestas, and the Town’s Finance Director will monitor the situation, closely.

On a motion by Selectman Tavares, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to direct the Town Manager to contact the Town’s State legislators by letter and request that they monitor Plymouth’s State Aid budgetary figures closely. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

**Plymouth Run-for-One 5k Walk/Run** – Ms. Arrighi confirmed that the Town and Plymouth Public School System will co-sponsor a 5k walk/run fundraiser to benefit the Boston One Fund on Saturday, May 25, 2013. Those interested in participating or volunteering, she said, can visit [www.runfor1.us](http://www.runfor1.us) for more information.

## **COMMITTEE LIAISON / DESIGNEE UPDATES**

**400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary / Plymouth 400, Inc.** – Selectman Brewster reported that Plymouth 400, Inc. has engaged a nationally recognized grant writer, Sarah Brophy of Carlisle, Massachusetts, to assist in raising funds for the “Journey to Plymouth” exhibit project. In addition, she said, Plymouth 400, Inc. has hired Alexandra Rollins of Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts as its managing director, from a pool of fifty applicants that sought the position. Selectman Brewster noted that the members of Plymouth 400, Inc. are very excited to have these experienced professionals help the team bring Plymouth’s 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration to a national and international level.

## **LICENSES**

### **SPECIAL LICENSE FOR A FARMER-WINERY TO SELL AT A FARMER’S MARKET**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Tavares, the Board voted to grant the following Special Liquor License for a Farmer-Winery to Sell at a Farmer’s Market to the following applicant, for the dates and times listed below. Voted 4-1-0, approved. Selectman Brewster voted in opposition.

- ❖ **Robert Russell / Westport Rivers, Inc.** (417 Hix Bridge Road, Westport) requested a Special Liquor License for a Farmer-Winery to Sell at a Farmer’s Market, to sell bottled wine at the Courthouse Green Farmer’s Market from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays from June 15<sup>th</sup> through October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Conditions: all samples not to exceed 1 ounce and not more than 5 per person, to be consumed in the presence of the wine service representative.

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to grant the following Special Liquor License for a Farmer-Winery to Sell at a Farmer’s Market to the following applicant, for the dates and times listed below. Voted 4-1-0, approved. Selectman Brewster voted in opposition.

- ❖ **Robert Russell / Westport Rivers, Inc.** (417 Hix Bridge Road, Westport) requested a Special Liquor License for a Farmer-Winery to Sell at a Farmer’s Market, to sell bottled wine at the Farmer’s Market at 6 Purchase Street from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Fridays from May 24<sup>th</sup> through August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Conditions: all samples not to exceed 1 ounce and not more than 5 per person, to be consumed in the presence of the wine service representative.

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to grant the following Special Liquor License for a Farmer-Winery to Sell at a Farmer’s Market to the following applicant, for the dates and times listed below. Voted 4-1-0, approved. Selectman Brewster voted in opposition.

- ❖ **Robert Russell / Westport Rivers, Inc.** (417 Hix Bridge Road, Westport) requested a Special Liquor License for a Farmer-Winery to Sell at a Farmer's Market, to sell bottled wine at the Plymouth Farmer's Market at Plimoth Plantation from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays from June 6<sup>th</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013. Conditions: all samples not to exceed 1 ounce and not more than 5 per person, to be consumed on the presence of the wine service representative.

### **PEDI-CAB OPERATOR (NEW)**

On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to grant a Pedi-Cab Operator License to the following applicant, as detailed, below. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **For Plymouth Pedicab:**

- Lisa Drennan (3 Sandy Lane, Pembroke)

Issuance of above license is subject to review of the requisite CORI Background Check.

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

On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to grant a Vehicle for Hire Permit to the following applicant, as detailed, below. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **For Pilgrim Taxi** (109 Sandwich Street, Jeffrey Peterson, Owner)

- Applying for one new Vehicle Permit – Taxi

Issuance of the above license is subject to the inspection of the vehicle and meter and receipt of all pertinent paperwork.

### **CHANGE OF D/B/A (LIQUOR LICENSE)**

On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to approve a Change of D/B/A for the following establishment, as detailed, below. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **Mesoraca Corporation**, 42 Court Street, requested a Change of D/B/A from On the Rocks Tavern to Lou's Tavern.

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to approve a Change of D/B/A for the following establishment, as detailed, below. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **ABCC, Inc.**, 15 Court Street, requested a Change of D/B/A from Upper Crust Pizzeria to Top Crust Pizzeria.

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

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to approve a One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License for the following applicant, as detailed, below. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **Catherine Baird / Fred Astaire Dance Studio** (10 Cordage Park Circle) requested a One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License for a studio mini-match and dance party to be held from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Memorial Hall on May 10, 2013. Liquor Liability Insurance 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.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES**

**Meeting Minutes** – The Board approved the minutes of the March 14, 2013 and March 19, 2013 Selectmen’s meetings.

**PGDC Community Reinvestment Policy** – The Board endorsed the Plymouth Growth & Development Corporation’s intent to revise its Community Re-Investment Policy to allow a portion (50%) of payments received from citations issued for violations in handicapped parking spaces to the Town of Plymouth’s Commission on Disabilities.

**PGDC Contribution to Training Green Monument Repair** – The Board endorsed the Plymouth Growth & Development Corporation’s intent to contribute \$3,005.00 to the Friends of the Training Green for the restoration of the Civil War Monument on the Training Green.

**PGDC Contribution to Greater Plymouth Performing Arts Center** – The Board endorsed the Plymouth Growth & Development Corporation’s intent to contribute \$3,000 to the Greater Plymouth Performing Arts Center for the construction costs related to the stage at the newly-acquired facility at 25½ Court Street.

**Summer Street Parking Time Limits** – The Board amended the *Town of Plymouth 1954 Traffic Rules and Orders*, as detailed, below:

- 1) Remove the following description from Article V, Section 26. Time Limited in Designated Places:

*Two (2) Hour Parking: Summer Street, Northerly side, from Market Street to Spring Lane*

- 2) Add the following description to Article V. Section 26A Time Limited in Designated Places:

*Four (4) Hour Parking: Summer Street, Northerly side, from Market Street to Spring Lane*

3) Add the following description to Article V, Section 19. General Prohibitions.

*Summer Street, Northerly side, from Spring Street (entrance to Burial Hill), for a distance of 65 ft east to driveway to John Carver Inn.*

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Steve Lydon of Precinct 12 urged the Board to pursue the clearing of titles on the “1,000 Acres” site in South Plymouth. Though acknowledging that the Town does not have surplus funds for the legal work required to accomplish this task, Mr. Lydon touted the benefits of preparing and opening this site to commercial development—and, thus, expanding Plymouth’s commercial tax base.

Following an introduction from Ms. Arrighi, Kevin Nelson, President of Veolia’s Eastern Region, addressed the Board regarding recent events at Plymouth’s Wastewater Treatment Facility (“WWTF”). Mr. Nelson indicated that he met with Ms. Arrighi and the Director of Public Works, Jonathan Beder, to discuss the circumstances surrounding the April 19, 2013 release of partially-untreated effluent from the facility into Plymouth Harbor. The release, he explained, was the result of a pump failure during the treatment cycle, but, since the event, Veolia management has enacted measures to prevent such accidents from happening. Unfortunately, Mr. Nelson acknowledged, the system design at the WWTF cannot always be full-proof, but with the existence of active fishing and aquaculture industries in Plymouth Harbor, Veolia must take such events seriously and uphold its commitment to Plymouth and its natural resources. Mr. Nelson assured the Board that, going forth, his staff will work closely with the Town’s Department of Marine & Environmental Affairs, the State’s Division of Marine Fisheries, and local fishermen.

Ken Tavares spoke from the podium on behalf of July 4 Plymouth, Inc. to provide the Board with an update on fundraising efforts in support of the annual July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and fireworks events. Joined by July 4 Plymouth, Inc. members Jeff Metcalfe and Zelda MacGregor, Mr. Tavares noted that this is the group’s 32<sup>nd</sup> year of producing the Town’s Independence Day festivities. The organization, he indicated, must raise \$105,000 in order to hold both the parade and fireworks events.

Jeff Metcalfe indicated that, if July 4 Plymouth, Inc. had a mission statement, it would say that the organization will “provide a celebration for the Town of Plymouth that creates memories, continues traditions, and brings families together.” In order to produce the 2013 celebration, however, July 4 Plymouth, Inc. must raise \$105,000, which covers the costs associated with the parade, fireworks, public safety staffing, and public works services. Mr. Metcalfe reported that July 4, Plymouth, Inc. has raised \$43,000 to date, but noted there is much more to be done in order to meet the \$105,000 goal. In addition to funding, he added, the parade requires several volunteers. Mr. Metcalfe encouraged those wishing to donate or participate as a volunteer to contact July 4, Plymouth, Inc. via [www.july4plymouth.com](http://www.july4plymouth.com) or P.O. Box 1776, Plymouth, MA 02362.

July 4, Plymouth, Inc. committee member Zelda MacGregor informed the Board that the 2013 parade theme is “A Flag for All Seasons.” Ms. MacGregor announced that she and her colleagues have organized a fundraiser at the New World Tavern (56 Main Street) for Monday, June 24, 2013, to benefit the parade and fireworks events. In addition, she said, the July 4<sup>th</sup> committee will be approaching local businesses to determine what amount of support they can provide to the Independence Day festivities.

Mr. Tavares asked if each member of the Board could consider selling ten tickets for the fundraiser, apiece, to help July 4, Plymouth, Inc. toward its goal of selling 100 tickets. At the close of his remarks, Mr. Tavares stated that he and his colleagues would provide the Board with weekly updates on the organization’s fundraising efforts.

## **PUBLIC HEARING: SOLID WASTE RATES**

Chairman Muratore opened a public hearing to discuss and determine the rates for solid waste services in the Town of Plymouth.

Jonathan Beder, Director of Public Works, provided a presentation on the proposed fees for the FY2014 Pay-As-You-Throw (“PAYT”) Curbside and Transfer Station Solid Waste Programs. Mr. Beder noted that he was joined by Janine Delaney from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and Janice Capofreddi from the Town’s Save Money And Recycle Trash (“SMART”) Committee.

Mr. Beder began his presentation with an update on the efforts that Town staff has made, thus far—collaboratively with a number of agencies such as the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, ABC Disposal, and WasteZero—to introduce the new solid waste program approved by the Selectmen on February 26, 2013. It is anticipated, he said, that residents will be able to choose and purchase transfer station service as early as May 22, 2013. The curbside program, he indicated, will not begin on June 30<sup>th</sup>, concurrent with annual renewal of Transfer Station Services; rather, it will begin on January 1, 2014.

Mr. Beder outlined the steps that residents may follow to select and purchase a preferred solid waste service option:

### Step 1 – Buy Your Bags

- Purchase Orange Bags at any local store starting in June at \$1.25 per 30-gallon bag.
- Only these Orange Bags will be allowed at the Transfer Stations as of July 1, 2013.
- Only these Orange Bags can be placed in your curbside cart as of January 1, 2013.

### Step 2 – Select the Service You Want for FY2014

- Option A (Curbside Pickup) – Curbside Pickup Service and Recycling will start on January 1, 2014, and residents choosing this option can use any of the three Transfer Stations in Town until that time.

- Option B (Transfer Station Drop Off) – From now until the end of December, residents choosing this option may use any of the three Transfer Stations in Town until the end of December 2013; starting in January, residents must bring rubbish and recycling to the Manomet Transfer Station only.
- Option C (Curbside AND Transfer Station) – This option provides residents with full flexibility of service, year-round. Residents choosing this option may use any of the three Transfer Stations in Town until the end of December 2013. Curbside services begin in January, but residents purchasing Option C may also utilize the Manomet Transfer Station after January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Option D (Curbside Only, Starting January 1) – This option is for those residents currently using private hauling services who want to switch to Town services on January 1, 2014.

Step 3 – Pay for Your Service Online or at Town Hall

- Residents may purchase service online or at Town Hall beginning May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Those who purchase service prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> will avoid a higher base fee premium.
- Town Hall will be open on Fridays throughout June (June 7, 14, 21 and 28) for solid waste service sales, only.
- Second household vehicles and Recycle Only passes will be available for \$10

Mr. Beder then discussed his plans to educate the public about the new solid waste service options, via local news media outlets, the Town’s website, signage at the transfer stations, and an informational mailing to all Plymouth households. Wherever possible, he said, volunteers will be stationed at the transfer stations to provide information on the new program.

Mr. Beder presented the proposed base fees for Options A, B, C, and D:

Option	Description	Fee
Option A Can't Wait for Curbside	Your Curbside Pickup and Recycling will start on January 1, 2014, and you can use any of the three Transfer Stations in Town until that time. This is the last year you should have to bring your Vehicle Registration or Lease Agreement	\$80
Option B Staying with the Station	From now until the end of December you can use any of the 3 transfer stations in Town; starting in January, you can only bring your rubbish/recycling to the Manomet Transfer Station. Bring your Vehicle Registration or Car Lease Agreement (annual requirement).	\$50
Option C The Works	You have Full Flexibility year round. You can use any of the 3 transfer stations in Town until the end of December 2013, and then your curbside pickup program will start and you can still use the Manomet Transfer Station. Bring your Vehicle Registration or Car Lease Agreement (annual requirement).	\$130
Option D Welcome New Customers	For those of you who don't want to go to the Transfer Stations or maybe have never used the Town's solid waste services - this is for you. Switch to the Town's Curbside Pickup Program starting in Jan. 2014. You only have to provide us with your name and address!	\$55



Mr. Beder reviewed the eligibility requirements for the use of the transfer stations, noting a handful of minor changes that he has proposed to the eligibility policy. He then discussed the way by which WasteZero is assisting the Town with the production and distribution of the orange PAYT bags. WasteZero will be responsible for monitoring the inventory of these bags at the various local retail outlets that have agreed to carry them. Mr. Beder displayed a list of the locations that have signed-on to carry the orange PAYT bags, which are scheduled to be available by June 7, 2013.

At the close of his presentation, Mr. Beder reviewed the list of solid waste options and the corresponding base fee proposed for each [*See chart, page 8.*].

Mr. Beder responded to questions and comments from the Board on his solid waste presentation, ranging from the store locations that will carry the orange bags to the Department of Public Works' plans for educational outreach on the new options.

Chairman Muratore opened the discussion to public comment.

Barry Meltzer of Precinct 12 posed a number of questions regarding the new program.

Chairman Muratore explained how the PAYT program works, whereby citizens will pay a lower entry fee for the service (than in previous years) and then a per-bag fee, based on the amount of trash that the household generates. The Town no longer offers a senior discount on solid waste services, he explained, because the PAYT program is constructed in a way that rewards those who recycle more and dispose of less. Chairman Muratore noted that those opting for the transfer station services will continue to utilize sorted recycling, while those utilizing the curbside program will use single stream recycling.

Rich Rothstein inquired as to how residents should handle the disposal of items that will not fit into a PAYT bag, such as a broken beach chair or a shovel—i.e. items that do not qualify for the Hard-to-Manage facility.

Mr. Beder responded that he will provide answers to such questions within the forthcoming informational flyer that will be mailed out to all Plymouth households.

Kevin Doyle of Precinct 6 questioned whether the Town will offer prorated seasonal transfer station passes based on the number of months requested.

Chairman Muratore reported that the Town will offer seasonal transfer station passes in only one-month or four-month increments.

Seeing no further public comment, Chairman Muratore closed the hearing to await a motion of the Board. On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to approve the proposed rates for solid waste services in the Town of Plymouth, as proposed by the Director of Public Works. Voted 4-0-1, approved, with an abstention from Selectman Tavares.

On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to terminate the former Transfer Station Eligibility Policy, to allow staff the opportunity to implement the newly presented policy. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

**PUBLIC HEARING: ALTERATION OF PREMISES (LIQUOR LICENSE)**

**THE JOHN CARVER INN, INC., 25 SUMMER STREET**

Chairman Muratore opened a public hearing to consider the application for an Alteration of Premises from The John Carver Inn, Inc., 25 Summer Street, holder of an annual All Alcohol Innholder License. Prior to commencing the hearing, Chairman Muratore read a description of the premises and affirmed that notice of the hearing was given to the public in accordance with Chapter 138 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Bill Catania of Catania Hospitality Group (owner/operator of the John Carver Inn) addressed the Board regarding his application to expand the facility's tavern into the space formerly occupied by the inn's gift shop. In addition to the expansion and reconfiguration of the tavern, he explained, the space will be completely renovated.

Seeing no questions from the Board, Chairman Muratore opened the hearing to public comment. No citizens came forth, and, thus, Chairman Muratore closed the hearing to await a motion of the Board.

On a motion by Selectman Tavares, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to approve an Alteration of Premises for The John Carver Inn, Inc., 25 Summer Street, as requested by the applicant. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

**PUBLIC HEARING: ALTERATION OF PREMISES (LIQUOR LICENSE)**

**SEA DOG PLYMOUTH, LLC D/B/A SEA DOG BREW PUB (CHANGE OF D/B/A TO NIX'S), 6 TOWN WHARF**

Chairman Muratore opened a public hearing to consider the application for an Alteration of Premises from Sea Dog Plymouth, LLC d/b/a Sea Dog Brew Pub (Change of D/B/A to Nix's), 6 Town Wharf, holder of an annual All Alcohol Restaurant Liquor License. Prior to commencing the hearing, Chairman Muratore read a description of the premises and affirmed that notice of the hearing was given to the public in accordance with Chapter 138 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Attorney Steven Triffletti addressed the Board on behalf of Sea Dog Plymouth, LLC. Attorney Triffletti handed out maps and computer-generated renderings to illustrate the restaurant owners' request to add outdoor patio seating at the front and rear of the restaurant.

Selectman Tavares inquired if the applicant plans to seek permission for outdoor entertainment in the proposed patio areas, noting his concern about the number of establishments with outdoor music permits in the Town Wharf area and the potential for noise complaints.

Attorney Triffletti stated that it would be too premature to answer Selectman Tavares' question, as the applicant has not yet begun construction on the outdoor patio areas.

Chairman Muratore opened the hearing to public comment. No citizens came forth to speak, and, thus, Chairman Muratore closed the hearing to await a motion of the Board.

On a motion by Selectman Tavares, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve an Alteration of Premises for Sea Dog Plymouth, LLC d/b/a Sea Dog Brew Pub (Change of D/B/A to Nix's), 6 Town Wharf, as requested by the applicant. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

## **PUBLIC HEARING: COMPLETE STREETS POLICY**

Chairman Muratore opened a public hearing to consider a "Complete Streets" policy for the Town of Plymouth.

DPW Director Jonathan Beder provided the Board with a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed policy. The Complete Streets Policy, he explained, is the result of a collaboration between the Department of Public Works, the Department of Planning & Development, Jordan Hospital, and Old Colony Planning Council ("OCPC"), made possible through the Healthy Communities Initiative / Mass in Motion Grant.

Mr. Beder defined a "complete street" as a roadway that "accommodates all road users and is safe and convenient for all modes of transportation—automobile, pedestrian, bicyclist, and transit." Considering Plymouth's participation in the Healthy Communities Initiative, he said, it would be sensible for the Town to adopt a policy that would guide the planning and construction (or reconstruction) of streets in a manner that is compatible with the initiative. Mr. Beder listed the benefits of Complete Streets:

- Promotes recreation and health
- Promotes safety, access, and equity
- Reduces traffic congestion
- Promotes and supports transit
- Benefits people with disabilities
- Walking is good business

The Town's first Complete Street, Mr. Beder indicated, is Obery Street, which will be fully finished in two phases. He displayed photos illustrating the first phase of work performed upon the street, detailing the width of the roadway and the markers indicating space on either side of the street for a bicycle lane. The second phase of the Complete Street reconstruction of Obery Street, he reported, will add sidewalks on both sides of the street,

pedestrian crossings, and two roundabouts—one at the entrance to the Plymouth County Courthouse complex and one at the entrance to Jordan Hospital.

Mr. Beder noted that the next roadways slated to receive the Complete Street treatment are Commerce Way, Samoset Street, and Taylor Avenue. Samoset Street, the gateway to Plymouth's downtown, will be widened to accommodate 4-foot bicycle shoulders and fully reconstructed sidewalks of 5.5-foot width, he reported.

Mr. Beder turned the presentation over to Ray Guarino, Senior Transportation Planner for the Old Colony Planning Council ("OCPC"), who explained the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's ("MassDOT") definition of "Multi-Modal Accommodation and Context Sensitivity." Mr. Guarino reported that the goals of selecting an appropriate roadway cross-section and the design of roadside elements are:

1. To develop transportation infrastructure that provides access for all, a real choice of modes, and safety in equal measure for each mode of travel
2. To ensure that transportation facilities fit their physical setting and preserve scenic, historic, aesthetic, community, and environmental resources to the extent possible

Mr. Guarino displayed cross-section illustrations demonstrating the different roadway classifications and elements, based on the context of setting: urban, suburban, and rural. A Complete Streets policy, he said, formalizes a community's intent to plan, design, operate, and maintain streets so that they are safe for all users of all ages and abilities. Such policies provide direct decision-makers with consistent guidelines for the funding, planning, designing, and construction of community streets to accommodate the full variety of anticipated users—pedestrian, bicyclist, motorist, freight, and public transportation users.

Mr. Guarino discussed Plymouth's proposed Complete Streets Policy and how best to implement the guidelines. At the close of the presentation, Mr. Guarino, Mr. Beder, and Lee Hartmann (Plymouth's Director of Planning & Development) responded to some brief questions from the Board regarding the policy.

Chairman Muratore opened the hearing to public comment.

Barry Meltzer from Precinct 12 inquired if the Town had any plans to make Long Pond Road safer for bicyclists and pedestrians, from Exit 5 to Halfway Pond Road. There are a number of road races that take place along Long Pond Road, Mr. Meltzer said, and such events often cause a safety hazard for motorists and bicyclists, alike.

Seeing no further public comment, Chairman Muratore closed the hearing to await a motion of the Board.

On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to adopt a Complete Streets Policy for the Town of Plymouth, as presented by the Director of Public Works. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

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

**Flagpole at Memorial Hall** – Selectman Tavares requested an update on the condition of the flag and flagpole at Memorial Hall. Ms. Arrighi reported that the cell phone company that leases the tower is currently repairing its equipment within the pole. The Town's Recreation Department (supervisor of Memorial Hall) is putting pressure on the cell phone company to have the repair completed by Memorial Day, Ms. Arrighi indicated. Selectman Tavares questioned why the proper and timely maintenance and repair of the flagpole was not better stated, in writing, when the lease was first enacted with the cell phone company.

**Farewell to Selectman Harnais** – Each member of the Board took the opportunity to commend and thank Selectman Harnais (during his last meeting as Selectman) for his service on the Board.

Selectman Harnais spoke of his experiences as a three-year member of the Board of Selectmen, noting that he has learned much from the job and from the people with whom he has served. Those who are given the honor and privilege of serving as a member of the Board of Selectmen do so out of the goodness of their hearts, he said, despite the criticism and misunderstanding to which they are often subjected from the public. Selectman Harnais explained that he chose not to run for another term to spend more time with his family and to address new responsibilities at work. He complimented the quality of Town staff and thanked the voters for the opportunity to serve, noting that he hopes to stay involved with Town government in one way or another.

## **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at approximately 8:35 p.m. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

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

*A copy of the May 7, 2013 meeting packet is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen's Office.*