

~ PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN ~

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2011

TOWN HALL MAYFLOWER ROOM

The Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall in the Mayflower Room.

Present: William P. Hallisey, Jr., Chairman [arrived at 8:45 p.m.]
John T. Mahoney, Jr., Vice Chairman
Sergio O. Harnais
Mathew J. Muratore
Belinda A. Brewster

Mark Stankiewicz, Town Manager
Melissa Arrighi, Assistant Town Manager

CALL TO ORDER

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

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Multimodal Meeting – Town Manager Mark Stankiewicz reported that a meeting was held on September 13, 2011 with representatives from the Planning Board, the Plymouth Growth & Development Corporation (“PGDC”), the Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (“GATRA”), and Town staff to review potential sites for a proposed multi-modal transportation facility within Plymouth. The majority of the discussion, Mr. Stankiewicz said, focused upon the 1820 Courthouse site and its suitability as a transportation facility. Based on a number of features and constrictions at the 1820 Courthouse site, he noted, it was decided that the group would redirect its attention to the Memorial Hall parking lot.

Municipal Solid Waste Disposal – Mr. Stankiewicz informed the Board that he and the Town’s DPW Director held a meeting with Larry Fava, the former chairman of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, to discuss Mr. Fava’s research into a number of options for the disposal of the Town’s Municipal Solid Waste (“MSW”). Mr. Fava, he said, will provide a presentation on his findings during the MSW discussion scheduled later during the meeting.

Massachusetts Municipal Personnel Association – Mr. Stankiewicz noted that he and the Town’s Human Resources Director, Roberta Kety, attended the 56th annual meeting of the Massachusetts Municipal Personnel Association (“MMPA”), at which the association covered such topics as Municipal Health Insurance Reform, employee recruitment/retaining/rewards, and in-house versus out-sourced skill testing.

Burial Hill – Mr. Stankiewicz announced that the Department of Planning & Development and the Department of Public Works have collaborated on a draft scope of work for the renovation of Burial Hill. It is anticipated, he noted, that a corresponding request for \$125,000 will be presented to Town Meeting in April 2012.

Loss Control Grant – Mr. Stankiewicz was pleased to note that Patrick O'Brien, the Special Assistant to the Town Manager, was successful in acquiring a \$5,000 grant from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association ("MIIA") for the purchase of an emergency work zone trailer for the Town's Department of Public Works.

LICENSES

VEHICLE FOR HIRE OPERATOR LICENSE (NEW)

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Muratore, the Board voted to grant the following Vehicle for Hire Operator licenses, as detailed. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

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

- Scott Magno (47 Silva St, Carver)

❖ **For Special Occasion Limousine, Inc.** (2289 State Road, Diane Dockery, Owner):

- Edward Arena (21 Buckboard Lane, Abington)
- Kenneth Comeau (212 Court Street, Plymouth)

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

ONE DAY WINE & MALT LIQUOR LICENSE*

On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Selectman Muratore, the Board voted to grant the following One Day Wine & Malt License, as detailed. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

❖ **Rye Tavern / Nichole Crosby** requested a One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License for an Oktoberfest event to be held on the front lawn of the tavern at 517 Old Sandwich Road from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on October 2, 2011. Liquor liability will be in place before the 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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Meeting Minutes – On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Brewster, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2011 Selectmen's meeting. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

Warrant for Fall Town Meeting – The Board approved and signed the warrant for the 2011 Fall Town Meeting.

Wild Animal Permit – The Board granted a Wild Animal Permit pursuant to Chapter 23, Article IV of the Town of Plymouth Bylaws to Angela Morgan of 560 Bourne Road for her Staffordshire Terrier (female, 3 years old).

Consolidation Committee – The Board appointed the following designees chosen to serve on the Consolidation Committee, for terms effective through June 30, 2012:

- Sergio Harnais Board of Selectmen
- Mathew Muratore Board of Selectmen
- Dennis Begley School Committee
- Robert Morgan School Committee
- Robert Nassau Advisory & Finance Committee
- Charles Stevens Advisory & Finance
- Karen Keane Town Meeting Member
- Frank Gigliotti Town Meeting Member

Honorary Citizenship – The Board granted honorary Plymouth citizenship status to long-time School Department employee Robert L. Sherman, who will soon retire after 35 years of service to the Town.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Tubin, chairman of the Historic District Commission (“HDC”), acknowledged the recent resignation of Anne Lane from the commission. Ms. Lane, he said, served for many years as an invaluable resource to the HDC as its designated historian, and, thus, he wished to recognize her contributions to the commission’s work.

Sam Bartlett informed the Board that he applied for a position on the Consolidation Committee, for which the Board will hold interviews during its October 4, 2011 meeting. Mr. Bartlett noted that he would not be able to attend the October 4th meeting, and, thus, he asked if the Board would consider holding its interview with him during the current meeting. Seeing no objections from the Board, Mr. Bartlett discussed his career history as both a lawyer and as a member of the U.S. Foreign Service. Mr. Bartlett cited his years of diplomatic experience as a quality that may be of value to the Consolidation Committee, based on the difficult work the committee will undertake to consolidate and streamline Town services.

PLYMOUTH 400TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Ken Tavares, chairman of the Town’s 400th Anniversary Committee, introduced a detailed presentation on the activities of the “Plymouth 400, Inc.” organization. Mr. Tavares listed

the members of Plymouth 400, Inc. (in addition to himself), noting that thirteen of the fifteen-member organization were in attendance at the meeting.

- Ann Berry, Director of the Pilgrim Society
- Barrie Young, President of the Pilgrim Society
- Brian Alosi, former selectmen and member of the 375th Anniversary Committee
- Denis Hanks, Director of the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce
- Ed Santos, President of the Plymouth Industrial Development Corporation
- Jim Baker, local historian and author
- Kathy Babini, local educator from the Plymouth School System
- Mary Shields, owner of Shields Design Studio
- Paul Cripps, Director of Destination Plymouth
- Peggy Baker, Director Emeritus of the Pilgrim Society
- Peter Balboni, local businessman
- Tim Turner, owner of Native Plymouth Tours and representative of Wampanoag tribe
- Tony Provenzano, local attorney
- Belinda Brewster, representative of the Plymouth Board of Selectmen

Mr. Tavares informed the Board that, since the beginning of 2011, he and his colleagues have been meeting every two weeks to build a foundation on which an international celebration could be planned. Plymouth's 300th Anniversary was an outstanding example of community accomplishment, he said, given the size of the community in 1920—leaving no reason why today's citizens cannot achieve the same success. The most important objective for the committee, Mr. Tavares explained, is to determine and set its fundraising and economic goals in a way that will ensure the celebration's potential for international recognition.

On February 28, 2011, Mr. Tavares noted, the community suffered the loss of Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes, who served as chairman of the Town's 400th Anniversary Committee and the Plymouth 400, Inc. organization. In March, following Rev. Gomes's passing, the group reorganized and decided to seek professional event-planning assistance, he said, ultimately hiring Prosody Creative Services as its consultant.

Following his opening remarks, Mr. Tavares began a PowerPoint presentation on the strategic plan that Plymouth 400, Inc. has devised for the event, outlining three key components: (1) Mission Statement, (2) Key Messaging, and (3) Events/Programming.

Mission Statement:

- "The Plymouth 400th Anniversary commemorates the 1620 landing of the Pilgrims in Plymouth, Massachusetts and highlights the cultural contributions and American traditions that began with the interaction of the Wampanoag and English peoples, a story that began a national legacy."

Key Messaging:

- Honor the cross-cultural collaboration that began in the early 17th century with the Wampanoag and English peoples

- Highlight the significance of faith, community, character, courage, and self-government
- Shine a spotlight on America's story of cultural interdependence
- Commemorate the 1620 Mayflower voyage
- Revisit the Plymouth story, to rediscover the history of the Wampanoag and English peoples

Events and Programming / Signature Events:

- Saturday, November 9, 2019 – Plymouth 400 Opening Ceremony
- Sunday, November 10, 2019 – Plymouth 400 Sunrise Commemoration
- 2019-2020 – The Road to Plymouth: Mobile Marketing
- March 2020 – Plymouth Rocks: International Educational Web-Cast
- May 2020 – Plymouth 400 May Flowers Week
- July 31-August 2, 2020 – Plymouth 400 Embarkation Festival
- November 2020 – 2020 Compact Summit: International Youth Conference

Prior to introducing Ken Ashby of Prosody Creative Services, Mr. Tavares reviewed an ambitious timeline for the planning of the event, broken into four phases:

- Phase 1 – 2011 to 2012 – Planning
- Phase 2 – 2013 to 2015 – Building Awareness and Funding
- Phase 3 – 2016 to 2017 – Operational
- Phase 4 – 2018 to 2020 – Execution

Mr. Ashby talked about his work with Plymouth 400, to-date, and he illustrated the challenges posed by planning an event so far in advance of its actual occurrence. Thus far, he said, Plymouth 400 has done a great job at positioning the 400th Anniversary Celebration as the potential event of the decade. Mr. Ashby ran through the list of signature events (listed earlier) and discussed the corresponding budgetary projections. It is estimated, he said, that \$15 million will be required to produce the event, broken down as follows: advertising (\$2.4 million), operations (\$4.6 million), and signature events (\$8 million).

Mr. Ashby then discussed the reasons why the 400th Anniversary Celebration is important to Plymouth. Aside from the obvious tourism and economic development benefits, he said, Plymouth has the opportunity to gain international recognition and leave a legacy of community-enhancing, infrastructural, and aesthetic improvement projects for subsequent generations.

Mr. Tavares closed the presentation with three requests for action by the Board of Selectmen:

1. Dissolve the Town's 400th Anniversary Committee – many of the members of the committee are part of the Plymouth 400, Inc. organization, which will finalize its non-profit status and begin the work of fundraising
2. Begin the discussion on the Town's financial contribution towards the 400th celebration
3. Formally appoint Selectman Brewster to the Plymouth 400, Inc. Board of Directors – one seat within the organization will always be reserved for a sitting Selectman

Members of the Board offered comments and posed questions to Mr. Tavares and Mr. Ashby regarding the presentation, the status of Plymouth 400's non-profit filing with the Internal Revenue Service, and the three requests for action by the Selectmen.

Attorney Anthony Provenzano reported that Plymouth 400, Inc. is a properly incorporated entity under Massachusetts law. The application for Federal non-profit status will be submitted to the IRS by the end of October, he affirmed.

Selectman Harnais expressed concern about Plymouth 400, Inc.'s request for the dissolution of the Town's 400th Anniversary Committee, as, in his opinion, each group will have a distinct function towards the common goal of producing a successful anniversary celebration. It is important, he said, for the Town to maintain some control over the event.

Mr. Tavares acknowledged Selectman Harnais's concerns but contended that the assignment of two separate organizations to work upon the same project will likely result in confusion and conflict. Mr. Tavares assured the Board that Plymouth 400, Inc. will continue to operate in a public manner and involve participation from both the current members of the Town's committee and the community, at-large. In addition to Plymouth 400, Inc., he noted, there will be a State and a Federal commission dedicated to Plymouth's 400th Anniversary event.

Selectman Brewster echoed Selectman Harnais's concerns about the request to dissolve the Town's 400th Anniversary Committee, noting her understanding that the Town committee was established to plan the event, while the non-profit was to act as the committee's fundraising engine. The two organizations are intended to be complimentary, she said, not competitive (as Mr. Tavares had speculated). Selectman Brewster sought to clarify Mr. Tavares's earlier statement that committee members have been meeting every two weeks since the start of 2011, reporting that only Plymouth 400, Inc.—not the Town's 400th Committee—has been meeting regularly. The Town's committee, she explained, is required to publicly post its meeting agendas and minutes, while the non-profit is not required to do so.

Vice Chairman Mahoney posed a number of questions to Mr. Tavares and Mr. Ashby regarding specific plans for the event. Mr. Tavares reported that the State's 400th Anniversary Commission has not yet committed any financial support for the event. Mr. Ashby explained that international leaders—such as the President of the United States, British Royalty, and Dutch Royalty—will be invited to the celebration, as part of the plans to make Plymouth's 400th anniversary an international event. Selectman Muratore noted that Plymouth's sister city, Shichigahama, Japan, should be included in the event.

Vice Chairman Mahoney opened the discussion to public comment.

Rich Rothstein encouraged the Town to pursue State and Federal funding for infrastructural improvements that will help the Town manage the influx of visitors expected to attend an event of such magnitude.

Matt Romboldi expressed his appreciation and support for the work that Mr. Tavares has done to plan for the Anniversary Celebration. Mr. Romboldi then asked that the Forefathers Monument be added to the schedule of improvement projects undertaken prior to 2020.

At the close of public comment, Selectman Muratore made a motion to appoint Selectman Brewster as the Board's designee on the board of directors for Plymouth 400, Inc. Selectman Harnais seconded the motion.

Selectman Brewster stated that she would be happy to serve as the Board's designee on Plymouth 400, Inc. but reiterated her wish that the Town's 400th Anniversary Celebration Committee remain in place as the primary planning entity, with Plymouth 400, Inc. as the fundraising arm. In addition, she said, the Board should consider re-establishing the Town's committee at its original composition of 15 members, with three-year terms. As such, Selectman Brewster made a motion that the Selectmen maintain the Town's 400th Anniversary Celebration Committee.

Selectman Muratore noted that a motion was already on the floor. The Board, he said, does not need to take a vote to maintain the Town's 400th Committee, because the committee is already in place.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of Selectman Muratore's motion to appoint Selectman Brewster as its designee on the board of directors of Plymouth 400, Inc.

Vice Chairman Mahoney advised Mr. Tavares to bring the Board's concerns about the dissolution of the Town's 400th Committee back to his colleagues for discussion. Vice Chairman Mahoney also recommended that the 400th Committee approach the Visitor Services Board and Plymouth Growth & Development Corporation for funding. In the meantime, he noted, the Public Works Director has submitted a grant application to the State for a number of improvement projects proposed for the downtown/waterfront district that will be integral to the 400th Anniversary Celebration.

[Chairman Hallisey arrived and joined the meeting at this time – 8:45 p.m.]

Seeing no further discussion, Vice Chairman Mahoney called for a five-minute recess.

PUBLIC HEARING: AQUACULTURE REGULATIONS

Chairman Hallisey reconvened the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Chad Hunter, Plymouth's Harbormaster, introduced a public hearing to consider a proposal for regulations governing aquaculture operations in Plymouth's public waters.

Mr. Hunter reported that he posted information on the Town's website and held a preliminary public hearing at Town Hall on September 19, 2011 to field comments from local citizens interested in aquaculture. Six individuals attended the hearing, he said, and four of those individuals submitted written comments on the proposed regulations. Mr. Hunter explained that he utilized the written comments from the hearing, as well as aquaculture regulations from ten other communities, to revise to the proposed regulations that he initially brought before the Selectmen on August 30, 2011.

Mr. Hunter reviewed the list of comments collected during the September 19th hearing and noted which recommendations he felt could be incorporated into the regulations, as well as those that could not. The items that he recommended for incorporation into the *Town of Plymouth Aquaculture Regulations* were:

- 7.4 License Granting (section d) – Add language to clarify a “reasonable investment amount” as \$1,500 per licensed acre per year for gear and seed stock
- 7.4 License Granting (section d) – Change the maximum acreage to read, “Licenses not exceeding four (4) acres in size may be issued on publicly-owned tidelands. The maximum license acreage on privately owned tidelands will be handled on a case by case basis at the discretion of the licensing authority.”
- 8.5 Marking and Removal of Equipment (section b) – Change the color of marking buoys from orange to yellow, as recommended by the United States Coast Guard.
- 8.5 Marking and Removal of Equipment (section c) – Require a bond for the duration of the license agreement plus six months to cover the costs of gear removal if abandoned by the owner.

Mr. Hunter talked about the importance of establishing a waiting list to address the number of citizens interested in obtaining an area for aquaculture operations, because, unfortunately, there will not likely be enough acreage to accommodate every request. Based on the amount of time necessary to evaluate each application and the requirement for State approval, he said, the Selectmen should process only three to five applications at a time.

Mr. Hunter made note of three aquaculture license applications that the Selectmen tabled in November 2009, because, at that time, the Town did not have adequate regulations in place. In his opinion, he said, the Selectmen should consider these three license applications first—prior to those on the not-yet-established waiting list—because, in essence, these applications became the impetus for the creation of the Town’s aquaculture regulations.

Following his presentation, Mr. Hunter responded to questions and comments from the Selectmen. The review of license applications may take anywhere from three to six months, he said, based on a variety of factors such as weather (for surveying) and the pace at which the State’s Division of Marine Fisheries (“DMF”) will review applications. By processing only a handful of licenses at a time, Mr. Hunter explained, staff can prevent conflicts over lease boundaries. DMF will oversee testing and the transportation of seed to ward off contamination, he noted, but the Town’s shellfish constables will also monitor operations. Mr. Hunter reported that State regulations prevent the Town from receiving more than \$25 per acre per year for an aquaculture license, but there is a hope that the industry will generate public benefits in the way of job creation, commercial tax revenue, and water filtration within the harbor. Aquaculture licenses, he indicated, will only be granted to applicants who can prove that they are Plymouth residents.

Selectman Muratore noted his agreement with Mr. Hunter that the three applications tabled by the Board in 2009 should be considered first. Selectman Brewster acknowledged the benefits of aquaculture-inspired job creation and commercial growth, but she questioned whether \$25

per acre was adequate compensation to Plymouth's taxpayers for the allowance of private industry on their public lands.

Chairman Hallisey opened the hearing to public comment.

Bob Davidson, who submitted comments during the Harbormaster's preliminary hearing on September 19th, offered a number of recommendations on the proposed aquaculture regulations. He expressed concern about the requirement that applicants provide the Town with a registered site survey, as, in his opinion, the use of GPS coordinates will be much less cost-prohibitive to applicants. Mr. Davidson also acknowledged the change Mr. Hunter made in the regulations to allow up to four acres per applicant, as he believes that (the originally proposed) three acres would have limited the process by which the developer could raise his/her shellfish. The Town should not establish setbacks and buffer areas between aquaculture leases, he said, as this will not prevent bacterial migration and only cause drifting, confusion, and potential trespassing. Lastly, Mr. Davidson pointed out the benefits—both financial and environmental—that aquaculture will bring to Plymouth Harbor.

Mr. Hunter noted that Mr. Davidson and the other participants in the September 19th hearing provided a number of thoughtful ideas for modification to the proposed regulations. Some of the ideas were consistent with what State law would allow, he said, and some were not. With regard to his recommendation that applicants provide the Town with a registered site survey of their proposed area, Mr. Hunter explained that a professional plan would provide the Town with not only a legal record to accompany the lease but a reliable means to prevent boundary disputes.

Robert Gosselin of Saquish Beach stated his observation that, through advances in technology, consumers now have a more accessible means of accurately mapping areas with GPS coordinates and programs like Google Earth. Such methods should be accepted within the licensing process, he said, because the requirement for an expensive registered survey will only put an undue burden on the site's initial licensee. Mr. Gosselin echoed Mr. Davidson's comments about the limitations and challenges of three-acre sites and 75-foot buffer zones.

Mr. Hunter acknowledged that 10-acre leases would be more ideal for aquaculture operations, but in consideration of the number of citizens interested in licenses versus the limited area available for such operations, the question is whether the Town will give many acres to a few, or a few acres to many. With regard to concerns about his recommendation for the use of buffer zones, Mr. Hunter assured the Board that he and his staff can prohibit recreational trespassing in and around the leased aquaculture areas. Another issue that was raised, Mr. Hunter explained, was the requirement for seven days notice (Section C of 8.8 Prohibitions) prior to the transplant of seed, as some contend that this would be too restrictive.

Selectman Brewster questioned whether a \$25 per acre fee would cover the costs for staff to facilitate and monitor a commercial aquaculture licensing program for Plymouth Harbor. Mr. Hunter acknowledged that the \$25 fee will not be enough to cover the staff hours needed to supervise the program. The Town can impose an application fee to cover the administrative cost of facilitating the license, Mr. Hunter said, but if the program flourishes to the point that it becomes too unwieldy, some adjustments may need to be made. Assistant

Town Manager Melissa Arrighi offered her observation that the potential popularity and subsequent expansion of aquaculture licensing in Plymouth Harbor will very likely become an expense to the taxpayers if license fees are not set accordingly.

As discussion came to a close, Selectman Muratore made a motion to approve the *Town of Plymouth Aquaculture Regulations*, as presented, with two amendments: (1) remove the requirement for a registered survey in favor of allowing a GPS-supported lot plan, and (2) change the language requiring seven days notice in Section C of 8.8 Prohibitions, to allow for more flexibility. Selectman Brewster seconded the motion, and the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING: SOLID WASTE OPTIONS

Public Works Director Jonathan Beder introduced a presentation on options for the disposal of Plymouth's municipal solid waste ("MSW"). The presentation, he explained, is a follow-up to the information brought forth to the Selectmen on August 30, 2012 on disposal options and associated costs. During that meeting, Mr. Beder noted, there were some citizens who wished to share their own research and comments regarding the future of the Town's MSW program.

Lawrence Fava, former chairman of the Town's Solid Waste Advisory Committee ("SWAC"), was given the opportunity to provide a PowerPoint presentation on the research he conducted into MSW disposal options. Mr. Fava noted that he met with Mr. Stankiewicz, Mr. Beder, and Assistant DPW Director Dennis Westgate to review the report generated by (consultants) Weston & Sampson regarding future alternatives for managing the Town's MSW. Though the Weston & Sampson report is impressive, he said, there are a number of items and figures within the report with which he disagrees.

Mr. Fava spoke about the work done by SWAC to analyze and compare various options for MSW disposal, such as Pay-As-You-Throw ("PAYT") with curbside pick-up, PAYT with transfer station drop-off, and multi-stream versus single-stream recycling programs. As part of its research, he said, SWAC issued a survey with tax bills in 2008 that generated a notable number of responses from citizens who did not want the Town to change to a PAYT system. Mr. Fava discussed a number of factors and complications for the Selectmen to consider when determining the future of the Town's MSW program, including the requirement to cap the South Street transfer station, the current configuration of the Town's transfer stations, and Town Meeting's rejection of a proposal to renew the Town's disposal contract with Covanta/SEMASS.

Mr. Fava displayed a spreadsheet comparison of financial figures for the various disposal options that SWAC considered as part of its research. When he chaired the committee, he said, the group voted to recommend that the Town opt for a curbside pick-up program with single-stream recycling, using a combination of Town and private haulers. Mr. Fava recommended against the use of a PAYT system, describing it as discriminatory; if the Town pays Covanta/SEMASS to dispose of its waste by weight, then residents should pay the Town to dispose of waste by weight, as well—not by the number of bags. Ultimately, he said, the

Town should consider getting out of the waste business, altogether, in favor of allowing Plymouth's municipal rubbish disposal to become a function of the private marketplace.

Jim Sweeney, Plymouth resident and member of the Finance & Advisory Committee, offered an alternative proposal to the options that have thus far been discussed with regard to the future of Plymouth's MSW program. The gasification process, he said, is a new technology that, in laymen's terms, transforms waste material into energy at the molecular level. Mr. Sweeney offered the suggestion that Plymouth construct its own gasification facility, whereby the Town could generate energy—and, subsequently, revenue—while disposing of its MSW. Many have speculated that the technology for gasification is so new that it will take years to fully permit such a facility, he noted, but during a recent meeting he held with officials from the Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”), it was indicated that a gasification facility could potentially be permitted within a year's time. Mr. Sweeney explained that the Town might find it less problematic to partner with a third-party who could operate the facility for a share of the energy revenue. At the close of his comments, Mr. Sweeney displayed a short informational video on the gasification process.

Chairman Hallisey opened the discussion to public comment.

Rich Rothstein questioned whether a gasification system could be permitted in such a short timeframe and scaled at a size that can adequately handle the amount of trash generated by Plymouth. Despite advances in technology, he said, there are always emissions from such processes, ultimately limiting the number of locations where a gasification facility can be sited.

Dale Webber, Plymouth resident and employee of the DPW Solid Waste Division, offered his observations and opinions on the options for disposal of the Town's MSW. Mr. Webber reported that he attended a number of meetings with Mr. Fava and SWAC to hear the various reports and presentations, yet there was little to no solicitation of input on this matter from the DPW employees who operate the transfer stations. The results of the survey issued by SWAC in 2008, he said, indicated an overwhelming preference amongst residents that the Town maintain the current drop-off, transfer station system, which is optional and 100% funded by user fees. Mr. Webber stated his support for the proposal that the Town assume operation of the “hard-to-manage” waste facility off Beaver Dam Road but cautioned against changing the recycling program from the current pre-sorted structure to a single stream system, which, he said, would eliminate an important revenue stream for the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund. The Selectmen, he noted, may want to refrain from making a decision on the matter until it can spend more time reviewing the reports and proposals from Weston & Sampson, Mr. Fava, and Mr. Sweeney. Lastly, Mr. Webber expressed his belief that the decision on the future of the Town's MSW program might be better vetted through the format of Town Meeting or a referendum question for the voters.

Matt Romboldi identified himself as the owner of Lombard's, a small waste disposal company serving Plymouth. Mr. Romboldi noted the amount of details in Mr. Fava's report and suggested that the Board may want to take more time to digest all the information prior to making a decision.

Steve Lydon urged the Board to maintain the current transfer station system, because (in his opinion) curbside pick-up will be very inconvenient for homeowners with long driveways.

Mr. Beder reported that he met with Mr. Webber, Mr. Fava, Mr. Sweeney, representatives from Weston & Sampson, and the members of SWAC a number of times in an effort to gather as much information for the Board as possible. Though it appears that the incorporation of a PAYT program with either curbside pick-up or transfer station drop-off will result in a reduction of the Town’s waste and an increase in recycled goods, he explained, a curbside collection program is the option he will recommend for the Town.

Mr. Beder responded to questions from the Selectmen regarding his recommendation for a curbside pick-up with PAYT program. He commended Mr. Sweeney for bringing forth the proposal for a gasification facility but noted his belief that such technology is not yet ready to be permitted. If the Town issues a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for curbside pickup, however, a gasification component could be included for a future time when such technology might be ready.

Mike Richard of Weston & Sampson discussed the approach that his team of consultants took when compiling and formulating the financial projections within the report of MSW options. Mr. Richard reviewed the figures associated with the three disposal options from which the Town can choose:

| MSW/Recyclables Collection & Transportation Options (2016) | | Total Annual Cost per Household | w/Single Stream Recycling | w/PAYT | w/Combined Single Stream Recycling and PAYT |
|--|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---|
| Transfer Station Operation | Status Quo (requires rebuilding South Street transfer station) | \$312 | \$296 - \$304 | \$263 - \$280 | \$247 - \$271 |
| | Build New Central Facility | \$302 | \$285 - \$294 | \$253 - \$269 | \$236 - \$261 |
| Curbside Collection | Curbside Collection (Private Contractor), Direct Haul | \$321 | \$305 - \$313 | \$271 - \$288 | \$254 - \$279 |

Mr. Richard and Mr. Beder responded to questions and comments from the Selectmen regarding the consultants’ report. There was some discussion about the differences between Weston & Sampson’s projections and Mr. Fava’s figures, during which Mr. Beder noted that Mr. Fava’s numbers were formulated when the recycling market was not paying for the Town’s recyclable goods.

Selectman Brewster observed that, though curbside pick-up is projected to cost more than transfer station drop-off per household in 2016, residents should consider the cost of fuel they must use to transport their trash to the Town’s transfer stations. Single stream recycling, she said, appears to be the best means by which the Town can increase recycling while decreasing the tonnage of MSW that it pays Covanta/SEM ASS to process.

Butch Machado, vice president of the DPW’s AFSCME union, questioned how the Selectmen could move forth with a decision on the future of the Town’s MSW program if the projected

figures are questionable. Mr. Machado offered the suggestion that the Town Manager hold a meeting with Mr. Fava and representatives from Weston & Sampson to determine the accuracy of the figures on which the Selectmen must make a decision.

Plymouth resident Ed Bellofatto noted that, prior to moving to Plymouth, he lived in a community with a PAYT bag program and in another town in which curbside pick-up was provided. There is no better service to residents, he said, than the provision of transfer stations, whereby residents can dispose of their trash on a schedule that is appropriate and convenient for their household. In his experience, he noted, curbside pick-up tends to result in the proliferation of unsightly litter due to unsecured barrels. Mr. Bellofatto speculated that many of the Town's residents would prefer to keep the transfer station services as they are.

Rich Rothstein addressed the Board again to note that the Great Island community in which he lives provides curbside pick-up with a recycling component. The program has not caused litter issues, he said, and the institution of the recycling component has clearly reduced the amount of waste generated by the housing development. As an individual with experience in the municipal solid waste industry, Mr. Rothstein stated his observation that Plymouth's transfer stations are in good order.

Mr. Webber reiterated that single stream recycling will not generate the revenue that the Town's current pre-sorted recycling program produces for the Town. Plymouth's residents who recycle deserve thanks for the extra time they invest in pre-sorting their recyclable goods, he said, because they provide a source of revenue for the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund.

Stephen Lisauskas from WasteZero, an organization that partners with cities and towns to reduce the amount of MSW tonnage, spoke about the positive effect that PAYT has had across the nation on recycling rates. On average, he reported, the implementation of PAYT has produced a reduction in MSW tonnage by 43-49%, while single stream has demonstrated only a 7% reduction. Mr. Leskauskas indicated that multiple studies conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") have shown that PAYT does not increase litter or encourage illegal dumping, as some might speculate, because the majority of citizens are fundamentally good people. WasteZero, he said, can help Plymouth reduce the average household waste by hundreds to potentially thousands of pounds per year.

Selectman Muratore asked Mr. Beder to provide the Board with his recommendation.

Mr. Beder recommended that the Board direct him to develop an RFP, with the assistance of the Town Manager's Office and a representative from the Board of Selectmen. With regard to the details of the RFP, Mr. Beder noted his recommendation that the Town move forth with the following options identified in the Weston & Sampson report:

- Curbside pick-up with single stream recycling, bi-weekly
- Acquisition and operation of the "hard to manage" facility on Beaver Dam Road
- Maintenance of operations at the Manomet transfer station

Selectman Muratore made a motion to approve the recommendation offered by the Director of Public Works. Selectman Harnais seconded the motion.

Selectman Muratore noted that his vote would be based on economics and fairness, because the current system does not prevent some residents from pooling trash for the price of only one transfer station pass. If there is only a 19 dollar per year difference between the estimated costs for curbside pick-up and transfer station drop-off, he said, residents are likely to prefer the convenience of curbside pick-up. Selectman Muratore stated his belief that the only way to truly engage residents in the Town's recycling efforts is through a curbside program.

Selectman Harnais expressed his belief that the RFP for a Town-wide curbside program can be written in a way that allows residents the option of choosing private haulers.

Vice Chairman Mahoney questioned the benefit of moving forth with a curbside program, noting the significance of the South Street transfer station in the overall picture of the future of Plymouth's MSW program. Even with a curbside program, he noted, it appears as if the Town will be forced to remain in the transfer station business if it wishes to invest funds into the South Street transfer station and/or maintain a Manomet facility. According to the projected figures for 2016, Vice Chairman Mahoney said, residents—seniors, especially—will see a dramatic increase in the fee to dispose of their trash, especially if the Town chooses to switch to a single-stream recycling program without the use of a PAYT system.

Mr. Stankiewicz noted that the South Street transfer station must be capped, regardless of what option the Board chooses for an MSW program. It may be foolish, however, to expend funds to rebuild South Street, if the Town decides to move forth with a curbside program.

Some remaining discussion ensued regarding the South Street transfer station and the maintenance of at least one transfer station—preferably Manomet—to compliment the curbside program.

At the close of the conversation, the Board voted 4-1-0 in favor of the motion to approve the DPW Director's recommendation to move forth with an RFP for a curbside pick-up program. Vice Chairman Mahoney cast the opposing vote.

Selectman Brewster nominated Selectman Harnais to serve as the Board's liaison to the Department of Public Works on the matter of the Solid Waste RFP. Selectman Muratore seconded the motion, and the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor.

BOARD LIAISON / DESIGNEE UPDATES

Walk to End Alzheimer's Event – Selectman Muratore reminded the public of the Walk to End Alzheimer's event scheduled for Saturday, October 1, 2011 on Plymouth's waterfront. The event organizers are seeking additional volunteers and participants, he noted.

Annual Juried Art Show – Selectman Muratore noted that the Annual Juried Art Show is open to the public at the Plymouth Center for the Arts through the 16th of October.

OLD BUSINESS / LETTERS / NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Change to Date of Annual Fall Town Meeting – Selectman Muratore inquired as to whether there are any anticipated conflicts if the annual date of the Fall Town Meeting is changed, as proposed by Article 19. Ms. Arrighi responded that the Town Clerk has provided a memorandum outlining his estimation of the problems that may arise as a result of moving the annual date of Fall Town Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at approximately 11:48 p.m. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

Recorded by Tiffany Park, Clerk to the Board of Selectmen

A copy of the September 27, 2011 meeting packet is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen's office.