

# ~ PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN ~

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2012

TOWN HALL MAYFLOWER ROOM

The Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Conference Room at the Plymouth Municipal Airport, 246 South Meadow Road.

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

Melissa Arrighi, Town Manager

Absent: Selectman Belinda A. Brewster

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Muratore called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. *[Note: For the purposes of executive session, the Board held the session in a private area at the Airport Offices.]*

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Selectmen voted to adjourn the open session portion of the meeting and 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 a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the body. By roll call: Tavares – yes, Mahoney – yes, Harnais – yes, and Muratore – yes.

Chairman Muratore stated that, following executive session, the Board would reconvene in open session.

## **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Chairman Muratore reconvened the meeting in open session in the Plymouth Municipal Airport's Community Conference Room at 7:05 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. As part of the Selectmen's efforts to reach out to residents from all areas of the Town, he explained, the Board periodically holds meetings within various village centers, such as this particular meeting in West Plymouth.

## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Charter Changes** – Town Manager Melissa Arrighi reported that the Governor signed S2295 to amend the Plymouth Charter based on the vote taken at the Spring 2012 Town Meeting. Some of the changes that have been made to the Charter, she said, include: adding to the Preamble; adding language about waiving the 14-day requirement for the Advisory & Finance Committee's written report to Town Meeting; requiring the mailing of the A&F written report; changing from 45 days to 90 days the time period for having a meeting based on a petition request; and removing the time limit on charter review committee reports to Town Meeting. Ms. Arrighi noted that the changes to the Charter are now in effect.

**Hedges Pond Preserve** – Ms. Arrighi informed the Board that Town and School officials held a meeting to discuss the future use of the facilities at the Hedges Pond Recreation Area. The central building at Hedges Pond shows signs of deterioration, she explained, but it is a facility that the Town believes should be preserved and utilized for a day camp program. Ms. Arrighi noted that, following the meeting, the School Department appeared to be receptive to the idea of having the student vocational program (electrical, carpentry, and plumbing) help with the restoration of the central building. Jim Hanna, the head of the Schools' vocation program, will put together a price proposal, she indicated, and the Town will seek funding sources for the project, with the hope that work may begin in the Spring.

## **COMMITTEE LIAISON / DESIGNEE UPDATES**

**Council on Aging** – Chairman Muratore reported that over 3,000 residents attended the ribbon-cutting event at the Town's new Senior Center on December 8, 2012. The Center, he said, officially opened its doors to serve Plymouth's seniors on December 10, 2012. Chairman Muratore commended the staff members and volunteer friends of the Council on Aging for their work in coordinating the opening event for this wonderful new facility.

## **LICENSES**

*[Note: the following licenses were approved, subject to the completion of all necessary paperwork and the review of requisite CORI background checks and driving records.]*

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

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the following licenses, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **South Shore Taxi** (85 Sandwich Street., Tougiq Betteoui, New Owner) requested the following licenses/permits:
  - Applying for 1 Vehicle for Hire Business Permit - Taxi
  - Applying for one vehicle – Taxi

## VEHICLE FOR HIRE OPERATOR (RENEWAL/NEW)

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the following licenses, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

❖ **Habilitation Assistance Corp.** (434 Court Street) requested approval or renewal (as noted) of the following Vehicle for Hire Operator licenses:

- David Campbell 52 Liberty Street
- Stephen McLaughlin 221 Oak Street
- Leigh Armistead 17 Murdock Street, Carver
- Reginald Davis 71 Cape Cod Avenue
- David Ryan 60 Massachusetts Avenue, Quincy
- Michael Eddy 29 Pine Ridge Lane, Duxbury
- Crystal Forsyth 138 Summer Street, Apt. 2
- Mitchell Wilson 21 Tananger Road
- Sean Fernando 66 Spooner Street
- David Becker 13 Peck Avenue, Apt. 2
- Tyrone Morton 14 Main Street
- Clalia Corvelo 50 Birch Avenue
- Maurice Cruz 395 Onset Avenue, Onset
- Alfred Thomas 4D Stephens Lane
- Paul Curkett 28 Lakewood Drive
- Gary Parker 41 Long Duck Pond Road
- Robert Sharples 23 Heritage Drive
- Jerard Gunderway 30 Cedar St., Apt. 3, Weymouth
- Frank D'Amario 51 Hidden Village Road
- Edward Ryan 49 High Pine Drive
- Scott Adams 9 Savery Pond Road
- Stephen Eddy 29 Pine Ridge Lane, Duxbury
- Allen Eddy 29 Pine Ridge Lane, Duxbury
- Jodie Cash-Eddy 29 Pine Ridge Lane, Duxbury
- Charles Toomey 52 Jan Marie Drive
- Meredith Eddy 16 River Road, Marion
- Bruce Campbell 50 Off Billington Street NEW
- Harold Gagne 11 Webster Reach NEW
- Sean Fuller 3 McGrath Rd, Sagamore Beach NEW
- Michael Nicholas 10 Apple House Rd., Lakeville NEW

## VEHICLE FOR HIRE (RENEWAL)

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the following licenses, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

❖ **Plimoth Transportation, Inc. d/b/a Mayflower Taxi** (166 Gunner's Exchange Road, Scott Vecchi, Owner) requested renewal of the following Vehicle for Hire licenses:

- One Vehicle for Hire Business Permit – 3 Taxi/12 Livery
- Applying for 12 vehicles – 5 renewals, 7 new (3 are replacements)
- Applying for the following Vehicle for Hire Operator Licenses: *[Continued, Next Page]*

Scott Vecchi	166 Gunner's Exchange Road
Matthew Cooper	33 Bonney Briar Drive
Melinda Weymouth	5 Cooke Road
Charles Ruhl	167 South Street
Richard Sanphy	34 Bonney Briar Drive
Douglas Banks	111 Standish Avenue
Peter Clapp	47 Clifford Road
John Aveni	6 Mt. Pleasant Street
Michael Harrimon	160 Plymouth Street, Carver
Neal Rayn	36 Jaqueline Lane
Paul Flaherty	20 Derek Drive
Alan Selden	70 Spooner Street
Thomas Smith	27 Fuller Way
Stephen Doherty	190 Rocky Hill Road
Joshua Cripps	64 Prospect Hill Drive

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the following licenses, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

❖ **TLC Quality Transportation, Inc.** (42 Dublin Dr., Brian Mazzilli, Owner) requested renewal of the following licenses/permits:

- One Vehicle for Hire Business Permit – Livery
- Applying for 4 vehicles
- Applying for the following Vehicle for Hire Operator Licenses:

Edward Valla	126 Grove Street
Robert Hicks	101 Tower Hill Farm Road
David Murphy	310 Long Pond Road
John Coombs	128 Grove Street, Kingston
Gregory Sbraccia	42 Dana Court, Duxbury
Brian Mazzilli	42 Dublin Drive
Scott Magno	47 Silva Street

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the following licenses, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

❖ **Seabreeze Transportation** (18 Centennial Street) requested renewal of the following licenses/permits:

- One Vehicle for Hire Business Permit – Taxi
- Applying for 2 vehicles – Taxi
- Applying for the following Vehicle for Hire Operator Licenses:

Tahsin Moussalli	18 Centennial Street, Plymouth
Jeffrey Furtado	22 Woodbine Drive
Wael Hefzy Awad	24 North Street
Erika Rizza	845 Liberty Street
Vivian Lanza	58 Grand View Drive
Michelle Cushman	227 Standish Avenue

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the following licenses, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

❖ **Special Occasion Limousine** (170 Court Street, Tim and Diane Dockery, Owners) requested the following renewal licenses/permits

- One Vehicle for Hire Business Permit – Livery
- Applying for 13 vehicles – Livery (7 renewals, 6 new (two are replacements))
- Applying for 6 Vehicle for Hire Operator Licenses

Steven Smith	25 Roxy Cahoon Road
Daniel Raymond	38 Harbart Square, Whitman
John Voutselas	99 Early Red Circle
Kenneth Comeau	212 Court Street
John Collins	Sagamore Beach
Lawrence Buechs	11B Bittersweet Cir.

### **VOTE TO SET SEASONAL POPULATION**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to estimate the Resident Seasonal Population at 85,191, as required by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

### **2013 RENEWAL CERTIFICATION FOR ABCC**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to acknowledge the following list of licenses disapproved or not submitted for 2013 renewal, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

❖ Capitol Hospitality Group d/b/a On the Rocks Tavern, 42 Court Street

### **SPECIAL LICENSE FOR FARMER-WINERY (TO SELL AT FARMER'S MARKET)**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the following license, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

❖ **Westport Rivers, Inc.** (Robert Russell, 417 Hix Bridge Road) is requesting a Special License to sell bottled wine at a Farmer's Market, on Friday's from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. from December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 through April 26, 2013 for the Lower Mills Cordage Park Farmers' Market. 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.

### **FORTUNE TELLING (NEW)**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the following license, as detailed, below. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

❖ **Marianna John** (11 Brine Avenue, Manomet)

Issuance is subject to review of the requisite CORI background check.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES**

**Meeting Minutes** – The Board approved the minutes of the September 11, 2012 Selectmen’s meeting.

**Aquaculture License** – The Board approved and executed an *Aquaculture License* between the Town of Plymouth (as licensor) and James O’Shea of 28 Warren Avenue, Plymouth, Massachusetts (as licensee) for an area situated in Plymouth Harbor described by the coordinates listed below, for a three-year term effective December 12, 2012 through December 11, 2015. The Board gave its preliminary approval for this license at its meeting of May 1, 2012.

1. N41° 59.329, W070° 40.513

3. N41° 59.205, W070° 40.524

2. N41° 59.293, W070° 40.467

4. N41° 59.246, W070° 40.567

**Deed for Property Off Center Hill Road (2012 FATM Article 16B)** – The Board approved and executed an *Acceptance of Deed* pursuant to Article 16B of the 2012 Fall Annual Town Meeting for a parcel of land containing 19 acres, more or less, located off Center Hill Road, shown on Assessor’s Map 52 as Lots 26-U, 27A, 9C and 9F.

**Deed for Property off Old Sandwich Road (2012 FATM Article 16C)** – The Board approved and executed an *Acceptance of Deed* pursuant to Article 16C of the 2012 Fall Annual Town Meeting for several parcels of land containing a total of 350 acres, more or less, located off Old Sandwich Road, shown on the “2012 ANR Plan” as a 74-acre parcel designated as Map 62, Lot 1B, a 233.45-acre parcel shown as Map 62, Lot 1-18, a 19.47 acre parcel shown as Saltatrix Realty Trust, and a 21.92-acre registered parcel shown as Pegasus Realty Trust.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dale Webber, Precinct 3 Town Meeting Representative and employee of the Town’s Solid Waste Division, spoke to the Board about the Town’s proposal to transition to a curbside pickup solid waste program. Prior to providing his thoughts on the subject, Mr. Webber provided the Board with a printed copy of his comments and a map of proposed changes to the Manomet Transfer Station. Mr. Webber talked about the volume of trash that is processed at each of the three transfer stations, noting his belief that South Street receives 60% of the Town’s total tonnage not because of its location but because it is open the most number of days and hours during the week. The chairman of the former Solid Waste Advisory Committee (“SWAC”), he said, devised a redesigned plan of the Manomet

Transfer Station that would accommodate additional disposal and recycling activities, should the station be faced with an increase of traffic volume.

Mr. Webber then referenced a survey that SWAC issued with tax bills in 2008, to which, he said, approximately 3,000 residents responded. A majority of the respondents, he claimed, indicated that they wanted to no changes to the current transfer station system. Mr. Webber sought to dispute the Director of Public Works' claim that only 9,611 households are utilizing the transfer station, as it is his belief that many households are pooling trash and 'piggy-backing' on other household permits. If the Town transitions to a curbside system, he said, it is likely that this same manipulation of the system will occur.

Mr. Webber reported that he contacted representatives from BFI and Allied Waste to inquire why they had not bid upon the Town's curbside Request for Proposals ("RFP"). The response he received, he said, was there were too many variables and that there was no guarantee of public support for such a program. Mr. Webber talked about the recycling component of the proposed curbside system, noting his belief that the transfer stations can handle increased recycling, regardless of whether it is single-stream or pre-sorted (the Town's current system, which he recommends). Mr. Webber urged the Board to do its research and listen to its constituents, who (he believes) have indicated that they prefer the current transfer station drop-off system.

Chairman Muratore recommended that Mr. Webber hold his comments on the Solid Waste proposal until the Board had an opportunity to hear the DPW's presentation, later in the meeting.

Meg Sheehan addressed the Board as a follow-up to the comments she made during the December 4, 2012 Selectmen's meeting regarding Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. Ms. Sheehan questioned whether Entergy (owners of Pilgrim) has filed for the Special Permit required from the Zoning Board of Appeals to undertake plans to place some of its spent nuclear fuel into "dry cask" storage.

Ken Laytin, resident of South Meadow Road, urged the Selectmen and Department of Public Works to follow through with previous promises to install sidewalks along South Meadow Road. The Engineering Department is conducting a speed study on South Meadow Road, he said, and the Police Department has conducted some radar activities to curb speeding, but many residents find it unsafe to approach their roadside mailboxes due to the excessive speeds at which motorists travel. Mr. Laytin expressed his hope that South Meadow Road residents will not have to wait another ten years for sidewalks.

Bill Maher, a resident of Falmouth, expressed concern about the recent construction activity that appears to be taking place at Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. As such, he said, he sent a letter to the Town's Building Inspector, urging him to require Entergy to follow the Special Permit process for such projects. Mr. Maher indicated that there are rumors that Entergy could soon be pouring a concrete pad, which, in his opinion, clearly suggests that the company is preparing for a spent nuclear fuel storage facility. It appears, he said, that Entergy is pulling permits in a fractional manner, to avoid a more stringent Special

Permit process that will require the company to perform a number of environmental regulatory measures.

## **UPDATE ON AIRPORT RUNWAY EXPANSION**

Ken Fosdick, chairman of Airport Commission, thanked the Board for bringing its meeting to the Airport to reach out to West Plymouth residents. The Airport's Community Conference Room, he said, is used by a number of municipal and civic groups, including a Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") safety committee that is comprised of representatives from the State Police, MedFlight service, and local airport users. Mr. Fosdick pointed out a piece of equipment in the rear section of the Conference Room that serves as a weather station for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration.

Tom Maher, Airport Manager, provided the Board with a brief update on the Airport Runway Expansion Project. The Airport Commission, he reported, will file a draft Environmental Impact Report with the State in January of 2013. As other facets of the expansion project are completed within the coming months—such as the acquisition of conservation land and grant funding from the FAA—the project should begin to accelerate in the Spring of 2013.

Doug Crociati, Vice Chairman of the Airport Commission, invited the Selectmen to attend an event that will be held on December 17, 2012 to name the Airport's four gates in honor of four Plymouth citizens—Chester Motyka, the late John Petrell, Elio Barufaldi, and Walter Morrison—who have been instrumental to the success of the Airport:

## **PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS RELATED TO WEST PLYMOUTH**

Jonathan Beder, Director of Public Works, discussed some of the DPW's upcoming projects that may be of interest to West Plymouth residents.

Mr. Beder announced that the DPW would seek design funds from the 2013 Spring Town meeting to begin the expansion of the Town's sewer infrastructure westward along Route 44/Samoset Street. If all goes as planned, he said, the DPW hopes to commence the expansion project in the Fall of 2013. Mr. Beder noted that the first phase of the expansion will affect more commercial properties than residential, as it must first travel through the commercial area along Samoset Street.

The High Rock Cranberry Crescent project, Mr. Beder explained, involves the development of a large parcel of land at the intersection of Route 80 and Commerce Way. The 2012 Fall Town Meeting approved a Tax Increment Financing ("TIF") agreement for the project, he noted, which will consist primarily of retail establishments. Mr. Beder reported that, as part of the agreement, the developer will provide a number of infrastructural improvements to the area, including water and sewer connections.



Adjacent to the High Rock Cranberry Crescent project, Mr. Beder continued, the Town will facilitate a number of upgrades to Commerce Way as part of a \$1.5 million MassWorks grant. The upgrades, he said, will include signal improvements, “complete streets” features, enhanced pedestrian access, and a connector road. Mr. Beder assured residents that the Commerce Way improvement project will be complete by June 30, 2013.

## **SOLID WASTE OPTIONS**

Mr. Beder provided a summarized version of the presentation on Solid Waste Options that was given to the Board on November 27, 2013.

Mr. Beder talked about the factors that have influenced the Town’s research into a curbside collection program. The challenges surrounding the South Street Transfer Station—including the requirement to cap the former landfill underneath the site and the expiration of the Town’s lease with the County—have catalyzed the Town’s decision to seek alternatives to manage Plymouth’s municipal solid waste. Disposal fees will rise sharply in 2015 when the Town’s contract with SEMASS expires, he said, and this will compel Plymouth’s residents to recycle more and dispose of less, to manage these rising costs.

Mr. Beder made note of two previous public forums/presentations on Solid Waste Options that were held at the Council on Aging and Town Hall, respectively. The DPW, he said has fielded a tremendous amount of questions, as well as positive and negative feedback, about the proposal to transition to a curbside pickup program. Mr. Beder stated that, though he appreciates that citizens are talking about Pay-As-you-Throw (“PAYT”), the proposed curbside program does not prohibit a PAYT component, as many have assumed.

Lynne Barrett, Finance Director, provided a number of financial projections related to the Solid Waste Options proposed by the DPW. She reviewed the Request for Proposals (“RFP”) process that was followed to collect bids from disposal companies, from which ABC Disposal was selected as the most advantageous bidder. Ms. Barrett outlined the assumptions and price points on which she and Assistant DPW Director Dennis Westgate based their financial projections for curbside pickup:

- 10,000 users anticipated to sign onto curbside program in first year
- \$65 per ton tipping fee in 2015, following the expiration of the contract with SEMASS
- \$5 increase to tipping fee each year
- Average household generates 1.29 tons of trash per year, estimated to decrease to 0.70 tons per year with single stream recycling component

Based on these assumptions, Ms. Barrett projected the cost for the first year of curbside pickup at \$186 per household. Considering that most private haulers charge anywhere from \$390 to \$720 per year for residential curbside pickup service, she said, this could be a significant price savings for Plymouth’s residents.

Mr. Beder explained that, if the Town wishes to maintain its three-transfer-station system,

it will need to build and permit a new transfer station in a location that can manage the 800 vehicles that pass through South Street during each day of operation. The cost to site, design, and construct a new facility will cost approximately \$1 million, he noted, plus the expense to purchase new equipment and staff/manage the station (as SEMASS currently operates the trash compactors at South Street). With the number of transfer station passes decreasing at a rate of approximately 3% per year, he questioned, it may not be prudent to take on the expense of building a new transfer station, if residents are migrating away from drop-off service. Though the cost for PAYT drop-off service may start off at a lower rate than the estimated curbside annual fee, Mr. Beder continued, the annual fee for PAYT will eventually outpace the curbside cost, due to the debt associated with constructing a new transfer station facility.

Ms. Barrett provided financial information on a PAYT system, if the Town plans to maintain its three transfer station program. The price per 30 gallon bag would start at \$1.25 and is estimated to rise to \$2.75 in ten years. Single users would generate less trash and spend approximately \$120 per year at the program's outset, while heavy users would spend \$300-350 per year. As recycling increases, Ms. Barrett explained, the expense for disposal decreases. To establish a PAYT program with the current transfer station drop-off system, she reiterated, those purchasing passes will bear the expense to construct a new transfer station facility.

Chairman Muratore opened the discussion to public comment.

Michael Sullivan inquired about the waste disposal system that the County Correctional Facility has installed and if they have offered to process some of the Town's trash.

Ms. Arrighi explained that the County recently received a temporary permit to operate the system, which uses newer technology. Initially, she said, the County asked the Town if it would be interested in entering an agreement to bring municipal trash to the new facility, but the agreement could not be finalized because the County had not yet received full permitting for the new technology.

A resident (who did not identify himself) spoke from the audience about his support for a PAYT system. The decrease in transfer station passes, he said, is likely due to residents who are cheating the system, rather than a general migration away from transfer station services. He questioned whether the DPW had skewed its figures to make curbside look like the better option for residents.

Bill Burke, Airport Commissioner and Town Meeting Member from Precinct 13, questioned whether a curbside program could create litter, based on his experience as a resident in a neighborhood complex that utilizes curbside pickup (both trash and recycling). Plymouth's geographic size and complexity of narrow, private, gravel roads, he said, will likely be a challenge for a curbside program.

Mr. Beder responded that the proposed curbside program will use carts with lids, to prevent litter problems. The bidders on the RFP, he explained, were well aware of the diversity of Plymouth's roads when providing quotes on curbside service to the Town's

various neighborhoods. Mr. Beder pointed out that there are several rural communities in Massachusetts that utilize curbside service.

Ms. Arrighi announced that staff is putting together a pilot program to test the curbside program with a dozen households in various areas of town. Frank Mand, reporter for the *Old Colony Memorial*, is one of the participants, she said, and he will report on his experiences in a series of articles within the newspaper.

Ken Laytin expressed his support for the Town's current transfer station drop-off system, noting his belief that the convenience of being able to dispose of one's trash on any day of the week far outweighs the associated expense. In addition, he said, curbside trash bins are unsightly and many of Plymouth's roads are too narrow or steep for the proper placement and/or management of such bins/carts. Mr. Laytin offered his observation that the Town needs to do more to encourage recycling, whether through the redesign of the transfer stations and/or through a PAYT system.

Dale Webber expressed his belief that Plymouth's taxpayers deserve the convenience of transfer stations. Town employees, he said, do their best to monitor disposal activities at the transfer station and encourage residents to recycle. Citizens often say that they are not questioned about what they dispose at South Street, he noted, but this is because SEMASS manages the garbage compactors, and they get paid by the ton. If the Town were to expand its hours and days of operation at the Manomet and Cedarville transfer stations, he said, traffic flow will likely balance out amongst the three stations. Mr. Webber echoed the concerns issued by Mr. Layton with regard to the unsightly appearance of trash carts along the historic streets of Plymouth. Communities such as Jamestown, Virginia and Sturbridge, Massachusetts utilize transfer stations with PAYT systems, he said, because they do not want the bins littering their streets.

Michael Sullivan reported that he has attended two of the presentations on Solid Waste Options. The more he hears, he said, the more he is convinced that PAYT is the best option for Plymouth. Though there is always room for improvement, he stated, the Town's transfer stations are not entirely inefficient. Mr. Sullivan agreed with Mr. Webber that traffic flow at the three transfer stations will be more distributed if Manomet and Cedarville are opened for additional days and hours during the week. A PAYT system is the most equitable, he said, whereby residents who recycle are not forced to subsidize those who do not.

At the close of public comment, each member of the Board took the opportunity to offer comments and questions on the presentation.

Vice Chairman Mahoney expressed his belief that PAYT has merits, but he echoed the DPW Director's forewarning that the factors surrounding the impending closure of the South Street transfer station have precipitated the need to seek alternative options to manage the Town's solid waste.

Selectman Tavares expressed his support for a PAYT system and pointed to the survey taken in 2008 which indicated that most of the Town's residents prefer the current transfer

station system. Considering the complexity and expanse of Plymouth's roadways, Selectmen Tavares stated that he is not convinced that curbside pickup is the best option for the majority of Plymouth's households.

Selectman Harnais contended that the decline in the sale of transfer station passes is evidence that residents are trending away from the transfer station drop off program. It is difficult, he acknowledged, to truly gauge public sentiment on the issue, because those who already utilize private curbside services have little motivation to attend these public forums and voice their opinions. Selectman Harnais stated his willingness to support a curbside program, noting that there are many communities—both rural and urban—that have been able to implement successful curbside programs.

Chairman Muratore recognized the work done by staff to analyze the costs of the various solid waste options. Regardless of the future of the Town's solid waste program, he said, it is clear that the Town needs to do a better job of policing the current system, for the sake of equity amongst Plymouth's 18,000 households. Chairman Muratore noted that the closure of South Street may force the Town to implement a curbside program, but speculated whether it would be worthwhile to at least consider the cost of maintaining one transfer station to compliment the curbside system.

At the close of the discussion, the Board fielded a handful of final questions from the audience. Chairman Muratore encouraged the public to continue to comment on the Town's proposals, so that the Board can reflect as much public feedback as possible in its final decision on the future of Plymouth's solid waste program.

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

**New England Collegiate Baseball League** – Chairman Muratore was pleased to report that the Town and the New England Collegiate Baseball League (“NECBL”) are close to finalizing an agreement to host an NECBL team in Plymouth at Forges Field this summer.

**Cordage Park Winter Farmers' Market** – Chairman Muratore noted that he and Selectman Brewster attended the recent opening of the new Winter Farmers' Market at Cordage Park.

## **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Tavares, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at approximately 9:05 p.m. Voted 4-0-0, approved.

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

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