

Received For Record At Plainfield CT

On **MAR 25 2021** at 10:15AM

Attest: *Barbi J. Gardiner*

Barbi J. Gardiner, Town Clerk

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes –March 22, 2021

Kevin Cunningham called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Plainfield Town Hall.

Member's present were Kevin Cunningham, Art Gagne, and Cathy Tendrich.

Minutes *Art motioned to approve the 3/8/2021 meeting minutes, Cathy seconded.
All in favor, motion passed.*

Public Comment none

New Business

- 1. Consider and act on Tentative Agreement between the Town of Plainfield and Local 1303-185 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO executed and dated February 24, 2021 for a Collective Bargaining Agreement covering the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024. Action by the Board of Selectman of the Town of Plainfield pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 7-747(b)**

Kevin stated there was a typo with the State Statue number, it is 7-474.

Art motioned for the Board of Selectmen to go into executive session with Kelly Vachon, Finance Director, and Kristi Kelly, Town Attorney, at 7:02 pm, for the purpose of discussing strategy and/or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining with bargaining units, this action is taken without prejudice, it's the Towns right to discuss these matters in a private meeting pursuant to Connecticut General Statute 1-200.2, Cathy seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Cathy motioned to come out of executive session with no votes taken during executive session at 8:06 pm, Art seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Cathy motioned to have the Board of Selectmen approve the request for funds necessary to implement the agreement between the Town of Plainfield and Local 1303-185 of Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Town Hall employees, for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024, Art seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

2. Discuss preliminary budget data and input from the BOS on the upcoming budget season.

Kevin reviewed some of the proposed budget. Computers are now under every department and not just the computer line item.

Cathy asked about the highway/police mechanic salary. Kevin stated the mechanic who works at the police station is technically in the highway union, he trying to put it in the right department.

Kevin stated he put the budget together with Kelly Vachon, Finance Director, and the department heads. Fireworks are in the budget with the anticipation of having Celebrate Plainfield Day & the VJ Day Parade.

Kevin stated they are trying to have a 0 mill again. They may have to make cuts.

Cathy asked where the cuts would be. Kevin stated he has a few items.

Art asked about adult education in revenue. Kelly stated it is being absorbed in the school budget as a grant. They will get money from the State of Connecticut for adult education.

Art asked about legal notices. Kevin stated the Town is using the Turnpike Buyer and that is saving money.

Art asked about election workers. Kevin stated the jump from last year is because of the \$15.00/hr. minimum wage.

Art asked about the part time groundskeeper. Kevin stated it's for a seasonal employee.

Art asked about electricity line item. Kevin stated they have monitoring the bills and that's what is anticipated for next year. Kelly Vachon stated part of it is that the Recreation Dept. is covering their own utilities now. Their utilities used to come from the town budget and now it will come from recreation budget.

Art asked if the water line item is the same as electricity. Kevin stated yes and the reduced use of the pool as well.

Art asked about Highway Supervisor overtime. Kevin stated they broke it out from the staff overtime.

Art asked about Highway contract services. Kevin stated it's for cleaning of uniforms and some purchases they make.

Art asked about Animal Control Department Head and salaries. Kevin stated it's a possible raise.

Art asked about unemployment. Kelly Vachon stated there is a credit that will roll over to next fiscal year.

Art asked about sick/vacation accrual. Kelly Vachon stated it's based on union contracts.

Art asked about engineering firm. Kevin stated they will be used for upcoming projects. Art asked at what point do you possibly hire a Town Engineer and what would that cost. Kevin stated you would have to contract a person and it's a good question that could be weighed out in the future.

Art asked about legal fees. Kevin stated there's an anticipation of a continuation for things that have been going on this year.

Art asked about under fund balances, HVAC. Kevin stated it's for HVAC for heat & ac to Town Hall. It's a 2-year system, \$80,000 each year.

Art asked about the computer line item. Kevin stated its contracts for licensing, computers are now in every department.

Cathy asked about the Fire Marshall line item being increased and if they found someone to fill the position. Kevin stated they did find someone and now they have to decide if they want to hire the person. Cathy asked if they would be taking care of Canterbury. Kevin stated yes, they're talking about that now.

3. Review request for funding from United Services.

Emily Morrison, Director of Development, and Dianne Manning, President/CEO, of United Services were in attendance for the presentation.

Emily gave an overview of the request. They have seen huge increase in mental health services due to Covid-19. Since July 2020 until now, there have been spike increases. Some programs have over a 200% increase.

The Towns current fee is .70 per capita with the population at 15,405. We pay \$10,783.50 and that hasn't changed in 25 years.

A request for additional funds has been asked for which is required by state statute for a cash match for the youth service bureau. It is based on population under age 18 which is 31% of the total six-town youth.

Kevin asked about the state funding. Diane Manning stated there is no increase in the Governor's budget.

Kevin asked where the STEP Program is. Emily stated it provides job coaching on the job sites and they start at the High School then go to the job site.

Kevin stated he's not sure what they can offer but did put a little bit of money in the budget and put before the public.

Other

Household Hazardous Waste Day was successful.

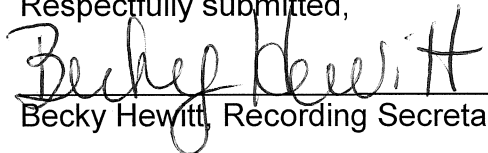
A grant of \$5,000 for the STEP Program for the Recreation Center for computers was received.

People met at the Moosup and Plainfield parks regarding the tanks and fixing up the parks. They will meet again.

Adjournment

Art motioned to adjourn; Cathy seconded. All in favor, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm. This is a summary of the meeting and the recording is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,


Becky Hewitt, Recording Secretary