

PLYMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING-MARCH 11, 2025 at 6:00PM

Work session:

Mr. Cunningham said he and Mr. Dixon attended another EMS meeting this morning. They are working on updating emergency action plans for the county. Because they attend these meetings, Plymouth Borough is certified and will be eligible for assistance should a disaster strike.

Mr. Kobusky added with this compliance the residents of the borough also receive reduced flood insurance rates.

Mr. Cunningham further stated that there is a Burn Ban in effect for the next three weeks (until April 1st) due to the dry windy conditions and the increase of fires locally. This ban can be extended, if need be, so please check before having an outdoor fire.

Mayor Coughlin asked if Plymouth Township was notified, so they can issue the same for their residents. Mr. Cunningham answered yes.

Mr. Hogan wanted to make residents aware of two scams circulating at this time. First people are receiving text messages from "PennDot" saying they owe money for tolls. This is a scam, and it does look real. Please delete and do not respond.

Another scam is messages from the "IRS" asking for social security numbers and banking information for your tax refund deposit. Do not fall for this, it is a scam.

Mr. Morehart spoke about the progress at the Coal Creek Wall Replacement Project. He explained the long application process and grant approval. He thanked Luzerne County seeing the worthiness of the project when they awarded the grant funds to Plymouth Borough. Kriger Construction is doing a wonderful job and said the project could be completed by Easter. Thank you for your patience during this process.

Mr. Morehart reminded residents that the TNR program for feral cats is still in effect. In February there were 17 vouchers used to spay and neuter feral cats and if you need a voucher, please contact the Administration office. This program is working.

Ms. Eroh said that youth soccer sign ups are going on at the borough building and there are still openings so send the kids!

The Planning Agency met and are finalizing plans for the Downtown Main Street Redevelopment projects and will meet with the engineer very soon.

The agency members have discussed and have decided for individual email addresses Golden Business (GBM) would be the best option so they will get that set up.

They continue to investigate a new website server and currently are looking at a server being used locally by several other municipalities and it is a little cheaper option.

Mr. John Thomas said the bucket truck has been fixed and is ready for operation. He thanked Mr. John Kovach for repairing the bucket truck at no charge to the borough. He is a long-time friend to the borough and often donates his time for repairs to this or that. Thanks again Jack!

Mr. Dixon said the Jr Spartans football is still taking sign ups for the players and cheer leaders.

The 2025 yard waste collection program will start back up on Monday April 7. Collection days will remain the same (M & F), bags are still \$1.50 each and all the same rules. Please stop by the municipal building for a flyer if you need a refresher.

He reminds residents that the newspaper & cardboard collection is a drop off program. If your neighbor or friend cannot get out to bring their papers to the truck, be a good neighbor and friend and bring them for them. This means that you will need to bring your bundled papers to the borough building and place them in the truck when it is parked out front. Again, all rules remain the same so you can stop by the municipal building for a flyer. He reminded folks how important it was that the borough maintains the accreditation with the EMS.

Mr. Kobusky said he would like to have the Planning Agency include the small lot by library parking lot in their plans for the downtown. He suggested taking the soil that is currently there and replacing it with some new soil as nothing seems to grow for long there.

He said the library roof and AC unit replacement is well under way and can possibly be finished within the next two weeks. Thank you for your patience with this inconvenience. Brand Graphics, here in town, is working on a new sign for the side of the library. He asked Mr. Dixon to mention at the next COG meeting that they raise the annual membership fee. He feels that if the membership dues were higher, towns could budget better and the towns do not have to incur such high maintenance fees at the end of the year.

The Beade Street Flood Gate project is complete, so we have asked the bank to take the balance of the loan (\$62,388.00) and put it back onto loan itself.

Mayor Coughlin said there were 436 police calls in February.

He said he will run the annual town clean up on Saturday April 26 from 8:30am to 12:30pm. We will meet at the borough building to get supplies (gloves and garbage bags) and assign areas for clean-up. This is run in conjunction with PennDot who come to town and collects all the garbage from the event (this saves borough a lot of money). Thank you to all who came up to help with the cleanup. It shows how you care for your town.

He would like to have the unused basketball courts in town into pickle ball courts. This is an up-and-coming sport and it is a shame that people have to leave town to find a court to use when we have several basketball courts in town that are not being used.

The police department received a brand new 2024 Chevy Silverado police vehicle from a grant that District Attorney Sanguedolce applied for. This gift police grade truck would have cost the borough about \$57,000.00. It still will need to be upfitted with lettering, lights and radios at a small cost to the borough. Thank you, Luzerne County and Mr. Sanguedolce!

Meeting was called to order, and a moment of silence was observed following the reciting of "The Pledge of Allegiance".

Roll called:

Present: All members present: Mr. Earl Cunningham; Ms. Alexis Eroh; Mr. Thomas Hogan; Mr. Adam Morehart; Mr. John Thomas; Mr. William Dixon; Mr. Ron Kobusky

There were no requests or comments regarding agenda items.

Requests and comments regarding general items:

Mr. James Ziller, Henderson St: has concerns about the intersection of Shawnee Ave and Washington Ave and would like to have a traffic light installed there. Council explained that it is a state road and PennDot would have to address that. Mayor Coughlin will investigate it further with PennDot.

Agenda voting:

Motion made to accept the regular meeting minutes from February 11, 2025.

Motion: Mr. Cunningham

2nd: Mr. Thomas

Voting: passed unanimously -7 yes

Motion made to pay the invoice from Kriger Construction, Inc. for the Coal Creek Wall Replacement project in the amount of \$606,789.75 from the Coal Creek Grant monies the borough received.

Motion: Mr. Dixon

2nd: Mr. Morehart

Voting: passed unanimously -7 yes

Motion made to pay invoice for \$18,181.75 to PennEastern Engineers for engineering costs incurred with the Coal Creek Wall Project. This invoice will be paid out of the Coal Creek Grant monies the borough received.

Motion: Mr. Morehart

2nd: Mr. Cunningham

Voting: passed unanimously -7 yes

Motion made to pay invoice for \$3,350.00 to Lower South Cross Valley COG (LSV COG) 2025 Program Fee #1.

Motion: Mr. Dixon

2nd: Mr. Cunningham

Voting: passed unanimously -7 yes

Motion made to accept the Fire Maintenance log for 2025 January and February reports.

Motion: Ms. Eroh
2nd: Mr. Thomas
Voting: passed unanimously -7 yes

Motion made to accept the February Fire and Police reports.

Motion: Mr. Cunningham
2nd: Mr. Thomas
Voting: passed unanimously -7 yes

Motion made to pay the following monthly bills.

GENERAL FUND:	25-156GF – 25-223GF
LIQUID FUELS:	25-042LF – 25- 061LF
RECREATION FUND:	25-012RF – 25-015RF

*On the question: Mr. John Thomas voted yes to pay all bill except #25-199GF, which he has a financial contractual agreement.

Motion: Mr. Morehart
2nd: Ms. Eroh
Voting: passed unanimously -7 yes

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Cunningham.

Respectfully submitted by:



Gail Burdulis, Plymouth Borough Secretary

Approved April 8, 2025