

**PLYMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING- SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY: Mr. Frank Coughlin, Council President

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL: COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Alexis Eroh

Mr. Earl Cunningham

Mr. Mark Ruseskas

Mr. William Dixon, Vice-President

Mr. Frank Coughlin, Council President

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Council members; Mr. Clyde Peters and Mr. John Thomas

Meeting was called to order at 6:00PM and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Frank Coughlin opened the meeting by asking if anyone had any questions or comments about the agenda. There were no questions or comments.

Mr. Coughlin introduced Ms. Kate Dughammer, a spokesperson for the United States Census Bureau. She shared information regarding the 2020 Census, which is getting underway.

Ms. Dughammer informed the group that everyone is mandated by the Constitution to be counted every 10 years. She shared the Census website address: [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov), stating that all are welcome to go to the site to fill out the census forms and for any information regarding the upcoming census, scheduled to begin in the spring of 2020. The census takers will be going door to door in March handing out cards with numbers so each resident may go online to fill out the census forms.

Ms. Dughammer explained that the purpose of the census is to gather an accurate number of residents, which will help down the road with applying and getting rewarded grant money for the town. Real Estate developers also use the data to encourage new businesses, as well as local governments for public safety and emergency preparedness

She also added that all information is privacy protected.

They are planning an Encourage Day at the Plymouth Library so residents can come and fill out the census forms online. There will be people there to assist anyone requiring such assistance.

The census numbers help Congress establish districting line. We have lost representation in the past because of low numbers.

Mr. Frank Coughlin made the following announcements:

- The American Legion would be holding a hoagie sale
- The borough is holding a Shredding Event October 12 from 9:00AM-12:00PM
- Luzerne Country holding a tire collection October 12 at Hanover Jr. High School

There are handouts available for all events previously mentioned.

Mr. Coughlin took a moment to reflect on the Wall That Heals, which had just come to our town. He was very proud of the way the community worked together to make it a great success.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Revitalization meeting was held last night, September 9, and there were a lot of good ideas shared.

Mr. Coughlin added, Plymouth Township decertified the Fire Department. Plymouth Borough Council members met with Plymouth Township Council members regarding fire coverage for the township by neighboring towns, and were told that 911 were the ones to really push for the decertification.

The neighboring towns that cover the township will be compensated. The monies we receive will be divided amongst our three fire companies.

Plymouth Borough will cover Avondale Hill to the island, Johnson Green, Curry Hill, and part of Mountain Road. There will be more details as they are available.

Welcome to Mr. Mark Ruseskas, the newest Council member, filling a vacancy left when Donna Manglaviti resigned.

Mr. Mark Ruseskas introduced himself to all in attendance, and thanked all council members for the opportunity to serve with them on council. He vowed to do his best to serve the people and to do what is best for the town.

He said he would like to share the rich history of the past as well as our strong future. He wants to work to make this a friendlier town.

Mr. Earl Cunningham thanked all who helped and supported the coming of the Wall that Heals.

Mrs. Alexis Eroh thanked Clyde Peters for letting her be part of the Wall That Heals project. She also mentioned that there are three more Revitalization meetings left and hopes all can join in. The dates of the meetings are:

- October 7, 2019
- November 4, 2019
- December 2, 2019

Senator John Yudichak is holding a senior vaccination at the Wyoming Valley Mall on October 3, 2019 from 10:00AM-1:00PM.

Mr. William Dixon welcomed Mr. Ruseskas to council. He said that Nathaniel Wren would like to erect a monument honoring the Police & Fire. He has requested a separate account to place all funds raised and donated for the monument. Mr. Kostelanski said that would be something the borough could do.

Mr. Dixon also added that Wyoming Valley Sanitation was in town today and cleaned nine more storm drains. Three Cheers! The WVSA has been clearing the drains of debris, so please do not throw grass clippings and dirt down the drains.

CITIZENS' INPUT:

Mr. John Frey found the census information very interesting and very important. It directly affects the Electoral College that makes up the House and therefore affects the election of the President of the United States.

Ms. Mary Jarrett wanted to let all know of the upcoming Yard Sale on Saturday. The Friends of the Library are taking orders for The Wall That Heals T shirts until October 8, 2019, so please contact one of the members if you are interested.

Mr. Walter Cook said there are ten rental properties on Gardner St. and there is garbage and they are overgrown.

Mr. Cook said there is a "RESIDENT ONLY" sign on Rowe Lane and would like to have one for his home. William Dixon explained that it is there for when spectators come to games at the fields, they know not to park in those spaces. He then told Mr. Cook he cannot have his own private sign.

Mr. Adam Morehart thanked all who came out in support of the Revitalization meeting and for all the participation. He asked all to continue to grow by bringing a friend to the next meeting, and if you haven't come to one yet, please join at the next one.

**AGENDA VOTING:**

- 1. Motion:** WHEREAS, PENNSY SUPPLY, INC. OF PITTSTON WAS AWARDED A CONTRACT TO PAVE CERTAIN STREET UNDER THE 2018 CDBG PAVE PROJECT; WHEREAS, THE AFORESAID CONTRACTOR HAS COMPLETED THE SAID WORK REQUIRED UNDER THE CONTRACT; WHERE AS, PENNSY SUPPLY, INC HAS SUBMITTED TO THE BOROUGH A REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF THE CONTRACT OF \$369,769.00; WHEREAS, THE BOROUGH ENGINEER, PENNEASTERN ENGINEERING, LLC, CERTIFIED TO THE BOROUGH THAT ALL WORK CALLED FOR UNDER THE CONTRACT HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED; NOW THEREFORE, I HEREBY MOVE THAT THE BOROUGH GRANT PENNSY SUPPLY, INC'S REQUEST FOR PAYMENT AND AUTHORIZE THE BOROUGH TREASURER TO ISSUE A CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$369,769.00 TO PENNSY SUPPLY, INC. OF 300 ARMSTRONG ROAD, PITTSTON, PA AS PAYMENT FOR ALL WORK DONE UNDER THE 2018 CDBG PAVE PROJECT.

ON THE QUESTION: Mr. Dixon said that Barnes Street was not sealed yet, but will be done.

MOTION: Mr. Earl Cunningham

SECOND: Mr. William Dixon

PASSED: 5 YES

ABSENT: Mr. Clyde Peters and John Thomas

- 2. RESOLUTION NO. 4 OF 2019:** A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF PLYMOUTH, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING PROCEDURES TO INSPECT PUBLIC DOCUMENTS UNDER THE PENNSYLVANIA RIGHT-TO-KNOW, 65P.S. §§ 67.101 ET SEQ, AS AMENDED.

ON THE QUESTION: The purpose is to set procedures, such as:  
Electronic files can be printed and redacted.

Mr. Mike Kostelanski, Borough Solicitor added, that verbal requests for Right-To-Know would not be honored, and that they must be written on the state Right-To-Know form either US mail, e-mail or personally delivered to Borough Administrative office. Also of note, a request can take up to five days to be answered.

MOTION: Mr. Earl Cunningham  
SECOND: Mr. Mark Ruseskas  
PASSED: 3 YES  
1 No – Mrs. Alexis Eroh  
1 Pass/Abstain – Mr. William Dixon  
ABSENT: Mr. Clyde Peters and Mr. John Thomas

- 3. RESOLUTION NO. 5 OF 2019:** A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF PLYMOUTH, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING A BID AND SALES AGREEMENT TO SELL THE PREMISES KNOWN AS 64-70 AND 72-74 EAST MAIN STREET, PLYMOUTH, PA OF LUZERNE COUNTY.

ON THE QUESTION: THIS IS FOR THE SALE OF THE PROPERTIES.

MOTION: Mr. William Dixon  
SECOND: Mrs. Alexis Eroh  
PASSED: 5 YES  
ABSENT: Mr. Clyde Peters and Mr. John Thomas

- 4. Motion:** TO APPROVE MONTHLY FIRE, POLICE AND TREASURE'S REPORTS.

MOTION: Mr. Earl Cunningham  
SECOND: Mr. Mark Ruseskas  
PASSED: 5 YES  
ABSENT: Mr. Clyde Peters and Mr. John Thomas

- 5. MOTION:** TO PAY SEPTEMBER BILLS:

GENERAL FUND:	19-631 – 19-695
LIQUID FUELS:	19-085 – 19-092
RECREATION FUND:	19-040 – 19-044

MOTION: Mr. William Dixon  
SECOND: Mrs. Alexis Eroh  
PASSED: 5 YES  
ABSENT: Mr. Clyde Peters and Mr. John Thomas

- 6. MOTION:** TO ADJORN.

MOTION: Mr. Earl Cunningham  
SECOND: Mr. William Dixon  
PASSED: 5 YES  
ABSENT: Mr. Clyde Peters and John Thomas

MEETING CONCLUDED AT: 6:55P.M.