

PLYMOUTH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING

June 17, 2021

A regular meeting of the Plymouth County Commissioners was called to order at 6:03 p.m. at the County of Plymouth Administration Building, 44 Obery Street, Plymouth, MA. Present were Chairman Gregory M. Hanley, Commissioner Sandra M. Wright, and Commissioner Jared L. Valanzola.

Also, in attendance were Treasurer Thomas O'Brien, Register of Deeds John Buckley, County Attorney Shannon Resnick, and Executive Assistant Nancy O'Rourke.

Chairman Hanley called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citation Presentation–Chief Michael Botieri, Plymouth Police Chief:

Chairman Hanley, Commissioner Wright, and Commissioner Valanzola presented a citation to Police Chief Michael Botieri congratulating him on his retirement and many years of service and dedication to the County and the Town of Plymouth.

Check Presentation–Jack Cocio, South Shore Community Action Council

Chairman Hanley, Commissioner Wright, Commissioner Valanzola, and Treasurer O'Brien presented a check to Executive Director Jack Coccio of the South Shore Community Action Council. Mr. Cocio briefed the board on the latest accomplishments and statistics on the programs the SSCAC offers the residents of Plymouth County.

Executive Session

In Accordance with MGL, Chapter 30A, Section 21, Paragraph 3; to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for union negotiations with OPEIU Registry union, and SEIU Maintenance union. The Board voted to enter Executive Session and to return to open public session at 6:20 p.m.

Chairman Hanley called the roll: Commissioner Wright–Yes. Commissioner Valanzola–Yes. Chairman Hanley–Yes.

At 7:30 p.m. the meeting was called back into open public session. Chairman Hanley called the roll: Commissioner Wright–Yes. Commissioner Valanzola–Yes. Chairman Hanley–Yes.

Vote Meeting Minutes– June 1, 2021, June 3, 2021

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of June 1st and June 3rd. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to accept and approve vendor vouchers

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve vendor vouchers as recommended by the Treasurer. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to accept and approve payroll vouchers

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve the payroll voucher as recommended by the Treasurer. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to accept and approve Vacation Carryover

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion in accordance with the Plymouth County Board Rules & Regulations, Section C, Employee Benefits, Vacation Leave, Rule #3 Article VI of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between SEIU, Local 888 Custodial and Article 6, SEIU Local 888 Clerical, and Section 13.01 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between OPEIU Local 6, AFL-CIO and the County Commissioners the following employees will be carrying up to the following vacation credits in Fiscal Year 2022:

(see attached)

CARES Act: update and possible distribution votes

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$428,214.60 to the Town of Abington. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$735,266.46 to the City of Brockton. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$26,984.01 to the Town of Duxbury. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$342,184.22 to the Town of Duxbury. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$181,219.46 to the Town of East Bridgewater. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$114,809.55 to the Town of Hanson. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$288,189.87 to the Town of Kingston. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$374,938.95 to the Town of Middleborough. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$250,691.48 to the Town of Norwell. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$29,700.00 to the Town of Plympton. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$2,307.71 to the Town of Plympton. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$171,927.59 to the Town of Whitman. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$35,556.25 to Eric A. Kinsherf, CPA for administrative support services. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA)–discussion and possible votes

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to authorize and designate the Plymouth County Treasurer to apply for, accept, and administer all federal funds available to the County of Plymouth through the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) and to design and implement a plan for the expenditure of all such funds. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Chairman Hanley called the roll: Commissioner Wright–Yes. Commissioner Valanzola–Yes. Chairman Hanley–Yes.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to authorize and designate Commission Jared L. Valanzola to serve as the Plymouth County Commissioners' federal, state, local and internal liaison with regard to all aspects of American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"). Chairman Hanley seconded.

Chairman Hanley called the roll: Commissioner Wright-Yes. Commissioner Valanzola-Abstained. Chairman Hanley-Yes.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to authorize the Plymouth County Treasurer to negotiate and enter into a contract with an accounting firm with respect to the administration and distribution of federal funds received by the County of Plymouth through the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"). Commissioner Wright seconded. Chairman Hanley called the roll: Commissioner Wright-Yes. Commissioner Valanzola-Yes. Chairman Hanley-Yes.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to authorize the Plymouth County Treasurer to negotiate and enter into a contract with a law firm with respect to the administration and distribution of federal funds received by the County of Plymouth through the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"). Commissioner Wright seconded. Chairman Hanley called the roll: Commissioner Wright-Yes. Commissioner Valanzola-Yes. Chairman Hanley-Yes.

In consideration of the increased duties, responsibilities, and time commitments for the administration of the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"), the Plymouth County Commissioners adopt the below vote for the purposes of facilitation of the ARPA program in Plymouth County.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion subject to the approval of the Plymouth County Advisory Board, the Plymouth County Commissioners approve the following salary increases for the positions of Treasurer and Special Assistant to the Treasurer and the addition of a new position for an Executive Assistant subject to the following terms:

Treasurer Thomas J. O'Brien	salary increase of \$47,000
Special Assistant to the Treasurer Matthew Hanley	salary increase of \$28,000
Executive Assistant (new position)	salary of \$45,000 per year

The salary increases and salary for a new position shall take affect the day following approval of the Plymouth County Advisory Board with the expectation that they will be reimbursed through the ARPA Program. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: Chairman Hanley called the roll: Commissioner Wright-Yes. Commissioner Valanzola-Yes. Chairman Hanley-Recused and Abstained from the vote.

Chairman Hanley requests the opinion of County Attorney Shannon Resnick be attached to the vote.

The Commissioners request a meeting of the Plymouth County Advisory Board be convened July 7, 2021.

Chairman Hanley requests the Treasurer share the above votes with the Norfolk County and Bristol County Commissioners and have a press release issued next week.

Business not foreseen by the Chair

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion:

VOTE REGARDING THE TERMINATION OF THE MARCH 17, 2020, STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PLYMOUTH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Termination of State of Emergency due to COVID-19

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 (“Civil Defense Act”) and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that a state of emergency had arisen within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”);

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak was characterized as a pandemic by the World Health Organization;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared that the COVID-19 outbreak constituted a nationwide emergency pursuant to Section 501 (b) of the Stafford Act and Sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Plymouth County Commissioners declared that a state of emergency existed in the County of Plymouth as a result of COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus);

WHEREAS, as of May 27, 2021, over 3.5 million residents of the Commonwealth have been fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus, and over 4.3 million have received at least a first dose, and over 78 percent of Massachusetts adults overall and over 89 percent of Massachusetts residents 75 years and older have received at least a first dose;

NOW THEREFORE, We, the County Commissioners of Plymouth, Massachusetts, hereby determine that effective Thursday, June 17, 2021, a state of emergency no longer exists in the County of Plymouth.

Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to continue to use remote participation as well as extend the use of audio and videoconferencing for Commissioner's meetings pursuant to recent approval by Governor Baker. Commissioner Valanzola seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

At 8:00 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Documents and/or exhibits:

- Meeting Minutes June 1, 2021; June 3, 2021
- Votes-Vacation Carryover
- Votes-American Recovery Plan Act ("ARPA")

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy O'Rourke
Executive Assistant