

Not All Fall Town Meeting Articles for Capital Recommendations, Shallow Pond Title Research, Easements & Citizens' Petitions Are Heard or Voted On

Select Board

September 8, 2026

Great Hall, Plymouth Town Hall

Board Members present: Chair Deb Iaquinto, Vice Chair Dick Quintal, Members Dave Golden, Kevin Canty and Bill Keohan. Others: Climate Resiliency & Sustainability Planner Mike Cahill, Dir of Finance Lynne Barrett, Dir of Public Works Bill Coyle, Town Counsel Kate McKay, Senior Staff Asst Kenzy Philabaum. Citizen Petitioners: Richard Sarkey, Albert DiNardo.

Brief Summary of Key Discussions - Topic details & support documentation made available with the meeting agenda can be found [here](#).

Licenses & Admin Notes – A Public Hearing brought praise to Gillis Family's opening restaurant on Main Street. Board voted to approve with Mr. Quintal abstaining. Licenses & Admin Notes were all unanimously approved.

Public Comment. Alice Jones cited the board policy approved on 3/10/2021 to implement 3-year budgeting & forecasting of which there is no evidence of it being followed. She noted that in the 5 months since the 5-year forecast shared with public this spring there have been no interim updates. She requests immediate and regular updates. Sally Hertz, on behalf of Shallow Pond Road Acceptance, thanked the Board for Article 8 and suggested the funding language be broadened. She also asked to meet with Town staff to get alignment on estimated fund allocations before the Town Meeting precinct caucuses. Martha Vautrain raised the issue that Tim Cahill (President & CEO of South Shore Chamber of Commerce) is promoting bringing small modular nuclear reactors to Plymouth without addressing issues the town has with the existing nuclear waste. Steve Lyden's attendance at a Memorial Hall Concert **reinforced** for him its importance to Plymouth's downtown & economy. Al DiNardo believes Plymouth should be open to the idea of SMR's and should have full discussion about it. Jenny Healy raised several questions about the plan to more than double the parking at Nathaniel Morton School, its inconsistency with other town efforts & lack of clarity and transparency.

Agenda Proper.

Special Municipal Employee Application – Mr. Canty stated he cannot vote on Airport Commissioner under the current preliminary injunction, and the Board shouldn't do so either. Mr. Keohan disagreed and Ms. Iaquinto wanted to defer until the injunction is settled. At Mr. Quintal's request, Attorney McKay will review the matter and it was unanimously tabled. Cemetery Committee Member was approved by all except Mr. Canty who abstained.

Blue Economy & Pilot – Mr. Cahill covered approaches to mitigate climate issues with scalability and climate impact driving prioritization. He provided context about the dynamics of the assumed heavy participation of startups. By providing proof of product opportunities for Blue Economy startups, Plymouth could gain economic and climate/sustainability benefits. Several companies piloting in Plymouth were reviewed as well as the Town's ability to build a Blue Economy cluster where companies can come to test their technology. Mr. Canty queried whether Plymouth could develop a revenue

stream leveraging protected lands. Mr. Cahill volunteered to meet separately on the issue which has more complex context to consider. Answering Ms. Iaquinto's question, Mr. Cahill stated that Plymouth is now being approached by incubators & investors rather than having to seek them out because the Town is known to be active & supportive in the Blue Economy space.

Article 5 Capital Recommendation – Ms. Barrett indicated 9 projects were submitted and the Capital Improvement Committee (CIC) ranked them, with recommendations on how to fund them. The \$8.4 million total is to come from free cash, borrowing (\$7.9 million total with grants already awarded to reimburse \$3.3 million for a net borrow of \$4.6 million), the environmental affairs fund, and a previous article. Mr. Coyle (DPW) & Kyle Anderson (Facilities) provided request details and background per Board request. Article was approved unanimously for Fall Town Meeting Warrant.

Article 8 Title Research for Shallow Pond Road Acceptance – Mr. Coyle presented the article to fund preparatory work toward Road Acceptance for Shallow Pond roads. The Board discussed broadening the fund sourcing language. Mr. Canty said doing so would impact tax rolls which increases his disagreement with the Article – he does not want the Town to take private, depreciated assets on as public assets. Mr. Quintal & Ms. Iaquinto mentioned the 40B development behind the neighborhood as largely influencing their position. Article was approved with amended funding language, with Mr. Canty voting no.

Article 18 & 19, 75 Long Pond Road Retaining Wall & Traffic Signal Easement – Attorney McKay described article and it was unanimously approved.

Article 24 – Citizen Petition for Unified Complexes Warrant Article – Mr. Canty requested vote be postponed until 9/29 or subsequent meeting, after the Planning Board takes it up. Mr. Keohan disagreed; he wanted Mr. Sarkey, the petitioner, to be heard. Ms. Iaquinto said she had questions that could not be answered by those at this meeting. Board voted to defer voting on the Article with Mr. Quintal & Mr. Keohan voting against deferring.

Article 25 – Citizen Petition – Al DiNardo presents Article pertaining to Enterprise Account at the Plymouth Municipal Airport, aims to further segregate Town funds. Mr. Canty believes the Board should not take any action on the Article while the injunction is in place, reminding everyone that the Article will go onto the Warrant regardless since it is a citizen petition. Mr. Keohan disagreed that the injunction prevents the Board from hearing about articles from petitioners. Board took no vote.

Article 26 – Citizen Petition for Town Steering Committee – Petitioner did not appear. Board did not vote as members want to be able to ask their questions of the petitioners.

Town Manager Report & New Business/Old Business/Letters. Mr. Brindisi provided several project updates, seasonal beach & pond adjustments, public events schedule, and deadlines for town program applications shared. Primaries garnered 27% voter turnout, 59% were mail-in or early in-person voters. October 17th begins early mail-in voting for Fall election. Mr. Quintal raised the issue of people coming in to speak who are sent home without being allowed to speak, stating he thinks they should not have been on the agenda if the court order prevents the Board from hearing them. He also stated his opinion that the Board is again spending time on unproductive discussions while important issues are not

discussed. Keohan requested an update be obtained on River Street Bridge project from MassDOT. Ms. Iaquinto reviewed planned Plymouth events for Climate Week (starts 9/21). Mr. Canty re-visited getting the discussion of Oak Street School occupants relative to SHI on soonest Board agenda. Mr. Golden re-requested a presentation from ISO New England group on SMRs in the next month or two. Mr. Canty stressed a visit to the ISO would also be beneficial.

Issues relevant to LWV position/programs: Sustainability, Voter Engagement

Open Meeting Law (OML) Concerns	Yes	No
Were all speakers audible to all attendees?	X	
Were motion wording, motion maker names, and votes audible to all attendees?	X	
Were minutes posted per OML?		X*
Was public recording permitted and announced?	X	
If conducted, was Executive Session for one of 10 reasons per OML?		N/A
*Most recent posted minutes are dated 7.14.26, with minutes from 6/18/26 workshop missing.		

Public Meeting Best Practices	Yes	No
Was a name card for each Member in place and readable by attendees?	X	
Were visuals presented during the meeting visible to all attendees?	X	
Were all in attendance civil and courteous to each other?	X	
Did Members follow their published Policies and Procedures, if any?	X	
Was any conflict of interest disclosed, per State Ethics Law or Plymouth By-Law?		N/A
Was there an opportunity for public comment as encouraged by Attorney General?	X	

Observer name and date: Lisa Hamilton, 9/8/26 (remote).

- Follow link for recording on [The Local Seen](#).
- Relevant pieces published in the Plymouth Independent can be found [here \(Your View - Airport\)](#) and [here \(Your View - Nathaniel Morton School Parking\)](#).
- The official minutes from this meeting are approved, they will be available on the Town website at [Plymouth Agendas & Minutes Center](#).