

September 15, 2025

The budget review meeting was called to order at 5:42 p.m.

Present were: Bob Patterson, Brian Franklin, Brendan Molloy, Renee Stanford, Les Elsworth, Jackie Kreiner, Cory Sanford, Arthur Roush, Maureen Roush, Ian Monzo, Wendy Monzo, Patty Murray. Absent: Sherri Cohen

Les arrived at 6:10 p.m.

The board reviewed the expenditures to date and expectations for the last quarter of the year. The district is holding steady; the district has broken even on expenses. Three prior years actual expenditures were reviewed. Also reviewed were routine expenses by line item. The Chief's current budget and expenditures were reviewed as well as the proposed 2026 budget; that line will read \$9700, same amount as in 2025. Due to inflation, the Preston Fire Protection contract for 2026 has an increase of \$304.05 making the new total - \$14124.86. Future facilities and operational needs were identified and discussed as well as a tax rate hike. Biggest concerns were general inflation predicted for 2026 at approximately 2.7%, utilities inflation predicted for 2026 at 18%. Law allows a 2% tax levy increase. Each individual line item from the 2025 budget was reviewed and adjusted accordingly for the proposed 2026 budget. Future facilities and operational needs were identified and discussed by the board. After discussing a tax rate hike, the board agreed to increase the budget by \$3005.66.

Renee motioned to adopt the proposed 2026 annual budget for the fire district with a 2% increase in the tax levy. Seconded by Brendan and was duly adopted.

Brian motioned to present the new total of \$153288.87 on the 2026 budget at the budget hearing. Seconded by Renee and was carried.

The public hearing on the contents of the proposed annual fire district budget will be held on October 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Bob adjourned meeting at 6:17 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:43 p.m.

Present were: Bob Patterson, Brian Franklin, Brendan Molloy, Renee Stanford, Les Elsworth, Jackie Kreiner, Cory Sanford, Arthur Roush, Maureen Roush, Ian Monzo, Wendy Monzo, Patty Murray, Ryan Schader, Chris Strain, Desiree Strain. Absent: Sherri Cohen

The minutes from 07-21-25 were read and approved. Brendan motioned to accept. Seconded by Brian and was carried.

CHIEF'S REPORT

The 8-10 and 9-06 boot drives were cancelled. The 9-27 spaghetti dinner has been rescheduled for 10-11. Renee motioned to approve the change. Seconded by Brendan and was carried.

Training report: driver training classroom; water supply training; pump operations/training & certification; ropes & knots training; work night reports were submitted (reorganize compartment equipment on truck 272; truck and equipment checks). The training schedule for October thru December 2025 was submitted. BEFO commences 9-16 – Ryan Schader, Michelle Schader, Maureen Roush enrolled; EMT class commences 10-29 – Ian Monzo enrolled. State has received Ian Monzo's OFPC reports, still awaiting a response. Co. fair standby and parade reports (DeRuyter and Cincinnatus) were submitted.

Cory requested to purchase two complete sets of interior turnout gear (for Ian Monzo, Arthur Roush). Amount would be approximately \$9500. Brian motioned to approve the purchase. Seconded by Brendan and was carried.

Fire Advisory Council: no update

Cory stated truck 272 has maintenance issues.

Cory presented a proposal to purchase a used pumper. It was tabled at this time.

Cory stated that this year the county is not providing pump testing. He was instructed to obtain three estimates from sources that provide pump testing.

Cory also stated that the county is not continuing with radio/pager repair.

Cory stated that the dept. has a committee working on a retention and recruitment plan.

CALL LOG

07-03-25	Mutual aid – New Berlin (cancelled) 2@	08-10-25	ME** 1@
07-06-25	ME x 2**	08-18-25	Smoke investigation (6)
07-07-25	ME**	08-23-25	ME** 1@
07-11-25	ME**	08-24-25	ME** 1@
07-13-25	ME**	08-28-25	Outdoor fire (3)
07-14-25	ME**		
07-15-25	ME** 1@		
07-21-25	ME**		
07-24-25	Mutual aid – Smyrna (cancelled) 4@		
07-27-25	MVA (3)		

(**denotes no response)

() denotes # of personnel who responded

(@) denotes # of personnel at station

TREASURER'S REPORT

Brian motioned to accept the August treasurer's report as presented. Seconded by Les and was carried. The board reviewed the following bank statements: NBT General Fund dated 06-13 thru 07-14-25, NBT General Fund Checking dated 07-01 thru 31-25, Community Bank capital fund statement dated 07-01 thru 31-25, Community Bank maintenance fund statement dated 07-01 thru 31-25. Brendan motioned to accept the September treasurer's report as presented. Seconded by Renee and was carried. The board reviewed the following bank statements: NBT General Fund dated 07-15 thru 08-13-25, NBT General Fund Checking dated 8-01 thru 31-25, Community Bank capital fund statement dated 08-01 thru 09-01-25, Community Bank maintenance fund statement dated 08-01 thru 09-01-25. Brendan motioned to pay bills on Abstract #494 (August) totaling \$20290.54 which includes a check in the amount of \$4194.71 to the fire co. this date for the annual 2% insurance tax monies. Seconded by Les and was carried. WEX gas card svcs. – cost \$51.66; Reese-Marshall annual svc. contract – cost \$405; Bassett Healthcare two physicals – cost \$264; Alpine Clippers – cost \$250; Ken B Kleaned – cost \$180; Putnam Pest – cost \$43; Frontier – cost \$211.31; Moore's Tires – cost \$9550; NYSEG – cost \$366.35; American Express – cost \$743.98; Tom Fahy data retrieval – cost \$100; CGR 1st installment project study – cost \$8250. Brian motioned to pay bills on Abstract #495 (September) totaling \$5607.89. Seconded by Renee and was carried. WEX gas card svcs. – cost \$213.26; Bassett Healthcare one physical – cost \$175; Alpine Clippers – cost \$125; Ken B Kleaned – cost \$135; Putnam Pest – cost \$43; Frontier – cost \$208.10; NYSEG – cost \$337.35; Coughlin & Gerhart LLP – cost \$29.50; 2nd backyard brush hogging – cost \$100.

COMMUNICATIONS

The hall has been scheduled for use on the following dates: 8-04 (town planning board meeting cancelled-no quorum); 9-20 Desiree Strain (fire dept. member free use); 10-06 town planning board meeting; 10-08 fire dept. open house; 10-11 fire dept. spaghetti dinner.

Bob told board members the August/September 2025 issue of Fire District Affairs newsletter was online to review. One physical issue was received. OSHA changes are coming and the state has put \$35MM into the budget to help with facilities repairs.

Coughlin & Gerhart LLP has assigned Keegan Coughlin as the new lawyer for the district.

NYSEG has replaced the old electric meter with the new "smart meter".

Reese-Marshall sent a letter suggesting the district have them inspect the age of the fuel tank. Approval was given.

Brendan motioned to approve the Town of Plymouth Youth Committee 10-24 Halloween dance, 11-09 spaghetti dinner and 12-06 breakfast with Santa. Seconded by Renee and was carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Work orders update: . status of sound proofing of the meeting hall: HOLD

- . floor repair hall side: Brendan has call in to Sal from Starkrete, has not had return call from him as yet.
- . paint peeling on floor of truck bay: again, call in to Sal
- . check training room ceiling for a leak: Bob checked ceiling for leak, found nothing
- . check leak under overhang by bottle bin: Bob checked, found nothing
- . check leak truck bay men's room: Bob checked, found nothing. Roofer to check
- . check screen replacement of windows, weed killer around building, outside for rust:
- . four additional tables for hall use: HOLD for funding
- . painting of the meeting hall and bathrooms: four contractors were contacted, three did not return call, one stated this time of the year it's too nice to do inside work
- . gear washer/dryer installation: project completed in August
- . generator: failed to work after last electrical outage. Westcott Electric phoned, checked out, system now working
- . internet: Brian motioned to switch from Frontier to Spectrum with Wi-Fi at a price of \$80/mo. Seconded by Les and was carried.

No change in status of above items #2, #3 for this month. HOLD Items #4, #5, #6 New York Roofers submitted a quote of \$2853.63 to replace the screws on the entire perimeter of the roof and the ridge cap. Brian motioned to have New York Roofers complete the work. Seconded by Brendan and was carried.

Grants: Renee reported that the Richochet turnout gear that was applied for was awarded to six states: NY (Ithaca), IL, AZ, NC, PA and GA. The SAFER grant application deadline expired 9-05. VFIRE grant is not open as yet. She will contact Assemblyman Joe Angelino, to ascertain if there might be a grant for the parking lot.

Cory stated he has heard nothing regarding the status of the recall notice on the back up camera on truck 2751. He was instructed to phone Matthews Ford.

Typos on the Preston fire protection contract have been corrected and the contract has been signed.

NEW BUSINESS

Due to the state changing the date of the public hearing on the proposed budget from the third Tuesday in October to any day in the third week in October, Renee motioned to hold the October budget hearing on the same day as regular district meeting on Monday (10-20). Seconded by Brendan and was carried.

Explore improving fire services for the community covered by Plymouth Fire District. Consolidation, Merger, Deactivation, Dissolution, Fire protection contracts, Hiring a fire chief, etc.: working on grant for strategic plan and consulting svcs. Next step is fact gathering with groups involved. Plan is moving forward starting with setting up interviews.

Advanced Fire informed that ansul systems need upgrading every ten years. This system can be done in February or October 2026. Estimate for this upgrade is \$835. Brian motion to schedule the upgrade to be done in February. Seconded by Brendan and was carried.

The septic tank is on schedule to be pumped September of this year. Brendan motioned to have Adsit Septic & Excavating do the work. Seconded by Renee and was carried.

Leroy Maricle completed brush hogging of the back of the property on 9-12.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Ian Monzo submitted his request to be put on the ballot for December's commissioner election.

Patty Murray asked Cory is there day responders for calls; yes, mutual aid 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Did New York Roofers submit the quote for the town side roof screw replacement; Bob sent e-mail, she hasn't received it, Bob will resend. Any word from CGR; nothing as yet. She has concerns when the truck bay doors are open especially when the weather is cold the heat from the building is heating all outdoors.

Chris Strain doesn't like people bad mouthing Plymouth; everyone has the right of free speech.

OTHER

Cory stated lights above the front truck bay doors are out. Bob will obtain estimate.

Cory stated the old shed has been emptied. He would like a dumpster put out back for all the disposables. Brian told him to submit a listing of all items to be disposed of so they can be declared as surplus.

Cory stated he feels the back lot needs to be weed wacked around the sheds, fuel tanks, septic tank.

WORK IN PROGRESS

(will move these items up for Board Action as background information/reports completed)

Bob adjourned meeting at 8:54 p.m.