

## *Preliminary Minutes*

### **Town of Plymouth, Vermont**

### **Public Hearing – Money Brook**

**Monday, September 8, 2025 @ 6:30 PM**

### **Municipal Building Meeting Room**

**Board Members Present:** Jay Kullman Rick Kaminski Keith Cappellini

**Staff Present:** Angela Kissell Frank Vetere

**Others Present:** Rick Martin Rose Vetere Margo Marrone  
Paul Olson Tom Harris Bruce Pauley  
Elaine Pauley

**Zoom Attendees:** Rich Ruggiano Craig O’Briskie Galaxy Tab

1. Call to Order:

a. Jay Kullman called the meeting to order at 6:29 PM then addressed Evan Fitzgerald from Fitzgerald Environmental Associates, LLC, who was attending the meeting via Zoom.

2. Review and Approval of Pre-Grant Application and Grant Application of \$250,000.00:

a. Angela Kissell spoke about how this came into play. The Vermont Community Development Program announced that there was a 63 million +/- grant. The majority of those funds (70%) are allotted for low to median income housing in certain counties; however, there is a portion of the grant that is for infrastructure and mitigation. We submitted a pre-application grant for \$5,000,000 to be used to fix (or partially fix) Money Brook. The pre-application outlined the following: Landslide/Alluvial Fan Activity – Need Fixing, Stabilization of Mud Slide/Bank, Containment of Clay & Sediments, Heavy Fabric Installation, Clean and Possibly Widen Brook to Match Width of New Bridge on Route 100N, Possibly Build New Cofferdams or Sediment Ponds, and Environmental Review. These items were listed, to give guidance, based on conversations with contractors who do work, but on a smaller scale. After the pre-application submission there was a zoom meeting with Town residents as well as employees of Vermont Department of Housing & Community Development. Employees of VDHCD said based on the amount of the grant, and size of the project as well as the fact that the Town of Plymouth is not “shovel to dirt” ready our pre-grant application is being denied. They also stated that they have received way more applications than they have funding for. They did encourage the Town to apply for a Planning pre-application grant and would support us in that route.

**b. Jay Kullman made a motion to approve / support the Planning Grant Application. Rick Kaminski seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

3. Evan Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Environmental Associates, LLC:

a. Evan Fitzgerald introduced himself as a Civil Engineer from Fitzgerald Environmental Associates, LLC out of Colchester, VT. He was involved with Money Brook after Irene in 2011 as well as the flood on July 10, 2023. He was looking for alternatives that might help and working with landowners

as well as VTrans. He discussed how Town Clerk, Angela Kissell reached out to him and was looking for a scope of work and cost analysis to submit with her Planning Grant Application. This is a large project and he is partnering with another consulting firm who is also familiar with Money Brook. He did say that there is no charge to the Town of Plymouth for this portion of his work. Evan was open to questions if anyone had them.

4. Select Board to Review, Appoint and Approve VCDP Grant Application Authority / Resolution:

**a. Jay Kullman made a motion to appoint Angela Kissell, Town Clerk on the *Resolution for VCDP Grant Application Authority*. Keith Cappellini seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

5. Citizen Comments:

a. Several residents had questions, comments and/or concerns about Money Brook. Tom Harris talked of the sediment and how it is affecting the streams and lakes. Rose and Frank Vetere talked about the flow of water and rocks that come down the brook and across the road as they live very close to Money Brook. Richard Ruggiano asked about the cost for Evan's time to work on this and that's when Evan answered that there was no cost to the Town for this part of his work. One question was asked about VTrans and if they will be involved. Angela said yes, they would but had not been contacted at time. Paul Olson asked Angela how she determined what the scope of work was that was submitted on the pre-application. Angela said that she wasn't really qualified to answer the scope of work, but did talk with contractors who do similar work, on a smaller scale, to complete the pre-application; however, qualified people like Evan Fitzgerald and his firm will be the ones to give us the outline. Angela said we have to start somewhere. This will make us "shovel to dirt" ready in the event there is another grant opportunity or at least have a plan outlined as well as cost breakdown to ask donors for funding. Angela also noted that we only have two weeks to gather all of this information and get the final application submitted so time is of the essence. Angela concluded by saying that this is personal to me as I live in Ludlow on Round Pond, but I also want this for our Town. I don't want to burden the taxpayers of Plymouth and having this ready will put us in place for other options in the future. It appears everyone's questions had been answered.

6. Adjourn:

a. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Kissell  
Recording Secretary  
Town Clerk

**Select Board**

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Jay Kullman, Chair

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Rick Kaminski, Vice-Chair

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Keith Cappellini