

December 2, 2008

**APPROVED MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3rd Floor
VERNON, CONNECTICUT
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008 7:30 P.M.**

A.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Present: Daniel Anderson, Bill Campbell, Daniel Champagne, Mark Etre, Bill Fox, Marie Herbst, Nancy Herold, Brian Motola, Sean O'Shea, Pauline Schaefer, Harry Thomas, Michael Winkler

Absent:

Entered During Meeting:

Also Present: Mayor Jason L. McCoy, Interim Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Jill Kentfield

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

Tom DiDio, 112 Box Mountain Dr.: Spoke in favor of the Energy Improvement District.

Walter Mealy, 125 South St.: Spoke in favor of the Energy Improvement District. He requested Town Council members consider adding an annual review of the Energy Improvement District financial records into the ordinance.

(7:33 PM) Citizen's forum closed

B.) PUBLIC HEARING (7:35 pm)

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING "THE METRO POLICE SERVICES AGREEMENT". (A copy of Metro Police Services Agreement and a copy of the published Legal Notice dated November 24, 2008 are included in the Council packet.)

(7:35 PM) Mayor McCoy called for a motion to open the Public Hearing.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to open the Public Hearing to receive comments and questions regarding the Metro Police Services Agreement. Motion carried unanimously. The Recording Secretary read the legal notice for the record.

Captain was available to answer any questions, and provided an explanation of the agreement. Discussion took place.

ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING.

(7:37 PM) Mayor McCoy called for a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. Council Member Etre, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

C.) PRESENTATION:

"State of the Town" financial report, presented by Mayor Jason L. McCoy, John D. Ward, Interim Town Administrator and James Luddecke, Finance Officer. (Handouts to be provided during the presentation)

Mayor McCoy presented information regarding revenue shortfalls. He also provided information regarding the savings to the town in fuel costs since the mandatory Employee Energy Conservation Policy went into affect last March. Discussion took place.

PRESENTATION:

Report from the Economic Development Commission, presented by Marina Rodriguez, Assistant Planner, Economic Development Coordinator. (Handouts to be provided during the presentation)

Ms. Rodriguez gave a power point presentation regarding the Economic Conditions and Trends Report, which will be released to Town Council members in the near future. She provided information regarding economic strengths, challenges and recommendations for the town. Discussion took place. Council Member Anderson recommended the Economic Development Commission review their recommendations, prioritize them and present to the Town Council their top three priorities with a work plan on how to address the responsibilities.

Council Member Etre requested an update on the progress of the work plan by the January 20, 2009 meeting. He also requested information be included in the work plan regarding ways the Town Council can assist in moving forward the recommendations. Council member Herbst requested the Commission include suggestions for the priority to succeed.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 1. Request for Tax Refunds for Prior Years and Current Year.** (A copy of the memorandum from Carol S. Nelson, Collector of Revenue to John Ward, Interim Town Administrator dated November 24, 2008 is included in the Council packet) **Appendix A**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THREE (3) TAX REFUNDS TOTALING \$187.20 FOR PRIOR YEARS, AND SIX (6) TAX REFUNDS TOTALING \$914.27 FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED NOVEMBER 24, 2008 TO THE INTERIM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to approve the request for tax refunds for prior years and current year. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve the 2009 Town Council Meeting Schedule.** (A copy of a memorandum dated November 21, 2008 from John D. Ward, Interim Town Administrator to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and the Town Council is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE 2009 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to approve the 2009 Town Council meeting schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

E.) IDENTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

F.) PENDING BUSINESS

NONE

G.) NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Request the Town Council approve the transfer of \$35,000 from the General fund balance for the purchase of GeoTMS software.** A copy of a memorandum from Mr. Ray Walker, Fire Marshal to Mr. John D. Ward, Interim Town Administrator dated 11-18-08. , and a copy of a memorandum dated 11-18-08 from Mr. John D. Ward, Interim Town Administrator to Vernon Town Council are included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL MOVES TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT #6 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING GEOTMS SOFTWARE. AS INDICATED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST, \$10,000.00 WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT AND \$25,000.00 IS TO BE APPROPRIATED FROM THE GENERAL FUND BALANCE.

Council Member Motola seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to approve the transfer of \$35,000.00 from the general fund balance to purchase GeoTMS software. Discussion took place. Mr. Walker provided information regarding the need for the software. Council Member Etre requested the cover sheet for budget amendment requests called "Additional Appropriations from General Fund Balance, Fiscal Year 2008-2009" be included on all budget requests. Motion carried unanimously.

(9:25PM) Council Member Anderson left the meeting

- 2. Update on Vernon's Participation in the Clean Energy Communities Program and Energy Conservation,** requested by Council member Marie Herbst. (A copy of the Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION PROPOSING CLEAN ENERGY COMMITMENT", and copies of the August 7, 2007 and August 21, 2007 Town Council minutes are included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

NONE

Interim Town Administrator Ward presented a history and update of the CT Clean Energy Communities Program. He recommended Town Council Members approve another request for proposal since the last one completed a long time ago. Council Member Herbst requested more publicity to residents about the program. Mr. Jeff Boulrice provided information to the Town Council Members regarding new initiatives. Discussion took place. Mayor McCoy will take into consideration appointing Mr. Boulrice to the Energy Improvement District if it passes.

(9:46PM) Council Member Anderson returned to the meeting

H.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. **Request the Town Council to schedule a Public Hearing for December 16, 2008 at 7:35 PM to receive comments and questions regarding the establishment of an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE RENEWING ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF VERNON".** (A copy of a memorandum dated November 24, 2008 from John D. Ward, Interim Town Administrator to Mayor McCoy and the Vernon Town Council, and the proposed ordinance are included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH CHAPTER V OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, SEC. 6, ENTITLED "PUBLIC HEARING ON AND PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCES," HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE RENEWING ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF VERNON" AT 7:35 PM ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2008 LOCATED AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THIRD FLOOR, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CT TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE.

Council Member Motola seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to schedule a public hearing for December 16, 2008 at 7:35 PM to receive comments and questions regarding the establishment of an ordinance entitled: "An Ordinance renewing all previous ordinances of the Town of Vernon." Discussion took place. Attorney Cummings provided information to the Council Members regarding the reasons for this ordinance. Council leaders will work with the Town Clerk and Town Attorneys to review all ordinances for repeals, redundancies, gaps, outdated and amendments per the recommendation of Attorney Cummings. Motion carried unanimously.

(10:00 PM) Council Member Anderson left the meeting

(10:00 PM) Extend Curfew.

Council Member Etre, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to extend curfew until the completion of business. Motion carried unanimously.

(10:03 PM) Recess

(10:25 PM) Reconvene meeting

I.) ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

1. **"TOWN OF VERNON ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD".** A copy of a memorandum dated November 24, 2008 from Mayor Jason L. McCoy to Town Council and a copy of the Ordinance are included in the packet)

PROPOSED MOTION:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER V, SECTIONS 4 AND 6 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, THE TOWN COUNCIL MOVES TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "TOWN OF VERNON ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD".

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Thomas made a motion to amend the ordinance to reflect changes made to the ordinance in a document provided to Town Council Members by Council Member Campbell entitled "Town of Vernon Energy Improvement District and Energy Improvement District Board (Amended at the November 6, 2008 Town Council Meeting.)" Recommended deletions are highlighted in red, and recommended amendments are highlighted in green. Discussion took place. Motion carried, Council Members Schaefer and Herbst opposed, Council Member Herold abstained. Council Member Winkler, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to amend the ordinance to reflect changes made to the

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ordinance in a document provided to Town Council members entitled "Town of Vernon Energy Improvement District and Energy Improvement District Board revised 11/10/08." Discussion took place. Motion failed, Council Members Etre, Motola, O'Shea, Campbell, Thomas and Champagne opposed, Council Member Herold abstained. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to adopt the amended ordinance entitled "Town of Vernon Energy Improvement District and Energy Improvement District Board." Motion failed, Council Members Herbst, Schaefer, Herold, Winkler and Fox opposed. Council Member Anderson abstained

2. **"METRO POLICE SERVICES AGREEMENT"**. (Copy of Agreement is in your packet for the Public Hearing earlier in the meeting.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER V, SECTIONS 4 AND 6 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, THE TOWN COUNCIL MOVES TO ADOPT AN AGREEMENT ENTITLED, "METRO POLICE SERVICES AGREEMENT".

Council Member Motola seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to adopt an agreement entitled "Metro Police Services Agreement. Motion carried, Council Member Champagne abstained.

J.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

K.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2008 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Motola seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of November 18, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

L.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

NONE

M.) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Vernon Youth Services Bureau monthly report for October 2008 from Director Alan Slobodien.
2. Memorandum dated November 20, 2008 from John Leary, Municipal Building Committee Chairman to Town Council and Town of Vernon.
3. Energy Programs and Services, provided through Connecticut Light and Power and Yankee Gas.
4. 2008 Dangerous Toy List, as provided by W.A.T.C.H. Hartford Courant article dated 11-26-2008 and "For Kids Sake" article from the Consumer Product Safety Board.
5. Town of Vernon Police Department Monthly Report – October, 2008

ADJOURNMENT (11:18 PM)

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Received: December 4, 2008

Approved: December 16, 2008

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Kentfield
Recording Secretary


James E. Krupienski, Asst.

Appendix A



TOWN OF VERNON **CONSENT #1**

8 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CT 06066
Tel: (860) 870-3660
Fax: (860) 870-3585
E-Mail: cnelson@vernon-ct.gov

OFFICE OF THE
COLLECTOR OF REVENUE
CAROL S. NELSON -CCMC

TO: John Ward, Interim Town Administrator
FROM: Carol S. Nelson, Collector of Revenue *CSN*
DATE: November 24, 2008
SUBJECT: Refunds for Town Council Approval

PRIOR YEARS:

Burris, Keith C 49.20
Assessor's Correction – Junked/Totaled

Chaudhary, Tahir M 7.35
BAA correction

Teets, Robin D or Robert E 130.65
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle

CURRENT YEAR:

Buxton, John S 6.36
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle

DCFS Trust 193.79
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle

Honda Lease Trust 159.58
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle

Leonard, Belinda S or William F 42.40
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle

Owren, Lars N 383.04
Assessor's Correction – Continuous Service

Teets, Robin D or Robert E 129.10
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle

(3) Prior Overpayments..... \$ 187.20
(6) Current Overpayments..... \$ 914.27