

September 16, 2008
**APPROVED MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL 3RD FLOOR, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
14 PARK PLACE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 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 E Herold, Brian R. Motola, Pauline Schaefer, Harry D. Thomas, Diane Wheelock, Michael A. Winkler

Absent:

Entered During Meeting:

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

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

Ed Slattery, Municipal Town Agent for the Town of Vernon spoke about the senior dance, which takes place on September 26, 2008. Tickets are still available. There will be a live band, dancing and food.

Polly Schaefer, 2A Fox Hill Road spoke about the Town of Vernon Bicentennial celebration that took place on Sunday. They had a good turnout and the torch light parade was a success. The next celebration takes place on October 5, 2008 with the bicentennial parade. There is still time to be a part of the parade. Also, on October 15, 2008 there will be a reenactment of the signing of the Town Charter at Vernon Congregational Church. To wrap up the bicentennial celebrations there will be a dance on October 25, 2008 at the Elks club with a live band, silent auction and appetizers.

Citizens forum closed at 7:36 PM.

MOVE TO RECESS THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING UNTIL COMPLETION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE #220.

Council Member Herbst seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to recess the Town Council Meeting until completion of the Public Hearing on Ordinance #220. Motion carried unanimously.

B) PUBLIC HEARING: (7:35 P.M.)

Open the Public Hearing to receive comments and questions relative to Ordinance #220 entitled "An Ordinance Exempting Certain Activities of Charitable, Religious or Non-Profit Organizations from Taxation." (A copy of the legal notice and a copy of Ordinance #220 are enclosed in the Council packet.)

LEGAL NOTICE READ BY TOWN CLERK.

Bernice Dixon, Town Clerk read the legal notice into the record, which was posted on the exterior board, board outside the Town Clerk's Office and advertised in the Reminder News on September 9, 2008.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT.

No public comments.

ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING AND RECONVENE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to adjourn the public hearing and reconvene the Town Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor McCoy reconvened the Town Council meeting at 7:38 PM.

C) PRESENTATION:

- 1. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION FOR CONSTITUTION WEEK, SEPTEMBER 14 – 23, 2008, TO BE PRESENTED TO GERALDINE STRONG, CHAPTER CHAIRMAN, CAPTAIN NOAH GRANT CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.**

Mayor McCoy presented Geraldine Strong with a Mayor's proclamation that proclaimed September 14-23rd Constitution Week. He urged all citizens to take this time to reflect on the privilege of being Americans. He

September 16, 2008

spoke about the importance of celebrating the constitution. He also spoke about the positive work the Daughters of the Revolution accomplish.

2. ALAN SLOBODIEN, YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU DIRECTOR, TO GIVE BACKGROUND PRESENTATION ON THE VERNON COMMUNITY NETWORK. (Documents to be distributed at meeting.)

The Vernon Youth Services Bureau received a Grant from the Harvard Foundation for Giving to form the Vernon Community Network. Eight colleagues got together over an 18-month period to coordinate and collaborate with providers in the community to enhance services for the residents of Vernon. The Vernon Community Network met with Chief Kenny who provided them with information regarding a change in the law that affects youth who are “engaged in families with service needs activities”, which are non-criminal offenses such as running away, truancy, indecent and immoral behavior. The new law eradicated any consequence to youth engaging in these behaviors. The Vernon Community Network received a grant from the Hartford Foundation for Giving in the amount of \$11,000 to create a plan that will provide support and services to keep those youth engaged in these behaviors safe and also provide assistance to police and parents. This plan will utilize the Results Based Accountability model to develop measurable outcomes. Council Members asked that Mr. Slobodien provide updates as the project moves forward.

D) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- C 1.** Request for Tax Refunds – Prior Year and Current Year.
- C 2.** Request that the Town Council approve budget amendment #96, for fiscal year 2007-2008, as provided by James Luddecke, Finance Officer.
- C 3.** Request that the Town Council authorize the designation of John Ward, Interim Town Administrator, as the Fair Housing Officer, replacing Christopher Clark, Former Town Administrator.
- C 4.** Request that the Town Council approve the Appointment of John Ward as Alternate Director of Bolton Lakes Water Pollution Control Authority, filling the vacancy held previously by Christopher Clark.
- C 5.** Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor’s recommendation of Christy N. Vale, 100 Dobson Road Unit #3, (R), as a Regular Member of the Board of Ethics.
- C 6.** Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor’s reappointment of M. Lisa Moody, 89 Campbell Avenue, (R), as a Regular member of the Capital Improvements Committee.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herold made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Council Member Anderson pulled consent item #2 and Council Member Herold pulled consent item #6. Motion carried unanimously to approve consent items #1, 3, 4 and 5 as presented.

NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT ITEMS)

1. **Request for Tax Refunds – Prior Year and Current Year.** (Memorandum from Carol S. Nelson, Collector of Revenue, dated September 8, 2008 to John Ward, Interim Town Administrator, is in the Council packet.)
Appendix A

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES TAX REFUNDS FOR THE PRIOR YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 122.52 AND THE CURRENT YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$543.68 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED SEPTEMBER 8, 2008 TO JOHN WARD, INTERIM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herold made a motion to approve the tax refunds for the prior year in the amount of \$122.52 and current year in the amount of \$543.68. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Request that the Town Council approve budget amendment #96, for fiscal year 2007-2008, as provided by James Luddecke, Finance Officer. (A copy of budget amendment request #96 is included in the Council packet.)** Appendix B

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST #96 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008, AUTHORIZING \$3983.29 IN 2007-2008 UNSPENT FUNDS FROM VISTING NURSE AND HEALTH SERVICES OF CT TO HOCKANUM VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL, INC. FOR THE DIAL-A-RIDE PROGRAM AS OUTLINED IN BUDGET AMENDMENT FORM PROVIDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER.

September 16, 2008

This item was discussed under new business. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herold made a motion to approve budget amendment #96 for fiscal year 2007-2008. Discussion took place. Discussion took place. Council Member Anderson asked the Human Services Committee to notify other Human Services agencies of future funding opportunities to give them a chance to apply. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Request that the Town Council authorize the designation of John Ward, Interim Town Administrator, as the Fair Housing Officer, replacing Christopher Clark, Former Town Administrator. (A copy of a Memorandum from Mayor Jason L. McCoy dated September 9, 2008 and a copy of the July 17, 2008 Fair Housing Policy Statement is included in the Council packet.)**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF VERNON HEREBY ADOPTS THE PROVISIONS OF THE "TOWN OF VERNON FAIR HOUSING POLICY STATEMENT" AND HEREBY DESIGNATES JOHN WARD, INTERIM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AS THE FAIR HOUSING OFFICER.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herold made a motion to authorize the designation of John Ward as the Fair Housing Officer. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Request that the Town Council Approve the Appointment of John Ward as Alternate Director of Bolton Lakes Water Pollution Control Authority, for a term effective September 16, 2008 and expiring on December 31, 2010.**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHN WARD AS ALTERNATE DIRECTOR OF BOLTON LAKES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY, FOR A TERM EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 16, 2008 AND EXPIRING ON DECEMBER 31, 2010.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herold made a motion to approve the appointment of John Ward as Alternate Director of Bolton Lakes Water Pollution Control Authority for a term effective September 16, 2008 expiring on December 31, 2010. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor's recommendation of Christy N. Vale, 100 Dobson Road Unit #3, (R), as a Regular Member of the Board of Ethics, filling the vacancy of Lois Schurney, with a term expiring on November 30, 2009. (A copy of Christy Vale's resume is included in the Council packet.)**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATION OF CHRISTY N. VALE, 100 DOBSON ROAD UNIT #3, (R) AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS, WITH A TERM EXPIRING ON NOVEMBER 30, 2009.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herold made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendation of Christy N. Vale as a regular member of the Board of Ethics with a term expiring on November 30, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor's reappointment of M. Lisa Moody, 89 Campbell Avenue, (R), as a Regular member of the Capital Improvements Committee, with a term expiring on September 1, 2011. (A copy of M. Lisa Moody's resumé is included in the Council packet.)**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF M. LISA MOODY, 89 CAMPBELL AVENUE, (R), AS A REGULAR MEMBER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE, WITH A TERM EXPIRING ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2011.

This item was discussed under new business. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to approve the Mayor's reappointment of M. Lisa Moody as a regular member of the Capitol Improvements Committee with a term expiring on September 1, 2011. Motion carried, Council Member Herold abstained.

E) IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

Council Member Anderson, seconded by Council Member Wheelock made a motion to add informational item #3 to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

September 16, 2008

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Wheelock made a motion to add informational item #4 to that agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

F) PENDING BUSINESS:

NONE

G) NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Request that the Town Council Approve the Recommendation of the Republican Town Committee Regarding the Replacement of Town Council Member, Peggy Jackle, (R). (A copy of the recommendation letter from the Vernon Republican Town Committee is included in the Council packet.)**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE, APPOINTING HARRY D. THOMAS (R), 125 DOCKEREL RD, TO FILL THE TOWN COUNCIL VACANCY CREATED BY THE RESIGNATION OF PEGGY JACKLE.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve the Republican Town Committee's recommendation of Harry D. Thomas to the Town Council to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Town Council Member Peggy Jackle. Motion carried unanimously.

Town Clerk, Bernice Dixon swore Mr. Thomas in as the newest member of the Town Council.

H) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

NONE

I) ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED:

PROPOSED MOTION:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER V, SECTIONS 4 AND 6 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, THE TOWN COUNCIL MOVES TO RENEW ORDINANCE #220 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE EXEMPTING CERTAIN ACTIVITIES OF CHARITABLE, RELIGIOUS OR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS FROM TAXATION." FOR A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to approve Ordinance #220 entitled "An Ordinance exempting Certain Activities of Charitable, Religious or Non Profit Organizations from Taxation" for a period of ten years. Discussion took place. Council Member Anderson, seconded by Council Member Motola made a motion for an amendment to add "and qualifies for exemption from municipal taxes in accordance with title 12 of the Connecticut General Statutes" to the end of second sentence in section 1.1. Which should now read: "Have achieved tax-exempt status issued by the Internal Revenue Service and qualifies for exemption from municipal taxes in accordance with Title 12 of the Connecticut General Statutes."

Council Member Etre requested a list of the agencies that fall under the qualifications of Ordinance #220 be provided to Town Council Members as an informational item at the next Council meeting. Town Attorney Cummings explained the difference between being exempt from the IRS and Chapter 12 of the CGS. Council member Champagne requested Administration to add to the list of agencies, the date the organization qualified for the exemption. Based on the discussion questions, Mayor McCoy suggested that Mr. Wheeler come to the next meeting to discuss how often the list is reviewed and how long organizations have been on the list. Motion carried, Council Member Etre opposed.

J) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

Informational Item #3 regarding the change in polling place from Maple Street School to Center 375. Discussion took place. Council Members requested that when Mr. Ward meets with the Registrars he should inform them of their opposition to moving the polling place out of the neighborhood thereby, making it more difficult for seniors, people with disabilities and those without transportation to vote. Suggestions for improvement include: Opening a classroom in addition to the gym to avoid overcrowding in the gym, keeping both the Maple Street and Center 375 polling places open for those voters in the Maple Street district, discussion with the registrars as to their plans to inform voters of the polling place changes. Mayor McCoy suggested Town Council Members take the opportunity to speak to their party registrars. Council Member Etre asked the Mayor's office to revisit the opinion in place during the previous administration stating signage can not be present at the polling places. He would like a sign put up at Maple Street School letting voters know about the change in polling place.

September 16, 2008

Council Member Herbst asked for a point of information regarding consent item #4. She requested Administration provide an updated list of Directors and Alternate Directors of the Bolton Lakes Water Pollution Control Authority to Town Council members.

Council Member Schaefer asked for a point of privilege. She requested Administration update the Town Council Member list to include Council Member Thomas' contact information.

K) ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Appendix C

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2008 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2008. Motion carried, Council Member Etre abstained.

L) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

NONE

M) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Letter of Resignation dated September 4, 2008 from Lois Schumey, resigning from the Board of Ethics.
2. Information Regarding the Carlson Forum, to be held November 20, 2008.
3. Letter from Registrars of Voters dated August 5, 2008, regarding Polling Place Change.
4. Town of Vernon Internal Telephone Directory revised 9/9/2008.
5. Senior Center Report for July and August 2008.

ADJOURNMENT (8:55 PM)

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

Received: September 18, 2008

Approved: October 7, 2008

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Kentfield
Recording Secretary

James E. Krupienski, Asst.



CONSENT #1 TOWN OF VERNON

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, Acting Town Administrator
FROM: Carol S. Nelson, Collector of Revenue
DATE: September 8, 2008
SUBJECT: Refunds for Town Council Approval

PRIOR YEARS:

Raymond, Teresa A..... 122.52
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle

CURRENT YEAR:

Bacchi, Deborah A & Joseph J..... 32.10
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle
Capron, Lane and Nancy..... 71.46
Assessor's Correction – Out of State
Capron, Land or Nancy 139.89
Assessor's Correction – Out of State
Darling, Jacob P 58.29
Paid Wrong Amount
Desrosiers, Kimberly A 18.47
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle
Gutzmer, Rachel E 70.55
Assessor's Correction – Out of State
Mazur, Andra B 70.25
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle
Toyota Motor Credit Corp 82.67
Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle

(1) Prior Overpayments..... \$ 122.52
(8) Current Overpayments \$ 543.68

September 16, 2008

Appendix B

Budget Amendment Request

CONSENT #2

Total Amount Requested: \$3,983.29 Fiscal Year 2007 - 2008 Date: September 16, 2008

To: Finance Officer	From (Department): Hockanum Valley Community Council	Amendment #: 96
---------------------	--	-----------------

Type of Amendment (X): Additional Appropriation Pass-Through Transfer

Request is hereby submitted for amendment(s) of budget as indicated.

Department	Account Description	Org Code	Object	Amount
FROM:				
Visiting Nurse & Health Services of Connecticut	Grants - Human services	10455221	58700	3,983.29
"FROM" Subtotal:				\$ 3,983.29

Department	Account Description	Org Code	Object	Amount
TO:				
1. Hockanum Valley Community Council	Grants - Human services	10456222	58700	3,983.29
2.				
3.				
4.				
"TO" Subtotal:				\$ 3,983.29

No. 1. *COMMENTS CONCERNING BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST*
 The Human Services Advisory Commission has recommended that unspent funds in the fiscal year 2007-2008 Visiting Nurses & Health Service's budget, be transferred to the Hockanum Valley Community Council, to support the Dial-A-Ride program. This will help to offset the increase in diesel fuel.
 Note: This transfer will be effective as of June 30, 2008.

	1	2	3	4
Balance in account for which funds are requested:	0.50			
Original appropriation in account:	138,304.00			
Plus or minus prior amendments:	194.00			
Amount of appropriation to date:	138,498.00			

James M. Luddecke
 Department Head


 Signature

September 8, 2008
 Date

At a meeting of the Town Council held on _____ the above request(s) was/were approved in the amount of: _____
 Signature of Town Administrator: _____

September 16, 2008

Appendix C

Dixon, Bernice

From: McCoy, Jason
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2008 12:52 PM
To: 'makjmk@sbcglobal.net'; 'daniel_e_anderson@comcast.net'; Anderson, Daniel; 'bc4281940@sbcglobal.net'; Campbell, Bill; 'dchampagnevtc@comcast.net'; Champagne, Daniel; Dixon, Bernice; 'mark.etre@pw.utc.com'; Etre, Mark; 'billfoxvernontc@aol.com'; Fox, Bill; 'pemaherbst@comcast.net'; Herbst, Marie; 'nancy-herold@sbcglobal.net'; Herold, Nancy; 'pjackle@comcast.net'; Jackle, Peggy; Krupienski, James; 'bmotola@travelers.com'; Motola, Brian; 'c_prue5517@yahoo.com'; 'uconngirlsfan@aol.com'; Schaefer, Pauline; Town Clerk; Ward, John; 'dwheelock02@snet.net'; Wheelock, Diane; Michael Winkler [External]; Winkler, Michael
Subject: Re: Town Council Minutes 9-16-08

There is a mistake in the minutes we can resolve it at the next council meeting on the floor during discussion. .Mr. Thomas was not present during role call. This effects votes as recorded.

Mayor Jason L. McCoy, Esq.
Town of Vernon Rockville
14 Park Street
Vernon CT 06066
Phone: (860) 870-3600
24-7 Phone: (860) 871-4544
Sent via blackberry

----- Original Message -----

From: MARK A KENTFIELD <makjmk@sbcglobal.net>
To: Daniel Anderson per <daniel_e_anderson@comcast.net>; Anderson, Daniel; Bill Campbell per <bc4281940@sbcglobal.net>; Campbell, Bill; Dan Champagne per <dchampagnevtc@comcast.net>; Champagne, Daniel; Dixon, Bernice; Mark Etre per <mark.etre@pw.utc.com>; Etre, Mark; Bill Fox per <billfoxvernontc@aol.com>; Fox, Bill; Marie Herbst per <pemaherbst@comcast.net>; Herbst, Marie; Nancy Herold per <nancy-herold@sbcglobal.net>; Herold, Nancy; Peggy Jackle per <pjackle@comcast.net>; Jackle, Peggy; Krupienski, James; McCoy, Jason; Brian Motola per <bmotola@travelers.com>; Motola, Brian; Chris Prue <c_prue5517@yahoo.com>; Polly Schaefer per <uconngirlsfan@aol.com>; Schaefer, Pauline; Town Clerk; Ward, John; Diane Wheelock per <dwheelock02@snet.net>; Wheelock, Diane; Michael Winkler [External]; Winkler, Michael
Sent: Thu Sep 18 11:26:14 2008
Subject: Town Council Minutes 9-16-08

To: Administration
Mayor McCoy
Town Clerk
Vernon Council Members

Attached please find Draft #1 minutes from the September 16, 2008 Regular Town Council meeting for your information. Amendments should be made during the Town Council meeting.

Thank You, Jill