

March 18, 2008

**MINUTES  
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
SENIOR CENTER 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, CONFERENCE ROOM  
26 PARK PLACE  
TUESDAY, March 18, 2008  
7:30 P.M.**

**Meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM**

**A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Daniel Anderson, Bill Campbell, Daniel Champagne, Mark Etre, Bill Fox, Marie Herbst, Nancy E Herold, Peggy A. Jackle, Brian R. Motola, Pauline Schaefer, Diane Wheelock and Michael A. Winkler

**Absent:**

**Entered During Meeting:**

**Also Present:** Mayor Jason L. McCoy, Town Administrator Christopher Clark, Recording Secretary Jill Kentfield

**CITIZEN'S FORUM:**

Ellen M. Byrnes, 1170 Hartford Turnpike: spoke against the ordinance to allow liquor permits on town property.

Joe Grabinski, Dart Hill Road: Spoke in favor of a 2 year budget with the school budget being split from the regular budget along with a forensic audit system put into place. He also spoke in favor of the ordinance to allow permits for alcohol on town property.

James Webb-Wilson, 300 South Street: Spoke against the ordinance to allow liquor permits on town property.

Peter Marcroft, 74 Tracey Drive: Spoke against the ordinance to allow liquor permits on town property.

Mika Trimmer, 15 Cottage St.: Spoke against the ordinance to allow liquor permits on town property.

Carl Schaefer, Fox Hill Drive: Spoke against the ordinance to allow liquor permits on town property.

David Kemp, 87 Hatch Hill Rd: Spoke in favor of appointing Mr. Al Sheridan as the Deputy Director of Emergency Management.

Michael Tobin, 424 Tunnel Road: Spoke against the ordinance to allow liquor permits on town property.

7:59 PM – Council Member Jackle seconded by Council Member Motola made a motion to extend citizen's forum. Motion carried unanimously.

William J. Green, 33 Echo Ridge Rd. Spoke against the ordinance to allow liquor permits on town property.

Harold Cummings, 32 Ravens Croft: Republican Town Committee Chairman spoke about a recent article in the newspaper.

Carl Slicer: Ellington Resident: Spoke in favor of the ordinance to allow liquor permits on town property. He commented on other possible ways of saving money by making different classes of roads and treating them differently with regards to plowing, and maintenance.

**B) PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None

**C) PRESENTATION:**

**Rockville High School students will be presenting their "Taste of Languages" program information.**

Students from Rockville High provided information regarding their "Taste of Languages" program taking place on April 3, 2008 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Vernon Center Middle School. This program is free of charge and is open to all residents. These students have spoken throughout the State and in New York

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City about the benefits of early language learning. This initiative has helped students with their critical thinking skills, students have achieved higher scores on standardized tests and more job opportunities are open to students speaking other languages. This is a National initiative that was started in 2005 which was dedicated as the year of languages. In 2006 a proclamation made 2006 – 2016 the decade of languages. Also, in 2006 a public awareness campaign took place to recruit language teachers into school systems. Residents will have the opportunity to take 45 minutes classes on 17 different languages that will teach about the culture, maps of the areas, and language lessons. There will be entertainment available. There will also be an “international playground” for children ages 5-8, which will provide games and entertainment while parents experience the taste of culture evening.

Presentation ended at 8:14 PM.

**D) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

- C 1.** Request for Tax Refunds – Current and Prior Fiscal Years.
- C 2.** Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor’s appointment of James Ferguson Jr. as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- C 3.** Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor’s appointment of Carl H. Slusarczyk as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- C 4.** Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor’s appointment of Mark St. Germain as a regular member of the Building Code Board of Appeals.
- C 5.** Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor’s appointment of Allen Sheridan as the Town of Vernon’s Deputy Director of Emergency Management.
- C 6.** Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor’s appointment of Pauline Schaefer as a Council Liaison of the Rockville Downtown Association.

Council member Wheelock, seconded by Council member Jackle moved to Approve the Consent Agenda Items 1, 2 & 3. Item 4 Pulled by Council Member Wheelock. Item 5 pulled by Council Member Schaefer. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT ITEMS)**

- 1. **Request for Tax Refunds – Current and Prior Fiscal Years.** (Memorandum from Carol S. Nelson, Collector of Revenue, dated March 12, 2008 to Christopher Clark, Town Administrator, is in the packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES ONE (1) TAX REFUND FOR THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$541.86 AND ELEVEN (11) TAX REFUNDS FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,649.08 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED MARCH 12, 2008 TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.**

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Jackle moved to approve the motion to approve one tax refund in the amount of \$541.86 and eleven tax refunds for the current fiscal year in the amount of 1,649.08. Motion carried unanimously

- 2. **Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor’s appointment of James Ferguson Jr. (U) 65 Dockerel Road, as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, to fill a vacancy due to the resignation of Mary LaChance (Resume is included in the packet. James is currently an Alternate member)**

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR’S APPOINTMENT OF JAMES FERGUSON JR. AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2011.**

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Jackle moved to approve the motion to appoint James Ferguson Jr. as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for at term to expire on June 30, 2011. Motion carried unanimously

- 3. **Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor’s appointment of Carl H. Slusarczyk (R) 72 Frederic Rd, as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.** (Resume is included in the packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF CARL H. SLUSARCZYK AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2008.**

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Jackle moved to approve the motion to appoint Carl H. Slusarczyk as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried unanimously

4. **Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor's appointment of Mark St. Germain (R) 25 Grier Rd, as a regular member of the Building Code Board of Appeals.** (Resume is included in the packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MARK ST. GERMAIN AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON MARCH 13, 2011.**

Council Member Etre seconded by Council Member Anderson moved to approve the motion to appoint Mark St. Germain as a regular member of the Building Code Board of Appeals for a term to expire on March 13, 2011. Motion carried, Council Member Herbst Abstained

5. **Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor's appointment of Allen Sheridan, as the Town of Vernon's Deputy Director of Emergency Management.** (A copy of Allen's Bio sheet is included in the packet. Motion is included as an additional item in the packet).

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**\*See attached\***

Council Member Etre seconded by Council Member Fox moved to approve the appointment.

Council member Wheelock suggested the following changes to the job description as follows:

**Title:** "Volunteer" Emergency Management Director.

**Class Code:** Chapter 11, Section 5 of the Charter

**Barg Unit:** N/A

**Effective Date:** March 18, 2008 with a term to expire on March 18, 2010

**Examples of Duties:** First sentence begin with the phrase "In the absence of the Emergency Management Director" Assumes overall responsibility for the operation.....

Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Request that the Town Council approve the Mayor's appointment of Pauline Schaefer, as a Council Liaison of the Rockville Downtown Association.**

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF PAULINE SCHAEFER AS A COUNCIL LIAISON OF THE ROCKVILLE DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON NOVEMBER 8, 2009.**

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Etre moved to approve the motion to appoint Pauline Schaefer as a Council Liaison of the Rockville Downtown Association. Motion carried, Council Member Schaefer recused herself from the vote.

**E) IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:**

None

**F) PENDING BUSINESS:**

**Discussion on the amended Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Concerning Consumption and Possession of Alcoholic Beverages in Public Areas and Buildings". (Copy of a memo from Christopher Clark, Town Administrator with comments from Christopher Wardrop of Webster Insurance, as well as a copy of comments from Anthony Muro from the Risk Management Advisory Committee.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY MOVES THE ADOPTION OF THE ORDINANCE ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING CONSUMPTION AND POSSESSION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN PUBLIC AREAS AND BUILDINGS”.**

This item was removed from the Agenda. The data needed to move forward was not completed.

**G) NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Request that the Town Council approve the Resolution authorizing Mayor Jason L. McCoy to execute the Department of Transportation Grant for Dial-A-Ride services.** (Copy of application documents for Grant Funds for the State Fiscal Year, January 2008 and a copy of Resolution are included in the packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**REQUEST THE TOWN COUNCIL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO RECEIVE THE FUNDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION GRANT FOR DIAL-A-RIDE SERVICES.**

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Etre moved to adopt the Resolution to authorize Mayor McCoy to execute a contract with state DOT to receive funds associated with Dial-A-Ride Services. Motion rescinded due to changes in language.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Etre moved to adopt the following resolution:

**REQUEST THE TOWN COUNCIL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO RECEIVE THE FUNDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION GRANT ENTITLED “STATE MATCHING GRANT FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED DEMAND RESPONSIVE TRANSPORTATION.”**

Council Member Herbst made a motion for a friendly amendment to add the phrase” Therefore be it resolved” Motion carried unanimously

2. **Request for Town Council to schedule a Public Hearing regarding Ordinance entitled “An Ordinance Amending Article II, Chapter 5, Sections 5-17 and 5-27 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Vernon” relative to increased fees for open burning permits as well as increasing the penalty .** (Copy of the draft ordinance is in the packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE II, CHAPTER V OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, SECTIONS 5-17 AND 5-27 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, TOWN OF VERNON, HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II, CHAPTER 5, SECTIONS 5-17 AND 5-27 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES” APRIL 1, 2008 AT 7:35 P.M. AT THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE VERNON SENIOR CENTER, 26 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT.**

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer moved to schedule a public hearing regarding amending the outdoor fire permit sections of the town code to raise the permit fees for open burning to \$100.00 and increase the penalty to the maximum allowed to \$200.00 or 6 months in jail or both. Discussion took place regarding charges for fire permits. Changes were made to the motion as follows:

**THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE II, CHAPTER V OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, ~~SECTIONS 5-17 AND 5-27 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES~~ TO AMEND ORDINANCE NUMBER 28, TOWN OF VERNON, HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II, CHAPTER 5, SECTIONS 5-17 AND 5-27 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES” APRIL 1, 2008 AT 7:35 P.M. AT THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE VERNON SENIOR CENTER, 26 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT.**

Changes to the ordinance include:

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Section 1 (4) The fee of the permit for open burning shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) for one day within a one week period. Delete: One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

Section 2: ..... may be fined not less than ninety-nine (\$99.00) per day. Delete: Two Hundred Dollars or imprisoned not more than six (6) months or both.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer moved to schedule a public hearing to amend Ordinance #28 regarding outdoor fire permit for April 1, 2008. Motion carried, Council Member Campbell abstained.

8:36 PM Mayor McCoy called for a 5 minute recess. Meeting reconvened at 8:51 PM

3. **Request for Town Council to schedule a Public Hearing regarding Ordinance #235 entitled "An Ordinance Amending the Regulation of the Collection of Garbage and Refuse".** (Copy of the draft ordinance is in the packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 7-21(e) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF VERNON, HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE REGULATION OF THE COLLECTION OF GARBAGE AND REFUSE" APRIL 1, 2008 AT 7:40 P.M. AT THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE VERNON SENIOR CENTER, 26 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Etre moved to schedule a public hearing regarding the regulation of the collection of garbage and refuse. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Request for Town Council to appoint the firm Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C. to conduct an audit to the books and accounts of the Town of Vernon (Contract #685).** (Copy of memo dated Thursday March 13, 2008 from James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPOINTS THE FIRM OF BLUM, SHAPIRO & COMPANY, P.C. OF 29 SOUTH MAIN STREET WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT AS AUDITORS TO AUDIT THE BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS OF THE TOWN OF VERNON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2008; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACT # 685 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$48,400 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2008 AUDIT.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Etre moved to appoint the firm of Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C. as auditors to audit the books and accounts of the Town of Vernon for FY ending 6/30/08. Discussion took place.

Motion carried unanimously.

H) **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

None

I) **ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED:**

None

J) **DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:**

None

K) **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

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**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2008 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.**

Council Member Wheelock, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting from March 4, 2008. Motion carried, Council Member Champagne abstained.

Council Member Schaefer requested a point of personal privilege as follows: She spent this past Saturday at the State Robotics Competition as a guest of the RAGE Robotics team from Rockville High. 54 teams participated including 1 from Brazil and 1 from Canada. RAGE came in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The next competition will take place in Boston during the weekend of March 18, 2008. She also stated that she was disappointed that the ordinance regarding permits for alcoholic beverages was pulled from the agenda.

**L) EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

None

**M) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

1. Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting from February 25, 2008.
2. Copy of Monthly Report for February 2008 from Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.
3. Copy of February 26, 2008 Press Release regarding the Police Department's receipt of a Connecticut DOT Traffic Enforcement Grant.
4. Copy of Connecticut DOT Local Bridge Program for Fiscal Year 2009.
5. Copy of appointment letter to Chief James Kenny from The Honorable M. Jodi Rell, Governor appointing him to the "Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission".
6. Copy of Monthly Report for February 2008 from Alan M. Slobodien, Director of Youth Services.
7. Copy of the flyer placed in the Journal Inquirer on Tuesday March 4, 2008 regarding the 2008 Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the First New England Federal Credit Union.
8. Copy of letter sent on March 4, 2008 from Christopher Clark, Town Administrator to Robert Rakowski, CT DOT regarding the Sightline Problems on Vernon Avenue (Project #146-162).

Adjournment: 9:15 PM

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received: March 24, 2008

Approved: May 6, 2008

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Kentfield  
Recording Secretary



James E. Krupinski, Asst.

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Appendix A



# TOWN OF VERNON

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

8 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CT 06066  
Tel: (860) 870-3660  
Fax: (860) 870-3585  
E-Mail: carol.nelson@ci.vernon.ct.us

TO: Christopher Clark, Town Administrator  
FROM: Carol S. Nelson, Collector of Revenue  
DATE: March 12, 2008  
SUBJECT: Refunds for Town Council Approval

**PRIOR YEARS:**

Colonial Pacific Leasing Corp.....541.86

**CURRENT YEAR:**

Da Yong Wen dba Joyluck Chinese Restaurant.....127.25  
Overpayment due to Paid Wrong Amount

Darling, Jacob P.....44.76  
Overpayment due to Paid Wrong Amount

DeCaro, John and Christine .....122.37  
Overpayment due to Assessor's Correction – sent to Enfield

Gregus, Dana J .....98.44  
Overpayment due to Assessor's Correction – Junked/Totaled

Honda Lease Trust.....124.08  
Overpayment due to Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle

Morrisette, Anne M .....110.58  
Overpayment due to Assessor's Correction – Sold Vehicle

**Appendix A (cont)**

Refunds  
3/12/2008

2

Smith, Mary D.....	91.16
Overpayment due to Paid Wrong Amount	
Somerset Capital Group Ltd.....	105.64
Overpayment due to Assessor's Correction – Duplicate	
Tevlin, Walter or Donna.....	16.86
Overpayment due to Paid Wrong Amount	
Unicorn Polish Bakery Inc.....	434.74
Overpayment due to Paid Wrong Amount	
Unicorn Polish Bakery Inc.....	373.20
Overpayment due to Paid Wrong Amount	
(1) Prior Overpayment.....	\$ 541.86
(11) Current Overpayments.....	\$ 1,649.08
<b>Grand Total.....</b>	<b>\$ 2,190.94</b>