

**MINUTES**  
**VERNON TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**  
**VERNON, CONNECTICUT**

RECEIVED  
 VERNON TOWN CLERK  
 15 APR 14 PM 3:32

**March 31, 2015 7:30 PM**

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

**A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**B) ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Council Members Pauline Schaefer, Virginia Gingras, Julie Clay, Brian Motola, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Fred Lehmann, Bill Campbell, John Kopec, Michael Winkler, and Ann Letendre

**Absent:** Council Member Steve Peterson

**Entered During Meeting:**

**Also Present:** Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Karen Daigle

**C) CITIZEN'S FORUM**

Lisa Ouellette, 57 Hany Lane, and Treasurer of the Vernon Arts Commission, thanked the Mayor and the Town Council for approving the Arts Commission budget. She also spoke about the Vernon Chorale.

Mclean Oakeson, 42 Evergreen Lane, Glastonbury, and President of the Vernon Chorale Board of Directors, thanked the Town Council and the Arts Commission for approving their budget. She also spoke about venues and use of space.

Michael Winkler, 20 Gottier Drive, spoke concerning the roads and the bond issue.

Citizen's Forum closed at 7:42 PM

**D.) PRESENTATION**

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer to present any updates since the March 30, 2015 meeting. Mr. Luddecke spoke on the Certificate of Corrections by the Assessor's Office, the Grand List and the proposed mill rate.

**E.) MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS REQUIRING ACTION OR DISCUSSION**

1. Revenue
2. Opportunity for Town Council Members to add or delete from the Mayor's proposed budget.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to open the proposed budget revisions to copier rental/lease as presented by James Luddecke, motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to close said accounts and accept the changes to the copier rental/lease as presented. Motion carried unanimously. **See Appendix A attached for list of accounts.**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to open the proposed budget revisions presented by Council Member Wakefield, motion carried unanimously. Council Member Winkler pulled tab 9 page 142, Rockville Public Library for further discussion. Discussion on remaining list took place. Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to approve cuts on said remaining list. Motion carried unanimously. **See Appendix B attached for list of accounts.**

#### **Rockville Public Library**

Council Member Winkler spoke on tab 9 page 142, Rockville Public Library and the proposed cut of \$50,000. Discussion took place. Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to cut \$50,000 from the Rockville Public Library. Motion carried with 6 in favor and 5 opposed.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to close tab 9 page 142 in the revised amount of \$310,000, motion carried unanimously.

RECESS (8:07 PM)

RECOVERED (8:14 PM)

#### **Housing Authority – Sewer Subsidy**

Council Member Winkler, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to open tab 10 page 152, account 10673282, motion carried unanimously. Council Member Winkler spoke to reduce said account to \$1.

Finance Director, James Luddecke was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Winkler, seconded by Council Member Campbell withdrew the motion.

#### **Recreation Public Celebration**

Council Member Winkler, seconded by Council Member Lehmann made a motion to open tab 9 page 134, account 10560253, motion carried unanimously. Council Member Winkler spoke to add \$2,000 to Rockville Fest/National Night Out. Discussion took place. Motion to add \$2,000 failed with 4 in favor and 7 against.

#### **Capital Improvements - Town**

Council Member Winkler, seconded by Council Member Letendre made a motion to open tab 11 page 154, Capital Improvements – Town, motion carried unanimously. Council Member spoke to add \$600,000 to this account.

Public Works Director, Robert Kleinhans, and Finance Director, James Luddecke were present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

8:39 PM Council Member Clay left the table; 8:40 PM Council Member Clay returned.

Motion to add \$600,000 failed with 5 in favor and 6 against.

#### **Education**

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Lehmann made a motion to open tab 12 page 160, account 10990330, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to decrease the account by \$600,000. Discussion took place.

8:52 PM Council Member Appleyard left the table.

RECESS (8:58 PM)  
RECONVENED (9:07 PM)

Discussion continued. Motion to reduce said account by \$600,000 passed with 6 in favor and 4 against.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Lehmann made a motion to close tab 12 page 160, account 10990330 in the revised amount of \$51,608,369, motion carried unanimously.

9:11 PM Council Member Appleyard returned.

RECESS (9:12 PM) for Mr. Luddecke to finalize the budget numbers.  
RECONVENED (9:43 PM)

F.) **FINALIZE BUDGET**

**APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016**

THE TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY APPROVE THE TOWN OF VERNON GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$27,941,545**; THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND DEBT SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$7,150,327**; AND THE EDUCATION BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$51,608,369**, FOR A TOTAL GENERAL FUND TOTAL OF **\$86,700,241**.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to approve the Town of Vernon general government appropriations in the amount of \$27,941,545; the capital improvements and debt service appropriations in the amount of \$7,150,327; and the education budget in the amount of \$51,608,369, for a total general fund total of \$86,700,241. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BUDGET REVENUE ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY APPROVE THE TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$86,700,241** TO COINCIDE WITH THE TOTAL RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATIONS OF **\$86,700,241**, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCE OFFICER TO ADJUST LINE ITEMS IN THE ESTIMATED REVENUE AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to approve the total estimated revenue in the amount of \$86,700,241 to coincide with the total recommended appropriations of \$86,700,241, and to authorize the finance officer to adjust line items in the estimated revenue as may be deemed necessary. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF TOWN OF VERNON BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 FOR PRESENTATION AT THE PUBLIC HEARING/TOWN MEETING:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY APPROVE AND PRESENT THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$86,700,241** TO THE ELECTORS AND QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS AT THE PUBLIC HEARING/ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015 AT 7:00 PM IN THE AUDITORIUM OF ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AT 70 LOVELAND HILL ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT. THE TOWN CLERK IS AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO PUBLISH A SUMMARY OF SAID PROPOSED BUDGET AND ENTERPRISE ACTIVITY ESTIMATES SHOWING ANTICIPATED REVENUES BY MAJOR SOURCES AND PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS BY FUNCTION AND/OR DEPARTMENTS AND THE AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION, AT LEAST FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to approve and present the budget for fiscal year 2015-2016 in the amount of \$86,700,241 to the electors and qualified taxpayers at the public hearing/annual town meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the auditorium of Rockville High School at 70 Loveland Hill Road, Vernon, Connecticut. The Town Clerk is authorized and directed to publish a summary of said proposed budget and enterprise activity estimates showing anticipated revenues by major sources and proposed appropriations by function and/or departments and the amounts to be raised by taxation, at least five days before the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjourn ( 9:47 PM)**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell, made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen C. Daigle  
Recording Secretary

**Appendix A**

**PROPOSED BUDGET REVISIONS**

**FISCAL YEAR 2015 - 2016 TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**

**MEETING DATE: MARCH 30, 2015**

Tab	Page	Department	Org Code	Object Code	Object Description	Detail Description	CHANGE	Object Code Result	Department Total As Revised
<b>MOTION: TO OPEN AND CHANGE THE BUDGETS AS LISTED, AND TO CLOSE AT THE REVISED AMOUNT.</b>									
5	1	Town Council	10110110	54490	Copier rental / lease		(80)	740	12,165
5	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	54490	Copier rental / lease		600	8,100	687,936
5	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	54490	Copier rental / lease		550	8,650	688,486
5	10	Registration	10113130	54490	Copier rental / lease		(730)	600	82,200
5	19	Finance Administration	10114140	54490	Copier rental / lease		(192)	1,920	498,666
5	25	Assessment	10114144	54490	Copier rental / lease		(150)	750	273,073
5	29	Collector of Revenue	10114146	54490	Copier rental / lease		(17)	600	227,010
5	34	Town Clerk	10115150	54490	Copier rental / lease		(828)	1,740	269,661
5	43	Town Planner	10150170	54490	Copier rental / lease		(4,080)	2,920	247,207
6	49	Police Department	10230180	54490	Copier rental / lease		(80)	3,220	6,127,661
6	67	Building Inspection	10232187	54490	Copier rental / lease		870	2,170	389,551
7	76	DPW - Administration	10340200	54490	Copier rental / lease		(1,150)	1,350	656,167
8	119	Social Services	10456240	54490	Copier rental / lease		(1,032)	1,080	262,979
8	122	Youth Services	10456241	54330	Maintenance of office equipment		(1,350)	-	212,213
8	122	Youth Services	10456241	54490	Copier rental / lease		1,350	1,350	213,563
8	122	Youth Services	10456241	54490	Copier rental / lease		(270)	1,080	213,293
8	125	Senior Center	10457242	54490	Copier rental / lease		(43)	1,250	134,409
9	129	Recreation Administration	10560250	54490	Copier rental / lease		(402)	1,800	367,892
<b>Total General Government Town Council Adjustments:</b>							<b>(7,034)</b>		
<b>SPECIAL REVENUE FUND - AMBULANCE</b>									
12	164	Ambulance - EMS	22231417	54490	Copier rental / lease		(1,000)	2,000	1,172,563
<b>Total Special Revenue Fund Town Council Adjustments:</b>							<b>(1,000)</b>		

**Appendix B**

**PROPOSED BUDGET REVISIONS**

**FISCAL YEAR 2015 - 2016 TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**

**MEETING DATE: MARCH 31, 2015**

Tab	Page	Department	Org Code	Object Code	Object Description	Detail Description	CHANGE	Object Code Result	Department Total As Revised
<b>MOTION: TO OPEN AND CHANGE THE BUDGETS AS LISTED, AND TO CLOSE AT THE REVISED AMOUNT.</b>									
5	9	Law	10112121	53120	Labor relations		(15,000)	50,000	167,000
5	23	Treasury	10114142	53600	Banking service fees		(3,000)	4,000	4,840
5	28	Refunds - Tax Adjustments	10114145	58200	Tax refunds		(3,000)	17,000	17,000
5	41	Data Processing	10117160	53040	Data processing fees		(4,000)	37,975	1,032,249
6	49	Police	10230180	51010	Regular wages		(10,000)	4,754,553	6,117,661
6	57	Traffic Authority	10230182	54116	Utility - Streetlights - Condos		(3,000)	66,200	354,160
6	67	Building Inspection	10232187	58230	Building permit refunds		(2,000)	2,000	387,551
6	71	Animal Control	10233188	58800	Transfer out to dog license fund		(1,000)	17,000	131,804
7	84	DPW -Equip. Maint.	10340202	54390	Other repair & maintenance		(1,000)	3,750	783,471
7	84	DPW -Equip. Maint.	10340202	55674	Training		(1,000)	2,000	782,471
7	94	DPW -Refuse	10340205	56900	Other supplies & materials		(500)	1,000	1,008,075
9	135	Parks Maintenance	10560254	51030	Part-time wages		(1,500)	90,000	696,970
9	142	Rockville Public Library	10562262	58710	Grants - Cultural / Heritage		(50,000)	310,000	310,000
10	146	Group Insurance	10670272	52187	Medical - HSA ER premium		(5,000)	2,075,150	2,706,111
10	148	Unemployment Insurance	10670273	52500	Unemployment compensation		(3,000)	25,000	25,000
<b>Total General Government Town Council Adjustments:</b>							<b>(103,000)</b>		
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS and DEBT SERVICE</b>									
11	153	Capital Improve -Town	10780290	57620	Trucks - Grapple truck		(60,000)	-	691,688
<b>Total Special Revenue Fund Town Council Adjustments:</b>							<b>(60,000)</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL - GENERAL GOVERNMENT &amp; CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS</b>							<b>(163,000)</b>		