

MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3rd Floor
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

March 22, 2016 7:00 PM

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

B) ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Pauline Schaefer, Michael Winkler, Brian Motola, Julie Clay, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Jim Tedford and Virginia Gingras

Absent: Council Member Ann Letendre

Entered During Meeting:

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

C) CITIZEN'S FORUM

None.

D.) PRESENTATION

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne presented updates since the March 19, 2016 meeting.

E.) BUDGET REVIEW

The Town Council shall consider the budgets for FY 2016-2017 for various departments, divisions, and organizations to include:

1. Emergency Management
2. Fire Marshal
3. Water Pollution Control Authority
4. Waste Treatment Plant Operations
5. Housing Authority – Sewer Subsidy
6. Ambulance Division
7. Fire Fighting and Administration
8. Public Safety – Fire Hydrants
9. Capital Improvements - Town
10. Refunds – Tax Adjustments
11. Collector of Revenue
12. Board of Assessment Appeals
13. Revaluation
14. Debt Service – Interest Payments
15. Debt Service – Principal Payments
16. Contingency
17. Municipal Insurance
18. Unemployment Compensation
19. Group Insurance
20. Pension
21. Social Security and Medicare
22. Finance – Purchasing

- 23.** Finance – Treasury
- 24.** Finance – Independent Audit
- 25.** Finance – Administration

Directors from each Department presented information and answered questions regarding their budget submissions.

Emergency Management

Council Member Gingras, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 6 page 74, account 10232189, in the amount of \$56,470, motion carried unanimously.

Emergency Management Director, Michael Purcaro, was present to answer questions. No discussion took place.

Council Member Gingras, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 6 page 74, account 10232189, in the amount of \$56,470, motion carried unanimously.

Fire Marshal

Council Member Gingras, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 6 page 66, account 10232185, in the amount of \$140,437, motion carried unanimously.

Fire Marshal, Adam Libros, was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Gingras, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 6 page 66, account 10232185, in the amount of \$140,437, motion carried unanimously.

Water Pollution Control Authority

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 5 page 40, account 10116157, in the amount of \$7,235, motion carried unanimously.

Director of WPCA, Robert Grasis, was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 5 page 40, account 10116157, in the amount of \$7,235, motion carried unanimously.

Waste Treatment Plant Operations

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 12 page 181, account 41345700, in the amount of \$5,879,838, motion carried unanimously.

Director of WPCA, Robert Grasis, was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to close tab 12 page 181, account 41345700, in the amount of \$5,879,838, motion carried unanimously.

Housing Authority- Sewer Subsidy

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open tab 10 page 154, account 10673282, in the amount of \$50,450, motion carried unanimously.

Director of WPCA, Robert Grasis and Finance Officer James Luddecke were present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close tab 10 page 154, account 10673282, in the amount of \$50,450, motion carried unanimously.

Ambulance Division

Council Member Gingras, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 12 page 167, account 22231417, in the amount of \$1,216,475, motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief, William Call answered questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Gingras, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close tab 12 page 167, account 22231417, in the amount of \$1,216,475, motion carried unanimously.

Fire Fighting and Administration

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 6 page 60, account 10231183, in the amount of \$580,465, motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief, William Call answered questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 6 page 60, account 10231183, in the amount of \$580,465, motion carried unanimously.

Public Safety – Fire Hydrants

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 6 page 77, account 10231190, in the amount of \$688,000, motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief, William Call answered questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 6 page 77, account 10231190, in the amount of \$688,000, motion carried unanimously.

Capital Improvements - Town

Council Member Tedford, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 11 page 155, account 10780290, in the amount of \$1,491,897, motion carried unanimously.

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

Council Member Tedford, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 11 page 155, account 10780290, in the amount of \$1,491,897, motion carried unanimously.

8:36 PM RECESS

8:52 PM RECONVENED

Refunds- Tax Adjustments

Council Member Tedford, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 5 page 28, account 10114145, in the amount of \$17,000 motion carried unanimously.

Collector of Revenue, Terry Hjarne, was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Tedford, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 5 page 28, account 10114145, in the amount of \$17,000 motion carried unanimously.

Collector of Revenue

Council Member Tedford, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open tab 5 page 29, account 10114146, in the amount of \$230,779 motion carried unanimously.

Collector of Revenue, Terry Hjarne, was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Tedford, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close tab 5 page 29, account 10114146, in the amount of \$230,779 motion carried unanimously.

Board of Assessment Appeals

Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 5 page 39, account 10116155, in the amount of \$2,800 motion carried unanimously.

Assessor, Dave Wheeler, was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 5 page 39, account 10116155, in the amount of \$2,800 motion carried unanimously.

Revaluation

Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 5 page 32, account 10114147, in the amount of \$5,488 motion carried unanimously.

Assessor, Dave Wheeler, was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 5 page 32, account 10114147, in the amount of \$5,488 motion carried unanimously.

Assessment

Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 5 page 25, account 10114144, in the amount of \$276,969, motion carried unanimously.

Assessor, Dave Wheeler, was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 5 page 25, account 10114144, in the amount of \$276,969, motion carried unanimously.

Debt Service – Interest Payments

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 11 page 160, account 10883294, in the amount of \$1,635,325, motion carried unanimously.

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

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 11 page 160, account 10883294, in the amount of \$1,635,325, motion carried unanimously.

Debt Service – Principal Payments

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 11 page 159, account 10883292, in the amount of \$4,899,993, motion carried unanimously.

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

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 11 page 159, account 10883292, in the amount of \$4,899,993, motion carried unanimously.

Contingency

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 10 page 153, account 10672280, in the amount of \$221,700, motion carried unanimously.

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

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 10 page 153, account 10672280, in the amount of \$221,700, motion carried unanimously.

Municipal Insurance

Council Member Appleyard, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open tab 10 page 151, account 10671278, in the amount of \$1,020,692, motion carried unanimously.

Finance Officer, Jim Luddecke was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to close tab 10 page 151, account 10671278, in the amount of \$1,020,692, motion carried unanimously.

Unemployment Insurance

Council Member Appleyard, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open tab 10 page 150, account 10670273, in the amount of \$24,000, motion carried unanimously.

Finance Officer, Jim Luddecke was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Appleyard, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to close tab 10 page 150, account 10670273, in the amount of \$24,000, motion carried unanimously.

Group Insurance

Council Member Clay, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to open tab 10 page 148, account 10670272, in the amount of \$2,720,948, motion carried unanimously.

Finance Officer, Jim Luddecke was present to answer questions. Discussion took place. Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to reduce line item #52187, medical-HSA ER premium by \$21,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Clay, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 10 page 148, account 10670272, in the amount of \$2,699,948, motion carried unanimously.

Pension

Council Member Clay, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open tab 10 page 147, account 10670271, in the amount of \$3,168,190, motion carried unanimously.

Finance Officer, Jim Luddecke was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Clay, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 10 page 147, account 10670271, in the amount of \$3,168,190, motion carried unanimously.

Social Security and Medicare

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 10 page 146, account 10670270, in the amount of \$1,030,390 motion carried unanimously.

Finance Officer, Jim Luddecke was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 10 page 146, account 10670270, in the amount of \$1,030,390, motion carried unanimously.

Finance - Purchasing

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 5 page 24, account 10114143, in the amount of \$9,745 motion carried unanimously.

Finance Officer, Jim Luddecke was present to answer questions. No discussion took place.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 5 page 24, account 10114143, in the amount of \$9,745 motion carried unanimously.

Finance - Treasury

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open tab 5 page 23, account 10114142, in the amount of \$6,360 motion carried unanimously.

Finance Officer, Jim Luddecke was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 5 page 23, account 10114142, in the amount of \$6,360, motion carried unanimously.

9:59 PM Council Member Motola, seconded by Wakefield made a motion to extend curfew until the end of business. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance - Independent Audit

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open tab 5 page 22, account 10114141, in the amount of \$54,775, motion carried unanimously.

Finance Officer, Jim Luddecke was present to answer questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close tab 5 page 22, account 10114141, in the amount of \$54,775, motion carried unanimously.

Finance - Administration

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to open tab 5 page 19, account 10114140, in the amount of \$507,619, motion carried unanimously.

Finance Officer, Jim Luddecke was present. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 5 page 19, account 10114140, in the amount of \$507,619, motion carried unanimously.

H.) **MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS REQUIRING ACTION**

10:06 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Appleyard moved to recess the meeting until 7:00 PM Thursday, March 24, 2016 at Town Hall, Third Floor. Motion carried unanimously.

I.) **RECESS REMAINING ACCOUNTS TO MARCH 24, 2016.**

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary