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

April 4, 2012 – 7:30 PM

Mayor George Apel called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

**A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**B) ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Council Members Bill Campbell, Thomas DiDio, Virginia Gingras, Judy Hany, Marie Herbst, John Kopec, Brian Motola, Steven Peterson, Thomasina Russell, Daniel Sullivan, Adam Weissberger, and Michael Winkler

**Absent:**

**Entered During Meeting:**

**Also Present:** Mayor George Apel, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Jill Kentfield

**C) CITIZEN'S FORUM**

There were no speakers at Citizen's Forum

Citizen's forum closed at 7:32 PM

**D.) PRESENTATION**

Mayor George F. Apel and James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer to present any updates since the April 3, 2012 meeting.

**E.) BUDGET REVIEW**

1. Police
2. School Crossing Guards
3. Traffic Authority
4. Emergency Management
5. Fire Fighting and Administration
6. Ambulance Division
7. Fire Marshal
8. Probate Court
9. Assessment
10. Revaluation
11. Board of Assessment Appeals
12. Collector of Revenue
13. Refunds – Tax Adjustments

**POLICE**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 6, pages 47-52, code 10230180 in the amount of \$5,846,064. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member DiDio made a motion to increase the Police budget by \$31,500 to add a resource officer to the middle school. Motion failed, Council Members Campbell, Kopec, Weissberger, Motola, Peterson, Sullivan, Hany and Winkler opposed. Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member DiDio made a motion to increase code 57610 in the amount of \$29,500 to add a police cruiser. Motion failed, Council Members Campbell, Kopec, Weissberger, Motola, Peterson, Sullivan, Hany Russell and Winkler opposed. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 6, pages 47-52, code 10230180 in the amount of \$5,846,064. Motion carried unanimously.

**SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 6, page 53, code 10230181 in the amount of \$60,500. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Winkler, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to increase the school crossing guard budget by \$1,620 to add .25 to the crossing guards hourly wages.

Recess 8:20 PM  
Reconvene 8:21 PM

Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 6, page 53, code 10230181 in the amount of \$62,120.

**TRAFFIC AUTHORITY**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 6, page 54, code 10230182 in the amount of \$311,960. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 6, page 54, code 10230182 in the amount of \$311,960.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 6, pages 67-69, code 10232189 in the amount of \$44,870. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 6, pages 67-69, code 10232189 in the amount of \$44,870. Motion carried unanimously.

**FIRE FIGHTING AND ADMINISTRATION**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 6, pages 55-59, code 10231183 in the amount of \$1,186,838. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member DiDio, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to increase the Fire Fighting and Administration budget by \$10,000 for new breathing apparatus. Motion failed, Council Members Campbell, Kopec, Weissberger, Motola, Sullivan, Peterson, and Hany opposed. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 6, pages 55-59, code 10231183 in the amount of \$1,186,838. Motion carried unanimously.

**AMBULANCE DIVISION**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5, pages 156-159, code 22231417 in the amount of \$1,183,765. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to close tab 5, pages 156-159, code 22231417 in the amount of \$1,183,765. Motion carried unanimously.

**FIRE MARSHAL**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 6, pages 60-62 code 10232185 in the amount of \$93,617. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 6, pages 60-62 code 10232185 in the amount of \$93,617. Motion carried unanimously.

Recess 9:32 PM  
Reconvene 9:35 PM

**PROBATE COURT**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5, page 3, code 10111112 in the amount of \$13,080. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 5, page 3, code 10111112 in the amount of \$13,080. Motion carried unanimously.

**ASSESSMENT**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5, pages 23-25, code 10114144 in the amount of \$252,470. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Herbst requested a point of order, she would like Administration to provide her with the number of houses were increased, decreased and remained the same due to the revaluation, which homes increased in taxes, which homes decreased in taxes and what the percentage of increase/decrease was. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 5, pages 23-25, code 10114144 in the amount of \$252,470. Motion carried unanimously.

**REVALUATION**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5, pages 30-31, code 10114147 in the amount of \$30,000. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to decrease object code 53800 in the amount of \$5,000. Discussion took place. Motion carried, Council Members Herbst, Gingras, Russell, Winkler, and DiDio opposed. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 5, pages 30-31, code 10114147 in the amount of \$25,000. Motion carried unanimously.

**Board of Assessment Appeals**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5, page 36, code 10116155 in the amount of \$2,800. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 5, page 36, code 10116155 in the amount of \$2,800. Motion carried unanimously.

**Collector of Revenue**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5, pages 27-29 code 10114146 in the amount of \$212,311. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to extend curfew until the end of business. Motion carried, Council Members DiDio, and Weissberger opposed.

Discussion took place. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 5, pages 27-29 code 10114146 in the amount of \$212,311. Motion carried unanimously.

**Refunds – Tax Adjustments**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5, page 26, code 10114145 in the amount of \$25,000. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 5, page 26, code 10114145 in the amount of \$25,000. Motion carried unanimously.

**F.) MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS REQUIRING ACTION**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 10, page 138. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to reduce object code 52180 in the amount of \$16,005. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to reduce object code 52182 in the amount of \$180,156. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to reduce object code 52187 in the amount of \$198,366. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to increase object code 52300 in the amount of \$2,261. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to increase object code 52850 in the amount of \$2124. Motion carried

unanimously. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 10, page 138 in the amount of \$2,747,189. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 10, page 137 code 10670271 in the amount of \$2,210,274. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to increase object code 52910 in the amount of \$40,800. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 10, page 137, code 10670271 in the amount of \$2,251,074. Motion carried unanimously.

**Recess (10:13 PM)**

Council Member Weissberger, seconded by Council Member Winkler made a motion to recess the meeting until April 9, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Kentfield  
Recording Secretary