

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

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
13 MAY 17 PM 1:00

May 13, 2013 – 7:30 PM

Mayor George Apel called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM

**A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**B) ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Council Members Bill Campbell, Julie Clay, Thomas DiDio, Virginia Gingras, 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, Assistant Town Administrator Dawn Maselek, Recording Secretary Karen Daigle

**C) CITIZEN'S FORUM**

Ed Brodeur, 3 Farmbrook Lane, spoke on revenue and expenditures, the mill rate, and money from the State.

Bill Dauphin, 11 Olive Lane, spoke in favor of raising Board of Education budget without reducing the Town budget and the lack of an exit poll for absentee ballot voters.

Chet Chetelat, 454 Cricket Circle, spoke on being a senior citizen and disabled veteran and the effect of the failed referendum.

Ed Brodeur, 3 Farmbrook Lane, spoke that the proposed increase is too high.

Bill Dauphin, 11 Olive Lane, spoke to clarify his previous comments.

Citizen's forum closed at 7:46 PM

**D) PRESENTATION**

Mayor George F. Apel and James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer to present any updates. Discussion took place. Mayor Apel asked the department heads for reductions in their proposed budgets.

**E) MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS REQUIRING ACTION**

On May 7, 2013 the FY Budget for 2013-2014 failed at referendum. It is recommended that any proposed changes be offered at this time by tab, page and account number. No proposed motion is offered in advance.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Russell, moved to cut the proposed budget revisions in the amount of \$102,991, as outlined in the table distributed. **Appendix A**

Council Member Weissberger, seconded by Council Member Herbst, made a motion to pull tab 6 and all cuts related to the police department for discussion. Discussion took place. Council Member Weissberger withdrew the motion.

Council Member Winkler, seconded by Council Member Herbst, made a motion to reduce the reduction to the Rockville Public Library from \$15,000 to \$3,000. Discussion took place. Motion failed 7-5.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger, made a motion to reduce the reduction to the Rockville Public Library from \$15,000 to \$5,000. Discussion took place. Motion carried 10-2.

Motion to accept the proposed budget revisions, as amended, carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger, made a motion to cut the special revenue fund in the amount of \$1,832, as outlined on page 4 in the table distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

Recess 8:25 PM

Reconvene 8:30 PM

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger, made a motion to open tab 8, page 108, department code 10456223, object code 58700, to reduce Child Guidance Clinic by \$5,500, leaving an amount of \$5,500 in department code 10456223. Discussion took place. Motion carried 7-5.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell, made a motion to open tab 8, page 109, department code 10456224, object code 58700, to reduce Exchange Club-Prevention Child Abuse by \$8,000, leaving an amount of \$4,000 in department code 10456224. Discussion took place. Motion carried 7-5.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell, made a motion to open tab 8, page 110, department code 10456225, object code 58700, to reduce Tri County ARC by \$3,500, leaving an amount of \$3,500 in department code 10456225. Discussion took place. Motion carried 7-5.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell, made a motion to open tab 8, page 111, department code 10456226, object code 58700, to reduce MARC Inc of Manchester by \$2,000, leaving an amount of \$2,000 in department code 10456226. Discussion took place. Motion carried 7-5.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell, made a motion to open tab 8, page 113, department code 10456229, object code 58700, to reduce Connecticut Legal Services by \$4,499, leaving an amount of \$1 in department code 10456229. Discussion took place. Motion carried 7-5.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell, made a motion to open tab 5, page 43, department code 10150170, object code 55650, to reduce Town Planner, Conference Fees & Membership by \$860 (\$500 to Friends of Valley Falls and \$360 to 1000 Friends of Connecticut), leaving an amount of \$6,640 in department code 10150170. Discussion took place. Motion carried 7-5.

Council Member Motola made a motion to open tab 5, page 32, department code 111417, object code 53800, Revaluation. Discussion took place. Motion withdrawn.

Council Member Campbell made a motion to open tab 8, page 112, department code 10456227, object code 58700, to reduce Shelter Services by \$7,100, leaving an amount of \$7,100 in department code 10456227. Motion died, as there was no second.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Clay, made a motion to open tab 8, page 114, department code 10456232, object code 58700, to reduce Hartford Interval House by \$1,250, leaving an amount of \$1,250 in department code 10456232. Discussion took place.

Recess 9:07 PM

Reconvened 9:12 PM

Motion failed 4-8.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Clay, made a motion to open tab 8, page 115, department code 10456235, object code 58700, to reduce YWCA Sexual Assault Services by \$1,000, leaving an amount of \$1,000 in department code 10456235. Discussion took place. Motion failed 3-9.

Council Member Campbell made a motion to open tab 8, page 116, department code 10456236, object code 58700, to reduce Hockanum Valley School Readiness by \$2,000, leaving an amount of \$2,000 in department code 10456236. Motion died, as there was no second.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Gingras, made a motion to open tab 9, page 131, department code 10560253, object code 55910, to reduce Public Celebrations, Special Events by \$4,850, leaving an amount of \$0 in department code 10560253. Discussion took place. Motion carried 7-5.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Clay, made a motion to open tab 9, page 137, department code 10562260, object code 53420, to reduce Arts Commission, Vernon Choral Funding, Hartford Stage Production Tickets, Hartford Symphony Concert Tickets and Program Fund/Community Arts Events by \$6,200. Discussion took place. Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Peterson, made an amendment to the motion to reduce object code 53420 by \$3,000 (\$2,000 Hartford Stage and \$1,000 Hartford Symphony). Motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

Council Member Campbell made a motion to further reduce department code 10562260, object code 53420, Vernon Choral Funding and Community Arts Events (Winterfest and National Night Out) by \$2,000 and \$1,200 for a total of \$3,200. Motion died, as there was no second.

Council Member Winkler, seconded by Council Member Russell, made a motion to open tab 5 page 4, department code 10112120, object code 51083, to reduce Executive & Administrative, Employee Merit Pay by \$5,999, leaving an amount of \$1. Discussion took place. Motion carried 11-1.

Recess 9:53 PM

Reconvened 9:59 PM

Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Sullivan, made a motion to cut \$1.5 million from the Board of Education budget. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council member Peterson, made a motion to extend curfew. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion failed 2-10.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Clay, made a motion to cut \$800,000 from the Board of Education budget. Discussion took place. Motion carried 6-5-1 abstention.

Recess 11:09 PM

Reconvened 11:43 PM

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger, made a motion to increase the Board of Education by \$125,000. Discussion took place. Motion carried 8-3-1 abstention.

Recess 11:45 PM

Reconvened 11:48 PM

**F) FINALIZE BUDGET**

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

**APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Peterson, made the following motion:

THE TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY APPROVE THE TOWN OF VERNON GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 26,295,003; THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND DEBT SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 5,909,670; AND THE EDUCATION BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 49,494,787 FOR A GENERAL FUND TOTAL OF \$ 81,799,460.

Discussion took place. Motion carried, 6-6, chair broke tie.

**APPROVAL OF BUDGET REVENUE ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Peterson, made the following motion:

THE TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY APPROVE THE TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 81,799,460 TO COINCIDE WITH THE TOTAL RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATIONS OF \$ 81,799,460 AND TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCE OFFICER TO ADJUST LINE ITEMS IN THE ESTIMATED REVENUE AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY.

Discussion took place. Motion carried, 6-6, chair broke tie.

**APPROVAL OF TOWN OF VERNON BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 FOR REFERENDUM**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Peterson, made the following motion:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY MOVES TO PRESENT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$81,799,460 TO THE ELECTORS AND QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS TO VOTE ON PAPER BALLOTS OR BY BALLOT LABELS UTILIZING A "YES" OR "NO" ON THE VOTING MACHINES AT A ***BUDGET REFERENDUM SCHEDULED FOR MAY 21, 2013***, AT CENTER 375 HARTFORD TURNPIKE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 6:00 AM AND 8:00 PM AND TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE TOWN CLERK TO PUBLISH A WARNING OF SAID REFERENDUM AT LEAST FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE REFERENDUM AND TO PHRASE SUCH ITEM IN A FORM SUITABLE FOR PRINTING ON SUCH PAPER BALLOTS OR BALLOT LABELS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES 7-7 AND OTHER LAWS: **"SHALL THE TOWN OF VERNON ADOPT A BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$81,799,460 FOR A PERIOD COMMENCING JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2014."**

Motion carried 7-5.

**Adjourn (11:54 PM)**

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Weissberger, made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted

Karen C. Daigle  
Recording Secretary

Exhibit A

**PROPOSED BUDGET REVISIONS**

FISCAL YEAR 2013 - 2014 TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

MEETING DATE: MAY 13, 2013

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	55410	Legal Notices		(62)	2,938	12,183
5	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	51020	Overtime Wages		(500)	1,500	658,406
6	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	52320	Educational Allowances		(1,000)	8,000	657,406
7	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	54334	Telephone Repair		(500)	4,000	656,906
8	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	55410	Legal Notices		(1,000)	11,000	655,906
9	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	55500	Printing and Binding		(600)	1,900	655,306
10	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	55420	Public Relations		(500)	1,500	654,806
11	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	55850	Conference Fees - National conf.		(3,000)	44,541	651,806
12	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	55670	Schools / Seminars		(500)	3,500	651,306
13	4	Executive & Administrative	10112120	55674	Training		(500)	1,500	650,806
5	9	Law	10112121	53140	Other Legal Fees		(1,170)	23,830	115,830
5	11	Registration	10113130	56050	Computer Supplies		(242)	758	89,958
5	12	Registration	10113130	57720	Computer Software		(100)	8,900	89,858
5	13	General Election	10113131	55320	Communication Rentals		(176)	824	33,424
5	20	Finance Administration	10114140	55500	Printing and Binding		(68)	852	485,400
5	22	Independent Audit	10114141	53030	Auditing Fees		(275)	50,675	50,825
5	22	Independent Audit	10114141	53800	Other Fees		(50)	100	50,775
5	23	Treasury	10114142	53600	Banking Service Fees		(141)	13,059	13,914
5	24	Purchasing	10114143	56030	Stationery and Paper		(100)	3,800	9,820
5	27	Assessment	10114144	56010	Office Supplies		(223)	777	258,870
5	28	Refunds - Tax Adjustment	10114145	58200	Tax Refunds		(300)	29,700	29,700
5	29	Collector of Revenue	10114146	53800	Other Fees		(517)	10,365	216,825
5	32	Revaluation	10114147	53800	Other Fees		(250)	24,750	24,750
5	35	Town Clerk	10115150	55510	Duplication		(469)	30,531	283,380

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5	37	Town Clerk	10115150	58250	License Surcharge Refund		(100)	2,400	263,280
5	37	Town Clerk	10115150	58255	Document Preservation Surcharge		(200)	8,360	263,080
5	39	Water Pollution Control	10116157	53800	Other Fees		(83)	8,217	8,217
5	41	Data Processing	10117160	57710	Computer Hardware		(1,498)	44,502	965,247
5	43	Town Planner	10150170	53800	Other Fees		(368)	2,142	256,512
5	48	Economic Development	10151171	58800	Transfer Out		(400)	39,600	39,800
6	50	Police Department	10230180	54330	Maintenance of Office Equipment		(850)	3,892	5,836,507
6	50	Police Department	10230180	54450	Operating Lease - Vehicles		(500)	1,236	5,836,007
6	51	Police Department	10230180	55030	Meal Allowance		(500)	5,000	5,835,507
6	51	Police Department	10230180	55674	Training - POSTC		(1,500)	19,550	5,834,007
6	52	Police Department	10230180	56030	Stationery and Paper - Parking tickets		(1,000)	3,000	5,833,007
6	52	Police Department	10230180	56173	Photographic Supplies		(875)	1,000	5,832,132
6	52	Police Department	10230180	56184	Medical Supplies - First Aid		(500)	7,000	5,831,632
6	52	Police Department	10230180	56260	Automotive Fuel - Gasoline		(5,000)	135,500	5,826,632
6	54	Police Department	10230180	57810	Office Furniture - Chair replacement		(600)	600	5,826,032
6	56	School Crossing Guards	10230181	56500	Clothing & Uniform		(50)	450	62,070
6	57	Traffic Authority	10230182	54450	Rental of Equipment - Street line painting		(2,000)	12,000	313,760
6	57	Traffic Authority	10230182	56162	Sign Pails & Supplies - Street/Traffic signs		(1,000)	13,000	312,760
6	62	Fire Fighting & Adminstr	10231183	57200	Building Improvements		(2,500)	22,500	1,207,903
6	65	Fire Marshal	10232185	56500	Clothing & Uniform		(15)	285	97,838
6	68	Building Inspection	10232187	55410	Legal Notices		(200)	2,300	270,319
6	70	Animal Control	10233188	58800	Transfer Out - Dog License account		(200)	13,800	127,505
6	72	Emergency Management	10232189	55674	Training - ICS/EOC drills		(303)	3,197	44,567
7	84	DPW - Equipment Maint.	10340202	56260	Automotive Fuel - Gasoline		(3,017)	32,183	805,157

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7	84	DPW - Equipment Maint.	10340202	56261	Automotive Fuel - Diesel		(4,000)	138,400	802,157
7	93	DPW - Refuse	10340205	56261	Automotive Fuel - Diesel		(5,700)	60,800	1,011,851
7	97	DPW - Recycling	10340206	56261	Automotive Fuel - Diesel		(4,000)	48,500	310,985
7	100	DPW Leaf Collection	10340209	56260	Automotive Fuel - Gasoline		(88)	787	124,399
7	100	DPW Leaf Collection	10340209	56261	Automotive Fuel - Diesel		(659)	7,021	123,740
7	100	DPW Leaf Collection	10340209	54212	Disposal - Hauling Contract		(7,000)	42,000	116,740
7	101	Engineering Admin. Serv	10341214	54330	Maintenance of Office Equipment		(15)	85	300,753
8	118	Social Services Admin.	10456240	55010	Mileage		(150)	732	260,856
8	121	Youth Services	10456241	56300	Food		(100)	400	217,050
8	121	Youth Services	10456241	56600	Arts and Crafts		(100)	100	216,950
8	124	Senior Center	10457242	56315	Telephone - Wireless		(100)	140	126,973
8	123	Senior Center	10457242	53410	Instructor Fees		(77)	2,923	126,896
9	129	Recreation Administration	10560250	56050	Computer Supplies		(110)	790	364,081
9	131	Public Celebration	10560253	05910	Special Events - Town wide celebration		(150)	14,850	14,850
9	134	Parks Maintenance	10560254	56183	Chemical Treatment Supplies		(1,994)	15,106	597,813
9	137	Arts Commission	10562260	55400	Advertising		(116)	984	11,524
9	138	Historical Society	10562261	58710	Grants - Cultural / Heritage		(55)	5,445	5,445
9	139	Rockville Public Library	10562262	58710	Grants - Cultural / Heritage		(15,000)	300,000	300,000
10	142	Group Insurance	10670272	52187	HSA ER Premium - MLR Rebate		(25,000)	1,845,650	2,540,879
10	147	Contingency	10672280	58400	Contingency - Non-wage - \$23,262		(1,740)	112,860	112,860
10	148	Housing Auth. Sewer Subsidy	10673282	54140	Sewer use - 15 accounts / 346 units		(505)	49,995	49,995
10	155	Vernon Cemetery Comm.	10826302	58800	Transfer Out - Cemetery Operations		(1,632)	160,752	160,752
<b>Total General Government Town Council Adjustments:</b>							<b>(102,991)</b>		

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<b>SPECIAL REVENUE FUND</b>									
[The reduction in these accounts are included with the corresponding General Government department]									
12	157	Dog License Account	22233410	53240	Veterinary Fees		(200)	13,800	38,750
12	164	Cemetery Operations	23342420	56740	Asphalt Products		(1,832)	18,368	283,396