

PUBLIC HEARING/ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 23, 2013- 7:00PM

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

70 LOVELAND HILL ROAD

VERNON, CONNECTICUT

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK

13 APR 30 AM 10: 15

Pledge of allegiance

Mayor George F. Apel called the public hearing/annual town meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

There were approximately 45-50 citizens present at the Annual Town Meeting in addition to the Mayor and members of the Town Council.

Town Clerk, Bernice K. Dixon read into the record the legal notice of the Public Hearing/Annual Town Meeting and certified that the notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Town Hall and published in the Journal Inquirer in the April 13, 2013 edition.

Mayor called for nominations for a moderator. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion for Attorney Dorian Famiglietti as the moderator. Motion Carried unanimously.

As Moderator Ms. Famiglietti explained the requirements necessary to vote at the Referendum as to residence, age and ownership of property.

The Moderator then asked if anyone present wanted to comment on the budget:

Public Comments:

Bill Dauphin, 11 Olive Lane, spoke in favor of the Board of Education Budget and how critical of a time it is for the Town of Vernon and the education of the students.

Kyleigh Percy, 67 Overbrook Drive, spoke as a student in favor of the Board of education budget. A budget cut will deprive the students and she works hard for her grades.

James Krupinski, 59 Deerfield Drive, spoke about the Board of Education Budget freeze along with questions about how the Annual meeting is setup. He also addressed the school system becoming crowded and more money being put into magnet schools.

Marie Herbst, 245 Brandy Hill Road, spoke as a citizen of the Town of Vernon. She spoke about increasing the BOE Budget and supports full day kindergarten. She also addressed the transfer of maintenance of Park Buildings and Grounds to the Department of Public Works stating that it is a violation of the Town of Vernon Charter. Marie also questioned if the budget gets voted down, can the Town Council can increase the budget? The Parliamentarian Hal Cummings stated if defeated, the Town Council can attain any motion to submit another budget to referendum.

Dan Nevelos, 54 Hillcrest Drive, spoke in favor of the Board of Education Budget and supporting full day kindergarten. The cut to education is already impacting the children and causing the classroom size to increase.

Mike Winkler, 20 Gottier Drive, spoke as a citizen of the Town of Vernon. He spoke in support for the Board of Education Budget and how the decrease of the budget will affect the Town as a whole.

Dean Houle, 36 Brighton Lane, spoke in favor of the Board of Education Budget.

Tahjua Damon- Merrow, 138 Grove Street, spoke about everyone coming together to find a way to value education.

Michelle Arn, 67 Overbrook Drive, spoke in regards to the exit poll information being taken into consideration and reviewed by the Town Council. Along with the issues that may become of the budget if it is voted down. She expressed her concern as fear for Vernon's future.

Thomas DiDio, 112 Box Mountain Drive, spoke as a citizen of the Town of Vernon. He spoke in favor of the Board of Education Budget and no longer failing the children in the community.

Thomasina Russell, 21 Chamberlain Street, spoke as a citizen of the Town of Vernon spoke about concentrating on all day kindergarten to show we are committed to education.

Steve Peterson, 117 Brookview Drive, spoke as a citizen of the Town Of Vernon. Spoke against the Board of Education budget.

Bill Campbell, 214 Tracy Drive, spoke as a citizen of the Town Of Vernon. Spoke against additional funding for the Board of Education Budget

Al Percy, 67 Overbrook Drive, spoke in favor of the Board of Education Budget in that education is needed and 2 million dollars will not even cover contractual raises.

Carl Schaeffer, 1A Fox Hill Drive, spoke in favor of the Board of Education budget. Expressed concern of the ranking of the schools and adding more educators in the school system.

Brian Motola, 103 Vernwood Drive, spoke as a citizen of the Town Of Vernon. Spoke in favor of looking at the budget again with new information and against any negativity.

John Kopec, 24 Jan Drive, spoke as a citizen of the Town Of Vernon. Spoke against all of the negativity and if taxes increase the effect on businesses and taxpayers along with residents.

Adam Weissberger, 1158 Hartford Turnpike, spoke as a citizen of the Town Of Vernon. Spoke about the budget being a lot of information to review and wants the Town Of Vernon to succeed.

Julie Clay, 81 Ravenscroft, spoke as a citizen of the Town Of Vernon. Spoke about her appreciation for the Town of Vernon.

Nicholas Collette, 210 Regan Road, spoke as a teacher from the Town of Vernon and the classrooms expanding and more students attending magnet schools.

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

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Forand
Recording Secretary