

April 17, 2012

APPROVED MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3rd Floor
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

April 17, 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

Lance Chernack, 50 Cubles Dr. – Spoke about Commission appointments on the agenda. He also spoke about the Town of Vernon website not having access to employee e-mail addresses.

James Krupienski, 59 Deerfield Dr. – Spoke about the grant awarded to Rockville from CL&P regarding green energy. He also spoke about an issue with the traffic authority membership and provided town council members with a draft ordinance for the traffic authority. Requested Town Attorney to begin enforcement on 670 Dart Hill Road. Spoke about the new business #1.

Citizen's forum closed at 7:39 PM

D) EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

E) PUBLIC HEARING

None

F) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

Proclamation to be presented to Bernice Dixon, Town Clerk recognizing "Municipal Clerk's Week" April 29, 2012 through May 5, 2012.

Mayor Apel presented the proclamation to the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk.

Annual Trophy presentation by John T. Garoppolo, Chairman of the Manchester Lions Club Bowling Tournament to benefit Fidelco. Mayor George F. Apel and Board of Education Finance Director Michael Purcaro will receive the award on behalf of the Town of Vernon.

John Garoppolo presented the trophy to Mayor Apel

Mayor George F. Apel to make a presentation to the Town Council on various topics.

- Mayor Apel and Congressman Courtney visited the WPCA to congratulate them on their award from the New England Water Environmental Association
- Mayor Apel congratulated Rockville High School students for winning a \$20,000 award for Live Green-Win Green program.
- Mayor Apel and 30 other CEO's from the alliance schools met with Governor Malloy last Thursday. Governor Malloy presented them with information regarding his education initiatives.

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- Local Legislators met with Mayor Apel to discuss current legislation.
- Negotiations are moving forward with 6 unions. Mayor Apel thanked Council Members Campbell, DiDio and Peterson on their efforts in helping move them forward.
- The fire marshall has suspended all burning permits until further notice.
- The Parks and Recreation Department held the annual Easter Egg hunt on Good Friday with over 600 children in attendance.
- Jumpin Johnnies on Rte 83 is open for business.
- As requested by Council Member Kopec, Administration is moving forward with the policies and procedures regarding excessive dog barking.
- Notice was sent regarding the EPA clean-up at 1050 Hartford Turnpike
- Town Council members received the proposed agenda for the Annual Town Meeting tonight.

ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Council Member Herbst pulled consent agenda item #3 and Council Member DiDio to pulled consent agenda item # 4, and for discussion. Motion carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda items 1, 2, 5 and 6 as presented.

- C 1.** **Request for Tax Refunds for Current Year.** (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated April 9, 2012 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES EIGHT (8) OVERPAYMENTS OF THE CURRENT YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,372.45 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED APRIL 9, 2012.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to approve the tax refunds for current year. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 2.** **Request the Town Council schedule a Public Hearing to be held May 15, 2012 at 7:35 PM for the Small Cities 2012 Project.** (See attached Public Hearing Notice.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PER THE REQUIREMENTS FOR CDBG FUNDING, HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS AND RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2012 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM, SAID HEARING TO TAKE PLACE AT 7:35 PM ON TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2012 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THIRD FLOOR, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to schedule a public hearing for the Small Cities 2012 project to take place on May 15, 2012 at 7:35 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

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- C 5. Request the Town Council approves Mayor George F. Apel's appointment of Marisa Roy, (U), 34 Tallwood Drive, Vernon, Connecticut, as an alternate member to the Zoning Board of Appeals, said term to commence on April 18, 2012 and expires June 30, 2012.** (A copy of Ms. Roy's resume is included for Council review. Ms. Roy is completing the alternate term of William Francis now a full member.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 2, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MARISA ROY, (U), 34 TALLWOOD DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON APRIL 18, 2012 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2012.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Marisa Roy as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, for a term of 4/18/2012 through 6/30/2012. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 6. Request the Town Council approve Mayor George F. Apel's appointment of Ronald C. Kane (R), 15 Tobias Court, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Inland Wetland Regulatory Commission, said term to commence on April 18, 2012 and expires on April 17, 2014.** (A copy of Mr. Kane's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 8, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF RONALD C. KANE, (R), 15 TOBIAS COURT, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE INLAND WETLANDS REGULATORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON APRIL 18, 2012 AND EXPIRES ON APRIL 17, 2014.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Ronald Kane as a regular member of the Inland Wetland Regulatory Commission for a term of 4/18/2012 through 4/17/2014. Motion carried unanimously.

H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #37- #39 for fiscal year 2011-2012, as provided by Finance Officer James Luddecke.** (A copy of budget amendment forms are attached for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS #37-#39 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY FINANCE OFFICER, JAMES LUDDECKE.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to approve the budget amendment requests #37-39. Discussion took place regarding item #38. Council Member Winkler moved to divide the question to vote on request #38 separately from the other budget amendments. Motion carried, Council Members Hany, Campbell, Peterson and Sullivan opposed. Council Member Winkler, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to call the question to vote on the approval of

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budget item #38. Motion carried, Council Members Winkler, Russell, Gingras, Herbst, and DiDio opposed.
Original motion to vote on item #'s 37 and 39 carried unanimously.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor George F. Apel's appointment of Thomas H. Voss, (R), 93 Kenneth Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, said term to commence on April 18, 2012 and expiring December 31, 2015.** (A copy of Mr. Voss' resume is included for Council review. Mr. Voss is completing the alternate appointment of Daniel Anderson now a full member.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 1 & 6, AND CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SEC. 8-4a & b, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF THOMAS H. VOSS, (R), 93 KENNETH DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR A TERM TO COMMENCE ON APRIL 18, 2012 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2015.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Thomas H. Voss as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term of 4/18/2012 through 12/31/2015. Discussion took place. Motion carried, Council Members Russell, DiDio, Gingras, and Herbst opposed.

I.) PENDING BUSINESS

None

J.) NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Request the Town Council approve the three year Tax Abatement Application of Olender's Auto Body Shop Inc., 704 Talcottville Road, Vernon.**(See letter dated March 29, 2012 from Jeff Cohen, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission to Mayor Apel and other documents included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REDUCTION IN FUTURE ASSESSMENT INCREASES AS A RESULT OF THE PROPOSED 500 SQ FT ADDITION AT 704 TALCOTTVILLE ROAD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE STATUTES CHAPTER 203 SEC 12-65B. FURTHER THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES MAYOR GEORGE F. APEL TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OLDENDER FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ABOVE REFERENCED CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES, AND TOWN TAX ABATEMENT GUIDELINES.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to approve the three year tax abatement application of Olender's Auto Body Shop, Inc. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2. Discussion relative to monthly update from Finance Officer James M. Luddecke relative the General Fund Expenditures, Education Expenditures and Revenue report.** (A copy of same are included for Council review.)

NO PROPOSED MOTION

There were no questions for Mr. Luddecke.

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3. **Discussion and possible approval of Vernon Registrar of Voters proposal to change the voting districts in the Town of Vernon.**

MOTION TO BE DETERMINED AT MEETING.

There was no motion proposed. Administration will share the proposal as soon as Administration receives it. The Registrars of Voters have been mandated to provide the proposals 1 week before the next regular town council meeting. Town Administrator Ward provided information he received regarding the Secretary of State's Office.

K.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCE(S) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

None

M.) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

None

N.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

O.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING APRIL 3, 2012 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the April 3, 2012 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

P.) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, ETC. NOT REQUIRING ACTION

1. Monthly Report – March, 2012 for the Town Clerk's Office as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.
2. Monthly Report – March, 2012 for the Building Department as submitted by the Harry Dan Boyko, Building Official.

Adjourn 8:25 PM

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

Received: April 18, 2012

Approved: May 1, 2012

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Kentfield
Recording Secretary

Karen C. Daigle, CCTC
Assistant Town Clerk