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

March 16, 2013 & 9:00AM

Mayor George Apel called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

B) ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Bill Campbell, Thomas DiDio, Virginia Gingras, Julie Clay, 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 Danielle Forand

C) CITIZEN'S FORUM

Tayna Damon-Merrow, 138 Grove Street. Spoke against the budget cut for full day Kindergarten.

Julie Polansky, 18 Patricia Drive. Spoke against the budget cut for full day Kindergarten.

Dan Nevelos, 54 Hillcrest Drive. Spoke for a better education for the Vernon school systems.

Citizen's forum closed at 9:13 AM

D.) PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO THE 2013-2014 TOWN OF VERNON BUDGET.

MAYOR GEORGE F. APEL CALLS THE PUBLIC HEARING TO ORDER

CLERK READS THE LEGAL NOTICE INTO THE RECORD

MAYOR GEORGE F. APEL AND TOWN COUNCIL RECEIVE COMMENTS

ADJOURN THE PUBLIC HEARING

RETURN TO THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to reconvene the special meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

E.) PRESENTATION

Mayor George F. Apel and James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer to present the 2013-2014 Budget Overview to the Town Council.

Jim Luddecke and Diane Luddecke were present to answer any questions.

Discussion took place.

(9:47 AM) Council Member Clay left the table; (9:49 AM) Council Member Clay returned

F.) **TOWN COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH THE RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**

RECESS (9:53 AM)
RECONVENED (10:02 AM)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The Town Council adopts the following list of Rules and Procedures for the 2013-2014 Budget deliberations:

Waive all Robert's Rules of Procedure during budget deliberations;

Revenue will be discussed at the opening meeting and at the final budget meeting;

All budget accounts shall be opened and closed, with the Council making decisions on each individual budget during the allocated time frame;

Each meeting will be recessed to the next scheduled budget hearing and draft minutes will be prepared by the Clerk for each meeting to be used during final deliberations;

At the final budget hearing the Town Council may add or delete from any account previously discussed.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made the above motion to approve the list of Rules and Procedures for the 2013-2014 Budget deliberations. Motion carried unanimously.

G.) **BUDGET REVIEW**

The Town Council shall consider the budgets for FY 2013-2014 for various departments, divisions, and organizations to include:

1. Revenue
2. Probate
3. Social Services
4. Youth Services
5. Senior Center
6. Visiting Nurse & Health Services of CT
7. Hockanum Valley Community Council
8. Child Guidance Clinic
9. Exchange Club – Prevention of Child Abuse
10. Tri-County ARC
11. MARC, Inc. of Manchester
12. Shelter Services
13. Connecticut Legal Services
14. Hartford Interval House
15. YWCA Sexual Assault Services
16. Hockanum Valley School Readiness

17. Rockville Public Library
18. Historical Society
19. North Central District Health
20. Greater Hartford Transit District
21. Arts Commission
22. Animal Control
23. Dog License Account
24. Cemetery Operations
25. Vernon Cemetery Commission
26. Town Clerk
27. Town Council

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

Probate Court

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5 page 3, account 10111112, in the amount of \$12,696, motion carried unanimously. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 5 page 3, account 10111112, in the amount of \$12,696, motion carried unanimously.

Social Services

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 117, account 10456240, in the amount of \$261,114, motion carried unanimously. Director of Social Services, Marina Rodriguez was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 117, account 10456240, in the amount of \$261,114, motion carried unanimously.

Youth Services

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 120, account 10456241, in the amount of \$217,150, motion carried unanimously. Director of Youth Services, Alan Slobodien was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 120, account 10456241, in the amount of \$217,150, motion carried unanimously.

Senior Center

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 123, account 10457242, in the amount of \$127,073, motion carried unanimously. Director of the Senior Center, Paula Claydon was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 123, account 10457242, in the amount of \$127,073 motion carried unanimously.

Visiting Nurse & Health Services of CT

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 106, account 10455221, in the amount of \$12,249, motion carried unanimously. Chairman of the Human Services Commission, Phillip Bunick was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 106, account 10455221, in the amount of \$12,249, motion carried unanimously.

Hockanum Valley Community Council

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 107, account 10456222, in the amount of \$165,000, motion carried unanimously. Chairman of the Human Services Commission, Phillip Bunick and David Engleson, CEO of Hockanum Valley Community Council, were present to answer any questions.

(10:40 AM) Mayor George F. Apel left the table; (10:41 AM) Mayor George F. Apel returned
(10:42 AM) Council Member Clay left the table; (10:43 AM) Council Member Clay returned
(11:06 AM) Council Member Clay left the table; (11:08 AM) Council Member Clay returned
(11:12 AM) Council Member Peterson left the table; (11:14 AM) Council Member Peterson returned

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 107, account 10456222, in the amount of \$165,000, motion carried unanimously.

RECESS (11:15 AM)
RECONVENED (11:26AM)

Arts Commission

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 9 page 137, account 10562260, in the amount of \$11,640, motion carried unanimously. Lisa Ouellete, Representative for Vernon Arts Commission, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 9 page 137, account 10562260, in the amount of \$11,640, motion carried unanimously.

North Central Health District

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 105, account 10455220, in the amount of \$130,252, motion carried unanimously. Maria Weldon, Volunteer for the Finance commission and Director of North Central Health District, Michael Pirro were present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 105, account 10455220, in the amount of \$130,252, motion carried unanimously.

Child Guidance Clinic

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 108, account 10456223, in the amount of \$11,000, motion carried unanimously. Chairman of the Human Services Commission, Phillip Bunick was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 108, account 10456223, in the amount of \$11,000, motion carried unanimously.

Exchange Club-Prevention of Child Abuse

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 109, account 10456224, in the amount of \$8,000, motion carried unanimously. Chairman of the Human Services Commission, Phillip Bunick was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 109, account 10456224, in the amount of \$8,000, motion carried unanimously.

Tri-County ARC

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 110, account 10456225, in the amount of \$7,000, motion carried unanimously. Chairman of the Human Services Commission, Phillip Bunick was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 110, account 10456225, in the amount of \$7,000, motion carried unanimously.

MARC Inc. of Manchester

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 111, account 10456226, in the amount of \$4,000, motion carried unanimously.

Chairman of the Human Services Commission, Phillip Bunick was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 111, account 10456226, in the amount of \$4,000, motion carried unanimously.

Shelter Services

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 112, account 10456227, in the amount of \$14,200, motion carried unanimously.

Chairman of the Human Services Commission, Phillip Bunick and Director of Social Services, Marina Rodriguez were present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 112, account 10456227, in the amount of \$14,200, motion carried unanimously.

Connecticut Legal Services

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 113, account 10456229, in the amount of \$4,500, motion carried unanimously.

Chairman of the Human Services Commission, Phillip Bunick and Director of Social Services, Marina Rodriguez were present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 113, account 10456229, in the amount of \$4,500, motion carried unanimously.

Hartford Interval House

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 114, account 10456232, in the amount of \$2500, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 114, account 10456229, in the amount of \$2,500, motion carried unanimously.

YWCA Sexual Assault Services

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 115, account 10456235, in the amount of \$2,000, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 115, account 10456232, in the amount of \$2,000, motion carried unanimously.

Hockanum Valley School Readiness

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 8 page 116, account 10456236, in the amount of \$4,000, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 8 page 116, account 10456236, in the amount of \$4,000, motion carried unanimously.

Rockville Public Library

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to postpone until March 27, 2013, motion carried unanimously.

Historical Society

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to postpone until March 27, 2013, motion carried unanimously.

Greater Hartford Transit District

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5 page 40, account 10116158, in the amount of \$3,793, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 5 page 40, account 10116158, in the amount of \$3,793, motion carried unanimously.

Cemetery Operations

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 12 page 164, account 23342420, in the amount of \$285,028, motion carried unanimously.

Cemetery Superintendent, Alan West, was present to answer any questions.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 12 page 164, account 23342420, in the amount of \$285,028, motion carried unanimously.

Vernon Cemetery Commission

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 10 page 155, account 10826302, in the amount of \$162,384 motion carried unanimously.

Cemetery Superintendent, Alan West, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 10 page 155, account 10826302, in the amount of \$162,384 motion carried unanimously.

Animal Control

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 6 page 70, account 10233188, in the amount of \$127,705 motion carried unanimously.

Animal Control Officer, Craig Segar, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 6 page 70, account 10233188, in the amount of \$127,705 motion carried unanimously.

Dog License Account

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 12 page 157, account 22233410, in the amount of \$38,950 motion carried unanimously.

Animal Control Officer, Craig Segar, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 12 page 157, account 22233410, in the amount of \$38,950 motion carried unanimously.

Town Clerk

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5 page 34, account 10115150, in the amount of \$263,849 motion carried unanimously.

Town Clerk, Bernice Dixon, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 5 page 34, account 10115150, in the amount of \$263,849 motion carried unanimously.

Town Council

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to open tab 5 page 1, account, in the amount of \$12,245 motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to close tab 5 page 1, account, in the amount of \$12,245 motion carried unanimously.

H.) **MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS REQUIRING ACTION**

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Weissberger moved to recess the meeting until 1:00pm Saturday, March 23, 2013 at Town Hall, Third Floor. Motion carried unanimously.

I.) **RECESS REMAINING ACCOUNTS TO MARCH 23, 2013.**

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

**Danielle Forand
Recording Secretary**