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

May 21, 2013 7:30pm

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, Julie Clay, John Kopec, Brian Motola, Steven Peterson, Thomasina Russell, Daniel Sullivan, and Michael Winkler(7:48PM)
Absent: Council Member Marie Herbst and Adam Weissberger
Entered During Meeting:
Also Present: Mayor George Apel, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Danielle Forand

C) CITIZEN'S FORUM
None.

D.) **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
None.

E.) **PUBLIC HEARING**
Open Public Hearing 7:35 PM

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO ***"2013 NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT".***

MAYOR GEORGE F. APEL TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING

CLERK TO READ THE LEGAL NOTICE

MAYOR APEL AND THE TOWN COUNCIL TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT

Marina Rodriguez, Director of Social Services was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Adjourn Public Hearing 7:45 PM

F.) **PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION**

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

G.) **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented # C1- C-5. Motion carried unanimously.

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 May 13, 2013 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THREE (3) OVERPAYMENTS FOR CURRENT YEAR TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF $3,218.51 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED MAY 13, 2013.

C 2. **Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #45-50 for fiscal year 2012-2013, 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 #45-50 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013, AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER, JAMES LUDDECKE.

C 3. **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor George F. Apel to execute any and all documents relative to agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Vernon for the Reconstruction of South Street.**

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, THAT GEORGE F. APEL, MAYOR, IS AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ENTITLED "AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT AND THE TOWN OF VERNON FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SOUTH STREET UTILIZING FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER THE URBAN COMPONENT OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM".

C 4. **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor George F. Apel to submit four applications to the State of Connecticut Local Capital Improvement Program (LOCIP) for grants in the amount of $509,950.00 to be expended from the Reserve for Capital and Non-recurring Expenditures Account.** (See memorandum dated May 16, 2013 from James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer to John D. Ward, Town Administrator relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT FOUR (4) APPLICATIONS TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT LOCAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (LOCIP) FOR GRANTS IN THE AMOUNT OF $509,950.00 TO BE EXPENDED FROM THE RESERVE FOR CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURES ACCOUNT AS FOLLOWS: $250,000.00 FOR THE POLICE DIGITAL RADIO SYSTEM UPGRADE; $16,450.00 FOR A FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM IN POLICE FRAME ROOM; $225,000.00 TO REBUILD AND REPAIR THE FOX HILL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER; AND $18,500.00 FOR ROOF REPLACEMENTS AT CAMP NEWHOCA BUILDINGS – THE LODGE, OFFICE AND GARAGE.

C 5. **Request the Town Council approve the 2013 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act List of Programs as attached.** (See packet of information presented during the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE 2013 CONNECTICUT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT LIST OF PROGRAMS AS INCLUDED AS PROPOSED.

H.) **DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**
None.

Recess 7:54PM
Reconvene 8:14PM

I.) PENDING BUSINESS

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to approve the Pending Business items as presented. Motion carried unanimously

1. **Request the Town Council set the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Mil Rate and Collection of Motor Vehicle tax in one installment.** (Also proposed, should the referendum not pass, a motion is offered to set an additional meeting date for budget considerations.)

PROPOSED MOTION #1 – SHOULD THE REFERENDUM PASS

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY SETS THE TAX RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014, AT 35.51 MILS UPON TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF VERNON AND THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL SIGNS THE TAX WARRANT FOR SAID FISCAL YEAR.

PROPOSED MOTION #2

THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF VERNON IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 12-144A OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES, AUTHORIZES THE COLLECTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE TAX DUE AND PAYABLE IN A SINGLE INSTALLMENT.

ALTERNATE MOTION #1 – SHOULD THE REFERENDUM FAIL

THE TOWN COUNCIL SCHEDULES A SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING FOR MAY 28,2013 AT 7:30 PM IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MEMORIAL BUILDING, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUDGET REVIEW OF ALL ACCOUNTS IN THE 2013-2014 PROPOSED BUDGET.

2. **Update and discussion relative to the monthly report from Finance Director James M. Luddecke for Revenue and Expenditures – 2012-2013, as of April 20, 2013.**

NO PROPOSED MOTION

Finance Officer, Jim Luddecke was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

J.) NEW BUSINESS

1. **Request the Town Council authorize the Town Administrator to enter into agreements with World Energy on behalf of the Town of Vernon to perform the upgrades for various Town of Vernon buildings.** (See memorandum dated May 15, 2013 to George F. Apel and the Town Council from John D. Ward, Town Administrator relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH WORLD ENERGY, ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN, TO PERFORM THE ENERGY UPGRADES FOR THE BUILDINGS AS PRESENTED. THE TOWN COUNCIL FURTHER AUTHORIZES THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR THIS.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into agreements with World Energy on behalf of the Town Of Vernon to perform the upgrades for various Town Of Vernon buildings. Town Administrator John D. Ward was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

K.) **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

L.) **ACTION ON ORDINANCE(S) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED**

M.) **IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

N.) **DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

O.) **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MAY 7, 2013 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the May 7, 2013 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

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

1. Letter to Mayor George F. Apel from Town Attorney Harold R. Cummings, dated May 7, 2013 relative to a requested relative to the authority of the Mayor and Town Administrator.

2. Monthly Report –EMS Department – April, 2013 as submitted by Jean Gauthier, EMS Coordinator.

3. Monthly Report – Town Clerk's Office – April 2013 as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.

4. Year to Date Report – FY 2012-2013 Board of Education, as submitted by Michael Purcaro, Business Manager .

5. Monthly Activity Report – Building Department – March – 2013 as submitted by Harry Dan Boyko, Building Official.

Adjourn 8:21 PM

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

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Forand
Recording Secretary