RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
13 OCT 23 AM 9:57

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

October 15, 2013

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, 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

James Krupienski, 50 Deerfield Drive spoke in reference to an incorrect ordinance number on the agenda.

Vernon Riley, 75 Hockanum Blvd spoke about inconsistency issues with the motor vehicle property taxes.

Recess Regular Town Council Meeting 7:35 PM.
Reconvened Town Council Meeting 8:59PM.

Jean Merz, 144 Phoenix Street, spoke about the sale of Rockville Hospital.

Carl Schaffer, 1 A Fox Hill Drive, spoke about the status of the 2 ladder trucks.

Bill Graugard, 54 Lake Street, spoke about the fire trucks being replaced for safety issues and more funding for the Fire Department and EMS, to plan for the future.

Lance Chernack, 50 Cubles Drive, spoke about the appointment of a Board of Ethics member.

Citizens Form Closed 9:08PM

D.) **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
None

E.) **PUBLIC HEARING**
Open Public Hearing (7:36 PM)

Mayor Apel called the public hearing to order to receive comments and answer any questions from the public.

Mayor Apel asks the Town Council to waive the reading of the legal notice. Council Member Wesissberger, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to waive the reading of the legal notice. Motion carried unanimously.

Director of Public Works, Bob Kleinhans was present to answer any questions and discuss the PowerPoint Slide of the Road Reconstruction and Improvements- six year plan. Discussion took place.

Finance Director, Jim Luddecke was present to answer any questions and discuss the presentation of the financial aspect for the Road Reconstruction and Bond. Discussion took place.

Public comments:

James Krupienski, 50 Deerfield Drive spoke about the plan of action to maintain the roads listed in the ordinance, the debt service of the bonds and prior bond projects that were not completed.

Robert Hurd, 7 Rheel Street spoke about the plan to reconstruct the roads.

Bill Dauphin, 11 Olive Lane spoke in favor of the reconstruction and improvement for the road project.

Council Member Peterson left 8:26pm
Council Member Peterson returned 8:27pm

Laurie DiMouero, 65 Lynwood Drive spoke about the road improvement plans for the bad roads in town near Bolton Lakes, as well as the sewer construction delaying the road improvements.

Tom Schneiderr, 10 Ridgewood Drive, spoke about his concerns for the road reconstruction.

Edie Chernack, 50 Cubles Drive, spoke about the roads in Vernon that need to be reconstructed.

Fay Risley, 29 Anchorage Road, spoke in regards to being a 40 year resident and contributing taxes but never seeing the roads fixed.

Janine Belinch, 28 Anchorage, spoke about the Bolton Lake roads being reevaluated due to the condition of the roads.

Lisa Brooks, 21 Beechwood, spoke about the major roads with lots of traffic being resurfaced.

Carl Schaffer, 1 A Fox Hill Drive, spoke about other municipalities budgeting yearly for road reconstruction and the roads being fixed at a reasonable rate.

Lance Chernack, 50 Cubles Drive, spoke about Fuss and Oneill working on the sewers and the delay of the road improvements due to reconstruction with the sewers.

Thomas Joyce, 49 Hale Street, spoke in favor of the road improvement plan.

Michael Winkler, 20 Gottier Drive, spoke about money being put aside to avoid the cost of paying back interest.

Marie Herbst, 245 Brandy Hill Road, spoke about the administration and town council from previous years budgeting money in capital improvements to be kept for problems that needed to be addressed. Planning ahead would lower costs for the future.

Close Public Hearing (8:59 PM)

Regular meeting reconvened.

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Close Public Hearing (8:59 PM)

Regular meeting reconvened.

F.) **PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION**
Mayor Apel presented proclamations to honor the five outgoing Town Council Members, Thomasina Russell, Tom DiDio, Judy Hany, Dan Sullivan and Marie Herbst for their dedicated years of service.

G.) **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to move the consent agenda items as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

C 1. **Request for Tax Refunds for Prior and Current Year.** (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated October 7, 2013 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES ONE (1) OVERPAYMENT FOR PRIOR YEAR TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF $343.36 AND TWENTY-NINE (29) OVERPAYMENTS FOR CURRENT YEAR TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF $1572.53 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED OCTOBER 7, 2013.

C 2. **Request the Town Council approve Mayor George F. Apel's appointment of Carl F. Bard, (U), 25 Grady Road, Vernon, Connecticut as an alternate member of the Board of Ethics, said term to commence on October 16, 2013 and expires November 30, 2014.** (A copy of Mr. Bard's resume is included for Council review. A an updated resume has been request from Mr. Bard. Mr. Bard is completing the term for Linda Gessay who previously was moved to full member.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE # 173, TOWN CODE SEC. 2-91 - 2-98; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR GEORGE F. APEL'S APPOINTMENT OF CARL F. BARD, (U), 25 GRADY ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS, SAID NEW TERM TO COMMENCE ON OCTOBER 16, 2013 AND ENDS ON NOVEMBER 30, 2014.

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

I.) **PENDING BUSINESS**
None

J.) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request the Town Council approve a bid waiver for the installation of an emergency by-pass valve and piping by VMS Construction, 162 Lake Street, Vernon, Connecticut by the WPCA.** (See memorandum dated October 7, 2013 from David R. Ignatowicz, Director of the Water Pollution Control to the Vernon Town Council.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL CONSISTENT WITH THE TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER 12, SECTION 9, HEREBY WAIVES THE BID PROCEDURE FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE INSTALLATION OF EMERGENCY BY-PASS VALVES AND PIPING BY VMS CONSTRUCTION, 162 LAKE STREET, VERNON, CONNECTICUT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $21,000.OO FUNDED FROM THE SEWER CONNECTION ACCOUNT.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to approve a bid waiver for the installation of an emergency by-pass valve and piping by VMS Construction, 162 Lake Street, Vernon, Connecticit by the WPCA.

Dave Ignatowicz was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Request the Town Council approve the requested addition of the Cider Mill Property at the intersection of Boston Turnpike and Cider Mill Road to the Bolton Lakes District Sewer Service Area.** (See letter dated October 4, 2013 to George F. Apel, Mayor from Joyce M. Stille, BLRWPCA Administrator relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE ADDITION OF ALL OF THE CURRENTLY ZONED COMMERCIAL PORTION OF THE CIDER MILL PROPERTY AT THE INTERSECTION OF BOSTON TURNPIKE AND CIDER MILL ROAD IN BOLTON TO THE LAKES DISTRICT SEWER SERVICE AREA PER THE 2003 ORDINANCE, # 242 CREATING THE BOLTON LAKES REGIONAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY, AS AMENDED AUGUST 20, 2013.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to approve the requested addition of the Cider Mill Property at the intersection of Boston Turnpike and Cider Mill Road to the Bolton Lakes District Sewer Service Area.

Dave Ignatowicz was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Request the Town Council approve the Mayor George F. Apel's appointment of Robert Grasis to the position of Assistant Director of Water Pollution Control.** (Mr. Grasis' resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL , PURSUANT TO CHAPTER X, SEC. 3, AND CHAPTER IX, SEC. 1,4, AND 18 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, APPROVES MAYOR GEORGE F. APEL'S APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT GRASIS AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF WPCA FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to approve the appointment of Robert Grasis to the position of Assistant Director of WPCA.

Assistant Town Administrator, Dawn Maselek, and Director of the WPCA, Dave Ignatowicz were present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Motion carried unanimously.

K.) **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**
None

L.) **ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED**

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

"AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING $27,637,000 FOR ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF $27,637,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION".

1. **Report on the action taken by the Planning and Zoning Commission at its meeting on Thursday, October 3, 2013, relative to 8-24 referrals.**

2. **Town Council deliberation and decision on adoption of ordinances.**

3. **Mayor George F. Apel recommends the appropriation and action on the proposed ordinances.** ***"An Ordinance Appropriating $27,637,000 for Road Reconstruction and Improvements and***

Authorizing the Issue of $27,637,000 Bonds and Notes to Finance the Appropriation."

PROPOSED MOTION #1

THE TOWN COUNCIL, HEREBY ADOPTS THE PROVISIONS OF BOND ORDINANCE #B-13-01, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING $27,637,000 FOR ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF $27,637,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION."

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to adopt the provisions of bond ordinance #B-13-01, " An ordinance appropriating $27,637,000 for Road Reconstruction and Improvements and authorizing the issue of $27,637,000 Bonds and Notes to Finance the Appropriation."

Discussion took place

Motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSED MOTION #2

THE TOWN COUNCIL, HEREBY RESOLVES THAT A REFERENDUM BE HELD PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER XII, SECTION 12 OF THE TOWN CHARTER, TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 28, 2014, TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE FOLLOWING ENTITLED ORDINANCE:

"AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING $27,637,000 FOR ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF $27,637,000 BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION".

THE WORDING SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

"SHALL THE TOWN OF VERNON APPROPRIATE $27,637,000 FOR ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION?"

VOTERS APPROVING SAID ORDINANCE SHALL VOTE "YES" AND VOTERS OPPOSING SAID ORDINANCE SHALL VOTE "NO". VOTING SHALL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 6:00 AM AND 8:00 PM AT CENTER 375, 375 HARTFORD TURNPIKE (ROUTE 30), VERNON, CONNECTICUT. PROPERTY OWNERS WHO ARE ***NOT*** REGISTERED VOTERS, BUT ARE QUALIFIED TO VOTE AT REFERENDA, SHALL ALSO VOTE AT CENTER 375, 375 HARTFORD TURNPIKE, (ROUTE 30), VERNON, CONNECTICUT, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 6:00 AM AND 8:00 PM. ABSENTEE BALLOTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE. THE TOWN CLERK SHALL CAUSE NOTICE TO SAID REFERENDUM TO BE PUBLISHED AND POSTED.

EXPLANATORY TEXT:

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to resolve that a referendum be held pursuant to the provisions of Chapter XII, section 12 of the Town Charter, to be held on January 28, 2014, to approve or disapprove the Ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Council Member Gingras, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to add an additional item to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Winkler, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to support the idea of an additional meeting to discuss the future of ECHN. This meeting will be scheduled through administration and set up for the future.

Motion carried unanimously.

N.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

O.) **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Weissberger made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the October 1, 2013 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

P.) **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Monthly Report – July, 2013 Building Department, as submitted by Harry Dan Boyko, Building Official.
2. Monthly Report – September, 2013 EMS, as submitted by Jean Gauthier, EMS Coordinator.

Adjourn 9:45 PM)

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

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Forand
Recording Secretary