

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
14 MAR 27 AM 8:37

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

March 18, 2014- 7:30pm.

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

B) ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Pauline Schaefer, Virginia Gingras, Julie Clay, Brian Motola, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Steve Peterson, Bill Campbell, John Kopeck, Michael Winkler

Absent: Council Member Adam Weissberger and Ann Letendre

Entered During Meeting:

Also Present: Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Danielle Forand

C) CITIZEN'S FORUM

None.

D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES §1-200(6) (B), HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION REGARDING **AFSCME 1471 VS TOWN OF VERNON**; THE TOWN COUNCIL FURTHER INVITES JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AND EDWARD F. O'DONNELL OF THE FIRM SIEGEL O'CONNOR, O'DONNELL AND BECK PC, TO ATTEND.

7:37PM went into executive session
7:52 returned from executive session

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to authorize the settlement of the AFSCME claim versus the Town of Vernon regarding 1471 negotiations in 2011 upon the terms and conditions as discussed in executive session and authorizes the Town Administrator the execution of all necessary documentation. Motion carried unanimously.

E.) PUBLIC HEARING

None.

F.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne presented a Proclamation to the Vernon Housing Authority Director, Jeffrey Arn and Commissioners Peter Olsen and Ray Powers declaring "Fair Housing Month" in Vernon.

G.) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 1. Request for the approval Tax Refunds for Prior and Current Years. (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated March 6, 2014 is included in the Council packet.**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES TWO (2) OVERPAYMENTS FOR PRIOR YEARS TOTALING \$681.18 AND FIFTEEN (15) CURRENT YEAR TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2690.32, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED MARCH 6, 2014.

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

- I.) **PENDING BUSINESS**
None.

- J.) **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. **Discussion relative to monthly update from Finance Officer James M. Luddecke relative to Revenue and Expenditures for FY 2013-2014 as of July 31, 2013.**

NO PROPOSED MOTION

Finance Director, Jim Luddecke was present. Discussion took place.

- 2. **Request the Town Council authorize a bid waiver for Engineering Services from Communication Design Associates in an amount not to exceed \$16,500 relative to the evaluation of current AV equipment and acoustics for the Town Council Chambers.** (See memorandum from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Daniel A. Champagne, Mayor dated February 25, 2014 relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL CONSISTENT WITH THE TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER 12, SECTION 9, DETERMINES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TOWN TO WAIVE THE BID PROCEDURE FOR THE PURCHASE OF ENGINEERING SERVICES FROM COMMUNICATION DESIGN ASSOCIATES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$16,500.00.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell resolved the Town Council consistent with the Town Charter, Chapter 12 Section 9, determines that it is in the best interest of the Town to waive the bid procedure for the purchase of engineering services from communication design associates in an amount not to exceed \$16,500. Motion carried with 7 in favor and 3 opposed.

- 3. **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to sign the Agreement entitled "First Supplemental Agreement to the Original Agreement dated June 6, 2013 between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Vernon for the Development of Contract Plans, Specifications, and Estimates for the Reconstruction of South Street utilizing Federal Funds under the Urban component of the Surface Transportation Program."** (See memorandum from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, Mayor and the Vernon Town Council dated March 14, 2014 regarding same.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ENTITLED ***"FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT TO THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT DATED JUNE 6, 2013, BETWEEN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT AND THE TOWN OF VERNON FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTRACT PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ESTIMATES FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SOUTH STREET UTILIZING FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER THE URBAN COMPONENT OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM."***

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell authorizes Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to sign the agreement entitled "First supplemental agreement to the original agreement dated June 6, 2013, between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Vernon for the development of contract plans, specifications, and estimates for the reconstruction of south street utilizing federal funds under the urban component of the surface transportation program." Motion carried unanimously.

K.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None.

L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

None.

M.) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Schaefer suggested a correction of the Town Clerks monthly report to read Regular Town Council Meeting was held February 18, 2014. The meeting scheduled for February 4, 2014 was canceled

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to move the scheduled April 2, 2014 Budget Meeting to take place after the scheduled Regular Town Council meeting on Tuesday April 1, 2014, with the backup date as scheduled for April 8, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

N.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None.

O.) **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the March 4, 2014 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

P.) **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Monthly Report for February, 2014 for the Office of the Town Clerk, as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.
2. Year to Date for the Board of Education, as submitted by Michael Purcaro, Business Manager.
3. Reply letter from Dr. Mary P. Conway, Superintendent of Schools dated March 4, 2014 to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, relative to Public Act 13-60.
4. Invitation dated March 10, 2014 to all Town Council Members, Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and Town Administrator John D. Ward for the Annual Vernon Police Department Awards Ceremony on March 26, 2014.

Adjourn (8:10 PM)

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Forand
Recording Secretary