

**MINUTES**  
**VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**  
**VERNON, CONNECTICUT**

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
14 NOV 20 AM 11:27

**November 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, Brian Motola, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Steven Peterson, Bill Campbell, Michael Winkler and Ann Letendre

**Absent:** Council Members Julie Clay, Fred Lehmann, and John Kopec,

**Entered During Meeting:**

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

**C) CITIZEN'S FORUM**

Don Bellingham, from Vernon Greenway Volunteers, spoke about the activity, maintenance, and plans for attracting people to visit the trails.

Michelle Arn, 67 Overbrook Drive, spoke about the Health Care Clinic and the Administrators contract.

Thomas DiDio, 112 Box Mountain Drive, spoke about reviewing and or updating the Town of Vernon ordinances.

Mclean Oakeson, President for The Vernon Chorale, spoke in regards to upcoming projects, future goals and upcoming events with The Vernon Chorale.

Closed: 7:53PM

**D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Motola made a motion to go into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

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 TAX APPEAL SETTLEMENT CV-14-6008068-S ST. GERMAIN LAURELWOOD LANE VS. TOWN OF VERNON ET AL; CV-14-6008017-S HENDEL'S SHELL STATIONS LLC VS TOWN OF VERNON; AND CV-14-6026071-S JANAKI CORPORATION LLC VS TOWN OF VERNON AND INVITES JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR; AND DAVID WHEELER, TOWN ASSESSOR TO ATTEND.

Council Member Wakefield seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to authorize the Town Attorney to settle a tax appeal. Motion carried unanimously.

TTD-CV-14-6008017-S, captioned "HENDELS SHELL STATION, LLC vs. Town of Vernon et al, for taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2011, 2012 and 2013. The property address is commonly known as 75 Talcottville Road, Personal Property Account # 14052. The following assessments

are final for stated grand list years: 2011 Assessment: \$137,151, 2012 Assessment: \$124,042 and 2013 Assessment: \$97,902 .

Council Member Wakefield seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to authorize the Town Attorney to settle a tax appeal. Motion carried unanimously.

HHB-CV14-6026071S, captioned "JANAKI COPR., LLC vs. Town Of Vernon et al, " for taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2013 for the assessed value of \$1,155,000.00 or the 100% fair market value of \$1,650,000.00 and to refund any fees paid over the amount as stated for the 2013 Grand List. The property address is commonly known as 451 Hartford Turnpike, Map 11, Block 0015, Lot 0009E.

Council Member Wakefield seconded by Council Member Letendre made a motion to authorize the Town Attorney to settle a tax appeal. Motion carried unanimously.

HHB-CV-14-6026154-S, captioned " ST. GERMAIN vs. Town Of Vernon et al," for taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2013 for the assessed value of \$262,500.00 or the 100% fair market value of \$375,000.00 and to refund any fees paid over the amount as stated for the 2013 Grand List. The property address is commonly known as LAUREL WOOD LN, Map 52, Block 0140, Parent parcel Lot 00086.

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES §1-200(6) (A), HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

Council Member Wakefield seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to accept the (2) year extension of the Town Administrators contract as presented. Motion carried with 5 in favor, 3 against and 1 abstention.

Closed: 9:00pm

E.) **PUBLIC HEARING**  
None

F.) **PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION**

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to make a presentation to the Town Council on various topics.

Presentation by Bruce Dinnie, Director of Parks and Recreation relative to the Winter fest and the upcoming addition of a town wide Snowman Contest.

G.) **ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to move Consent Agenda items C#1, C#4, C#5, and C #6, C#7 as presented and to pull Consent Agenda items C#2 and C#3. 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 November 11, 2014 is included in the Council packet.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THREE (3) OVERPAYMENTS FOR PRIOR YEARS TOTALING \$839.41 AND TWENTY-EIGHT (28) CURRENT YEAR TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5517.08, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED NOVEMBER 7, 2014.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve reappointment of Gordon F. Gibson (R), 836 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Board of Ethics for the Town of Vernon, said term commences on December 1, 2014 and expires on November 30, 2019.** ( Mr. Gibson's resume is included for Council review.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE # 173, TOWN CODE SEC. 2-91 - 2-98; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF GORDON F. GIBSON (R), 836 HARTFORD TURNPIKE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON DECEMBER 1, 2014 AND EXPIRES ON NOVEMBER 30, 2019. )

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve reappointment of Pierre Lisee (R), 210 Skinner Road, Vernon, Connecticut as an alternate member of the Board of Ethics for the Town of Vernon, said term commences on December 1, 2014 and expires November 30, 2019.** ( Mr. Lisee's resume is included for Council review.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE # 173, TOWN CODE SEC. 2-91 - 2-98; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF PIERRE LISEE (R), 210 SKINNER ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON DECEMBER 1, 2014 AND ENDS ON NOVEMBER 30, 2019.

- C 6. Request the Town Council approve reappointment of Carl Bard (U), 25 Grady Road, Vernon, Connecticut as an alternate member of the Board of Ethics for the Town of Vernon, said term commences on December 1, 2014 and expires November 30, 2019.** (Mr. Bard's resume is included for Council review.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE # 173, TOWN CODE SEC. 2-91 - 2-98; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF CARL BARD, (U), 25 GRADY ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON, SAID

TERM TO COMMENCE ON DECEMBER 1, 2014 AND ENDS ON NOVEMBER 30, 2019.

- C 7. Request the Town Council approve appointment of William Dowty, (R), 80 Wilson Lane, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of Building Code Board of Appeals, said term to commence on November 19, 2014 and expires June 30, 2017.** (A copy of Mr. Dowty's resume is included for Council review.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO TOWN OF VERNON CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SECTIONS 4 AND 6; C.G.S. §29-266, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM DOWTY, (R) 80 WILSON LANE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS, SAID TERM TO BEGIN ON NOVEMBER 19, 2014 AND EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2017.

H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve budget amendment #67-68 for fiscal year 2013-2014 as provided by Finance Officer James M. Luddecke on the budget amendment forms attached to this agenda.** (See amendment forms in the Council packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST #67 - #68 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY FINANCE OFFICER, JAMES M. LUDDECKE.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to approve Budget Amendment Request #67-#68 for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 as outlined in the Budget Amendment forms provided by Finance Office. James M. Luddecke. Finance Officer, James Luddecke was present. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve budget amendment #9, #10 and #11 for fiscal year 2014-2015 as provided by Finance Officer James M. Luddecke on the budget amendment forms attached to this agenda.** (See amendment forms in the Council packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST #9, #10 and #11 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 AS PROVIDED BY FINANCE OFFICER JAMES M. LUDDECKE ON THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS ATTACHED TO THIS AGENDA.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to approve Budget Amendment Request #9, #10 and # 11 for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 as provided

on the Budget Amendment Forms. Finance Officer James Luddecke, and Director of Parks and Recreation Bruce Dinnie were present. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

I.) **PENDING BUSINESS**

J.) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Update and discussion regarding Year to Date Revenue and Expenditures report from Finance Officer James M. Luddecke for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.** (Please see YTD provided in the Council packet.)

**NO PROPOSED MOTION**

Finance Director James Luddecke was present. Discussion took place.

2. **Request the Town Council authorize the transfer of fiscal year 2013-2014 funds in the Education budget to the Education Capital Non-Recurring Expenditure Account.** (See documents relative to same from James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer included for Council review.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTORIZES THE TRANSFER OF AVAILABLE FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$83,000.00, FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO THE EDUCATION RESERVE FOR CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURES ACCOUNT, AS REQUESTED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND PURSUANT TO THE RESOLUTION SO ESTABLISHED FOR THE EDUCATION RESERVE FOR CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURES ACCOUNT.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to authorize the transfer of available funds, in the amount of \$83,000.00 from the Board of Education Fiscal Year 2013-2014 General fund budget to the Education Reserve for Capital and Non-recurring expenditures account, as requested by the Board of Education and pursuant to the resolution so established for the Education Reserve for Capital and Non-recurring expenditures account. Finance Director James Luddecke was present. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Request the Town Council formally adopt the Capitol Region Hazards Mitigation Plan Update as presented below and authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to execute same.** (Emergency Management Director, Michael Purcaro will be present to discuss the resolution as presented.)

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**The Town of Vernon Resolution Adopting  
2014 – 2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Vernon Council recognizes the threats that natural hazards pose to people and property with the Town of Vernon; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Vernon in collaboration with the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan known as the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update has identified mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from the impacts of future natural hazards and disasters that affect the Town of Vernon and the region; and

**WHEREAS**, public and committee meetings were held between March 15, 2012 and October 2, 2013, regarding the development and review of the 2014 – 2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Emergency Management Agency/ Department of Homeland Security has approved the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update, on condition of local adoption, enabling the Town of Vernon to apply for Hazard Mitigation grant funding; and

**WHEREAS**, adoption by the Town of Vernon Council demonstrates their commitment to achieving the hazard mitigation goals outlined in the Town of Vernon’s section of the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Vernon Council hereby adopts the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update.

**Date of Adoption:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chief Elected Official)

**Name of Chief Elected Official:** \_\_\_\_\_

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to adopt the Capitol Region Hazards Mitigation Plan Update as presented in the Town Council Agenda. Emergency Management Director, Mike Purcaro was present. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

- 4. **Request the Town Council approve the Job Description of Recreation Supervisor and Wastewater Collection System Foreman as recommended by Assistant Town Administrator Dawn Maselek.** (A copy of the job description is included for Council review.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**  
THE TOWN COUNCIL CONSISTENT WITH THE TOWN OF VERNON PERSONNEL RULES AND REGULATIONS, SECTION

4.1(B) ENTITLED "JOB DESCRIPTIONS", HEREBY ADOPTS THE  
JOB DESCRIPTION OF **RECREATION SUPERVISOR AND  
WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM FOREMAN.**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to adopt the job description of Recreation Supervisor and Wastewater Collection System Foreman. Assistant Town Administrator, Dawn Maselek and Director of Parks and Recreation Bruce Dinnie were present. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

**K.) INTRODUCTION TO 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**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting of October 21, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

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

1. Monthly Report – October, 2014 from the Town Clerk's Office as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon Town Clerk.
2. Monthly Report – October, 2014 from the Vernon Police Department as submitted by Captain of Police, Stephen M. Clark.

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

Adjourned: 9:58 PM

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Forand  
Recording Secretary