

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

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
15 DEC -9 PH12:10

December 1, 2015 - 7:30 PM

Mayor Daniel Champagne called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM

A.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B.) ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Pauline Schaefer, Michael Winkler, Brian Motola, Julie Clay, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Jim Tedford, Steve Peterson, Ann Letendre and Virginia Gingras

Absent:

Entered During Meeting:

Also Present: Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Karen Daigle

C.) CITIZEN'S FORUM

No one spoke at Citizen's Forum

D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

E.) PUBLIC HEARING

None

F.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

Presentation to the Town Council by Mayor Daniel A. Champagne on various topics.

Congratulatory Presentation of the CASHO Snowplow Rodeo for 2015!

This year's DPW winners were as follows:

- Class V - 10 Wheel Dump - *Pete Lesniak – 1st Place/Best in Show*
- Class IV - 6 Wheel Dump – *Tim Moriarty – 3rd Place*
- Class III - Mason Dump - *Paul Prouty – 3rd Place*
- Class II - Pick Up - *Jim Jades – 2nd Place/Best in Show*

Vernon Public Works took home Top Honors – *WINNING MUNICIPALITY!*

- At the next council meeting on December 15, 2015 everyone is invited to the traditional Mayor's holiday party and share some cheer.
- During the month on November the mayor attended the Veteran's Day lunch at the Elk's Club. Council Member Schaefer attended and thank you to Chet Morgan and the Elk's for sponsoring such a worthwhile event.
- Vernon Fire Department is running their Toys for Tykes drive, collecting donations of new toys and clothing for local children. Receptacles are located in various town buildings including Town Hall.
- Vernon Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring two events this Saturday, December 5th. The first is the children's holiday festival at

- Center 375 from 9:00 AM to 12 noon. The second is the Arctic Splash fundraiser at Valley Falls, at 1:00 PM. Come out and participate.
- Winterfest in Central Park is this Friday, December 4th, with the tree lighting and the unveiling of the new Santa House. A carol sing is at 5:30 PM with the fire truck light parade at 6:00. All are welcome to attend and participate.

Council Member Schaefer spoke about "Wreaths Across America" coming to Vernon on December 12, 2015. Ceremony will be held at Grove Hill Cemetery from 11:15 AM to 11:30 AM. At 12:00 noon, there is a moment of silence across America honoring our veterans.

G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to approve the consent agenda items C1-C5. Motion to approve C1-C5 carried unanimously.

- C 1. Request for Tax Refunds for the Current and Prior Year.** (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated November 18, 2015 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THIRTEEN (13) OVERPAYMENTS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR TOTALLING \$2597.81 AND ONE (1) PRIOR YEAR OVERPAYMENTS TOTALLING \$109.30 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2015.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Pierre Lisee, (R), 210 Skinner Road, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Town of Vernon Board of Ethics, said term to commence on December 2, 2015 and expire on December 1, 2020.** (A copy of 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 A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF VERNON BOARD OF ETHICS, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON DECEMBER 2, 2015 AND ENDS ON DECEMBER 1, 2020.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Carl F. Bard, (U), 25 Grady Road, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Town of Vernon Board of Ethics, said term to commence on December 2, 2015 and expire on December 1, 2020.** (A copy of 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 F. BARD, (U), 25 GRADY ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF VERNON BOARD OF ETHICS, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON DECEMBER 2, 2015 AND ENDS ON DECEMBER 1, 2020.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Christy N. Vale, (R), 100 Dobson Road, Unit 3, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Town of Vernon Board of Ethics, said term to commence on December 2, 2015 and expires on November 30, 2018.** (A copy of Ms. Vale's resume is included for Council review. Ms. Vale is completing the unexpired term of Linda Gessay.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE # 173, TOWN CODE SEC. 2-91 - 2-98; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTY VALE, (R), 100 DOBSON ROAD, UNIT 3, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF VERNON BOARD OF ETHICS, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON DECEMBER 2, 2015 AND ENDS ON NOVEMBER 30, 2018.

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Andrew Halpryn, (R), 59 Rainbow Trail, Vernon, Connecticut, as an alternate member of the Town of Vernon Board of Ethics, said term to commence on December 2, 2015 and expires on November 30, 2019.** (A copy of Mr. Halpryn's resume is included for Council review. Mr. Halpryn is completing the unexpired alternate term of Mr. Lisee)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE # 173, TOWN CODE SEC. 2-91 - 2-98; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF ANDREW HALPRYN, (R), 59 RAINBOW TRAIL, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF VERNON BOARD OF ETHICS, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON DECEMBER 2, 2015 AND ENDS ON NOVEMBER 30, 2019.

H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS
None

I.) PENDING BUSINESS
None

J.) NEW BUSINESS

- 1. **Request the Town Council approve the purchase of streetlight fixtures from Eversource, the conversion to LED Streetlights at a cost of \$912,462, contracting a vendor and financing for same.** (See memorandum from John D.

Ward, Town Administrator and Robert Kleinhans, Director of Public Works to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and the Vernon Town Council dated November 13, 2015 relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

RESOLVED, THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE PURCHASE OF STREETLIGHT FIXTURES FROM EVERSOURCE, AND THE CONVERSION TO LED STREETLIGHTS FOR A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$912,462, AND HEREBY AUTHORIZES TOWN ADMINISTRATOR JOHN D. WARD TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TANKO LIGHTING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

FURTHER RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES AND AUTHORIZES INTERNAL FINANCING FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE RESERVE FOR CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$912,462.00 FOR THE ACQUISITION AND RETROFITTING OF THE STREETLIGHT FIXTURES, UTILIZING A FIVE-YEAR PAYBACK PERIOD, WITH REPAYMENT TO COME FROM REBATE INCENTIVES AND ANNUAL ENERGY SAVINGS IN THE GENERAL FUND TRAFFIC AUTHORITY APPROPRIATION.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to approve the purchase of streetlight fixtures from Eversource, the conversion to LED streetlights at a cost of \$912,462, contracting Tanko Lighting and financing same. Public Works Director, Robert Kleinhans and Finance Officer, James Luddecke answered questions. Discussion took place.

8:28 PM Council Member Bush left meeting; 8:31 PM Council Member Bush returned.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to postpone this to the December 15, 2015 meeting in anticipation of a contract. Discussion took place.

RECESS (8:58 PM)

RECONVENED (9:10 PM)

Motion to postpone failed with 5 in favor and 7 opposed.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Bush proposed an amendment to approve this motion subject to the approval by the town council of the final contract with Tanko Lighting. Discussion took place.

RECESS (9:26 PM)

RECONVENED (9:38 PM)

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Bush withdrew the proposed amendment.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Peterson proposed an amendment to change the wording of the first paragraph. The complete paragraph reads: "RESOLVED THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE PURCHASE OF STREETLIGHT FIXTURES FROM EVERSOURCE, AND THE

CONVERSION TO LED STREETLIGHTS FOR A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$912,462, AND HEREBY AUTHORIZES TOWN ADMINISTRATOR JOHN D. WARD TO NEGOTIATE AGREEMENTS WITH TANKO LIGHTING AND OTHERS AS NECESSARY FOR FINAL APPROVAL BY THE TOWN COUNCIL." Discussion took place. Amendment carried with 7 in favor and 5 opposed.

Motion to approve the Resolution, as amended, carried with 6 in favor, 5 opposed and 1 abstention by Council Member Gingras.

2. **Request the Town Council approves the disposal or sale at public auction items from Rockville High School and Northeast School as disclosed on the Fixed Asset Disposal request forms.** (See Fixed Asset Disposal forms attached to this agenda.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE DISPOSAL OR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION OF ITEMS FROM ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AND NORTHEAST SCHOOL, AS DISCLOSED ON THE FIXED ASSET DISPOSAL REQUEST FORMS.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to approve the disposal or sale at public auction items from Rockville High School and Northeast School as disclosed on the fixed asset disposal forms. Motion carried unanimously.

K.) **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**
None

L.) **ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED**
None

M.) **IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**
None

N.) **DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
None

O.) **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2015 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Appleyard, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the regular town council meeting of November 17, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

P.) **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, ETC. NOT REQUIRING ACTION**
None

Adjourn (9:50 PM)

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

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary