

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2015 – UPON RECESS OF REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL – 14 PARK PLACE – 3RD FLOOR
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
15 OCT 29 AM 8:33

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne called the special town meeting to order at 9:03 PM.

Assistant Town Clerk, Karen C. Daigle, read into the record the legal notice of the Special Town Meeting and certified that the notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Town Hall and published in the Journal Inquirer in the October 10, 2015 edition.

Mayor called for nominations for a moderator. Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion for Finance Officer Jim Luddecke as the moderator. Ayes carried the motion.

Moderator Mr. Luddecke explained the requirements necessary to vote at the Special Town Meeting as to elector or residence, age and ownership of property.

The Moderator then asked if anyone present wished to comment:

Mayor Dan Champagne, 30 Lawler Road, made comments on the location, prior approval by Planning & Zoning and State of Connecticut and the benefits of this location.

James Krupienski, 104 Crestridge Drive, looked at plans and commented on the date of said plans, and new planning & zoning regulations.

Emily Westerberg, 197 Center Road, opposed the political reference made, still has unanswered questions concerning the building, costs and overruns.

Joe Tarzi, 155 West Main Street, questioned the email sent to seniors.

Phyllis Winkler, 20 Gottier Drive, questioned why this is coming before the citizens during an election year.

Bill Dauphin, 11 Olive Lane, re-iterated his concern with the process of this coming before the citizens.

John Horan, 55 Richard Road, questioned the impact on the aquifer, parking spaces, and expiration of offer.

Ian Mills, Box 165, asked questions regarding hydrology and wetlands.

Phyllis Winkler, 20 Gottier Drive, asked parliamentary procedure questions regarding referendum.

Peter Gavarrino, 15 Farmbrook Lane, commented on tunnel vision and the future of Vernon, and the site at 133 Tunnel Road.

Mike Winkler, 20 Gottier Road, questioned bonding.

Carl Schaefer, 1A Fox Hill Drive, stated there is no idea of site costs to develop. There are current bonds outstanding for roads, need 2 fire trucks. Need to look for proper place to put the new senior center.

Paul Margelony, 42 Church Street, says to build this senior center now or never.

Daniel Donnell, 143-151 Tunnel Road, commented on the 30 day window of the sales price on this property, as it has been for sale for 26 years.

Peter Gavarrino, 15 Farmbrook Lane, said to vote yes now.

Steve Wakefield, 152 Brookview Drive, asked if any other sites have been looked at or are available at a reasonable cost. The Mayor answered.

Teri-Lynn Rogers, 26 White Street, questioned what other sites had been considered. The Mayor answered. Reminded everyone to really consider their vote on this property.

Paul Margelony, 42 Church Street, spoke of other towns making arrangements for seniors to get to their centers.

James Krupienski, 104 Crestridge Drive, asked for a hand count vote rather than voice vote. Stated we maybe should be looking for a community center, not just a senior center.

Ben Brockman, 362 Lake Street, asked the council and mayor if they have done their due diligence in obtaining this property, also concerning planning and zoning. The mayor answered.

Mike Winkler, 20 Gottier Drive, felt he has no commitment to actually build this senior center; possible bonding. The Mayor answered.

Jim Luddecke called for a hand vote.

The Moderator read the following:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

BE IT RESOLVED: THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN AN AMOUNT OF \$220,000.00 TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET, ACCOUNT 10780290.57155, TO FUND THE PURCHASE AND IMPROVEMENTS OF THE PARCEL LOCATED AT 133 TUNNEL ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT.

Bill Dauphin questioned an amendment to the resolution and stated he would have amended the motion.

Motion carried by hand vote, 63 in favor and 30 opposed with 1 abstention.

James Krupienski, seconded by Peter Gavarrino, made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourned: 10:00 PM

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary