

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

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
16 NOV 21 PM 2:08

November 15, 2016 - 7:30 PM

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

Jeffrey Arn, Executive Director of the Vernon Housing Authority, along with Peter Olson, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the Board, the staff and the tenants, presented their annual pilot check. This year, due to energy improvements, the check to the Town of Vernon is in the amount of \$76,521.

Mike Winkler, 20 Gottier Drive, spoke on the Senior Center Advisory Committee and the new senior center. If the Mayor and town council decide to renovate an existing building rather than construct a new one on land previously purchased, he would support this action.

D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

7:34 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the following motion to go into executive session:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SECTION 1-200(6) (B), HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS TAX APPEAL SETTLEMENT *DOCKET #HHBCV1560337375 VMS CONSTRUCTION VS TOWN OF VERNON* AND INVITES JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR; ATTORNEY MARTIN BURKE AND DAVID WHEELER, TOWN ASSESSOR, TO ATTEND

Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session ended at 7:43 PM.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson, made the following motion:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE TOWN ATTORNEY TO SETTLE TAX APPEAL HHBCV156033737S, CAPTIONED "VMS CONSTRUCTION CO., INC VS. TOWN OF VERNON ET AL," FOR TAXES ON THE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2014 FOR THE ASSESSED VALUE OF \$2,400 OR THE 100% FAIR MARKET VALUE

OF \$4,200 AND TO REFUND THE OVERPAYMENT OF \$173.11 TO THE CLAIMANT. THE PROPERTY IS A 1998 EAGER BEAVER XPT20 CONSTRUCTION TRAILER, VIN #112H8V315WL051324. Motion carried unanimously.

E.) PUBLIC HEARING
None

F.) PRESENTATIONS

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

- On November 11th a Veteran's Day ceremony was held at Fox Hill Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility. A Mayoral Proclamation was presented in appreciation of the veterans' sacrifices.
- A ribbon cutting was held at Pamela's Patterns located on Route 83.
- Jim Luddecke, Dawn Maselek, John Ward and the Mayor attended the two day CCM Annual Meeting.
- There were flyers for the council members on the Town of Vernon's Annual Winterfest Celebration to be held December 2, 2016 at 6:15 in Central Park, along with the Annual Thanksgiving Day Football Game between South Windsor High School and Rockville High School to be held on November 23, 2016 at 6:30. Council members must RSVP for the game by November 16th.

G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented # C1 – C2. Council Member Motola pulled C-2. Motion carried unanimously to pass C-1.

- C 1. Request for the Town Council to approve 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 November 2, 2016 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES EIGHT (8) PRIOR YEAR TAX REFUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$3370.78 AND ELEVEN (11) CURRENT YEAR TAX REFUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$2159.91, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED NOVEMBER 2, 2016.

H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #66 and #67 for fiscal year 2015-2016 as provided by Finance Officer James M. Luddecke on the budget amendment forms.** (See budget amendment forms with explanation attached to this agenda.)

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS #66 AND #67 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY JAMES M. LUDDECKE, FINANCE OFFICER.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Tedford, made a motion to approve consent agenda items #C-2. Finance Director, James Luddecke, answered questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried with 11 in favor and 1 abstention, Council Member Campbell.

I.) **PENDING BUSINESS**
None

J.) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request the Town Council approve the 2017 FOIA Town Council schedule** (See attached memorandum dated November 10, 2016 from Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to the Vernon Town Council.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE 2017 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO THE TOWN COUNCIL DATED NOVEMBER 10, 2016.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to approve the 2017 Town Council Meeting Schedule as presented. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

7:53 PM Recess; 7:57 PM Reconvened

F.) **PRESENTATIONS (continued)**

Informational presentation relative to the WPCA upgrade of the Town of Vernon Water Treatment Plant by Robert Grasis, Director, and Matt Daskal, Financial Analyst. Steve Boske, Assistant Director; and Ray Weaver, Chairman of the Water Pollution Control Authority along with Steve Siegel from Tighe and Bond, the consultant for the Water Treatment Plant upgrade were present and answered questions. Discussion took place.

K.) **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**
None

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

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

N.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
None

O.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 1, 2016 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the November 1, 2016 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried with 11 in favor and 1 abstention, Council Member Appleyard.

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

1. Monthly Report for September, 2016 from the Town Clerk's Office submitted by Bernice K. Dixon Town Clerk.
2. Monthly Report for October, 2016 from the Town Clerk's Office submitted by Bernice K. Dixon Town Clerk.

Adjourn (9:13 PM)

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

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary