

October 17, 2017

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

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
17 NOV 17 PM 12:58

October 17, 2017 - 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, Thomas DiDio, Brian Motola, Julie Clay, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Jim Tedford, Ann Letendre and Virginia Gingras

**Absent:** Council Member Steve Peterson

**Entered During Meeting:**

**Also Present:** Town Administrator Michael Purcaro, Recording Secretary Karen Daigle

**C.) CITIZEN'S FORUM**

Robert Lloyd, 357 Lake Street, expressed his concern about the speed of automobiles traveling on Lake Street, including the Town of Vernon refuse trucks. Mayor Champagne requested Police Chief Kenny to investigate this matter.

7:33 PM Citizen's Forum ended.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to add Executive Session #2. Motion carried unanimously.

**F.) PRESENTATIONS**

Presentation from the *Summer Days Carnival Committee* to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, Parks and Recreation Department Director, Marty Sittler, along with Assistant Director, Steve Krajewski. Council Member Schaefer and Council Member Wakefield explained that the net proceeds are divided equally between Fidelco, KidSafe, and the Parks and Rec Department Scholarship Fund. Also in attendance was Stacey Laplante of Angelic Nursing and Home Care in Manchester, Co-Sponsor with Elm Motors of Vernon as premier donators to the Carnival. The Parks and Rec portion amounted to \$11,047.

**E.) PUBLIC HEARING (7:37 PM)**

**PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO "THE RATIFICATION OF THE MULTI TOWN MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT FOR THE CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR DIGITAL INVESTIGATIONS".**

- MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE CALLED THE PUBLIC HEARING TO ORDER TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS
- CLERK READ THE LEGAL NOTICE INTO THE RECORD
- MAYOR CHAMPAGNE AND TOWN COUNCIL RECEIVED COMMENTS  
No public comments
- MAYOR CHAMPAGNE DECLARED THE PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED

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- RETURNED TO THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA (7:38 PM)

**(Action on this item to be considered during NEW BUSINESS #1)**

**D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

7:39 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the following motion to go into Executive Session #1:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES §1-200, (2), HEREBY GOES INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL MATTER AND INVITES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.

Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Tedford did not go into Executive Session.

7:51 PM Executive Session #1 ended.

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

THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE TOWN PENSION PLAN AMENDMENT REGARDING THE CREDITED SERVICE FOR EMPLOYEES IN DIVISION 034 ON OR BEFORE MARCH 2, 2015, AND EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE TRANSFERRED BETWEEN DIVISIONS 030 AND 060 ONE OR MORE TIMES AFTER JANUARY 1, 1990 AND RETIRES OR TERMINATES EMPLOYMENT AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2017, WITH NO GENDER SPECIFICITY.

Motion carried with 10 in favor, as Council Member Tedford was absent from the vote.

7:52 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the following motion to go into Executive Session #2:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SECTION 1-200(2) HEREBY GOES INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL MATTER AND INVITES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.

Motion carried unanimously.

7:58 PM Executive Session #2 ended.

No action taken.

**F.) PRESENTATIONS (cont'd)**

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

- Winterfest commences the first Friday in December. Public Works constructed a cement foundation to support the Santa House in December and the Gene Pitney Bench the remainder of the year.

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- Ribbon cutting and grand opening occurred on October 13<sup>th</sup> for DiBonitos Bakery, located on Union Street in Rockville. We wish them well.
- The Strong Farm Barn dedication and ribbon cutting is set for October 21, 2017 from 10-2 pm. All are welcome to attend.
- The new senior center exterior is almost complete, thanks to our Department of Public Works and very willing and capable volunteers. Everyone is encouraged to drive by.
- The Festival of Bands was held last weekend. Thanks to all who participated and made this awesome event possible, highlighting what Vernon is all about – community!
- Diane and Jim Luddecke announced their retirements effective January 3, 2018. They will be severely missed and very difficult to replace. We wish them the best on their much deserved retirement.
- Diane McCabe, who has been with the Town for 38 years, has announced her retirement in November.

**G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to move the Consent Agenda. Council Member Motola pulled C-1. Motion to approve C-2 carried unanimously.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Yu (Iris) Mullan, (R), 51 Blue Ridge Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, said appointment to commence on October 18, 2017 and expires on December 31, 2018. (A copy of Ms. Mullan's resume is included for Council review. It should be noted that Ms. Mullan is completing the unexpired term of Joseph Miller who has moved to full member.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 1 & 6, AND CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SEC. 8-4a & b, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF YU (IRIS) MULLAN, (R), 51 BLUE RIDGE DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, TO ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR A TERM COMMENCING ON OCTOBER 18, 2017 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2018.

**H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS**

- C 1. Request the Town Council approve budget amendment # 1 for fiscal year 2017-2018 as provided by Finance Officer and Treasurer James M. Luddecke on the budget amendment form attached. (See the budget amendment form with explanation attached to this agenda.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS # 1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORM PROVIDED BY FINANCE OFFICER AND TREASURER, JAMES M. LUDDECKE.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to approve budget amendment #1 for Fiscal Year 2017-1028. Finance Officer James

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Luddecke answered questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried with 10 in favor and 1 against, Council Member Motola.

I.) **PENDING BUSINESS**  
None

J.) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request the Town Council authorizes ratification of the Multi Town Mutual Aid Agreement discussed during a Public Hearing held earlier in the meeting.**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN THE RATIFICATION OF THE MULTI TOWN MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT FOR THE CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR DIGITAL INVESTIGATIONS AS PRESENTED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion authorizing Mayor Daniel Champagne or his designee to sign the ratification of the Multi Town Mutual Aid Agreement for the Connecticut Center for Digital Investigations. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to execute any and all necessary paperwork to make application for and receive the Local Prevention Council Grant funds in the amount of \$5342.00.** (See local prevention grant documents and cover letter included in the Council packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY PAPERWORK TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR AND RECEIVE LOCAL PREVENTION COUNCIL GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5342.00.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion authorizing Mayor Daniel Champagne to make application for and receive Local Council Grant Funds in the amount of \$5,342. Youth Services director, Michelle Hill, answered questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to make application with the CRCOG Metro Hartford Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Program for funds to assist in remediation of the Citizen's Block.** (See memorandum dated October 3, 2017 from Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to the Vernon Town Council, James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator relative to same.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO MAKE APPLICATION WITH THE CAPITOL REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS METRO HARTFORD BROWNFIELDS REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM FOR FUNDS TO ASSIST IN THE REMEDIATION OF CITIZEN'S BLOCK, LOCATED AT 28-34 PARK PLACE, FOR TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$200,000); AND FURTHER

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AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAME.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion authorizing Mayor Daniel Champagne to make application with the Capitol Region Council of Governments Metro Hartford Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Program for funds to assist in the remediation of Citizen's Block, located at 28-34 Park Place, for \$200,000. Mayor Champagne answered questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

**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**

Mayor Daniel Champagne announced that this was Council Member Kim Appleyard's last meeting. She thanked the town council for working together as a team for the benefit of the Town of Vernon.

**O.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF OCTOBER 3, 2017 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the October 3, 2017 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried with 9 in favor and 2 abstentions, Council Members Appleyard and Gingras.

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

1. Monthly Report for the Vernon Town Clerk – September, 2017 as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.

**Adjourn ( 8:23 PM)**

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

Received: October 20, 2017

Approved: November 13, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen C. Daigle  
Recording Secretary