

Special Budget Minutes

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Vernon Town Council- Special Budget Meeting

18 APR -3 AM 9:57

Town Hall- 14 Park Place- 3rd Floor

Vernon, Connecticut

March 22, 2018- 7:00PM

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B) ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Steve Wakefield, Brian Motola, Julie Clay, Mike Wendus, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Ann Letendre, Pauline Schaefer, and Steve Peterson.

Absent: Council Members Thomas DiDio, Jim Tedford and Ralph Zahner

Entered During Meeting: None

Also Present: Town Administrator Michael J. Purcaro, Recording Secretary Cassandra Minor

C) CITIZEN'S FORUM:

None.

D) PRESENTATION:

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne distributed a form of the 7 budget proposals that increased by more than \$50,000.00.

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and Jeff O'Neill, Finance Officer presented 2018-2019 Budget Overview to the Town Council.

E) TOWN COUNCIL To establish the rules and procedures for budget deliberations

PROPOSED MOTION:

The Town Council adopts the following list of Rules and Procedures for the 2018-2019 Budget deliberations:

- Waive all Robert's Rules of Procedure during budget deliberations;
- Revenue will be discussed at the opening meeting and at the final budget meeting;
- All budget accounts shall be opened and closed, with the Council making decisions on each individual budget during the allocated time frame;
- Each meeting will be recessed to the next scheduled budget hearing and draft minutes will be prepared by the Clerk for each meeting to be used during final deliberations;
- At the final budget hearing the Town Council may add or delete from any account previously discussed

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to accept the list of Rules and Procedures for the 2018-2019 Budget deliberations. Discussion ensued. Motion carried unanimously.

F) BUDGET REVIEW:**1. Water Pollution Control Authority:**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion open **Tab 5, Page #40, Water Pollution Control Authority, Code 10116157, in the amount of \$6,889.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Robert Grasis spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 5, Page #40, Water Pollution Control Authority, Code 10116157, in the amount of \$6,889.00.** Motion carried unanimously.

2. Waste Treatment Plant Operations:

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 12, Page # 182, Waste Treatment Plant Operations, Code 41345700, in the amount of \$6,008,758.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Robert Grasis spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to cut the Waste Treatment Plant Operations budget in the amount of \$200,000.00. Discussion ensued.

7:40PM Recess; 7:55 Reconvened.

Discussion ensued. Motion failed with 4 in favor and 5 opposed, Council Members Letendre, Wendus, Bush, Wakefield and Schaefer.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 12, Page # 182, Waste Treatment Plant Operations, Code 41345700, in the amount of \$6,008,758.** Motion carried with 8 in favor and 1 opposed, Council Member Peterson.

3. Housing Authority- Sewer Subsidy:

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 10, Page #153, Housing Authority- Sewer Subsidy, Code 10673282, in the amount of \$49,000.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Robert Grasis spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 10, Page #153, Housing Authority- Sewer Subsidy, Code 10673282, in the amount of \$49,000.** Motion carried unanimously.

4. Assessment:

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 5, Page # 25, Assessment, Code 10114144, in the amount of \$296,444.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Assessor, David Wheeler spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Clay, seconded by Council Member Wakefield, made a motion to deduct from Object Code #55650 in the amount of \$400.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close **Tab 5, Page #25, Assessment, Code 10114144, in the amount of \$296,044.** Motion carried unanimously.

5. Revaluation:

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 5, Page #32, Revaluation, Code 10114147, in the amount of \$18,000.** Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Daniel A. Champagne explained the proposed budget.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 5, Page #32, Revaluation, Code 10114147, in the amount of \$18,000.** Motion carried unanimously.

6. Board of Assessment Appeals:

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 5, Page #39, Board of Assessment Appeals, Code 10116155 , in the amount of \$2,700.** Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 5, Page #39, Board of Assessment Appeals, Code 10116155 , in the amount of \$2,700.** Motion carried unanimously.

7. Collector of Revenue:

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to open **Tab 5, Page #29, Collector of Revenue, Code 10114146, in the amount of \$234,636.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Collector of Revenue, Terry Hjarne spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Clay, seconded by Council Member Motola made a motion to deduct from Object Code #53800 in the amount of \$500.00. Motion carried with 4 in favor, 3 opposed Council Members Letendre, Schaefer and Bush and 1 abstention, Council Member Wakefield.

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to close **Tab 5, Page #29, Collector of Revenue, Code 10114146, in the amount of \$234,136.** Motion carried unanimously.

8. Refunds-Tax Adjustments:

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open **Tab 5, Page #28, Refunds-Tax Adjustments, Code 10114145, in the amount of \$ 21,000.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Finance Officer, Jeffrey O'Neill spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Wendus made a motion to close **Tab 5, Page #28, Refunds-Tax Adjustments, Code 10114145, in the amount of \$ 21,000.** Motion carried unanimously

9. Capital Improvements- Town:

Council Member Clay, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 11, Page #154. Capital Improvements-Town, Code 10780290, in the amount of \$660,172.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Director of Public Works, Robert Kleinhans, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, Steve Krajewski and Finance Officer, Jeffrey O'Neill spoke and answered questions. **Note: Council Member Motola pointed out a transposition of numbers to Object Code 57620.**

Council Member Clay, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 11, Page #154. Capital Improvements-Town, Code 10780290, in the amount of \$660,172.** Motion carried unanimously.

10. Registration :

Council Member Clay, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 5, Page #10, Registration, Code 10113130, in the amount of \$80,285.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Republican-Registrar of Voters, John Anderson and Democrat- Registrar of Voters, Christopher Prue spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Clay, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 5, Page #10, Registration, Code 10113130, in the amount of \$80,285.** Motion carried unanimously.

11. General Elections:

Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 5, Page #13, General Elections, Code 10113131, in the amount of \$38,400.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion

ensued. Republican-Registrar of Voters, John Anderson and Democrat- Registrar of Voters, Christopher Prue spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 5, Page #13, General Elections, Code 10113131, in the amount of \$38,400.** Motion carried unanimously.

12. Primary Elections:

Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 5, Page #15, Primary Elections, Code 10113132, in the amount of \$1.00.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Republican-Registrar of Voters, John Anderson and Democrat- Registrar of Voters, Christopher Prue spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 5, Page #15, Primary Elections, Code 10113132, in the amount of \$1.00.** Motion carried unanimously.

13. Elections Referendum:

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 5, Page #17, Elections Referendum, Code 10113133, in the amount of \$6,500.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Republican-Registrar of Voters, John Anderson and Democrat- Registrar of Voters, Christopher Prue spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 5, Page #17, Elections Referendum, Code 10113133, in the amount of \$6,500.** Motion carried unanimously.

14. Police:

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 6, Page #51, Police, Code 10230180, in the amount of \$6,410,228.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Police Chief, James Kenny spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to remove \$30,000.00 out of the \$50,000.00 increase and leave \$20,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 6, Page #51, Police, Code 10230180, in the amount of \$6,380,228.** Motion carried unanimously.

15. School Crossing Guards:

Council Member Wendus, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 6, Page #58, School Crossing Guards, Code 10230181, in the amount of \$62,120.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Police Chief, James Kenny spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Wendus, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 6, Page #58, School Crossing Guards, Code 10230181, in the amount of \$62,120.** Motion carried unanimously.

16. Traffic Authority:

Council Member Wendus, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 6, Page #59, Traffic Authority, Code 10230182, in the amount of \$356,000.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Police Chief, James Kenny spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Wendus, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 6, Page #59, Traffic Authority, Code 10230182, in the amount of \$356,000.** Motion carried unanimously.

17. Animal Control:

Council Member Letendre, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 6, Page #73, Animal Control, Code 10233188, in the amount of \$137,186.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Police Chief James Kenny spoke and answered questions.

Council Member Letendre, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 6, Page #73, Animal Control, Code 10233188, in the amount of \$137,186.** Motion carried unanimously.

18. Dog License:

Council Member Letendre, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open **Tab 12, Page #163, Dog License, Code 22233410, in the amount of \$32,705.** Motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued. Police Chief, James Kenny spoke and answered questions

Council Member Letendre, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close **Tab 12, Page #163, Dog License, Code 22233410, in the amount of \$32,705.** Motion carried unanimously.

G) MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS REQUIRING ACTION

None.

H) RECESS REMAINING ACCOUNTS TO MARCH 24, 2018

9:37PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to recess to the next scheduled meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully submitted:

Cassandra Minor

Recording Secretary.