

April 17, 2018

Approved Minutes

Vernon Town Council- Regular Meeting

Town Hall- 14 Park Place- 3rd Floor

Vernon, Connecticut

April 17, 2018- 7:30PM

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK

18 APR 27 AM 8:47

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

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B) ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Steve Wakefield, Thomas DiDio, Brian Motola, Julie Clay, Mike Wendus, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Ann Letendre, Jim Tedford, Pauline Schaefer, and Ralph Zahner

Absent: Steve Peterson

Entered During Meeting: None

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

C) CITIZENS FORUM

None

D) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

7:32 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made the following motion to enter Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES §1-200, (6) (B), HEREBY GOES INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING REAL ESTATE TAX APPEALS: **Health Resources of Rockville Inc., v Town of Vernon Docket No. CV-17-6039378-S; and Richard P. Hayes, Sr. Trustee v Town of Vernon Docket No. CV-17-6038850-S**, AND INVITES ASSISTANT TOWN ATTORNEY MARTIN BURKE, TOWN OF VERNON ASSESSOR DAVID WHEELER AND TOWN ADMINISTRATOR MICHAEL J. PURCARO TO ATTEND

7:57PM Executive Session ended.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to authorize the Town Attorney to settle a tax appeal:

1) CV-17-6039378-S, captioned "HEALTH RESOURCES OF ROCKVILLE, INC vs. Town of Vernon et al, " for taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2016 AND 2017 for the assessed value of \$2,030,000 or the 100% fair market value of \$2,900,000 and to adjust assessment and tax bills for the 2016 and 2017 Grand Lists. Costs and interest not to be charged to either party but a refund of any tax overpayment will be paid to the Plaintiff. The property address is commonly known as 1253 Hartford Tpke, Map 46-0078-00038. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to authorize the Town Attorney to settle a tax appeal:

2)CV-17-6038850-S, captioned RICHARD P. HAYES SR., TRUSTEE vs. Town of Vernon et al, " for taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2016 AND 2017 for the assessed value of \$377,300 or the 100% fair market value of \$539,000 and to adjust assessment and tax bills for the 2016 and 2017 Grand Lists. Costs and interest not to be charged to either party but a refund of any tax overpayment will be paid to the Plaintiff. The property address is commonly known as 836 Bolton Rd, Map 53-0141-0006A. Motion carried with 10 in favor and 1 abstention, Council Member Wendus.

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E) **PUBLIC HEARING:**

None

F) **PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION**

Busy month at the Town of Vernon:

- Opening of the NEW Senior Center was well received and well attended. Over 375 new members have joined and more arrive every day. The Center is now open for activities and sign-ups. Director Maureen Gabriele and her staff are prepared to provide activities and programs to all who sign up. Big Thank You to DPW, Parks, IT, BOE and all the Center Staff for their hard work and commitment to this project.

- The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting of the WEST MAIN BARBERSHOP took place this past Saturday.

-The Easter Egg Hunt this year was, as usual, a HUGE success.

-9th Annual Greater Vernon Holistic Health Fest – was held the weekend of April 7 & 8th, 90 exhibitors and 39 workshops were held.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Vernon/Rockville Little League Opening Day Ceremony – Saturday, April 21, 2018, 11:00 AM – Henry Park.

Town of Vernon - Memorial Day Parade – May 28, 2018 – 8:30 AM Staging at Northeast School and 10:00 AM Step Off. Military flyover 11:15 AM. Closing ceremony at Central Park at 11:15 AM.

Talcottville Memorial Day Parade - May 27, 2018 – beginning at 9:00 AM at the Talcottville Congregational Church parking area. All are welcome!

BEFORE YOU ON THE TABLE! FLYERS RELATIVE TO THE FOLLOWING UPCOMING EVENTS

“DRUG TAKE BACK EVENT” – at Walgreens Pharmacy, 188 Union Street, Rockville, sponsored by the Vernon Police Department and Vernon ROCKS Coalition is scheduled for April 28, 2018 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Bring your unwanted pills and patches for safe disposal.

“UCONN LAND USE TRAINING ACADEMY” – Bruce Hyde, Academy Director and Land Use Educator will provide a workshop to all land use commission members and employees involved in the land use process this Thursday, April 19, 2018 in the Town Council Chambers at 7:00 PM. Director Hyde is a recognized authority on the topic of land use issues and responsibilities.

“SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM”, will hold a Public Information Meeting in the Town Council Chambers, April 30, 2018 at 6:30 PM to present the preliminary plans for the \$750,000 project.

HOCKANUM BREW FEST - a new outdoor springtime event nestled between the Hockanum River and the Hockanum Mill Historic District on Saturday, April 21, 2018 from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM. Check out HockanumBrewFest.com for more information.

SOLARIZE VERNON - the Solarize Vernon kick off Workshop will be on May 10, 2018 from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM at the Vernon Center Middle School, 777 Hartford Turnpike. Come find out if Solar is right for you.

G) **ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA:**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Tedford made a motion to move the Consent Agenda. Council Member Motola pulled item C-2. Motion to approve C-1, C-3 and C-4 carried unanimously.

C 1. Request the Town Council approve Tax Refunds for Current Years. (See copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator dated April 5, 2018 included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES EIGHT (8) CURRENT YEAR REFUNDS TOTALLING \$10,561.33 AS REFERENCED IN THE LETTER FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED APRIL 5, 2018.

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- C 3. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment Carmine P. Pellegrino, (U), 15 Lakeview Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Bolton Lakes Regional Water Pollution Control Authority, said term to commence on April 22, 2018 and expires April 21, 2021. (A copy of Mr. Pellegrino's resume is included for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 242 THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF CARMINE P. PELLEGRINO, (U), 15 LAKEVIEW DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO THE BOLTON LAKES REGIONAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY FOR A TERM BEGINNING APRIL 22, 2018 AND EXPIRES APRIL 21, 2021.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Daniel C. Wright, (U), 44 Lakeview Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Bolton Lakes Regional Water Pollution Control Authority, said term to commence on April 22, 2018 and expires April 21, 2021. (A copy of Mr. Pellegrino's resume is included for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 242 THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF DANIEL C. WRIGHT, (U), 44 LAKEVIEW DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO THE BOLTON LAKES REGIONAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY FOR A TERM BEGINNING APRIL 22, 2018 AND EXPIRES ON APRIL 21, 2021

H) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #19, #20, #21, #22 and #23 for fiscal year 2017-2018 as provided by Finance Officer Jeff A. O'Neill on the budget amendment forms attached.**

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS, #19, #20, #21, #22 AND #23 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER, JEFF A. O'NEILL.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to approve Budget Amendment Requests, #19, #20, #21 and #23 for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 as outlined in the budget amendment forms provided by the Finance Officer, Jeff A. O'Neill. Director of Parks and Recreation, Marty Sitler spoke and answered questions regarding budget request #20. Discussion ensued. Motion carried unanimously.

1) PENDING BUSINESS

None.

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J) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request the Town Council in accordance with the requirements for the Small Cities, Community Development Block Grant Program, adopt the Town of Vernon, ADA Municipal Grievance Procedure.** (A copy of said procedure is included in the agenda packet for Council review.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF AND ADOPTS THE TOWN OF VERNON ADA MUNICIPAL GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE AND AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO SIGN THE MUNICIPAL GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE NOTICES DECLARING THE TOWN OF VERNON'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Tedford made a motion to waive the reading of and adopt the Town of Vernon ADA Municipal Grievance Procedure and authorizes Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to sign the Municipal Grievance Procedure Notices declaring the Town of Vernon's Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Request the Town Council in accordance with the requirements for the Small Cities, Community Development Block Grant Program, adopt the ADA Notice for the Town of Vernon.** (A copy of said notices is included in the Council packet for review.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY WAIVES THE READING OF AND ADOPTS THE TOWN OF VERNON ADA NOTICE, AND AUTHORIZES ADMINISTRATION TO PUBLISH THIS NOTICE IN THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Tedford made a motion to waive the reading of and adopt the Town of Vernon ADA Notice and authorizes Administration to publish this notice in the local newspaper. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Request the Town Council in accordance with the requirements for the Small Cities, Community Development Block Grant Program, adopt the Compliance with Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 document for the Town of Vernon.** (A copy of said document is included in the packet for Council review.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY WAIVES THE READING OF AND ADOPTS THE TOWN OF VERNON COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 AND AUTHORIZES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF VERNON.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to waive the reading of and adopt the Town of Vernon Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and authorizes Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator to execute the documents on behalf of the Town of Vernon. Motion carried unanimously.

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4. Request the Town Council in accordance with the requirements for the Small Cities, Community Development Block Grant Program, adopt the Fair Housing Policy Statement for the Town of Vernon. (A copy of the policy is included in the agenda packet.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY WAIVES THE READING OF AND ADOPTS THE TOWN OF VERNON FAIR HOUSING POLICY STATEMENT AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENT ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF VERNON.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Tedford made a motion to waive the reading of and adopt the Town of Vernon Fair Housing Policy Statement and further authorizes Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator to execute the document on behalf of the Town of Vernon. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Request the Town Council in accordance with the requirements for the Small Cities, Community Development Block Grant Program, adopt the Fair Housing Resolution for the Town of Vernon. (A copy of said policy is included in the agenda packet.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY ADOPTS THE TOWN OF VERNON FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON AND AUTHORIZES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENT ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF VERNON.

FURTHER, THE TOWN COUNCIL JOINS MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE IN DECLARING APRIL 2018 FAIR HOUSING MONTH IN THE TOWN OF VERNON.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member DiDio made a motion to adopt the Town of Vernon Fair Housing Resolution for the Town of Vernon and authorizes Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator to execute the document on behalf of the Town of Vernon. Further the Town Council joins Mayor Daniel A. Champagne in declaring April, 2018 Fair Housing Month in the Town of Vernon. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Request the Town Council in accordance with the requirements for the Small Cities, Community Development Block Grant Program, adopt the Town of Vernon Affirmative Action Statement. (A copy of said policy is included in the agenda packet for Council review.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY ADOPTS THE TOWN OF VERNON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY STATEMENT AND HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO EXECUTE THIS DOCUMENT, AND ASSIGN THE RESPONSIBILITY TO ACHIEVE THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF SAID GOALS AND OBJECTIVES TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to adopt the Town of Vernon Affirmative Action Policy Statement and authorizes Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to execute the document, and assign the responsibility to achieve the successful implementation of said goals and objectives to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator. Motion carried unanimously.

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7. **Request the Town Council modify the already approve resolution relative to the Vernon Center Middle School Roof Project.** (See cover memorandum from BOE Finance Director Ray Engle along with the minutes from February 20, 2018 relative to same.) (This project appeared in the February 20, 2018 agenda NB#3).

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 10-283(d) OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES, THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY AUTHORIZE THE FINANCING OF THE LOCAL SHARE OF \$660,000.00 FOR THE VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL PARTIAL ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT COST, PURSUANT TO THE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AS OUTLINED IN THE TOWN CHARTER.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Tedford made a motion to authorize the financing of the local share of \$660,000.00 for the Vernon Center Middle School Partial Roof Replacement Project Cost, pursuant to the funding requirements as outlined in the Town Charter. Discussion ensued. Motion carried unanimously.

K) **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

None.

L) **ACTION ON ORDINANCE(S) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED:**

None.

M) **IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

N) **DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

O) **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 3, 2018 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 Regular Town Council Meeting on April 3, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 22, 2018 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 24, 2018 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 26, 2018 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 29, 2018 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

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THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 2, 2018 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 3, 2018 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 Special Budget Town Council Meetings on March 22, 2018, March 24, 2018, March 26, 2018, March 29, 2018, April 2, 2018 and April 3, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

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

None.

Q) **ADJOURNMENT 8:20(pm):**

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

Received: April 20, 2018
Approved: April 26, 2018

Respectfully submitted,



Cassandra Minor
Recording Secretary.