

April 16, 2019

Approved Minutes

Vernon Town Council- Regular Meeting

Town Hall- 14 Park Place- 3rd Floor

Vernon, Connecticut

April 16, 2019- 7:30PM

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
19 MAY 15 AM 10:44

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, Jim Tedford, Pauline Schaefer, and Steve Peterson

Absent: Council Members Ralph Zahner and Ann Letendre

Entered During Meeting: Council Member Julie Clay at 7:52PM

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

C) CITIZENS FORUM

David Forrest of 82 Wildwood Road, Vernon, President of Friends of Bolton Lake and John Williams 129 Grier Road, Vernon, Vice-President of Friends of Bolton Lake spoke of their appreciation for the collaboration between the Friends of Bolton Lake and the Town of Vernon.

F) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne introduced the new Human Resources Specialist, David Woodruff to the Council.

D) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

7:42PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made the following motion to go into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES 1-200 (6) (D) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AND INVITES TOWN ADMINISTRATOR MICHAEL J. PURCARO AND ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DAWN MASELEK TO ATTEND.

7:52PM Julie Clay entered Executive Session

8:05PM Executive Session ended.

No action taken.

E) PUBLIC HEARING (7:35 PM)

None.

F) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne reminded the Council of the following upcoming events:

April 19, 2019 – 9:00 -11:00 AM Vernon Easter Egg Hunt, Henry Park

April 16, 2019

April 23, 2019 – 7:00 PM Annual Town Meeting, RHS Auditorium

April 25, 2019 --6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Vernon’s Sustainable CT Event, Camp Newhoca Lodge

April 25-May 5 - Vernon Historical Society Book Sale for 2019

April 27, 2019 – Vernon-Rockville Little League Opening Day, Legion Field

May 4, 2019 - 11:15 AM Vernon LaCrosse Association Opening Day, Legion Field

May 4, 2019 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hockanum Brewfest, West Main Street

May 12, 2019 9:00 AM Mother’s Day Dash, Henry Park

May 26, 2019 8:30 AM Talcottville Memorial Day Parade, Talcottville Congregational Church

May 27, 2019 10:00 AM Step-off Memorial Day Parade, Northeast School

Allison Maynard, Director of Social Services made a presentation to the Council relative to two Sustainable CT initiatives: 8.1 Design and Implement a Housing Needs Assessment and 7.4 Encourage Healthy and Sustainable Food Networks. Discussion ensued.

G) **ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA:**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to move the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 1. **Request the Town Council approve Tax Refunds for Prior and Current Years.** (See copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator dated April 8, 2019 included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES SIX (6) CURRENT YEAR TAX REFUNDS TOTALLING \$16,441.86 AS REFERENCED IN THE LETTER FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED MARCH 7, 2019.

H) **DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS**

None.

I) **PENDING BUSINESS**

None.

J) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request the Town Council schedule a Public Hearing for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program.** (See memorandum dated April 5, 2019 from Allison Maynard, Director of Social Services to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING ON MAY 7, 2019 AT 7:35PM IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO HEAR COMMENTS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT TAX CREDIT

April 16, 2019

PROGRAM.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to schedule a Public Hearing on May 7, 2019 at 7:35PM in the Town Council Chambers 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut to hear comments and answer questions relative to the Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program. Discussion ensued. Allison Maynard, Director of Social Services spoke and answered questions. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2. Request the Town Council consider the request of the Vernon Community Arts Center (VCAC) dba Arts Center East to continue the 50% sharing of utility costs at the Vernon Community Arts Center.** (See memorandum dated April 11, 2019 from Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator to Daniel A. Champagne and the Vernon Town Council relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE PAYMENT OF FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF THE UTILITY COSTS FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 709 HARTFORD TURNPIKE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT. SAID FIFTY PERCENT (50%) UTILITY COSTS WILL BE PAID DIRECTLY TO THE UTILITY COMPANY AS REQUIRED, THROUGH THE PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET. THE REMAINING FIFTY PERCENT (50%) WILL BE PAID BY THE TENANT VERNON COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER PER SAID LEASE DATED APRIL 25, 2016.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to authorize the payment of fifty percent (50%) of the utility costs for the property known as 709 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, Connecticut. Said fifty percent (50%) utility costs will be paid directly to the utility company as required, through the Public Works Budget. The remaining fifty percent (50%) will be paid by the tenant Vernon Community Arts Center per said Lease dated April 25, 2016. Discussion ensued. The following Arts Center East Staff/Board Members Jennifer Kowal, Executive Assistant, Kathy Stavens, Treasurer and Jane Penfield, President spoke and answered questions. Motion carried unanimously.

- 3. Request the Town Council the disposal of fixed assets for the Public Works Department as disclosed on the fixed asset disposal request forms.** (See the fixed asset forms in the Council packet for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE DISPOSAL OF FIXED ASSETS FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AS DISCLOSED ON THE FIXED ASSET DISPOSAL REQUEST FORMS.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to approve the disposal of fixed assets for the Public Works Department as disclosed on the Fixed Asset Disposal Request Forms. Motion carried unanimously.

- 4. Request the Town Council approve the request from Jennifer Johnston, Director of the Rockville Public Library to create the two year volunteer position entitled Poet Laureate of Vernon.** (See memorandum from Jennifer Johnston, Director of the Rockville Public Library dated April 9, 2019 to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator and the Vernon Town Council relative to same. It should be noted that this appointment will fulfill a requirement for the Sustainable CT Program.)

April 16, 2019

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY ENDORSE THE RESOLUTION ENTITLED "A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE HONORARY POSITION OF POET LAUREATE".

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to endorse the resolution entitled "A Resolution Establishing the Honorary Position of Poet Laureate". Discussion ensued. Jennifer Johnston, Library Director spoke and answered questions. 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 2, 2019 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Tedford made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the Town Council Meeting on April 2, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 21, 2019 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 Special Budget Town Council Meeting on March 21, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 23, 2019 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 Special Budget Town Council Meeting on March 23, 2019. Motion carried with 9 in favor and 1 abstention Council Member Bush.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 25, 2019 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 Special Budget Town Council Meeting of March 25, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 28, 2019 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 Special Budget Town Council Meeting of March 28, 2019. Motion carried with 9 in favor and 1 abstention, Council Member Tedford.

April 16, 2019

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 30, 2019 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 Special Budget Town Council Meeting of March 30, 2019. Motion carried with 9 in favor and 1 abstention, Council Member Tedford.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 1, 2019 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 Special Budget Town Council Meeting on April 1, 2019. Motion carried with 9 in favor and 1 abstention, Council Member Tedford.

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

Q) ADJOURNMENT (8:57pm):

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

Received: April 23, 2019

Approved: May 7, 2019

Respectfully submitted,



Cassandra Minor
Recording Secretary.