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MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3RD FLOOR - 7:30PM
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

MARCH 3, 2020

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, Michael Wendus, Steve Wakefield, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Jim Tedford, Ann Letendre, Maryann Levesque, Linda Gessay

Absent:

Entered During Meeting:

Also Present: Town Administrator Michael Purcaro, Recording Secretary Kathleen Minor

C.) CITIZEN'S FORUM

None

E.) PUBLIC HEARING

None

J.) NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Request the Town Council authorize the addition of the following roads to the Road Bond: Green Circle Road, Dart Road and Old Hartford Turnpike.** (See memorandum from Dwight Ryniewicz, Interim Director of DPW to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, Town Administrator Michael J. Purcaro and Finance Officer Jeff O'Neill dated January 24, 2020 relative to same. See Resolution modification attached.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HEREBY RESOLVED, AS OF MARCH 3, 2020, THE TOWN COUNCIL MODIFIES THE SCOPE OF ORDINANCE #299 - ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS, BY ADDING THE FOLLOWING ROADS: GREEN CIRCLE ROAD, DART ROAD AND OLD HARTFORD TURNPIKE, PER THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to modify the scope of Ordinance #299 – Road Construction and Improvements, by adding the following roads: Green Circle Road, Dart Hill Road and Old Hartford Turnpike per the attached resolution. Dwight Ryniewicz, Director of DPW answered questions. The motion carried unanimously.

D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

7:46PM - Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the following motion to go into Executive Session# 1:

(1) 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 POTENTIAL CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AND INVITES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.

Motion carried unanimously.

8:18PM – Executive Session ended.

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

PURSUANT TO THE NEGOTIATED COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF VERNON AND THE VERNON POLICE ASSOCIATION, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022, THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO ENTER INTO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, D & E AND ARTICLE XIX, APPENDIX G.

Motion carried unanimously.

(2) THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES 1-200 (6) (D) TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATION AND INVITES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.

Mayor Champagne pulled Executive Session #2 prior to commencement of meeting.

F.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

- A segment regarding Grant funding available for Crumbling Foundations will air on the Community Voice Channel in the coming days.
- The annual Vernon Fire Department Awards Ceremony was held on Monday, February 24, 2020. Congratulations to all of the award recipients.
- Ellington’s Emergency Management Director and former Assistant Fire Chief of the Ellington Fire Department, Don Davis passed away, condolences to his family and the Town of Ellington.
- ECHN has completed their Community Health Needs Assessment and will present their findings at a meeting here in the Council Chambers on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 2:30 PM.
- The ShopRite Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting, is planned for March 8, 2020 at 9:00 AM.
- Budget Meetings for 2020-2021 will begin in March.
- The Town of Vernon participates in the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM), Prescription Discount Card Program – PROACT. This program is available to those with and without private insurance. PROACT Cards are available in the lobby of Town Hall and on line at: www.proactmedsavings.com

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 year. (See copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator dated February 19, 2020 included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES ONE (1) PRIOR YEAR TAX REFUND TOTALLING \$99.27 AND SEVEN (7) CURRENT YEAR TAX REFUNDS TOTALING \$3602.90 AS REFERENCED IN THE LETTER FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED FEBRUARY 19, 2020.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve budget amendment #11, for fiscal year 2019-2020 as provided by Finance Officer and Treasurer Jeffrey O'Neill on the budget amendment forms attached. (See budget forms with explanation attached to this agenda.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST #11, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 AS PROVIDED BY JEFFREY O'NEILL, FINANCE OFFICER AND TREASURER, ON THE ATTACHED BUDGET AMENDMENT FORM.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Charles E. Bettinger, (R), 15 Kingsbury Avenue, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Vernon Traffic Authority, said term to commence on March 4, 2020 and expires on February 20, 2023. (A copy of Mr. Bettinger's resume is included for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CODE, ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 13-16 AND 13-17; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF CHARLES E. BETTINGER, (R), 15 KINGSBURY AVENUE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY. SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON MARCH 4, 2020 AND EXPIRES ON FEBRUARY 20, 2023.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Robert D. O'Gara, (R), 22 Donnell Road, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Vernon Traffic Authority, said term to commence on March 4, 2020 and expires on February 20, 2023. (A copy of Mr. O'Gara's resume is included for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CODE, ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 13-16 AND 13-17; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF ROBERT D. O'GARA, (R), 22 DONNELL ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY. SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON MARCH 4, 2020 AND EXPIRES ON FEBRUARY 20, 2023.

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Jon-Paul Roden, (R), 104-35 Maple Avenue, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Vernon Traffic Authority, said term to commence on March 4, 2020 and expires on February 20, 2023. (A copy of Mr. Roden's resume is included for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CODE, ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 13-16 AND 13-17; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF JON-PAUL RODEN, (R), 104-35 MAPLE AVENUE, VERNON,

CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY. SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON MARCH 4, 2020 AND EXPIRES ON FEBRUARY 20, 2023.

H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEM(S)

None

I.) PENDING BUSINESS

None

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 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

O.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON **FEBRUARY 18, 2020** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by James Tedford, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the regular Town Council meeting held on February 18, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

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

None

Q.) ADJOURN (8:25PM)

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Clay, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted.

Kathleen Minor
Recording Secretary