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MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3rd Floor
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Mayor Jason L. McCoy called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

B) ROLL CALL:
Present: Council Members Bill Campbell, Marie Herbst, James Krupienski, Sean O'Shea, Pauline Schaefer, Harry D. Thomas, Michael A. Winkler
Absent: Council Members Daniel Anderson, Daniel Champagne, Mark Etre, Judy Hany,
Entered During Meeting: Brian R. Motola (9:03 PM)
Also Present: Mayor Jason L. McCoy, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Karen C. Daigle and Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.

C) CITIZEN'S FORUM

William Smith, 30 Vernwood Drive – Expressed his thanks to the Town Council members for giving of their time to the Town.

Citizen's forum closed at 7:06 PM

Council Member Herbst requested that in the future the Council members receive a telephone call if delivery of the agenda packets will be delayed.

D.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

Presentation to the Town Council by Mayor Jason L. McCoy on the budget, followed by a discussion. Congressman Joseph Courtney, Senator Tony Guglielmo, as well as State Representatives Tim Ackert and Claire Janowski have been invited to join the Mayor and Council in their discussion.

Senator Tony Guglielmo and State Representative Tim Ackert attended and participated in the budget discussion and the financial impact of some of the proposed legislation.

Recess (8:06 PM)
Reconvene (8:47 PM)

E.) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member O'Shea, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Council Member Krupienski pulled consent agenda item #8 for discussion. Motion carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 as presented.

C 1. **Request for Tax Refunds for Prior and Current Years.** (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated March 7, 2011 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES SIX (6) OVERPAYMENTS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR TOTALING $2469.16 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED MARCH 7, 2011.

Council Member O'Shea, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to approve the tax refunds for prior and current years. Motion carried unanimously.

C 2. **Request the Town Council approve Mayor Jason L. McCoy's appointment of Katherine E. Voss (U), 95 Kenneth Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Board of Directors – North Central District Health Department, said term to commence March 16, 2011 and expires on March 15, 2014.** (A copy of Ms. Voss' resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO C.G.S. §19a-204; CHARTER CHAPTER XI, SECTIONS 1,5, & 14, THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY'S APPOINTMENT OF KATHERINE E. VOSS (U), 95 KENNETH DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS - NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT. SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON MARCH 16, 2011 AND EXPIRES ON MARCH 15, 2014.

Council Member O'Shea, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to approve Katherine E. Voss (U), 95 Kenneth Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a member of the Board of Directors - North Central District Health Department. Said term to commence on March 16, 2011 and expires on March 15, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

C 3. **Request the Town Council approve Mayor Jason L. McCoy's appointment of Daniel O'Keefe, (R), 2 Minterburn Court, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Board of Directors - North Central District Health Department, said term to commence March 16, 2011 and expires on March 15, 2014.** (A copy of Mr. O'Keefe's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO C.G.S. §19a-204; CHARTER CHAPTER XI, SECTIONS 1,5, & 14, THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY'S APPOINTMENT OF DANIEL O'KEEFE, (R), 2 MINTERBURN COURT, VERNON, CONNECTICUT A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS - NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT. SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON MARCH 16, 2011 AND EXPIRES ON MARCH 15, 2014.

Council Member O'Shea, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to approve Daniel O'Keefe, (R), 2 Minterburn Court, Vernon, Connecticut a member of the Board of Directors - North Central District Health Department. Said term to commence on March 16, 2011 and expires on March 15, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

C 4. **Request the Town Council cancel the April 19, 2011 Town Council meeting to coincide with Passover.** (A memorandum from Mayor Jason L. McCoy to the Town Council dated March 9, 2011 is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY CANCELS THE APRIL 19, 2011 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

Council Member O'Shea, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to cancel the April 19, 2011 Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

C 5. **Request the Town Council schedule a Public Hearing regarding an ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. , AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON".** (This item was requested by Council Member Krupienski. Supporting documents provided by Mr. Krupienski are attached.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH CHAPTER V, SECTIONS FIVE AND SIX OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, ENTITLED "PUBLIC HEARING ON AND PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCES," HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "**ORDINANCE NO. , AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON",** AT 7:05 PM ON TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2011 LOCATED AT THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THIRD FLOOR, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO HEAR COMMENTS AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION RELATIVE TO THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE.

Council Member O'Shea, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to schedule a public hearing regarding an ordinance entitled "**Ordinance no. , an ordinance creating the Freedom of Information Advisory Board for the Town of Vernon",** at 7:05 pm on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 located at the Town Council Chambers, Third Floor, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut to hear comments and take necessary action relative to the proposed ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

C 6. **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Jason L. McCoy to execute a grant contract not to exceed $30,223.00 for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 with the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, for the program entitled "State Matching Grant for Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation".**

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR A GRANT CONTRACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $30,223.00 WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A PROGRAM ENTITLED "STATE MATCHING GRANT FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED DEMAND RESPONSIVE TRANSPORTATION".

Council Member O'Shea, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to authorize Mayor Jason L. McCoy to execute a grant contract not to exceed $30,223.00 for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 with the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, for the program entitled "State Matching Grant for Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation". Motion carried unanimously.

C 7. **Request the Town Council appoint the auditors for the 2011 Fiscal Year Audit.** (A copy of a memorandum from Jim Luddecke, Finance Office and Treasurer dated March 10, 2011 is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED, THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPOINTS THE FIRM OF KOSTIN, RUFFKESS AND COMPANY, LLC, OF 76 BATTERSON PARK ROAD, FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT AS AUDITORS TO AUDIT THE BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS OF THE TOWN OF VERNON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2011; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACT #917 IN THE AMOUNT OF $52,900.00 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011 AUDIT.

Council Member O'Shea, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the motion to adopt the resolution to appoint the firm of Kostin, Ruffkess and Company, LLC, of 76 Batterson Park Road, Farmington, Connecticut as auditors to audit the books and accounts of the Town of Vernon for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011; and to authorize the town administrator to execute Contract #917 in the amount of $52,900.00 for the fiscal year 2011 audit. Motion carried unanimously.

G.) **IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**
None

H.) **PENDING BUSINESS**
None

I.) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request the Town Council adopt the suggested schedule of 2011-2012 budget deliberations and designate two of the meetings, as official Public Hearings.** (A copy of a memorandum from Diane Wheelock, Executive Assistant to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and the Vernon Town Council dated March 9, 2011 is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION #1

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY SCHEDULES THE FOLLOWING BUDGET MEETING DATES FOR BUDGET DELIBERATIONS: SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2011; SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2011 AND SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2011. MARCH 26, 2011 SHALL BE DESIGNATED AS THE FIRST OF TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND HEAR COMMENTS RELATIVE TO THE 2011-2012 TOWN OF VERNON BUDGET. ALL SATURDAY MEETINGS WILL BEGIN AT 11:00 AM WITH SAID PUBLIC HEARING BEGINNING AT 11:05 AM. ALL SATURDAY MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THIRD FLOOR, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made the above motion to schedule the following budget meeting dates for budget deliberations: Saturday, March 19, 2011; Saturday, March 26, 2011 and Saturday, April 2, 2011. March 26, 2011 shall be designated as the first of two public hearings to answer questions and hear comments relative to the 2011-2012 Town of Vernon budget. All Saturday meetings will begin at 11:00 AM with said public hearing beginning at 11:05 AM. All Saturday meetings will be held in the Town Council Chambers, Third Floor, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut.

After discussion, the maker and seconder agreed to amend the motion as follows: to schedule the following budget meeting dates for budget deliberations: Saturday, March 19, 2011; Saturday, March 26, 2011 and Saturday, April 2, 2011. March 26, 2011 shall be designated as the first of two public hearings to answer questions and hear comments relative to the 2011-2012 Town of Vernon budget. All Saturday meetings will begin at 9:00 AM with said public hearing beginning at 11:05 AM. All Saturday meetings will be held in the Town Council Chambers, Third Floor, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut. Motion passed unanimously.

OR

PROPOSED MOTION #2

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY SCHEDULES THE FOLLOWING WEEK NIGHT BUDGET MEETINGS: MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011; WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011; TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2011 AND THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011, SAID WEEK NIGHT MEETINGS WILL BEGIN AT 7:00 PM. ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 14 PARK PLACE, THIRD FLOOR, VERNON, CONNECTICUT. TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2011 WILL BE DESIGNATED AS THE FIRST OF TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND HEAR COMMENTS RELATIVE TO THE 2011-2012 TOWN OF VERNON BUDGET, SAID PUBLIC HEARING WILL BEGIN AT 7:05 PM.

No action was taken regarding Proposed Motion #2.

PROPOSED MOTION #3

PURSUANT TO CHARTER, CHAPTER VI, "ANNUAL TOWN MEETING," THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY SCHEDULES, APRIL 26, 2011 AS THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND SECOND PUBLIC HEARING TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND HEAR COMMENTS RELATIVE TO THE 2011-2012 TOWN OF VERNON BUDGET, SAID PUBLIC HEARING WILL BEGIN AT 7:05 PM. THE APRIL 26, 2011 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, LOVELAND HILL ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT 06066 BEGINNING AT 7:00 PM.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made the above motion to schedule, April 26, 2011 as the Annual Town Meeting and Second Public Hearing to answer questions and hear comments relative to the 2011-2012 Town of Vernon Budget, said Public Hearing will begin at 7:05 PM. The April 26, 2011 Annual Town Meeting will be held at the Rockville High School auditorium, Loveland Hill Road, Vernon, Connecticut 06066 beginning at 7:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Motion to Reconsider a vote taken at the March 1, 2011 Town Council meeting requested by Council Member Michael Winkler.** (A copy of Council Member Winkler's request is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY MOVES TO RECONSIDER THE MOTION ADOPTED ON MARCH 1, 2011 AS FOLLOWS: THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO CHAPTER TEN (X) SECTION THREE (3) AND CHAPTER ELEVEN (XI) SECTION THREE (3)(B) OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MARINA C. RODRIGUEZ AS DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON.

Proposed Motion withdrawn by Council Member Winkler.

9:03 PM Council Member Motola entered the meeting.

Council Member Krupienski gave prior notification to the Council that he intends to propose a motion on April 5, 2011 to rescind the vote taken at the March 1, 2011 meeting regarding the appointment of Marina C. Rodriguez as Director of Social Services for the Town of Vernon.

J.) **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**
None

K.) **ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED**
None

L.) **DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS, Pulled consent items from (f) and pulled items from (o) informational items, etc.**

C 8. **Town Council hereby requests the Planning and Zoning Commission conduct a Connecticut General Statute §8-24 review relative to a request from Tancanhoosen LLC.** (A copy of a memorandum dated March 11, 2011 from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and the Vernon Town Council is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO §8-24 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES, THE TOWN COUNCIL REFERS TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR ITS OPINION, THE OFFER OF TANCANHOOSEN, LLC TO CONVEY RIGHTS OF WAY, ENSURING A STANDARD WIDTH OF 50 FEET WHERE RESERVOIR ROAD, BAKER ROAD, FISH AND GAME ROAD, AND BRANDY HILL ROAD RUN ADJACENT TO TANCANHOOSEN, LLC PROPERTY, MINUS THE AREA WHERE IT ADJOINS FISH AND GAME ROAD, WHERE THE ROAD WOULD BE 25 FEET.

Council Member Krupienski, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to refer to the Planning and Zoning Commission for its opinion, the offer of Tancanhoosen, LLC to convey rights of way, ensuring a standard width of 50 feet where Reservoir Road, Baker Road, Fish and Game Road, and Brandy Hill Road run adjacent to Tancanhoosen, LLC property, minus the area where it adjoins Fish and Game Road, where the road would be 25 feet. Tom Mason, of Tancanhoosen LLC, joined the Council for discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

M.) **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2011 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member O'Shea, seconded by Council Member Thomas made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2011 Regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

N.) **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council Member O'Shea, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the following motion to go into executive session:

MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SECTION 1-200(2) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE PROFESSIONAL'S CBA AND INVITES THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO ATTEND: JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AND PETER GRACZYKOWSKI, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND ATTORNEY FRED DORSEY.

Motion carried unanimously.

No action taken.

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

1. Senior Center Newsletter for March 2011
2. Revised Board of Education memo, dated March 2, 2011, regarding request by Board of Education for Capital Non-Recurring Funds.
3. Save-A-Life Saturday - March 19, 2011, sponsored by American Red Cross.
4. Monthly Activity Report for February 2011, as submitted by B. Peter Hobbs, Building Official.
5. Monthly Activity Report for January, 2011, as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.
6. Monthly Activity Report for February, 2011, as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.
7. Invitation to the Vernon Nutrition Fair, sponsored by the Vernon Junior Women's Club, March 19, 2011 10-12 Noon.
8. Tolland County Chamber of Commerce, "Business After Hours" March 24, 2011 sponsored by the Town of Vernon and Mayor Jason L. McCoy.

Adjourn (9:53 PM)

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

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary