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

Tuesday, March 1, 2011 – 7:00 PM

Mayor Jason L. McCoy called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

B) ROLL CALL:
Present: Council Members Daniel Anderson, Bill Campbell, Mark Etre, Judy Hany, Marie Herbst, James Krupienski, Brian R. Motola, Sean O'Shea, Pauline Schaefer, Harry D. Thomas, Michael A. Winkler
Absent: Council Member Daniel A. Champagne
Entered During Meeting: Council Member Daniel A. Champagne (8:15 PM)
Also Present: Mayor Jason L. McCoy, Town Administrator John Ward, Town Clerk Bernice K. Dixon

C) CITIZEN'S FORUM

Edie Chernack, 50 Cubles Drive, spoke regarding a recent newspaper article relative to the Grand List information.

Citizens Forum closed at 7:05 PM

D.) PUBLIC HEARINGS
None

E.) PRESENTATIONs by the administration

1. Presentation by Mayor Jason L. McCoy to the Vernon Water Pollution Control Authority for receiving New England Water Environmental Association's (NEWEA) Wastewater Utility Award.

2. Presentation of Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) check to Mayor Jason L. McCoy, by Connecticut Light and Power representatives Chris Mocciae, Tolland District Customer Operations Manager; Tim Simmonds, Conservation & Load Management (C&LM) Manager; Joe Haney, Account Executive; and Violette Radomski, C&LM Administrator.

3. Presentation by Mayor Jason L. McCoy and Parks and Recreation to the 2010 Parks and Recreation Community Service Award winners for their work on the Center Road School field renovation project. Students being honored for their work are: Brian Gardiner, Megan Le, Robert Wiszniak, Kevin Perrone, Christopher Perrone, George Janssen, Kevin Skula and Ryan Wells. Outstanding organization Award Winner: Dunkin' Donuts; Outstanding Service Award Winner: Rand Neal and Outstanding Volunteer Coach, Matt Burnham.

4. Presentation by Mayor Jason L. McCoy and Parks and Recreation Department to the Rizner family of proceeds from the Arctic Splash benefit.

Recess 7:35 PM

Reconvene 7:53 PM

5. Presentation to the Town Council by Mayor Jason L. McCoy on a variety of topics.

- Meeting held 2/28/11 with our State Representatives relative to State Funding.
- About 12 staff members met regarding GEO-TMS. Planning for a May roll out of program to allow for on-line permits.
- Smart Search training is scheduled to take place on March 3 & 4
- Snow related claim has been made to Traveler's to recover damage expenses. A partial payment has already been received.
- Municipal Floor and Erosion Control Board met to prepare an emergency action plan with regard to snow melt and possible flooding.
- Inmates from the Department of Corrections assisted us in the snow clean up.
- Staff met last week mainly to discuss ways to cut expenses, consolidate purchasing and increase revenue.
- The Grand List shows a slight increase.
- Engineering work continues at Roosevelt Mills. Contractor is removing snow from the roof and taking soil samples.
- Public Works reports that the trash compactor program is very successful. New Hot Box Patcher is in use.
- There is a 17% decrease in crimes in town over 2009/2010.

F.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Council Member Schaefer pulled consent agenda item 5 for discussion. Council Member Krupienski pulled consent agenda items 2, 6 & 7. Motion carried unanimously to approve consent agenda item #'s 1, 3 & 4 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 February 22, 2011 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES EIGHT (8) FOR THE CURRENT YEAR TOTALING $2594.91 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED FEBRUARY 22, 2011.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre made the above motion to approve the request for tax refunds for prior and current years. Motion carried unanimously.

C 3. Mayor Jason L. McCoy's appointment of Nancy Osborn, (R), 95 West Street, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Housing Authority of the Town of Vernon, said term effective March 2, 2011 and expire February 29, 2016. (A copy of Ms. Osborn's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 8, SECTION 5 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF NANCY OSBORN, (R), 95 WEST STREET, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE VERNON HOUSING AUTHORITY, SAID TERM TO BEGIN MARCH 2, 2011 AND EXPIRE FEBRUARY 29, 2016.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre made the above motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Nancy Osborn as a regular member of the Vernon Housing Authority for a term of March 2, 2011 through February 29, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

C 4. Request the Town council approve Mayor Jason L. McCoy's appointment of Lori Robeau, (U), 74 Tankeroosen Road, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Vernon Arts Commission, said term to commence on March 2, 2011 and continues indefinitely. (A copy of Ms. Robeau's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION DATED 09-21-76 AMENDED ON 09-21-1982 THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY'S APPOINTMENT OF LORI ROBEAU (U), 74 TANKEROOSEN ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE VERNON ARTS COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON MARCH 2, 2011 AND CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre made the above motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Lori Robeau as a regular member of the Vernon Arts Commission for a term of March 2, 2011 and continues indefinitely. Motion carried unanimously.

G.) IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre made a motion to add additional agenda item #1. Motion carried unanimously.

H.) PENDING BUSINESS

None

I.) NEW BUSINESS

None

J.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

K.) ACTION ON ORDINANCE(S) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

None

L.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS, PULLED CONSENT ITEMS FROM F) AND PULLED ITEMS FROM O) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, ETC

C 2. Request the Town Council approve budget amendments # 15-18 for fiscal year 2010-2011, as provided by Finance Officer James Luddecke. (A copy of budget amendment forms are attached for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS #15-18 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011, AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER, JAMES LUDDECKE.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre made the above motion to approve budget amendments #15-18 for fiscal year 2010-2011. Motion carried unanimously.

C 5. Request the Town Council approve the allocation of $3,786.38 from the Capital Non-recurring budget to the Board of Education Central Administration repointing and repair. (A memorandum from Stan Karasinski, Director of Business and Finance to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and Vernon Town Council dated February 23, 2011 is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE DESIGNATION OF AN APPROPRIATION OF $3,786.38 IN THE EDUCATION CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUND FOR THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING REPOINTING AND REPAIR PROJECT AT 30 PARK STREET, AND THAT THIS PROJECT BE ACCEPTED AS COMPLETED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre made the motion to approve the allocation of $3,786.38 from the Capitol Non-recurring budget to the Board of Education Central Administration repointing and repair project. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

C 6. Request the Town Council approve three designations from the Education Capital Non-recurring fund . (A copy of a memorandum from Stan Karasinski, Director of Business and Finance to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and Vernon Town Council dated February 22, 2011 is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION ONE:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE DESIGNATION OF AN APPROPRIATION OF $50,000.00 IN THE EDUCATION CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPLACING TWO BRIDGE ROOFS AT CENTER ROAD SCHOOL.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre made the motion to approve the designation of an appropriation of $50,000.00 in the Education Capitol Non-Recurring Fund for the purpose of replacing two bridge roofs at Center School. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSED MOTION TWO:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES DESIGNATING AN APPROPRIATION OF $25,000.00 IN THE EDUCATION CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPAIRING AND REPOINTING THE EXTERIOR GYM WALLS AT CENTER ROAD SCHOOL.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre made the above motion to designate the appropriation of $25,000 in the Education Capital Non-Recurring Fund for the purpose of repairing and repointing the exterior gym walls at Center Road School. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSED MOTION THREE:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES DESIGNATING AN APPROPRIATION OF $50,000.00 IN THE EDUCATION CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPAIRING BATHROOMS AT ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to designate an appropriation of $50,000 in the Education Capitol Non-Recurring fund for the purpose of repairing bathrooms at Rockville High School. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

C 7. Request the Town Council approve the expenditure of $16,751.35 from the Sewer Connection Account to cover the cost of emergency sewer repairs on Franklin Street and award the contract for same to VMS Construction Company of Vernon, Connecticut. (A copy of a memorandum to James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer from David R. Ignatowicz, Director, Water Pollution Control dated February 23, 2011 and memorandum dated February 23, 2011 to John D. Ward, Town Administrator from James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer are included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL CONSISTENT WITH THE TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER 12, SECTION 9, HEREBY WAIVES THE BID PROCEDURE FOR THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF THE VERNON SANITARY SEWER ON FRANKLIN STREET AND AUTHORIZES THE DIRECTOR, WATER POLLUTION CONTROL, TO EXECUTE THE REPAIR OF THE SEWER BY THE FIRM: VMS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, 162 LAKE STREET, VERNON, CONNECTICUT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $16,751.35.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to approve the resolution for the expenditure of $16,751.35 from the Sewer Connection Account to cover the cost of emergency sewer repairs on Franklin Street and award the contract for same to VMS Construction Company of Vernon, Connecticut. Discussion and explanation of what occurred took place. Motion carried unanimously.

Additional Agenda Item #1:

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre made the following Motion:

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.

Discussion took place.

(8:44 PM) Recess

(8:52 pm) Reconvene

Discussion continued.

Council Member Krupienski, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to postpone a vote until the March 15th meeting to enable candidate Rodriguez to be present for questions and discussion. Motion failed, Council Members Anderson, Campbell, Champagne, Etre, Hany, Motola, O'Shea and Thomas opposed.

Original motion passed. Council Member Krupienski opposed.

M.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 15, 2011 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made the above motion to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2011 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried, Council Members Etre, O'Shea and Thomas abstained.

N.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Winkler made the following motion to go into executive session:

MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES §1-200(6) (B) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING CLAIMS WITH KENNETH J. BOYNTON. FURTHER, THE TOWN COUNCIL INVITES THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO ATTEND: JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, HAROLD CUMMINGS, TOWN ATTORNEY AND JAMES LUDDECKE, TOWN FINANCE DIRECTOR.

Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made the following motion out of executive session and in open session:

MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES THAT THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR IS AUTHORIZED TO SETTLE PENDING CLAIMS AGAINST KENNETH J. BOYNTON, UPON THE PAYMENT OF THE TOTAL SUM OF $15,000 TO THE TOWN OF VERNON AND TO EXECUTE SUCH DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE REASONABLE REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT SAID SETTLEMENT.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

1. Thank you letter to the Honorable Dannel P. Malloy, Governor, State of Connecticut from Mayor Jason L. McCoy regarding National Guard service to the Town of Vernon.

2. Monthly Report Youth Services Bureau - January, 2011, as submitted by Alan Slobodien, Director of the Youth Services Bureau.

Adjourn (9:30 PM)

Council Member Shaefer, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Bernice K. Dixon
Town Clerk