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

March 31, 2010 – 7:00 PM

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Daniel Anderson, Bill Campbell, Daniel Champagne, Judy Hany, Marie Herbst, James Krupienski, Brian R. Motola, Pauline Schaefer, Michael A. Winkler

Absent: Mark Etre, Sean O’Shea, Harry D. Thomas

Entered During Meeting:

Also Present: Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Jill Kentfield

CITIZEN’S FORUM

Lance Cherniak 50 Cubles Dr. – Spoke about the Town Clerk’s office budget and requested the Town Council consider adding additional staff to the Town Clerk’s office. He also asked the Town Council to consider adding another position into the Town Planners office.

John Roe, 270 Valley Falls Road, Vernon spoke in favor of adding a position to the Town Planner’s office.

Sara Roper, 92 Hubbard Dr. spoke about the poor condition of the roads specifically Phoenix Street.

William Breslau, 60 Haylen Dr., Advocated for the Town Clerks office and requested the Town Council Consider adding a position into that office.

Ann Letendre, 29 Gottier Dr. spoke in favor of adding additional staff to the Planning Department and requested funding in the budget to overhaul the regulations.

Jennifer Rogge, 2 Pineview Drive, spoke in support of adding a position to the Planning Department and also supported overhauling the regulations.

Citizen’s forum closed at 7:17 PM

APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Champagne made the following motion:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPOINTS THE FIRM OF KOSTIN, RUFFKES & COMPANY, LLC, OF 76 BATTERSON PARK ROAD, FARMINGTON, CT AS AUDITORS TO AUDIT THE BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS OF THE TOWN OF VERNON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2010; AND TO AUTHORZE THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACT #917 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$59,900 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2010 AUDIT.

Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

MAYORAL REQUEST:

The Mayor hereby requests that each Department Head in attendance present a brief overview of their department's budget to the Town Council prior to budget discussion.

BUDGET REVIEW

The Town Council shall consider the budgets for FY 2010-2011 for various departments, divisions and organizations to include:

1. Cemetery Operations
2. Vernon Cemetery Commission
3. Animal Control
4. Dog License Account
5. Building Inspection
6. Town Planner – Administration
7. Community and Economic Development
8. Town Council
9. Town Clerk
10. Registration
11. Elections – General
12. Elections – Primary
13. Elections – Referendum

Directors from each Department presented information and answered questions regarding their budget submissions.

Cemetery Operations

Council Member Krupienski, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 12, page 80, in the amount of \$271,166, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place. Council Member Schaefer requested trash cans at the cemetery. Mr. West will try placing them in the cemetery again.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Krupienski made a motion to close tab 12, page 80, account 23342420 in the amount of \$271,166, motion carried unanimously

Vernon Cemetery Commission

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 10, page 72, in the amount of \$157,899, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 10, page 72, account 10826302 in the amount of \$157,899, motion carried unanimously

Animal Control

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 6, page 31, in the amount of \$128,924, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 6, page 31, account 10233188 in the amount of \$128,924, motion carried unanimously

Dog License Account

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 12, page 79, in the amount of \$38,690, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 12, page 79, account 22231417 in the amount of \$38,690, motion carried unanimously

Building Inspection

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Krupienski made a motion to open tab 6, page 29, in the amount of \$267,553, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place. Council Member Campbell requested the Administration complete an outline of all training and what it is for to summarize all town employee training by priority such as what is required by law and new equipment training.

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 6, page 29, account 10232187 in the amount of \$267,553, motion carried unanimously

Town Planner – Administration

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 5, page 22, in the amount of \$239,820, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 5, page 22, account 10150170 in the amount of \$239,820, motion carried unanimously

Community and Economic Development

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 5, page 23, in the amount of \$37,881, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place. Rockville Downtown Association presented information and answered questions.

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Krupienski made a motion to close tab 5, page 23, account 10151171 in the amount of \$37,881, motion carried unanimously

Town Council

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Krupienski made a motion to open tab 5, page 1, in the amount of \$13,075, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 5, page 1, account 10110110 in the amount of \$13,075, motion carried unanimously

Town Clerk

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 5, page 17, in the amount of \$250,004, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place. Town Clerk Bernice Dixon provided Council Members with a handout that contained an overview of the Town Clerk's office. Council Member Schaefer requested Administration try to work with the Journal inquirer to negotiate a contract for lower cost advertising of legal notices. Council Member Krupienski, seconded by Council Member Winkler made a motion to increase object code 51010 by \$38,224 for an extra position. Council Members Krupienski and Winkler withdrew their motion.

(10:00 PM Extend Curfew) Council Member Shcaefer, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to extend curfew until 10:30 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Krupienski, seconded by Council Member Winkler made a motion to increase object code 51010 by \$38,224 for an extra position for a total of \$190,723. Motion failed, Council Members Anderson, Campbell, Champagne, Hany and Motola opposed.

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 5, page 17, account 10115150 in the amount of \$250,004, motion carried unanimously

Registration

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 5, page 5, in the amount of \$69,597, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 5, page 5, account 10113130 in the amount of \$69,597, motion carried unanimously

Elections – General, Primary, and Referendum

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 5, page 6, in the amount of \$26,700; tab 5, page 7, in the amount of \$20,300; and tab 5, page 8, in the amount of \$6,600, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Champagne, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 5, page 6, account 10113131 in the amount of \$26,700; tab 5, page 7, account 10113132 in the amount of \$20,300; and tab 5, page 8, account 10113133 in the amount of \$6,600, motion carried unanimously

RECESS (10:30 PM)

Council Member Schaefer made a motion to recess until Wednesday, April 7, 2010.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Kentfield
Recording Secretary