

**SPECIAL MEETING
BUDGET MEETING
OF THE
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
March 17, 2005**

Senior Center 2nd Floor Conference Room, 26 Park Place, Vernon, CT

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. called the meeting to order at 7: 02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the Roll as follows:

Present: Council Members Pat S. Beron, Thomas C. Colbert, Mark S. Etre, Bill Fox, Marie A. Herbst, Mary A. Oliver, Pauline A. Schaefer, Christy N. Vale, John D. Ward, Emily M. Westerberg; 10.

Absent: Council Members Robert Kleinhans, Jason L. McCoy; 2.

Entered During Meeting: Council Member Robert Kleinhans (7:06 p.m.); 1.

Also Present: Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Town Administrator Laurence R. Shaffer, Finance Director James Luddecke, Budget Analyst Diane Luddecke, Town Clerk Bernice K. Dixon, and Recording Secretary Karin Z. Pike.

Council Member Kleinhans entered the meeting (7:06 p.m.)

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. reminded all about the March 29, 2005 School Bond Referendum vote and of the Community Budget Forum taking place on April 9, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. to be held at the Senior Center 2nd Floor Conference Room to answer questions and comments on the proposed budget.

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. gave a brief overview of the 2005-2006 budget prior to beginning deliberations and stated that the entire budget, along with the Mayor's message would be online on the Town's website in its entirety following the deliberations.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

No residents wished to speak and Citizen's Forum was closed at 7:31 p.m.

PRESENTATION:

James Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer gave an overview to the Town Council of the 2005-2006 Town budget prior to the beginning of deliberations.

MAYORAL REQUEST:

The Mayor requested that each Department Head in attendance present an overview of their department budget to the Town Council prior to the budget discussion.

TOWN COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH THE RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR BUDGET CONSIDERATION.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Kleinhans, moved THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING LIST OF RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR BUDGET DELIBERATIONS:

- (A.) WAIVE ALL ROBERT'S RULES OF PROCEDURE DURING BUDGET DELIBERATION ONLY;
- (B.) REVENUE TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE OPENING MEETING AND AT THE FINAL BUDGET MEETING;
- (C.) ALL BUDGET ACCOUNTS SHALL BE OPENED AND CLOSED, WITH THE COUNCIL MAKING DECISION ON EACH INDIVIDUAL BUDGET DURING THE ALLOCATED TIME FRAME;

The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that AT THE FINAL TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING OF MARCH 31, 2005, THE TOWN COUNCIL MAY ADD OR DELETE FROM ANY ACCOUNT. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

BUDGET REVIEW:

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Town Administrator Laurence R. Shaffer and Finance Officer were available for questions and comments.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 6 PAGE 32 **ANIMAL CONTROL CODE 10233188** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Animal Control Officer Craig Segar was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Etre, seconded by Council Member Kleinhans, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 6 PAGE 32 **ANIMAL CONTROL CODE 10233188** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$94,636**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved TO OPEN TAB 12 PAGE 83 **DOG LICENSE CODE 2223410** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Animal Control Officer Craig Segar was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Etre, moved TO CLOSE TAB 12 PAGE 83 **DOG LICENSE CODE 2223410** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$33,271**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 a voice vote.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 8 PAGE 60 **SENIOR CENTER CODE 10457242** FOR DISCUSSION.

Senior Center Director Penny Rand was available for questions and comments.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Vale, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE TAB 8 PAGE 60 **SENIOR CENTER CODE 10457242** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$109,761**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 5 **REGISTRATION CODE 10113130** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Registrars Patricia Noblet and Judith Beaudreau were available for questions and comments.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Oliver, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 5 **REGISTRATION CODE 10113130** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$74,743**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 6 **ELECTIONS – GENERAL CODE 10113131**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Registrars Patricia Noblet and Judith Beaudreau were available for questions and comments.

Council Member Colbert, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 6 **ELECTIONS – GENERAL CODE 10113131** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$15,950**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 7 **ELECTIONS – PRIMARY CODE 10113132** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Registrars Patricia Noblet and Judith Beaudreau were available for questions and comments.

Council Member Vale, seconded by Council Member Oliver, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 7 **ELECTIONS – PRIMARY CODE 10113132** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$1**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 8 **ELECTIONS – REFERENDUM CODE 10113133** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Registrars Patricia Noblet and Judith Beaudreau were available for questions and comments.

Council Member Fox, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 8 **ELECTIONS – REFERENDUM CODE 10113133** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$5,050**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 6 PAGE 30 **BUILDING INSPECTION CODE 10232187** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Building Official Gene Bolles was available for questions and comments.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Oliver, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE TAB 6 PAGE 30 **BUILDING INSTECTION CODE 10232187** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$264,089**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 12 PAGE 84 **CEMETERY OPERATIONS CODE 23342420** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Cemetery Superintendent Alan West was available for questions and comments.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Colbert, seconded by Council Member Beron, moved TO **REDUCE OBJECT CODE 56900 OTHER SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS BY \$1,000**. The motion failed 2 to 9 on a voice vote with Council Members Beron and Colbert voting yes and Council Members Etre, Fox, Herbst, Kleinhans, Oliver, Schaefer, Vale, Ward and Westerberg voting nay.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE TAB 12 PAGE 84 **CEMETERY OPERATIONS CODE 23342420** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$274,131**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Fox, moved TO OPEN TAB 10 PAGE 76 **VERNON CEMETERY COMMISSION CODE 10826302** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Cemetery Superintendent Alan West was available for questions and comments.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Fox, moved TO CLOSE TAB 10 PAGE 76 **VERNON CEMETERY COMMISSION CODE 10826302** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$148,983**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved TO OPEN TAB 9 PAGE 66 **ARTS COMMISSION CODE 10562260** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Vale, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE TAB 9 PAGE 66 **ARTS COMMISSION CODE 10562260** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$8,560**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 20 **GREATER HARTFORD TRANSIT DISTRICT CODE 10116158** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Oliver spoke regarding the Greater Hartford Transit District.

Council Member Vale, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 20 **GREATER HARTFORD TRANSIT DISTRICT CODE 10116158** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$1,964**.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 1 **TOWN COUNCIL CODE 10110110** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Town Clerk Bernice K. Dixon was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Oliver, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 1 **TOWN COUNCIL CODE 10110110** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$16,832**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 Page 17 **TOWN CLERK CODE 10115150** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Town Clerk Bernice K. Dixon was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Beron, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 17 **TOWN CLERK CODE 10115150** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$271,215**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 8 PAGE 43 **NORTH CENTRAL HEALTH DISTRICT CODE 10455220** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

William Blitz was available for questions and comments.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved TO CLOSE TAB 8 PAGE 43 **NORTH CENTRAL HEALTH DISTRICT CODE 10455220** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$99,885**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 2 **PROBATE COURT CODE 10111112** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 2 **PROBATE COURT CODE 10111112** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$15,664**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 9 **FINANCE – ADMINISTRATION CODE 10114140** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Finance Officer James Luddecke was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Etre, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 9 **FINANCE – ADMINISTRATION CODE 10114140** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$391,085**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 10 **FINANCE – INDEPENDENT AUDIT CODE 10114141** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Finance Officer James Luddecke was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Oliver, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 10 **FINANCE – INDEPENDENT AUDIT CODE 10114141** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$36,700**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Kleinhans, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 11 **FINANCE – TREASURY CODE 10114142** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Finance Officer James Luddecke was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Oliver, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 11 **FINANCE – TREASURY CODE 10114142** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$5,790**.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 12 **FINANCE – PURCHASING CODE 10114143** FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Finance Officer James Luddecke was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO CLOSE TAB 5 PAGE 12 **FINANCE – PURCHASING CODE 10114143** IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$12,990**. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

REVENUE DISCUSSION:

No discussion took place.

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS REQUIRING ACTION:

None.

ADJOURN:

Council Member Fox, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO ADJOURN. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Received: March 22, 2005
Approved: April 5, 2005
Vernon Town Council

Karin Z. Pike
Asst Town Clerk

