

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
February 21, 2006**

Senior Center 2nd Floor Conference Room. 20 Park Place, Vernon, CT

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

Present: Council Members Daniel E. Anderson, Bill F. Campbell, Daniel A. Champagne, Mark S. Etre, Bill Fox, Marie A. Herbst, Brian R. Motola, Mary A. Oliver, Pauline A. Schaefer, Connie Simon, Christy N. Vale; 11.

Absent: Council Member Jason L. McCoy; 1.

Also Present: Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Town Administrator Laurence R. Shaffer, Recording Secretary Karin Z. Pike.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

Amy Yost, Vernon resident, spoke regarding the "American Cancer Society Relay for Life." The Mayor requested that she leave brochures and information at the Town Hall for the public.

No other residents wished to speak and Citizen's Forum was closed at 7:37 p.m.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2006, AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

New Business Items:

1. Request for Tax Refunds – Current Fiscal Year
2. Request for Tax Refunds – Prior Fiscal Year
3. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of Mary Lou Menard as a member of the Housing Authority of the Town of Vernon.
4. Request the Town Council to approve the Request for Disposal of Fixed Assets.

NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT ITEMS):

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved TO APPROVE C.N.B. 1 THROUGH AND INCLUDING C.N.B. 4. AS FOLLOWS:

C.N.B. 1. Request for Tax Refunds – Current Year.

THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO APPROVE EIGHT (8) TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,606.86, AS OUTLINED IN MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED FEBRUARY 6, 2006 TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

(A copy of the memorandum is appended to these minutes and marked as "Appendix A.")

C.N.B. 2. Request for Tax Refunds – Prior Year.

THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO APPROVE THREE (3) TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,039.06 AS OUTLINED IN MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED FEBRUARY 8, 2006 TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

(A copy of the memorandum is appended to these minutes and marked as "Appendix B.")

C.N.B. 3. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Mary Lou Menard, (D), 7 Ridgewood Dr., as a member of the Housing Authority of the Town of Vernon, said term to expire on February 28, 2011.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MARY LOU MENARD (D) TO SERVE ON THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF VERNON, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 28, 2011.

C.N.B. 4. Request the Town Council to approve the Request for Disposal of Fixed Assets.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REQUEST FOR DISPOSAL OF FIXED ASSETS.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

Council Member Anderson requested information regarding Contract #785-9/15-05 - Supplying and Installing three (3) Dump Truck Bodies and Snow Plow Frames to the Department of Public Works. The Mayor informed the Council that the information would be included in the March 7th Town Council packet.

NEW BUSINESS:

N.B. 1. Request for Town Council to approve the budget amendments for fiscal year 2005-2006 as outlined in the Budget Amendments #11-13 or additional amendments as provided by the Finance Officer at the meeting.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE AMENDMENT REQUEST(S) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 AS OUTLINED IN BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS #11-13 AND/OR ADDITIONAL AMENDMENT FORMS AS PROVIDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER AT THE MEETING.

Finance Officer James Luddecke requested that the motion be modified to read:

"THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE AMENDMENT REQUEST(S) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS #11 AND #13, PULLING OUT #12 (PARKS AND RECREATION) AND INCREASING THE AMOUNT FROM \$25,000.00 TO \$30,000.00 AND THEREBY ELIMINATING NEW BUSINESS #4 (REQUEST FOR TOWN COUNCIL APPROVAL TO DESIGNATE FUNDS FOR PLANNING AND STUDY OF POOL REPAIRS, HOROWITZ POOL.)

Finance Officer James Luddecke and Assessor Dave Wheeler were present for questions and comments.

Discussion took place.

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. stated that more information would be included in the March 7th packets concerning the Revaluation as an informational item.

The motion was carried 10 to 1 on a voice vote with Council Members Campbell, Champagne, Etre, Fox, Herbst, Motola, Oliver, Schaefer, Simon and Vale voting yes and Council Member Anderson voting no.

BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST #12 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – PARKS AND RECREATION – AMENDED FROM \$25,000.00 TO \$30,000.00.

Dave Bower-Park Maintenance Supervisor was available for questions and comments.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Vale, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO POSTPONE BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST #12 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION-PARKS AND RECREATION-AMENDED FROM \$25,000.00 TO \$30,000.00 TO THE MARCH 7TH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING. The motion was carried 10 to 1 on a voice vote with Council Members Campbell, Champagne, Etre, Fox, Herbst, Motola, Oliver, Schaefer, Simon and Vale voting yes and Council Member Anderson voting no.

(A copy of the memoranda are appended to these minutes and marked as “Appendix C.”)

N.B. 2. Request for Town Council approval of LoCIP Funding Request.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT LOCAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (LOCIP) FOR A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$222,000.00 TO BE EXPENDED FROM THE RESERVE FOR CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURES ACCOUNT FOR REPOINTING AND ROOF REPAIR OF THE TOWN HALL MEMORIAL BUILDING; AND TO AMEND THE TOWN'S SIX-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN TO INCLUDE THIS PROJECT.

Discussion took place.

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. stated that there is a request in with the State Bond Commission for funds to finish the third floor of the Town Hall.

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

N.B. 3. Request for Town Council approval of 2006 Schedule of Meeting Dates for Town Budget.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE 2006 SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES FOR TOWN BUDGET. The motion was carried 10 to 1 with Council Members Anderson, Campbell, Etre, Fox, Herbst, Motola, Oliver, Schaefer, Simon and Vale voting yes and Council Member Champagne voting no.

The Mayor stated that the budgets would be ready for the Council on March 15th and budget meetings would be starting on the 16th of March. She also stated that on April 6th the State legislators would be invited to speak to the Council concerning the State budget.

N.B. 4. Request for Town Council approval to designate funds for planning and study of pool repairs, Horowitz Pool. **(See New Business #1.)**

THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER XII, SECTION 10, SUBSECTION (f), HEREBY APPROVES AN AUTHORIZATION OF AN ADDITIONAL

APPROPRIATION INTO THE 2005-2006 BUDGET YEAR, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000.00 TO SPECIFICALLY CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE DETERIORATING CONDITIONS AT THE HOROWITZ POOL. SAID RESOLUTION HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE MAYOR.

THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPTS A RESOLUTION ENTITLED "2005-2006 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION HOROWITZ POOL STUDY."

DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Minutes from the Board of Education meetings of January 11th, January 19th, January 23rd and January 26th, 2006.
2. Monthly reports from Bernice Dixon, Town Clerk for January 2006 and Alan Slobodien, Director of Youth Services for January 2006.
3. Community Voice Channel Program Listing for February 2006.
4. Letter of resignation from Christal V. Petrone from North Central District Health Department.
5. Memorandum to Ellen L. Marmer, Mayor from Laurence Shaffer, Town Administrator regarding Scenic Road Designation.
6. Memorandum to Town of Vernon Employees listing 2006 Legal Holidays-Town of Vernon.

ADJOURN:

Council Member Oliver, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO ADJOURN.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Received: February 28, 2006
Approved: March 7, 2006
Vernon Town Council

Karin Z. Pike
Asst Town Clerk, Recording Secretary