

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
March 20, 2007**

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

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

Present: Council Members Daniel E. Anderson, Daniel A. Champagne, Marie A. Herbst, Jason L. McCoy, Brian R. Motola, Pauline A. Schaefer, Connie Simon; 7.

Absent: Council Members Bill F. Campbell, Mark S. Etre, Bill Fox, Mary A. Oliver; 4.

Entered During Meeting: Council Members Bill F. Campbell (7:40 p.m.), Bill Fox (7:40 p.m.); 2.

Also Present: Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Town Administrator Christopher Clark, Recording Secretary Karin Z. Pike.

A Moment of Silence was observed in memory of Gene Bolles, former Building Department head.

Mayor Marmer also announced that former Town Clerk Henry Butler would be celebrating his 90th birthday on March 26.

With the Council's indulgence, Mayor Marmer requested that New Business 1. be moved forward.

N.B. 1. Request for Town Council to fill the unexpired term of Christy N. Vale, by recommendation of the Vernon Republican Town Committee, that George F. Apel shall fill the unexpired term, said term to expire on November 11, 2007. (Taken out of order.)

Council Member McCoy, seconded by Council Member Champagne, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL CONSISTENT WITH THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER III, SECTION 9 ENTITLED, "FILLING VACANCIES" FULFILLS BY APPOINTMENT TO THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF FORMER COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTY N. VALE, FILLS THAT POSITION WITH THE RECOMMENDATION MADE BY THE VERNON REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE, THAT GEORGE F. APEL, AN ELECTOR, WHO RESIDES AT 76 TALLWOOD DRIVE, VERNON, CT. SHALL FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF CHRISTY N. VALE, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON NOVEMBER 11, 2007. The motion was carried unanimously 7 to 0 on a voice vote.

Assistant Town Clerk/Recording Secretary Karin Z. Pike administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Apel.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

James Webb Wilson, 300 South Street, announced that he had fulfilled his obligations in order to run in the November election as a petitioning candidate for Mayor. He also commended the Emergency Management director in the restoration of the Town warning sirens.

Council Member Campbell and Fox entered the meeting (7:40 p.m.)

No other residents wished to speak and Citizen's Forum was closed at 7:40 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

None.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2007 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED. The motion was carried unanimously 6 to 0 on voice vote. Council Members Anderson, Apel, McCoy and Simon abstained.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Request for Tax Refunds – Current and Prior Fiscal Year(s).
2. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of Thomas Davenport as an alternate member of the Board of Ethics.
3. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of Ed Zinky as a member of the Senior Center Advisory Board.
4. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of Diana Drummond as an alternate member of the Inland Wetlands Regulatory Commission.
5. Request the Town Council to approve the reappointment of Sarah Iacobello as a member of the Historic Properties Commission.
6. Request the Town Council to approve appointment of William Francis to the Board of Assessment Appeals.
7. Request the Town Council to approve the removal of appointed officials and directs the Town Clerk to remove names from listing.
8. Request the Town Council to approve revised job description for Building Official.
9. Request the Town Council to appoint the firm of Blum, Shapiro & Company P.C. as auditors for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007.

NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT ITEMS):

Council Member Herbst pulled C.N.B. 8.

Council Member Campbell pulled C.N.B. 7.

Council Member McCoy pulled C.N.B. 2 through 6.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1 AND 9 AS FOLLOWS:

C.N.B. 1. Request for Tax Refunds – Current and Prior Year(s).

THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES NINE (9) TAX REFUNDS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,317.42 AND ONE (1) TAX REFUND FOR THE PRIOR YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$43.11 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED MARCH 14, 2007 TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

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

C.N.B. 9. Request Town Council appoint the firm of Blum, Shapiro & Company P.C. as auditors for the fiscal year 2007 audit. (memorandum from James Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer is in the packet).

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPOINTS THE FIRM OF BLUM, SHAPIRO & COMPANY, P.C. OF 29 SOUTH MAIN STREET, WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT AS AUDITORS TO AUDIT THE BOOKS

AND ACCOUNTS OF THE TOWN OF VERNON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2007; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACT #685 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$42,100.00 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2007 AUDIT.

The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS (TAKEN FROM CONSENT AGENDA):

Council Member McCoy, seconded by Council Member Motola, moved TO SCHEDULE A SPECIAL MEETING FOR THURSDAY MARCH 22, 2007 AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE SENIOR CENTER 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM TO DISCUSS C.N.B 2 THROUGH 6 AS FOLLOWS AND REQUESTED THAT THE TOWN CLERK BE PRESENT FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

A recess was taken at 8:03 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:07 p.m.

The motion was carried 6 to 4 on a voice vote with Council Members Anderson, Apel, Campbell, Champagne, McCoy, Motola voting yes and Council Members Fox, Herbst, Schaefer and Simon voting no.

C.N.B. 2 Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Thomas Davenport (R), 202 Tracy Drive, to serve as an alternate member of the Board of Ethics, due to the resignation of Christal Petrone, said term to expire November 30, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF THOMAS DAVENPORT TO SERVE AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON NOVEMBER 30, 2009.

C.N.B. 3. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Ed Zinky (R), 80 Maple Avenue, to serve as a member of the Senior Center Advisory Board to fill a current vacancy due to the resignation of Lena Genovese, said term to expire June 30, 2007.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF ED ZINKY TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY BOARD, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2007.

C.N.B. 4. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Diana Drummond (D), 70-324 Old Town Road, to serve as an alternate member of the Inland Wetlands Regulatory Commission to fill a current vacancy due to the resignation of Jane Seymour, said term to expire December 31, 2008.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF DIANA DRUMMOND TO SERVE AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE INLAND WETLANDS REGULATORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2008.

C.N.B. 5. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Sarah Iacobello (D), to serve as a member of the Historic Properties Commission, said term to expire April 3, 2012.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF SARAH IACOBELLO TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON APRIL 3, 2012.

C.N.B. 6. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of William Francis to the Board of Assessment Appeals.

THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER IX, SECTION 3, HEREBY APPOINTS WILLIAM FRANCIS TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2009.

C.N.B. 7. Request the Town Council to approve the removal of listed appointed officials and directs the Town Clerk to remove such members from the officials listing.

Discussion took place.

By Unanimous Consent THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVED THE REMOVAL OF THE BELOW LISTED APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND DIRECTS THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE TO REMOVE SUCH MEMBERS FROM THE OFFICIAL'S LISTING:

1. KAREN R. JENEN, BOARD OF ETHICS
2. DAVID CHMIELECKI, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
3. MICHAEL MCNAMARA, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
4. ROBERT SCOFIELD, DIRECTOR OF DATA PROCESSING
5. MYRTLE LOFTUS, CEMETERY AGENT
6. MEMBERS OF CONSOLIDATION TASK FORCE
7. GENE BOLLES, BUILDING OFFICIAL AND CONSTABLE

C.N.B. 8. Request Town Council to approve revised job description for Building Official.

Mayor Marmer stated that the summary portion of the job description had been amended to remove "town zoning ordinances" from the description.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Simon, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MODIFICATION OF THE CLASSIFICATION PLAN BY APPROVING THE REVISION OF THE JOB DESCRIPTION ENTITLED "BUILDING OFFICIAL/ZEO TO BUILDING OFFICIAL".

Council Member Anderson, seconded by Council Member McCoy, moved TO AMEND THE EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING SECTION BY REMOVING "VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL PROGRAM" AND INSERTING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE, ASSOCIATES DEGREE IN SCIENCE OR VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL DEGREE. The amendment was moved 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

The motion, as amended, was moved 9 to 1 on a voice vote with Council Members Anderson, Apel, Campbell, Champagne, Fox, Herbst, Motola, Schaefer and Simon voting yes and Council Member McCoy voting no.

IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS: (Taken out of order. See page 309 .)

N.B. 1. Request for Town Council to fill the unexpired term of Christy N. Vale, by recommendation of the Vernon Republican Town Committee, that George F. Apel shall fill the unexpired term, said term to expire on November 11, 2007.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

None.

DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Monthly report for January and February 2007 from Penny Rand, Senior Center Director, monthly report from Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk for February.
2. Copy of EMS report for February 2007 from Christopher Hammick, Fire Department Health & Safety Officer.
3. Letter from John Garoppolo of the Manchester Lions Club (and Garner) relative to the Eleventh Annual Fenix Memorial Bowling Tournament for the benefit of Fidelco.
4. Copy of letter from Town Attorney Susan Boyan along with a copy of an agreement regarding the clean up of 49 Franklin Street.
5. Copy of letter from Helen Syriac, Executive Director of the Cornerstone that was sent to the Vernon Police Department thanking Police Officer Hicking for his effective and positive collaboration with the Cornerstone Community Director, Paula Plante.
6. Letter from Christopher Crowne, resigning from the Planning and Zoning Commission.
7. Memorandum and information from Christopher Clark, Town Administrator relative to the sale of 25 Range Hill Drive.
8. Flyer regarding "Energy Saving Lighting Sale", being held at the Senior Center on Wednesday March 21 from 8:30 to 5:00 P.M.
9. Detailed schedule of Town Budget meetings.

ADJOURN:

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

The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Received: March 27, 2007
Approved: April 17, 2007
Vernon Town Council

Karin Z. Pike
Asst Town Clerk/Recording Secretary