

**BUDGET HEARING
SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
April 8, 2004**

Board of Education Conference Room, 30 Park Street (Corner of Park and School Streets, Vernon, CT.)

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the Roll as follows:

Present: Council Members Pat S. Beron, Thomas C. Colbert, Bill Fox, Marie A. Herbst, Robert Kleinhans, Jason L. McCoy, Pauline A. Schaefer, Jeffrey A. Talbot, Christy N. Vale, John D. Ward, Emily M. Westerberg; 11.

Absent: Council Member Mary A. Oliver; 1.

Also Present: Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, Town Administrator Laurence R. Shaffer, Finance Director James Luddecke and Recording Secretary Karin Z. Pike.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

No residents wished to speak and Citizen's Forum was closed at 8:01 p.m.

Mayor Marmer requested a motion to cancel the Tuesday, April 13, 2004 Budget Meeting.

Council Member Talbot, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved THAT THE TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2004 BUDGET MEETING BE CANCELLED. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

MAYORAL REQUEST:

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

BUDGET REVIEW:

Mayor Ellen L Marmer, Town Administrator Laurence R. Shaffer and Finance Director James Luddecke were available for questions and comments.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Ward, moved TO OPEN TAB 12 PAGE 90 DATA PROCESSING CENTER CODE 51617710 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Robert Scofield, Director of Data Processing, was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 51010 REGULAR WAGES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$47,156. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Colbert, seconded by Council Member Herbst, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 54110 UTILITY SERVICES: ELECTRIC BY \$3,000. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Colbert, seconded by Council Member Beron, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 53800 OTHER FEES BY \$500. The motion passed 6 to 5 with Council Members Beron, Colbert, Kleinhans, Talbot and Vale voting aye and Council Members Fox, Herbst, Schaefer and Westerberg voting nay. Council Member McCoy abstained.

Council Member Herbst requested that a study be done between the Board of Education and the Town's Budget concerning the Data Processing Department.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 12 PAGE 90 DATA PROCESSING CENTER CODE 51617710 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$496,960. 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 21 DATA PROCESSING CODE 10117160 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Robert Scofield, Director of Data Processing, was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Beron, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 58800 OTHER FINANCING USES, TRANSFER OUT BY \$25,313. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Member Herbst abstained.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO ADD TO OBJECT CODE 58800 OTHER FINANCING USES, TRANSFER OUT BY \$15. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 5 PAGE 21 DATA PROCESSING CODE 10117160 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$297,969. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member McCoy, moved TO OPEN TAB 8 PAGE 44 NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH CODE 10455220 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 AND APPROVE TAB 8 PAGE 44 NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH CODE 10455220 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$96,206. The motion was carried 9 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Member Vale abstained. Council Member Talbot was not present at the table.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 2 PROBATE COURT CODE 10111112 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

Probate Judge James Purnell was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 5 PAGE 2 PROBATE COURT CODE 10111112 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,229. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Member Talbot was not present at the table.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 19 WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY CODE 10116157 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

David Ignatowicz, Director was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member McCoy, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 5 PAGE 19 WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY CODE 10116157 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,613. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member McCoy, moved TO OPEN TAB 12 PAGE 88 WASTE TREATMENT PLANT OPERATIONS CODE 41345700 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

David Ignatowicz, Director was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Colbert, seconded by Council Member McCoy, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 12 PAGE 88 WASTE TREATMENT PLANT OPERATIONS CODE 41345700 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,284,049. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Herbst, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 3 EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATION CODE 10112120 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member McCoy, seconded by Council Member Talbot, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 51010 REGULAR WAGES BY \$10,000. The motion passed 6 to 4 with Council Members Fox, Kleinhans, McCoy, Schaefer, Talbot and Ward voting aye and Council Members Beron, Colbert, Herbst and Vale voting nay. Council Member Westerberg abstained.

Council Member Talbot, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO ADD TO OBJECT CODE 51010 REGULAR WAGES (SPECIFICALLY- MAYOR'S SALARY) \$10,000. The motion failed 9 to 1 with Council Member Talbot voting aye and Council Members Beron, Fox, Herbst, Kleinhans, McCoy, Oliver, Schaefer, Vale, Ward and Westerberg voting nay. Council Member Colbert abstained.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Talbot, moved TO ADD TO OBJECT CODE 51010 REGULAR WAGES \$10,000. (RESCINDING THE FIRST MOTION). The motion passed 9 to 2 with Council Members Beron, Colbert, Fox, Herbst, Kleinhans, Schaefer, Vale, Ward and Westerberg voting aye and Council Members McCoy and Talbot voting nay.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member McCoy, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 51030 PART-TIME WAGES BY \$13,250. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 57810 OFFICE FURNITURE BY\$750. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Talbot, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 5 PAGE 3 EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATION CODE 10112120 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$515,067. The motion was carried 11 to 0 on a voice vote with Council Members Colbert, Fox, Herbst, Kleinhans, McCoy, Schaefer, Talbot, Vale, Ward and Westerberg voting aye and Council Member Beron voting nay.

Council Member Colbert, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 23 COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CODE 10151171 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Beron was not present at the table.

Council Member Colbert, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 5 PAGE 23 COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CODE 10151171 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$180,000. The motion was carried unanimously 9 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Member Kleinhans abstained.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Ward, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 4 LAW CODE 10112121 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 5 PAGE 4 LAW CODE 10112121 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$145,000. The motion was carried unanimously 9 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Member McCoy abstained.

Council Member Talbot, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 9 FINANCE – ADMINISTRATION CODE 10114140 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

Finance Director James Luddecke was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Beron reentered the meeting.

Council Members McCoy and Kleinhans offered a filing cabinet to the Finance Department.

Council Member Talbot, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 5 PAGE 9 FINANCE – ADMINISTRATION CODE 10114140 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$373,531. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Beron was not present at the table.

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

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 5 PAGE 10 FINANCE – INDEPENDENT AUDIT CODE 10114141 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,920. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Talbot, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 11 FINANCE – TREASURY CODE 10114142 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Herbst, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 5 PAGE 11 FINANCE – TREASURY CODE 10114142 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,100. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 5 PAGE 12 FINANCE – PURCHASING CODE 10114143 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Talbot, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 5 PAGE 12 FINANCE – PURCHASING CODE 10114143 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,090. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Talbot, moved TO OPEN TAB 10 PAGE 73 PENSION CODE 10670271 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Beron reentered the meeting.

James Luddecke Finance Director was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO REDUCE PENSION CODE TAB 10 PAGE 73 OBJECT CODE 52911 BY \$91,712. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

(A copy of the Budget Revisions are appended to these minutes and marked as "Appendix A.")

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 10 PAGE 73 PENSION CODE 10670271 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,427,085. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Talbot, moved TO EXTEND CURFEW UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF BUSINESS. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 11 PAGE 80 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS – TOWN CODE 10780290 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Public Work Director George Fetko was available for questions and comments.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 57160 HENRY PARK-SKATE PARK BY \$40,000. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member McCoy, seconded by Council Member Kleinhans, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 57200 BUILDINGS/BUILDING IMPROVEMENT BY \$4,000. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Member Talbot was not present at the table.

Council Member McCoy, seconded by Council Member Kleinhans, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 57200 BUILDINGS/BUILDING IMPROVEMENT (AMBULANCE BUILDING – REPLACE GENERATOR) BY \$39,000. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Member Herbst abstained.

Council Member McCoy, seconded by Council Member Kleinhans, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 57200 BUILDINGS/BUILDING IMPROVEMENT (POLICE STATION-REPLACE GENERATOR) BY \$45,000. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Member Herbst abstained.

Council Member McCoy, seconded by Council Member Kleinhans, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 57620 TRUCKS (PW-REPLACE 3 BODIES RECYCLE VEHCL.) BY \$72,000. The motion was carried 7 to 4 on a voice vote with Council Members Beron, Colbert, McCoy, Kleinhans, Talbot, Vale and Ward voting aye and Council Members Fox, Herbst, Schaefer and Westerberg voting nay.

Council Member McCoy, seconded by Council Member Kleinhans, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 57620 TRUCKS (DUMP TRUCK 1 REPLACEMENT) BY \$52,000. The motion failed 2 to 9 with Council Members Kleinhans and McCoy voting aye and Council Members Beron, Colbert, Fox, Herbst, Schaefer, Talbot, Vale, Ward and Westerberg voting nay.

Council Member McCoy, seconded by Council Member Colbert, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 57640 MOWERS BY \$55,000. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Member Herbst abstained.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 11 PAGE 80 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT – TOWN CODE 10780290 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$908,000. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN EDUCATION CODE 10990330 OBJECT CODE 58900. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO ADD TO OBJECT CODE 58900 \$15,179. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 58900 EDUCATION BY \$25,328. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE CODE 10990330 EDUCATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$41,320,881. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN CODE 10826302 CEMETERY COMMISSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO INCREASE OBJECT CODE 58800 TRANSFER OUT BY \$1,609. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE CODE 10826302 CEMETERY COMMISSION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$134,387. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN CODE 23342420 CEMETERY OPERATIONS. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO ADD TO OBJECT CODE 52910 PENSION \$1,609. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Fox, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE CODE 23342420 CEMETERY OPERATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$257,834. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN CODE 10232186 REVENUE. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO REDUCE OBJECT CODE 43110 CIVIL PREPAREDNESS BY \$3,325. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE CODE 10232186 REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,765. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO OPEN TAB 11 PAGE 82 DEBT SERVICE – PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS CODE 10883292 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 11 PAGE 82 DEBT SERVICE – PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS CODE 10883292 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,226,669. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member McCoy, moved TO OPEN TAB 11 PAGE 83 DEBT SERVICE – INTEREST PAYMENTS CODE 10883294 FOR DISCUSSION. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Kleinhans, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO CLOSE AND APPROVE TAB 11 PAGE 83 DEBT SERVICE – INTEREST PAYMENTS CODE 10883294 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$556,004. The motion was carried 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

REVENUE DISCUSSION:

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT REQUIRING ACTION:

ADJOURN:

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 p.m.

