

**MINUTES**  
**VERNON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**  
**VERNON, CONNECTICUT**

Tuesday, June 2, 2009 7:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM

**A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Council Members Daniel Anderson, Bill Campbell, Daniel Champagne, Bill Fox, Marie Herbst, Nancy E Herold, Brian R. Motola, Sean O'Shea, Pauline Schaefer, Harry D. Thomas, Michael A. Winkler

**Absent:**

**Entered During Meeting:** Council Member Mark Etre 7:45 PM

**Also Present:** Mayor Jason L. McCoy, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Jill Kentfield

**CITIZEN'S FORUM**

There were no speakers at Citizen's forum.

Citizen's forum closed at 7:31 PM

**B.) PUBLIC HEARING ( 7:35 pm)**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open the public hearing to receive comments and questions relative to an agreement entitled "Agreement regarding designation of fire marshals." Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO AN AGREEMENT ENTITLED "AGREEMENT REGARDING DESIGNATION OF FIRE MARSHALS."**

- MAYOR MCCOY CALLS THE PUBLIC HEARING TO ORDER TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.
- CLERK READS THE LEGAL NOTICE.
- MAYOR AND COUNCIL RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT.
- ADJOURN THE PUBLIC HEARING.
- RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING.

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
09 JUN -3 AM 10:10

**Open Public Hearing (7:32 PM)**

Mayor McCoy called the public hearing to order to receive comments and answer any questions from the public. The clerk read the legal notice into the record.

Public comments: There were no public comments

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to adjourn the public hearing and return to the regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Close Public Hearing (7:33 PM)**

C.) **PRESENTATION**  
None

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Council Member Herbst requested a financial report regarding the status of the current budget.

D.) **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- C 1. Request for Tax Refunds for Prior Years and Current Year.** (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Assistant Collector of Revenue to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated May 22, 2009 is included in the Council packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES ONE (1) TAX REFUND TOTALLING \$704.93 FOR PRIOR YEAR, AND THREE (3) TAX REFUNDS TOTALLING \$160.30 FOR THE CURRENT YEAR AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE ASSISTANT COLLECTOR OF REVENUE, TERRY HJARNE, TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR JOHN D. WARD DATED MAY 22, 2009.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve the request for tax refunds for prior years and current years. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve the placement of 806 properties totaling \$114,716.43 on the Suspense Tax Ledger.** (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Acting Collector of Revenue dated May 22, 2009 to John Ward, Town Administrator, and a copy of the properties reflected on the Suspense Tax Ledger are included for Council review.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

BY THE AUTHORITY GRANTED IN CONNECTICUT STATE STATUTE SEC. 12-165, ENTITLED "MUNICIPAL SUSPENSE TAX BOOK", THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE PLACEMENT OF THE 806 PROPERTIES TOTALLING \$114,716.43 CONTAINED ON THE SUSPENSE TAX LEDGER REPORT AS PROVIDED BY TERRY HJARNE, ACTING COLLECTOR OF REVENUE, DATED MAY 22, 2009.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve the placement of 806 properties totaling \$114,716.43 on the suspense tax ledger. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #33 - #45 for fiscal year 2008-2009, as provided by James Luddecke, Finance Officer.**

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS #33 - #45 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009, AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve budget amendments #33- 45 for fiscal year 2008-2009. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve the submission of a COPS Technology Grant in the amount of \$60,000.00 by the Vernon Police Department, to be used to purchase in-car video equipment for twelve patrol cars.** (A memorandum dated May 28, 2009

from John Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and the Vernon Town Council, and information on the equipment is included in the Council packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR THE COPS TECHNOLOGY GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO RECEIVE THE GRANT.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to authorize Mayor McCoy to apply for the COPS Technology Grant in the amount of \$60,000.00 by the Vernon Police Department to be used to purchase in-car video equipment for twelve patrol cars Motion carried unanimously.

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve the Mayor’s appointment of C. (Christopher) Ryan Goad (U), 57 Glenstone Drive, Vernon, Connecticut 06066, as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission. Said appointment is effective 06-03-2009 and expires on 12-31-2010.** (A copy of Mr. Goad’s resume is included in the Council packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

PURSUANT TO TOWN OF VERNON ORDINANCE 189 – TOWN CODE SEC. 10-91 & 10-92, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR’S APPOINTMENT OF C. (CHRISTOPHER) RYAN GOAD (U), 57 GLENSTONE DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT , AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING 06-03-2009 AND EXPIRING 12-31-2010.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve the Mayor’s appointment of C. Ryan Goad as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission effective 6/3/2009 through 12/31/2010. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 6. Request the Town Council approve the Mayor’s appointment of Judith Hany (U), 21 Court Street #2M, Vernon, Connecticut 06066, as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission. Said appointment is effective 06-03-2009 and expires on 12-31-2012.** A copy of Ms. Hany’s resume is included in the Council packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

PURSUANT TO TOWN OF VERNON ORDINANCE 189 – TOWN CODE SEC. 10-91 & 10-92, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR’S APPOINTMENT OF JUDITH HANY (U), 21 COURT STREET #2M, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING 06-03-2009 AND EXPIRING 12-31-2012.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve the Mayor’s appointment of Judith Hany as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission effective 6/3/2009 through 12/31/2012. Motion carried unanimously.

E.) **IDENTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**  
None

F.) **PENDING BUSINESS**

- 1. Discussion requested by Council Member Marie Herbst regarding a review of the lobbyist for budget year 2008-2009 and a legal opinion regarding wage reductions taken during the recently completed budget meetings.** (A copy of Council Member

Herbst memorandum dated April 29, 2009 is included for your review). NOTE: This item was postponed at the previous Town Council Meeting.

Discussion took place regarding payment to the lobbyist and their activities. Council Member Herbst requested Administration share information regarding the lobbyist activities with Town Council members.

Discussion took place regarding the legal opinion from Attorney Cummings and the Town Council's vote to reduce the line item for part time wage account in the Town Clerk's office. Council Member Herbst provided information from the April 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> meetings. Council Member Herbst requested the legal opinion be reevaluated. This item will be moved to the next meeting when Mr. Luddecke and Mr. Cummings can be present to answer questions.

G.) **NEW BUSINESS**  
None

H.) **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**  
None

I.) **ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED**

- 1. **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Jason L. McCoy to enter into and execute the necessary documentation required for the Agreement between the Town of Vernon and the Town of South Windsor entitled "Agreement Regarding Designation of Fire Marshals."** (A copy of the Agreement is included for Council review)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

BY THE AUTHORITY GRANTED IN CHAPTER V SECTION 5 OF THE TOWN CHARTER, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THE "AGREEMENT REGARDING DESIGNATION OF FIRE MARSHALS."

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to authorize Mayor McCoy enter into and execute the necessary documentation required for the Agreement between the Town of Vernon and the Town of South Windsor entitled "Agreement Regarding Designation of Fire Marshals" Motion carried unanimously.

J.) **DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**  
Discussion took place regarding the Boards, Commissions and Committees Seminar that took place on 5/27/09.

K.) **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 19, 2009 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2009 meeting. Motion carried unanimously with the following corrections:

- Page 2, Correct Dan Sullivan's name to Daniel Sullivan and add his address.
- Page 4, move the information for "New Business #3" to additional agenda item discussion.

L.) **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made the following motion to go into executive session:

**THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GEN. STATUTES SEC. 1-200(6) (D) HEREBY MOVES TO GO TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS LITIGATION INVOLVING FORECLOSURE ON (45/49 SUNSET TERRACE) PARCEL ID 03-0004-0022A, AND INVITES JOHN D. WARD TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.**

Motion carried unanimously.

There was no action on the executive session agenda item.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to go out of Executive Session.

**M.) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Department of Social Services Spring 2009 report, submitted by Paula Claydon, Director.
2. Building Department Monthly Activity Report dated May 14, 2009, submitted by B. Peter Hobbs, Building Official.
3. Three news articles highlighting Vernon's Economic Development activities, submitted by Marina Rodriguez, Assistant Planner.
4. Senior Center Monthly Reports – March and April, 2009, submitted by Penny Rand, Director of the Vernon Senior Center.
5. Ambulance Monthly Report for April, 2009, submitted by Jean Gauthier, EMS Coordinator.

**Adjourn (8:46 PM)**

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Thomas made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Kentfield  
Recording Secretary