

MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3rd Floor
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

Tuesday, April 7, 2009 7:30 P.M.

The regular Town Council meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM

A.) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Daniel Anderson, Bill Campbell, Daniel Champagne, Mark Etre, Bill Fox, Marie Herbst, Nancy Herold, Brian Motola, Sean O'Shea, Pauline Schaefer, Harry Thomas, Michael Winkler

Absent:

Entered During Meeting:

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

CITIZEN'S FORUM: (7:33 PM)

Receive public comment regarding the Justice Assistance Grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. **(Notice of Public Solicitation is attached for your review).**
Receive comments from any citizen wishing to speak regarding issues of interest to them.

Bryan Flynt, Ellington: Spoke on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Rockville Downtown Association. He encouraged the Council to keep the full funding allocation for Rockville Downtown Association

Bill Breslau, 60 Halen Dr.: Spoke on behalf of keeping the full funding allocation for Rockville Downtown Association.

Bernice Dixon, 72 Tinker Pond Rd, Bolton, CT: Spoke about the operations of the Town Clerk Office which included letters of support, state statute mandates and important time frames the Town Clerk's office need to follow. She encouraged the Town Council to reinstate the funding to Town Clerk's office.

Steward Clark, 20 Allison Dr.: Spoke on behalf of the Town Clerk's office and urged the Town Council to reinstate the Town Clerk's funding.

Steve Wakefield, 152 Brookfield Dr.: Spoke on behalf of the Bicentennial Committee. The Committee presented a flag to the Mayor that was designed for the Town by Cliff Edwards.

Scott Martin, Bolton, CT: Encouraged the Town Council to reinstate the funding to the Town Clerk's office.

Bill Smith, 30 Vernwood Dr.: Spoke about in favor of keeping the budget as minimal as possible.

Citizen's Forum closed at 8:13 PM

B.) PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING RELATIVE TO THE "PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2009 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION", TO SOLICIT CITIZEN INPUT AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FOR SAME. (A copy of the legal notice is included for your review. L. Wagner and Associates, our consulting firm will be present to answer questions).

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Public Hearing 8:13 PM

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

Larry Wagner from Wagner Associates is assisting the Town of Vernon in the Community Development Block Grant application program and was available to answer any questions.

Brian Flint: Spoke on behalf of the Rockville Community Alliance and looks forward to working together to continue the Community Development Block Grant.

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

Close Public Hearing 8:19 PM

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda items 1-5 as presented.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- C 1. **Request for Tax Refunds for the Current Year.** (A copy of a memorandum from Carol L Nelson, Collector of Revenue to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated March 30, 2009 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES SIX (6) TAX REFUNDS TOTALLING \$3,301.85 FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE, CAROL L. NELSON TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR JOHN D. WARD DATED MARCH 30, 2009.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to approve the tax fund for current year in the amount of \$3,301.85. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 2. **Request the Town Council authorize a bid waiver for High Efficiency Lighting for twelve Town of Vernon buildings.** (Copy of a memorandum from John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated April 2, 2009 to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and the Town Council is included for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER XII, SECTION 9, OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, DETERMINES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TOWN TO WAIVE THE BID PROCEDURE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HIGH EFFICIENCY LIGHTING SYSTEM UPGRADE FOR TWELVE TOWN BUILDINGS FROM CON SERV, INC., THROUGH CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$71,436.30. AFTER INVESTIGATION, THIS SUPPLIER IS FOUND TO MATCH THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF VERNON AND THE COSTS OF SAME.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to authorize the bid waiver for High Efficiency Lighting for twelve Town of Vernon buildings. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 3. **Request the Town Council authorizes the Mayor Jason L. McCoy to apply for the FY 2010 Historic Documents Preservation Grant Program.** (A copy of the memorandum from Town Clerk Bernice Dixon to Jason L. McCoy, Mayor; John D. Ward, Town Administrator; and Vernon Town Council Members is included for your review.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION #1:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER IN THE NAME OF AND ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF VERNON A CONTRACT WITH THE CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY FOR A HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to authorize the Mayor to apply for the FY 2010 Historic Documents Preservation Grant Program. Motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION #2:

THE TOWN COUNCIL ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF VERNON ADOPTS AS ITS POLICY TO SUPPORT THE NONDISCRIMINATION AGREEMENTS AND WARRANTIES REQUIRED UNDER CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SUBSECTION 4A-60(A)(1), AS AMENDED IN STATE OF CONNECTICUT PUBLIC ACT 07-245 AND SECTIONS 9(A)(1) AND 10(A)(1) OF PUBLIC ACT 07-142.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to adopt as it's policy to support the Nondiscrimination agreements and warranties required under CGS Subsection 4A-60(A)(1), as amended in State of Connecticut Public Act 07-245. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 4. **Request the Town Council adopt the State of Connecticut, Department of Economic and Community Development Certified Resolution; authorize the Mayor to execute and file the CDBG Grant Application in order to undertake Street Improvements in the Rockville Area and to execute the necessary Assistance Agreement.**(Copies supporting documents attached.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY ADOPTS THE CERTIFIED RESOLUTION ENTITLED "DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – STATE OF CONNECTICUT, CERTIFIED RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY". SAID RESOLUTION AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR, JASON L. MCCOY TO EXECUTE AND FILE THE CDBG GRANT APPLICATION FOR 2009 ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF VERNON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000.00, TO UNDERTAKE STREET IMPROVEMENTS IN THE ROCKVILLE AREA. FURTHER THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY TO EXECUTE THE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT FOR SAME.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion adopt the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development Certified Resolution and authorizes the Mayor to execute and file the CDBG Grant Application in order to undertake Street improvements in the Rockville Area and to execute the necessary assistance agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 5. **Request the Town Council authorize the Mayor to apply for the Justice Assistance Grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. (Chief James Kenny will be present to answer your questions regarding the Grant Application.)**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY TO APPLY FOR THE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT THROUGH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$53,000.00 (FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS) AND AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR SAME.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to authorize the Mayor to apply for the Justice Assistance Grant through the American Recovery Reinvestment Act. Motion carried unanimously.

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

F.) **PENDING BUSINESS**
None

G.) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request that the Town Council entertain a discussion regarding local property tax aid to seniors as requested by Council member Marie Herbst.** (A copy of Council member Herbst memorandum dated March 23, 2009 is included for your review. Tax Assessor, David Wheeler will be present to answer questions and distribute the most up to date information for the Council's review.)

Mr. Wheeler was available to speak about the 3 different property tax aid to seniors as follows:

- State Circuit Breaker Program for seniors 65+ with limited income.
- Local Option of this program for seniors 65+ with limited income.
- Freeze Tax Program for seniors age 70+.

Adjourn (8:30 PM)

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to adjourn the regular Town Council meeting and move back to the budget meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Kentfield
Recording Secretary