

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

August 18, 2009 7:30 PM

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
09 AUG 20 PM 6:11

Mayor Jason L. McCoy called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Mark Etre

Entered During Meeting: Bill Fox (7:34 PM)

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

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Ginny Gengras, 21 Timber Lane – Invited Town Council members to the Friends of Valley Falls Artist Days which is taking place on Sunday, August 23, 2009. Also asked Town Council members to support the grant to renovate the barn at Valley Falls.

Gene Sladnowski, Rockville Downtown Association, Park Place – Provide an update on RDA's activities and the search for the new Executive Director.

Don Bellingham, 64 Gerald Drive – Spoke on behalf of the Vernon Greenways volunteers providing an update of their activities concerning the rails to trails program. He also asked Town Council Members to support the grant to renovate the barn.

Lance Cherniak, 50 Cubles Drive – would like information provided to him regarding the Bolton Lake sewer funding.

Michelle Arn, 57 Overbrook Drive – Spoke in support of the ideas and suggestions to be presented to Town Council members in the presentation to be given by Jim Gilchrist from Rockville Community Alliance.

Eddie Cherniak, 50 Cubles Drive – Spoke about the recent Journal Inquirer article regarding the DPW Director position.

Marion Firetto, 51 Phoenix Street – Spoke about the recent Journal Inquirer article regarding the DPW Director position.

Citizen's forum closed at 7:46 PM

B.) PUBLIC HEARING (7:46 pm)

PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS RELATIVE TO "A RESOLUTION REGARDING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR EDUCATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$932,644.00." (A copy of the Resolution is included in the Council's agenda packet.)

Council Member Thomas, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to open the public hearing, motion carried, Council Member Herbst abstained. 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 and certified the notice was published in the Reminder News on August 4, 2009.

Public comments:
There were no public comments.

Close Public Hearing (7:50 PM)

Mayor McCoy recommended action on the proposed resolution. Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to adjourn the public hearing and take action on the proposed resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Thomas, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to adjourn the regular Town Council Meeting until completion of the special town meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to return to the regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Jason L. McCoy called the Town Council meeting back to order

C.) PRESENTATION

Alan Slobodien, Youth Service Director, will provide a PowerPoint update on the Community Planning Process funded by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. The planning process uses the results statement, "All Vernon children Birth-Eighteen are Safe, Healthy and Productive" as it's guiding principle.

Mr. Slobodien presented information to Town Council Members regarding the use of Results Based Accountability to determine the outcomes on the Community Planning Process project. He presented information regarding the process, timelines, data used and next steps.

8:35 PM Council Member Schaefer left the table
8:36 PM Council Member Schaefer returned to the table

Town Council Member Brian Motola has requested that the Rockville Community Alliance come and make a presentation to the Town Council. This is a "solution oriented" presentation.

Jim Gilchrist from the Rockville Community Alliance presented information to the Town Council regarding the results of the round table discussion that took place with many different community groups who came up with a list of top 10 ways to improve Rockville. The list was shared with Town Council Members via powerpoint presentation along with suggestions on implementing the items.

8:45 PM Mayor McCoy left the table
8:45 PM Mayor McCoy returned to the table

9:00 PM Council Member Winkler left the table
9:01 PM Council Member Winkler returned to the table

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Council Member Herold requested to pull consent agenda item #'s 6 and 13 for discussion.

Council Member Herbst requested to pull consent agenda item #'s 2, 3 and 4 for discussion

Council Member Winkler requested a point of order regarding his 8/4 request delivered to the Mayor's office to add an agenda item regarding the cost allocations for the recent town wide mailing, along with his 8/5 request for an agenda item regarding the Town Council to request the Mayor pick from the list of finalists for the Public Works position and bring another nominee before the Town Council. These items were not on this agenda. Mayor McCoy will add to the next meeting agenda.

Council Member Herold requested to pull consent agenda item #11 for discussion.

Motion carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda items 1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 as presented.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

C 1. Request for Tax Refunds Prior Years and Current Year.

A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Acting Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated August 7, 2009 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THREE (3) TAX REFUNDS TOTALLING \$218.20 FOR PRIOR YEARS, AND SEVENTEEN (17) TAX REFUNDS TOTALLING \$2492.12 FOR THE CURRENT YEAR AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, ACTING COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED AUGUST 7, 2009.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made the above motion to approve the tax refunds prior years and current year. Motion carried unanimously.

C 2. Request the Town Council approve the budget amendments #65 -66 for fiscal year 2008-2009, as provided by James Luddecke, Finance Officer.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENTS #65 -66, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009, AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY JAMES LUDDECKE, FINANCE OFFICER.

Moved to new business # 1

C 3. Request the Town Council authorize the liquidation and re-appropriation of fiscal year 2007-2008 encumbrances in the amount of \$380,629.01 to the fiscal year 2008-2009 budget as detailed in the attached chart. (A copy of a memorandum from James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated August 14, 2009 is included for your review.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE LIQUIDATION AND RE-APPROPRIATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 ENCUMBRANCES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$380,629.01 TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 BUDGET AS DETAILED IN THE ATTACHED CHART.

Moved to new business # 2

- C 4. Request the Town Council schedule a public hearing regarding an Ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance #248 to Authorize the Appointment of one additional member to the Board of Assessment Appeals for Tax Years 2009 and following".** (A copy of the proposed changes along with Ordinance #248 are included in the packet for review. Also in the packet is a memorandum from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and Town Council Members dated August 14, 2009 for you review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH CHAPTER V, SECTION SIX OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, ENTITLED "PUBLIC HEARING ON AND PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCES," HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED, " AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #248 TO AUTHORIZE THE APPOINTMENT OF ONE ADDITIONAL MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS FOR TAX YEARS 2009 AND FOLLOWING", AT 7:35 PM ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2009 LOCATED AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THIRD FLOOR, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE.

Moved to new business # 3

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve the extension of Contract Number 801, 03-17-2006 – Bolton Road North Reconstruction, with VMS Construction Company, 162 Lake Street, Vernon, Connecticut, to include the Ironwood Drive construction project in the amount of \$107,000.00.** (A copy of a memorandum from James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated July 15, 2009 is included for your review.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE EXTENSION OF CONTRACT NUMBER 801, 03-17-2006 – BOLTON ROAD NORTH RECONSTRUCTION, WITH VMS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, 162 LAKE STREET, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, TO INCLUDE THE IRONWOOD DRIVE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$107,000.00.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made the above motion to approve the extension of Contract #801, 03-17-2006 Bolton Road North Reconstruction with VMS Construction Company to include the Ironwood Drive construction project in the amount of \$107,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 6. Request the Town Council authorizes the Mayor Jason L. McCoy or his designee to apply for and execute the necessary documents to receive the ARRA Energy Grant in the amount of \$110,767.00.** (A copy of a memorandum from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and Town Council Members dated August 13, 2009 is included in the packet for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR AND EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO RECEIVE THE AMERICAN REINVESTMENT AND RECOVERY ENERGY EFFICIENCY COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$110,767.00.

Moved to new business # 4

- C 7. Request the Town Council approve the Mayor's appointment of George J. Greco (D), 21 Ironwood Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the School Building Advisory Commission, said term to begin August 19, 2009 and expires on June 30, 2011.** (A copy of Mr. Greco's resume is included for your review. It should be noted that Mr. Greco is presently a member of the Permanent Municipal Buildings Committee and as such qualifies for the regular member position representing the PMBC.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION DATED MAY 17, 2005 ENTITLED "A RESOLUTION CREATING A SCHOOL BUILDING ADVISORY COMMISSION", THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF GEORGE J. GRECO (D), 21 IRONWOOD DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING ADVISORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO BEGIN AUGUST 19, 2009 AND EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2011.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made the above motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of George J. Greco as a regular member of the School Building Advisory Commission for a term beginning August 29, 2009 and expiring on June 20, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 8. Request the Town Council approve the Mayor's appointment of Stanley H. Cohen, (D) 67 Meadowview Lane, Vernon, Connecticut as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, said term to begin 08-19-2009 and expires on 12-31-2010 to replace Keith R. Lauzon now a regular member.** (A copy of Mr. Cohen's resume is included for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 1 & 6, AND CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES § 8-4a & b, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF STANLEY H. COHEN, (D) 67 MEADOWVIEW LANE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO BEGIN 08-19-2009 AND EXPIRES ON 12-31-2010 TO REPLACE KEITH R. LAUZON NOW A REGULAR MEMBER.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made the above motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Stanley H. Cohen as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to begin on 8/19/2009 expiring on 12/31/2010. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 9. Request the Town Council approve the Mayor's appointment of Charles R. Bardes, (U) 79 Meadowview Lane, Vernon, Connecticut as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, said term to begin 08-19-2009 and expires on 12-31-2013 to replace Francis O. Kaplan now a regular member.** (A copy of Mr. Bardes' resume is included for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 1 & 6, AND CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES § 8-4a & b, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY

APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF CHARLES R. BARDES, (U) 79 MEADOWVIEW LANE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO BEGIN 08-19-2009 AND EXPIRES ON 12-31-2013 TO REPLACE FRANCIS O. KAPLAN NOW A REGULAR MEMBER.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made the above motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Charles R. Bardes as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to begin on 8/19/2009 expiring on 12/31/2013. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 10. Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Jason L. McCoy or his designee to apply for and execute the necessary documents to receive the Local Prevention Council Grant in the amount of \$4,245.00.** (A copy of a memorandum from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and Town Council Members dated August 14, 2009 is included for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR AND EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO RECEIVE THE LOCAL PREVENTION COUNCIL GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,245.00.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made the above motion to authorize Mayor Jason L. McCoy or his designee to apply for and execute the necessary documents to receive the Local Prevention Council Grant in the amount of \$4,245.00. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 11. Request the Town Council authorizes Mayor Jason L. McCoy or his designee to apply for a Recreational Trails Program Application for Valley Falls Park Nature Interpretive Center and authorizes Mayor Jason L. McCoy or his designee to execute any documents necessary to receive the grant.** (A copy of a memorandum from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and the Town Council Members dated August 14, 2009 is included for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR A RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR VALLEY FALLS PARK NATURE INTERPRETIVE CENTER AND AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO RECEIVE THE GRANT.

Moved to new business # 5

- C 12. Request the Town Council accepts the following three roads as Town roads in accordance with Section 9 of the Town of Vernon's Subdivision Regulations, Sutton Drive, Zoey Drive and Tobias Court.** (A copy of a memorandum from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and the Town Council Members dated August 14, 2009 is included for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY ACCEPTS THE FOLLOWING THREE ROADS AS TOWN ROADS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 9 OF THE TOWN OF VERNON'S SUBDIVISIONS REGULATIONS, SUTTON DRIVE, ZOHEY DRIVE AND TOBIAS COURT.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Thomas made the above motion to accept Sutton Drive, Zoey Drive and Tobias Court as Town roads in accordance with Section 9 of the Town of Vernon's Subdivision Regulations. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 13. Request the Town Council authorizes the bid waiver for De-icing Control Systems for the Department of Public Works vehicles.** (A copy of a memorandum from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Jason L. McCoy and Town Council Members dated August 14, 2009 is included for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER XII, SECTION 9, OF THE TOWN CHARTER, DETERMINES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TOWN TO WAIVE THE SEALED BID PROCEDURE FOR NEW ENGLAND TRUCK TO INSTALL FOUR DE-ICING CONTROL SYSTEMS FOR TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Moved to new business # 6

E.) IDENTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Herbst requested an agenda item regarding the nomination of a different person to be Director of Public Works be added as an additional agenda item. Mayor McCoy called the motion out of order

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer requested an additional agenda item regarding the cost allocations for the recent town wide mailing. Motion failed, Council Members Anderson, Motola and Thomas opposed.

F.) PENDING BUSINESS

1. **Discussion item request by Council Member Herbst on the 2008-2009 budget.** (It should be noted that this item was a verbal request that has been postponed previously at the request of Finance Officer James Luddecke.)

Discussion took place. Mr. Luddecke will provide the end of year report when the final budget has been completed. Mayor McCoy will request Department heads provide their end of year reports for the next meeting. Council Member Schaefer requested a report from the Board of Education.

9:11 PM – Council Member Motola left the table

9:12 PM – Council Member Motola returned

9:19 PM – Council Member Winkler left the table

9:21 PM – Council Member Winkler returned.

2. **Request the Town Council approves the Mayor's appointment of Terry Hjarne as Collector of Revenue.** (A copy of a memorandum from Mayor Jason L. McCoy to the Town Council Members dated August 14, 2009 is included for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER X, SEC. 3 AND CHAPTER XI, SEC. 4 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MS. TERRY HJARNE AS COLLECTOR OF REVENUE FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Fox made the above motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Terry Hjarne as Collector of Revenue. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

9:27 PM – Council Members Winkler, Schaefer, Fox, Herbst and Herold left the table.

The meeting ended as a quorum was no longer present. A Special Town Council meeting was rescheduled for August 19, 2009 at 10:00 PM.

G.) NEW BUSINESS

H.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

I.) ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

None

J.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

K.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 21, 2009 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 16, 2009 AND THAT THE AMENDED MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

L.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES §1-200(6) (D) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS: TOWN OWNED PROPERTY LOCATION - OVIATE ROAD. THE TOWN COUNCIL INVITES THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO ATTEND, ATTORNEY MARTIN BURKE AND TOWN ADMINISTRATOR JOHN D. WARD.

M.) INFORMATIONAL ITEM

1. Department of Social Services Quarterly Newsletter, dated Summer 2009.
2. Monthly Report dated July 2009 from Vernon Senior Center Director, Penny Rand.
3. Monthly Activity Report for July 2009, from B. Peter Hobbs, Building Official.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Draft #1

Unapproved Minutes

Jill Kentfield
Recording Secretary