

**MINUTES**  
**VERNON TOWN COUNCIL AND VERNON BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**VIRTUAL JOINT SPECIAL MEETING**

TELECONFERENCE CALL IN NUMBER: 1-929-205-6099

MEETING ID: 896 2581 6189 PASSWORD: 0105

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021 - 7:30 PM**

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
21 JAN 14 PM 1:53

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

**A.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Recited

**B.) ROLL CALL - TOWN COUNCIL**

Present: Council Members Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Thomas DiDio, Linda Gessay, Ann Letendre, Maryann Levesque, Brian Motola, Pauline Schaefer, Jim Tedford, Steve Wakefield, Michael Wendus

Absent:

Entered During Virtual Regular Meeting: Julie Clay

Also Present: Town Administrator and Emergency and Risk Management Director Michael J. Purcaro; Finance Officer/Treasurer Jeffrey A. O'Neill  
Recording Secretary Kathleen Minor

**ROLL CALL - BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Present: Board Members Anne Fischer, Kevin Brown, E. Mason Thrall, Mark Kalina, Stephen Linton, Patricia Buxton

Absent:

Entered During Virtual Meeting: Deborah Rodriguez

Also Present: Dr Joseph Macary, Superintendent

**C.) CITIZENS FORUM**

- Genaro Gonzalez, 59 High Street – spoke regarding the COVID-19 vaccine and thanked first responders

Mayor Champagne commented that the Town of Vernon is relying on guidance from the local health Department

- Maryann Levesque, 183 Bolton Road – spoke regarding the timing for seniors to receive the vaccine

Mayor Champagne commented that the Town of Vernon is ready to administer vaccines and is waiting for permission from the State of Connecticut

7:40PM – Citizens Forum ended.

**D.) NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion of self-insurance opportunities.

Mayor Champagne introduced the presentation regarding the discussion of self-insurance opportunities for both the Town and the Board of Education. Michael J. Purcaro, Town

Administrator and Emergency and Risk Management Director for the Town of Vernon was asked to lead the presentation.

Mr. Purcaro verified for the record that Town Council member Julie Clay and Board of Education member Deborah Rodriguez had joined the virtual meeting after roll call.

Mr. Purcaro introduced himself, as well as the presentation team comprised of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Macary, Town of Vernon Finance Officer and Treasurer Jeffrey A. O'Neill and health insurance brokers Christopher Monroe and Tom Kowalchik from USI Insurance Services. He explained that this initial presentation is intended to help inform council and board members about the strategy, plan and recommendations for moving forward to transition from a fully insured to a self-insured model in the upcoming budget cycle. Discussion ensued.

**E.) ADJOURN (9:07PM)**

Town Council Member Motola, seconded by Town Council Member Bush, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted.



Kathleen Minor  
Recording Secretary