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VERNON TOWN CLERK
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MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3RD Floor
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

April 3, 2017 7:00 PM

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

A) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

B) **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Council Members Thomas DiDio, Brian Motola, Julie Clay, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Jim Tedford, Steve Peterson, Ann Letendre and Virginia Gingras.

Absent:

Entered During Meeting: Pauline Schaefer at 7:10 PM

Also Present: Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Karen Daigle

C) **CITIZEN'S FORUM**

No one spoke at Citizen's Forum.

D.) **PRESENTATION**

James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer, stated that there was nothing new from the State regarding their budget. The Board of Assessment Appeals has meetings scheduled into next week, but the indication is that there are no major shifts. Discussion between council members and Mr. Luddecke took place.

E.) **MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS REQUIRING ACTION OR DISCUSSION**

1. Revenue
2. Opportunity for Town Council Members to add or delete from the Mayor's proposed budget.

Independent Audit

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to open tab 5 page 22, account 10114141, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, concerning object code 53030, accounting/auditing fees, moved to add \$16,910, increasing the balance to \$71,610. Motion carried unanimously.

7:10 PM Council Member Schaefer entered meeting.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to close tab 5 page 22, account 10114141, in the amount of \$71,610. Motion carried with 11 in favor and 1 abstention, Council Member Schaefer.

Rockville Public Library

Council Member Didio, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 9 page 143, account 10562262, motion carried with 7 in favor and 5 opposed, Council Members Clay, Appleyard, Wakefield, Bush and Campbell.

John Ward, Town Administrator, and James Luddecke, Finance Officer, spoke on this matter. Discussion took place.

Council Member DiDio, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, concerning object code 58710, grants-cultural/heritage, moved to add \$10,000, increasing the balance to \$470,000. Mayor Daniel Champagne spoke on this matter. Discussion took place. Motion failed with 4 in favor and 8 opposed, Council Members Motola, Clay, Appleyard, Wakefield, Bush, Campbell, Tedford and Peterson.

Council Member Didio, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to close tab 9 page 143, account 10562262, in the amount of \$460,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Snow Removal

Council Member Letendre, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to open tab 7 page 94, account 10340204, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Letendre and Mayor Champagne spoke on this matter. Council Member Letendre, seconded by Council Member DiDio made a motion to add \$50,000, increasing the balance to \$236,970. James Luddecke, Finance Officer, answered questions. Discussion took place. Motion failed with 3 in favor and 9 opposed, Council Members Schaefer, Motola, Clay, Appleyard, Wakefield, Bush, Campbell, Tedford and Peterson.

Council Member Letendre, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to cvlose tab 7 page 94, account 10340204, in the amount of \$186,970. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member DiDio asked a question with regard to agenda item New Business #2, "Memorandum of Understanding" relative to the supervision of the Town's custodial staff, for the regular town council meeting on April 4, 2017. Robert Kleinhans, Director of Public Works, answered questions.

7:38 PM RECESS; 7:54 PM RECONVENED

F.) FINALIZE BUDGET

APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

THE TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY APPROVE THE TOWN OF VERNON GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$29,581,023; THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND DEBT SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,225,964; AND THE EDUCATION BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$52,687,845, FOR A GENERAL FUND TOTAL OF \$89,494,832.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to approve the Town of Vernon General Government appropriations in the amount of \$29,581,023; the Capital Improvements and Debt Service appropriations in the amount of \$7,225,964; and the Education Budget in the amount of \$52,687,845, for a General Fund total of \$89,494,832. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET REVENUE ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

THE TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY APPROVE THE TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$89,494,832 TO COINCIDE WITH THE TOTAL RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATIONS OF \$89,494,832, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCE OFFICER TO ADJUST LINE ITEMS IN THE ESTIMATED REVENUE AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to approve the Total Estimated Revenue in the amount of \$89,494,832 to coincide with the total recommended appropriations of \$89,494,832, and to authorize the Finance Officer to adjust line items in the estimated revenue as may be deemed necessary.

APPROVAL OF TOWN OF VERNON BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 FOR PRESENTATION AT THE PUBLIC HEARING/TOWN MEETING:

THE TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY APPROVE AND PRESENT THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$89,494,832 TO THE ELECTORS AND QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS AT THE PUBLIC HEARING/ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2017 AT 7:00 PM IN THE AUDITORIUM OF ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AT 70 LOVELAND HILL ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT. THE TOWN CLERK IS AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO PUBLISH A SUMMARY OF SAID PROPOSED BUDGET AND ENTERPRISE ACTIVITY ESTIMATES SHOWING ANTICIPATED REVENUES BY MAJOR SOURCES AND PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS BY FUNCTION AND/OR DEPARTMENTS AND THE AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION, AT LEAST FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to approve and present to the electors and qualified taxpayers at the Public Hearing/Annual Town Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the auditorium of Rockville High School at 70 Loveland Hill Road, Vernon, Connecticut.

Adjourn (7:58 PM)

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

Received:
Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary