

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK

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

14 APR -8 PM 2:32

**March 22, 2014 9:00AM**

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

**A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**B) ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Council Members Pauline Schaefer, Virginia Gingras, Julie Clay, Brian Motola, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Steve Peterson, Bill Campbell, John Kopec, Michael Winkler

**Absent:** Council Member Adam Weissberger and Ann Letendre

**Entered During Meeting:**

**Also Present:** Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Danielle Forand

**C) PUBLIC HEARING (9:05am)**

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO THE 2013-2014 TOWN OF VERNON BUDGET.

MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE CALLS THE PUBLIC HEARING TO ORDER

CLERK READS THE LEGAL NOTICE INTO THE RECORD

MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE AND TOWN COUNCIL RECEIVE COMMENTS

ADJOURN THE PUBLIC HEARING

RETURN TO THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

**Closed: 9:07 a.m.**

**D.) PRESENTATION**

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer to present the 2014-2015 Budget Overview to the Town Council. Discussion took place.

**E.) TOWN COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH THE RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

The Town Council adopts the following list of Rules and Procedures for the 2014-2015 Budget deliberations:

Waive all Robert's Rules of Procedure during budget deliberations;

Revenue will be discussed at the opening meeting and at the final budget meeting;

All budget accounts shall be opened and closed, with the Council making decisions on each individual budget during the allocated time frame;

Each meeting will be recessed to the next scheduled budget hearing and draft minutes will be prepared by the Clerk for each meeting to be used during final deliberations;

At the final budget hearing the Town Council may add or delete from any account previously discussed.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made the above motion to approve the list of Rules and Procedures for the 2014-2015 Budget deliberations. Motion carried with 9 in favor and 1 opposed.

G.) **BUDGET REVIEW**

The Town Council shall consider the budgets for FY 2014-2015 for various departments, divisions, and organizations to include:

1. Revenue
2. Probate
3. Social Services
4. Youth Services
5. Senior Center
6. Visiting Nurse & Health Services of CT
7. Hockanum Valley Community Council
8. Child Guidance Clinic
9. Exchange Club – Prevention of Child Abuse
10. Tri-County ARC
11. MARC, Inc of Manchester
12. Shelter Services
13. Connecticut Legal Services
14. Hartford Interval House
15. YWCA Sexual Assault Services
16. Hockanum Valley School Readiness
17. Rockville Public Library
18. Historical Society
19. North Central District Health
20. Greater Hartford Transit District
21. Arts Commission
22. Animal Control
23. Dog License Account
24. Cemetery Operations
25. Vernon Cemetery Commission
26. Town Clerk
27. Town Council

Directors from each Department presented information and answered questions regarding their budget submissions.

**Probate Court**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to open tab 5 page 5, account 10111112, in the amount of \$13,649, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to close tab 5 page 5, account 10111112, in the amount of \$13,649, motion carried unanimously.

**Social Services**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to open tab 8 page 203, account 10456240, in the amount of \$257,716, motion carried unanimously.

Director of Social Services, Marina Rodriguez was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to close tab 8 page 203, account 10456240, in the amount of \$257,716, motion carried unanimously.

**Youth Services**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 8 page 207, account 10456241, in the amount of \$222,835, motion carried unanimously.

Director of Youth Services, Alan Slobodien was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 8 page 207, account 10456241, in the amount of \$222,835, motion carried unanimously.

**Senior Center**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 8 page 212, account 10457242, in the amount of \$131,720, motion carried unanimously.

Director of the Senior Center, Paula Claydon was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 8 page 212, account 10457242, in the amount of \$131,720, motion carried unanimously.

**Visiting Nurse & Health Services of CT**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 8 page 181, account 10455221, in the amount of \$12,249, motion carried unanimously.

President and CEO, Todd Rose was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 8 page 181, account 10455221, in the amount of \$12,249, motion carried unanimously.

**Hockanum Valley Community Council**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 8 page 183, account 10456222, in the amount of \$180,000, motion carried unanimously.

CEO of Hockanum Valley Community Council, David Engleson, Chief Operator Officer David O'ORourke and Chief Financial Officer Dave Fowler were present to answer any questions.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to reduce the budget by \$15,000.

RECESS: 10:14 a.m.  
RECONVEYNE: 10:27 a.m.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to approve the budget of \$180,000. Motion carried with 5 in favor and 5 against with the Mayor in favor to approve the budget of \$180,000.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 8 page 183, account 10456222, in the amount of \$180,000, motion carried unanimously.

**Child Guidance Clinic**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 8 page 185, account 10456223, in the amount of \$5,500, motion carried unanimously.

Representative for the Human Services Advisory, Terry Rogers and Youth Services Director Alan Slobodien were present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 8 page 185, account 10456223, in the amount of \$5,500, motion carried unanimously.

**Exchange Club- Prevention of Child Abuse**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schafer made a motion to open tab 8 page 187, account 10456224, in the amount of \$8,000, motion carried unanimously.

Director of the Exchange Club Trudy Clarke was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to decrease the budget to \$4,000. Motion carried with 7 in favor and 3 opposed.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schafer made a motion to close tab 8 page 187, account 10456224, in the amount of \$4,000. Motion passed with 9 in favor and 1 against.

**Tri-County ARC**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to open tab 8 page 189, account 1456225, in the amount of \$7,000, motion carried unanimously.

Lynn Sherman was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to decrease the budget to \$3,500. Motion carried with 6 in favor and 4 opposed.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to close tab 8 page 189, account 1456225, in the amount of \$3,500, motion carried with 9 in favor and 1 abstention.

**MARC, Inc. of Manchester**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to open tab 8 page 191, account 10456226, in the amount of \$4,000, motion carried unanimously.

Quality Assurance Director Carol Bresslin and Director of Social Services Marina Rodriguez were present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to decrease the budget to \$2,000. Motion failed with 2 in favor and 8 opposed.

Council Member Gingras left the table (11:17 a.m.) Returned (11:18 a.m.)

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 8 page 191, account 10456226, in the amount of \$4,000, motion carried unanimously.

**Shelter Services**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to open tab 8 page 193, account 10456227, in the amount of \$7,200, motion carried unanimously.

Director of Social Services Marina Rodriguez and Shelter Director Bryan Flint were present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Peterson left the table (11:27 a.m.) Returned (11:28 a.m.)

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 8 page 193, account 10456227, in the amount of \$7,200, motion carried unanimously

**Connecticut Legal Services**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to open tab 8 page 195, account 10456229, in the amount of \$2,000, motion carried unanimously.

Wendy Wanchak from Connecticut Legal Services, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Wakefield left the table (11:36 a.m.) Returned (11:37 a.m.)

RECESS: 11:43 a.m.

RECONVEYNE: 12:02 p.m.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to close tab 8 page 195, account 10456229, in the amount of \$2,000, motion carried unanimously.

**Hartford Interval House**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to open tab 8 page 197, account 10456232, in the amount of \$2,500, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to close tab 8 page 197, account 10456232, in the amount of \$2,500, motion carried unanimously.

**YWCA Sexual Assault Services**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 8 page 199, account 10456235, in the amount of \$2,000, motion carried unanimously.

Director of Sexual Assault Services Francis Murphy, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 8 page 199, account 10456235, in the amount of \$2,000, motion carried unanimously.

**Hockanum Valley School Readiness**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 8 page 201, account 10456236, in the amount of \$4,000, motion carried unanimously.

Director of Youth Services Alan Slobodien and Terry Rogers were present. Discussion took place.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to decrease the budget to \$0. Motion carried with 5 in favor and 5 against with the Mayor in favor to approve the budget of \$4,000.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 8 page 201, account 10456236, in the amount of \$4,000, motion carried unanimously.

**Rockville Public Library**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to open tab 9 page 241, account 10562262, in the amount of \$320,000, motion carried unanimously.

Donna Enman, Sharan Redford and Thomasina Clemons were present. Discussion took place.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to decrease the budget to \$310,000. Motion carried with 6 in favor and 4 against.

RECESS: 12:59 p.m.

RECONVEYNE: 1:15 p.m.

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to close tab 9 page 241, account 10562262, in the amount of \$310,000, motion carried unanimously.

**Historical Society**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to open tab 9 page 239, account 10562261, in the amount of \$6,055, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Appleyard made a motion to close tab 9 page 239, account 10562261, in the amount of \$6,055, motion carried unanimously.

**North Central Health District**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to open tab 8 page 179, account 10455220, in the amount of \$136,000, motion carried unanimously.

Director of North Central Health District Mike Pirro was present. Discussion took place.

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to close tab 8 page 179, account 10455220, in the amount of \$136,000, motion carried unanimously.

**Greater Hartford Transit District**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 5 page 68, account 10116158, in the amount of \$3,794, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to close tab 5 page 68, account 10116158, in the amount of \$3,794, motion carried unanimously.

**Arts Commission**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 9 page 237, account 10562260, in the amount of \$8,524, motion carried unanimously.

Bobby Orne was present. Discussion took place.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to decrease the budget in the amount of \$2,000, motion carried with 8 in favor and 2 against.

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to close tab 9 page 237, account 10562260, in the amount of \$6,524, motion carried unanimously.

**Animal Control**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to open tab 6 page 120, account 10233188, in the amount of \$130,416 motion carried unanimously.

Animal Control Officer, Craig Segar, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to close tab 6 page 120, account 10233188, in the amount of \$130,416 motion carried unanimously.

**Dog License Account**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 12 page 277, account 22233410, in the amount of \$37,600 motion carried unanimously.

Animal Control Officer, Craig Segar, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 12 page 277, account 22233410, in the amount of \$37,600 motion carried unanimously.

**Cemetery Operations**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 12 page 289, account 23342420, in the amount of \$307,251, motion carried unanimously.

Cemetery Superintendent, Alan West, was present to answer any questions.

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Wakefield made a motion to close tab 12 page 289, account 23342420, in the amount of \$307,251, motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Appleyard left the table (2:11 p.m. ) Returned (2:12 p.m.)

**Vernon Cemetery Commission**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 10 page 263, account 10826302, in the amount of \$172,911 motion carried unanimously.

Cemetery Superintendent, Alan West, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 10 page 263, account 10826302, in the amount of \$172,911 motion carried unanimously.

**Town Clerk**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 5 page 57, account 10115150, in the amount of \$269,108 motion carried unanimously.

Town Clerk, Bernice Dixon, was present to answer any questions. Discussion took place.

RECESS: 2:21 p.m.

RECONVEYNE: 2:28 p.m.

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 5 page 57, account 10115150, in the amount of \$269,108 motion carried unanimously.

**Town Council**

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to open tab 5 page 1, account, in the amount of \$12,245 motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Kopec, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to close tab 5 page 1, account, in the amount of \$12,245 motion carried unanimously.

H.) **MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS REQUIRING ACTION**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec moved to recess the meeting until 7:30pm Thursday, March 24, 2014 at Town Hall, Third Floor. Motion carried unanimously.

I.) **RECESS REMAINING ACCOUNTS TO MARCH 24, 2014.**

**Received:**

**Approved:**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Danielle Forand  
Recording Secretary**