

March 12, 2008

MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
BUDGET MEETING
SENIOR CENTER 2ND FLOOR, CONFERENCE ROOM
26 PARK PLACE
WEDNESDAY, March 12, 2008
6:30 P.M.

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM

Roll Call:

Present: Bill Campbell, Daniel Champagne, Mark Etre, Bill Fox, Marie Herbst, Nancy E Herold, Peggy A. Jackle, Brian Motola, Pauline Schaefer, Diane Wheelock, Michael Winkler

Absent:

Entered During Meeting: Daniel Anderson (7:15 PM)

Also Present: Mayor Jason L. McCoy, Town Administrator Christopher Clark, Finance Officer James Luddecke, Budget Analyst Diane Luddecke, Recording Secretary Jill Kentfield, Technical Assistant Christopher Prue

PUBLIC HEARING: 6:36 PM

Jason L. McCoy, Mayor, called the Public Hearing to order to receive and hear comments regarding the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget of the Town of Vernon.

The Clerk read the Legal Notice.

Public comments:

Tom Didio, 112 Box Mountain Drive: The Democratic Town Committee Chairperson made statements relative to his opposition to the budget.

Peggy Shea, 27 Fox Hill Drive: Represents the Rockville High School parents group and requested the Town Council not to make any more reductions to the education budget.

Bill Dauphin, 11 Olive Lane: Made statements relative to his opposition to the budget.

James Hoover, 155 Troutstream Drive: Represents the Taxpayers Association. Made statements relative to his support for the budget.

The public hearing closed at 6:48 PM

Council Member Wheelock, seconded by Council Member Jackle made a motion to reconvene the budget review discussions. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION:

James Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer was present to discuss the Budget 2008-2009 overview to the Town Council prior to beginning of deliberations. No presentation was necessary

MAYORAL REQUEST:

The Mayor hereby requests that each Department Head in attendance present an overview of their department Budget to the Town Council prior to their Budget discussion.

BUDGET REVIEW:

The Town Council shall consider the budgets for FY 2008-2009 for various departments, divisions and organizations to include:

1. Education
2. Education-Capital Improvements
3. Cemetery Operations
4. Vernon Cemetery Commission
5. Water Pollution Control Authority
6. Waste Treatment Plant Operation
7. Housing Authority-Sewer Subsidy
8. Data Processing Center
9. Data Processing
10. Animal Control
11. Dog License Account
12. Engineering
13. Public Works-Administration
14. Public Works-General Maintenance
15. Public Works-Equipment Maintenance
16. Public Works-Maintenance of Government Buildings
17. Public Works-Snow Removal
18. Public Works-Refuse Collection and Disposal
19. Public Works-Recycling
20. Public Works-Condominium Refuse
21. Public Works-Tree Warden
22. Public Works-Leaf Collection
23. Center 375
24. Capital Improvements-Town

Education:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Jackle made a motion to open tab 12, page 79, in the amount of \$45,696,823. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place. The Board of Education Interim Superintendent Richard Paskiewicz presented the Board of Education Budget. Town Council members of the Board of Education Budgeting Committee & Board of Education Chairpersons were present.

Council Member Winkler seconded by Council Member Wheelock made a motion to close tab 12, page 79, account 10990330, in the amount of \$45,696,823, motion carried unanimously.

Education – Capital Improvements:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 11, page 76, in the amount of \$0. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 11, page 76, account 10780291, in the amount of \$0, motion carried unanimously.

RECESS: 8:35 PM

Mayor McCoy requested a 5 minute recess

The meeting reconvened at 8:50 PM

Cemetery Operations:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to open tab 12, page 82, in the amount of \$258,675. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Champagne seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to close tab 12, page 82, account 23342420, in the amount of \$258,675, motion carried unanimously.

Vernon Cemetery Commission:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to open tab 10, page 74, in the amount of \$133,053. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 10, page 74, account 10826302, in the amount of \$133,053, motion carried unanimously.

Water Pollution Control Authority:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to open tab 5, page 19, in the amount of \$13,021. Motion carried unanimously.

Brief discussion took place.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 5, page 19, account 10116157, in the amount of \$13,021, motion carried unanimously.

Waste Treatment Plant Operation:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 12, page 84, in the amount of \$5,707,388. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place. Council Member Anderson asked about staffing, there are 24 people in the Department with 8 operators at the plant, the Department is looking to hire some entry level employees that will be trained prior to seasonal personnel retiring. The Department spends an extra \$3000.00 every other year on diesel fuel to top off the 7 remote pumping stations that back up the plant. Council member Anderson asked that they consider coordinating with the Public Works department to bundle with their diesel contract. Regarding the Capitol Outlay increase, the Department is looking to replace vehicles that are 17-18 years old, and purchase updated computer hardware and software that runs on a platform dated back to 1999 and is no longer supported. Council member Anderson spoke about having WPCA reevaluate this account and come back with a different plan along with an approximate projection of the increase in sewer use fees to the March 19th budget meeting. No vote was taken for either suggestion.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 12, page 84, account 41345700, in the amount of \$5,707,388, motion carried unanimously.

Housing Authority Sewer Subsidy:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to open tab 10, page 73, in the amount of \$43,735. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place regarding the rate the Housing Authority pays the town.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 10, page 73, account 10673282, in the amount of \$43,735, motion carried unanimously.

Data Processing:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Jackle made a motion to open tab 12, page 86, in the amount of \$562,400. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place regarding the new information technology systems in place including internet access, e-mail access and connectivity of all Town of Vernon buildings, schools and emergency services. New e-mail addresses are first initial last name@vernon-ct.gov.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 12, page 86, account 51617710, in the amount of \$562,400, motion carried unanimously.

Extend Curfew: 10:25 PM

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer moved to extend curfew until business finished. Motion failed, Council Members Anderson, Campbell, Etre, Fox, Herbst, Herold, Jackle, Motola, Schaeffer opposed.

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Council Member Motola seconded by Council Member Herbst made a motion to extend curfew until the completion of item #12 and place the Department of Public Works on the agenda first on March 13. Motion carried, Council Member Anderson opposed, Council member Campbell abstained.

Data Processing:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 5, page 21, in the amount of \$316,697. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Etre seconded by Council Member Motola made a motion to close tab 5, page 21, account 10117160, in the amount of \$316,697, motion carried unanimously.

Animal Control:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Fox made a motion to open tab 6, page 31, in the amount of \$126,232. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Campbell seconded by Council Member Wheelock made a motion to close tab 6, page 31, account 10233188, in the amount of \$126,232, motion carried unanimously.

Dog License Account:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Fox made a motion to open tab 12, page 81, in the amount of \$36,552. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Champagne seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to close tab 12, page 81, account 22233410, in the amount of \$36,552, motion carried unanimously.

Engineering:

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to open tab 7, page 42, in the amount of \$267,601. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Wheelock seconded by Council Member Schaefer made a motion to close tab 7, page 42, account 10341214, in the amount of \$267,601, motion carried unanimously.

Revenue Discussion:

No discussion

Miscellaneous Accounts Requiring Action:

None taken

ADJOURN: 10:58 PM

Council Member Champagne seconded by Council Member Campbell moved to recess the budget discussion until March 13, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

Received: March 14, 2008

Approved: Approved May 6, 2008

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Kentfield
Recording Secretary



James E. Krupinski, Asst.

Town of Vernon**Town Council Budget Hearing**
Fiscal Year July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009**Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 12, 6:30 p.m. - 2nd Floor, Senior Center****Page 1 of 2**

TAB	PAGE #	DEPARTMENT	CODE	AMOUNT PROPOSED	AMOUNT APPROVED
		Public Hearing			
12	79	Education	10990330	45,696,823	45,696,823
11	76	Education - Capital Improvements	10780291	-	-
12	82	Cemetery Operations	23342420	258,675	258,675
10	74	Vernon Cemetery Commission	10826302	133,053	133,053
5	19	Water Pollution Control Authority	10116157	13,021	13,021
12	84	Waste Treatment Plant Operation	41345700	5,707,388	5,707,388
10	73	Housing Authority - Sewer Subsidy	10673282	43,735	43,735
12	86	Data Processing Center	51617710	562,400	562,400
5	21	Data Processing	10117160	316,697	316,697
6	31	Animal Control	10233188	126,232	126,232
12	80	Dog License Account	22231417	36,552	36,552
7	42	Engineering	10341214	267,601	267,601
7	32	Public Works - Administration	10340200	571,292	
7	33	Public Works - General Maintenance	10340201	1,212,660	

Town of Vernon**Town Council Budget Hearing**
Fiscal Year July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009**Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 12, 6:30 p.m. - 2nd Floor, Senior Center****Page 2 of 2**

TAB	PAGE #	DEPARTMENT	CODE	AMOUNT PROPOSED	AMOUNT APPROVED
7	34	Public Works - Equipment Maintenance	10340202	730,960	
7	35	Public Works - Maintenance of Government Building	10340203	853,439	
7	36	Public Works - Snow Removal	10340204	194,740	
7	37	Public Works - Refuse Collection and Disposal	10340205	1,342,927	
7	38	Public Works - Recycling	10340206	367,527	
7	39	Public Works - Condominium Refuse	10340207	4,458	
7	40	Public Works - Tree Warden	10340208	10,680	
7	41	Public Works - Leaf Collection	10340209	121,725	
12	85	Center 375	42340704	247,868	
11	75	Capital Improvements - Town	10780290	150,000	
		Miscellaneous Accounts Requiring Action:			

Sources of comparison data

- www.state.ct.us/sde

What are DRGs?

- A (Weston, Ridgefield, etc.)
- B (Avon, S. Windsor, West Hartford, etc.)
- C (Tolland, Ellington, Mansfield, Bolton, etc.)
- D (Windsor, E. Granby, etc.)
- E (Willington, Union, Coventry, etc.)
- F (E. Windsor, Windsor Locks, **formerly Vernon**, etc.)
- G (**Now Vernon**, Bloom., Manchester, Bristol, etc.)
- H (Meriden, East Hartford, etc.)
- I (Windham, N.B., Hartford., New Haven, etc.)

Sources of Revenue

●	Local	State	Federal	Tu./Ot.
● Vernon	56.6	38.1	3.9	1.4
● S.W.	77.3	21.1	1.5	0.2
● Tolland	64.7	32.5	2.5	0.2
● Elling.	63.2	34.1	2.7	0.1
● Bolton	71.6	26.4	1.1	0.2
● Manc.	62.4	31.7	4.7	1.1
● Coven.	57.7	40.4	3.8	1.3

Vernon's Recent Budget History

●	Ver %	CT-NCEP-VER			W	
● 99-00	1.59%	\$8,588	\$8,563	(\$25)	131	56
● 00-01	2.02%	\$8,983	\$9,069	\$86	131	58
● 01-02	2.97%	\$9,401	\$9,480	\$79	133	61
● 02-03	3.93%	\$9,817	\$9,764	(\$53)	132	69
● 03-04	3.32%	\$10,166	\$10,105	(\$61)	129	67
● 04-05	3.70%	\$10,677	\$10,585	(\$92)	133	65
● 05-06	2.83%	\$11,240	\$11,126	(\$114)	132	69
● 06-07	2.39%	\$11,864	\$11,663	(\$201)	134	75

2008-2009 Board of Education Requested Budget
\$46,342,392 5.03%
Reduced budget submitted by SOS by \$518,609

Operational Increase	\$2,009,688	4.55%
Restoration Requests	\$170,000	0.39%
New Staff/Programs	\$81,184	0.18%
Teach. Replacement	(\$70,000)	-0.16%
Capital Projects	\$30,000	0.07%

Components of the Operational Increase of \$2,009,688

- **Salary Changes** \$1,733,120 3.925%
 All salaries, contracted services, anticipated negotiations

- **Benefit Changes** (\$17,405) -0.039%
 Medical, life, F.I.C.A., town pension, unemployment

- **Contracted Services** \$9,635 0.22%
 Pupil services, legal services

- **Purchased Property Services** \$177,887 0.403%
 Utilities, maintenance, copiers, computers

Avg. Teacher Salary Info 2006-07

● State of CT	\$62,107
● Vernon	\$58,229
● Coventry	\$56,817
● Bolton	\$57,158
● Ellington	\$60,928
● Manchester	\$60,861
● S. Windsor	\$64,148
● Tolland	\$58,071

Add'l Components of the Oper. Increase of \$1,707,022

● Purchased Services	\$264,039	0.598%
Liability insurance, telephones, postage, tuition, Student transportation		
● Supply Changes	\$317,001	0.718%
Teaching supplies, maint. supplies, textbooks, heating oil		
● Equipment Changes	\$44,020	0.10%
Computers and maintenance equipment		

Significant Date

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2007

Restoration Requests \$170,000

- Maintain MSS full day K
\$100,000
- Maintain VCMS Remedial Read/LA
\$70,000

New Staff/Programs \$81,184

- In-school Suspension-RHS \$49,684
- Career Center facilitator-RHS \$31,500

The other main new component!

- TEACHER REPLACEMENTS
(\$70,000)

The Last “Piece”

- Building Capital Projects
- New \$ = \$30,000*

As of March 12, 2008 (Today)

- The Board of Education is currently in the process of reducing its request by an additional \$675,569.

Additional Reductions made on 3/10/08

- NE PE teacher (\$35,225)
- Oil (\$50,000)
- Custodial overtime in summer (\$40,000)
- Overtime-Business Office (\$3,000)
- Instructional Supplies (\$15,000)
- Spec. Ed. Tuition (\$125,000)
- Textbooks (\$22,500)
- Administrative reduction TBD (\$20,000)
- Reduce substitute teacher acct. (\$25,000)
- Potential staff reorganization (\$45,000)
- Don't fill RHS SS position on (\$58,942)
- Don't fill Grade 6 Lang Arts (\$58,942)

Changes already made by Vernon BOE

- Computer equipment, etc. (\$87,532) Note 1
- Blackboard replacement (\$44,400) Note 2
- Math textbooks (new program) (\$80,000) Note 3
- Math textbooks (across district replace. (\$4,900)
- General maintenance (\$25,000)
- Building and Maintenance –schools (\$ 35,000)
- Redesign K offerings at MSS (\$25,000)
- Addt'l savings through teach. replace. (\$5,000)
- Eliminate para positions TBD (\$40,000)
- Reduce 0.50 custodial position (\$25,000)
- Reduce keyboarding options-VCMS (\$19,577)
- Addt'l administrative savings (\$30,000)
- Don't fill current para vacancies (\$49,071)
- Need to add back for diesel, unemp. \$23,202

As of March 12, 2008 (Today)

- The Board still needs to reduce an additional amount of approximately \$200,000
- This past Monday, the Board elected not to consider some of the additional reductions proposed by the school administration. Add'l recommendations are being finalized at this time.

Cost-Saving Measures

- Don't fill "retirement" vacancies
- Delay filling new positions
- Get oil, diesel, electricity, supplies through the CT Consortium for Co-Pur
- Purchase gasoline through the town
- Temp. settings are computer controlled
- Central overnight parking of vans

STAFF COUNT

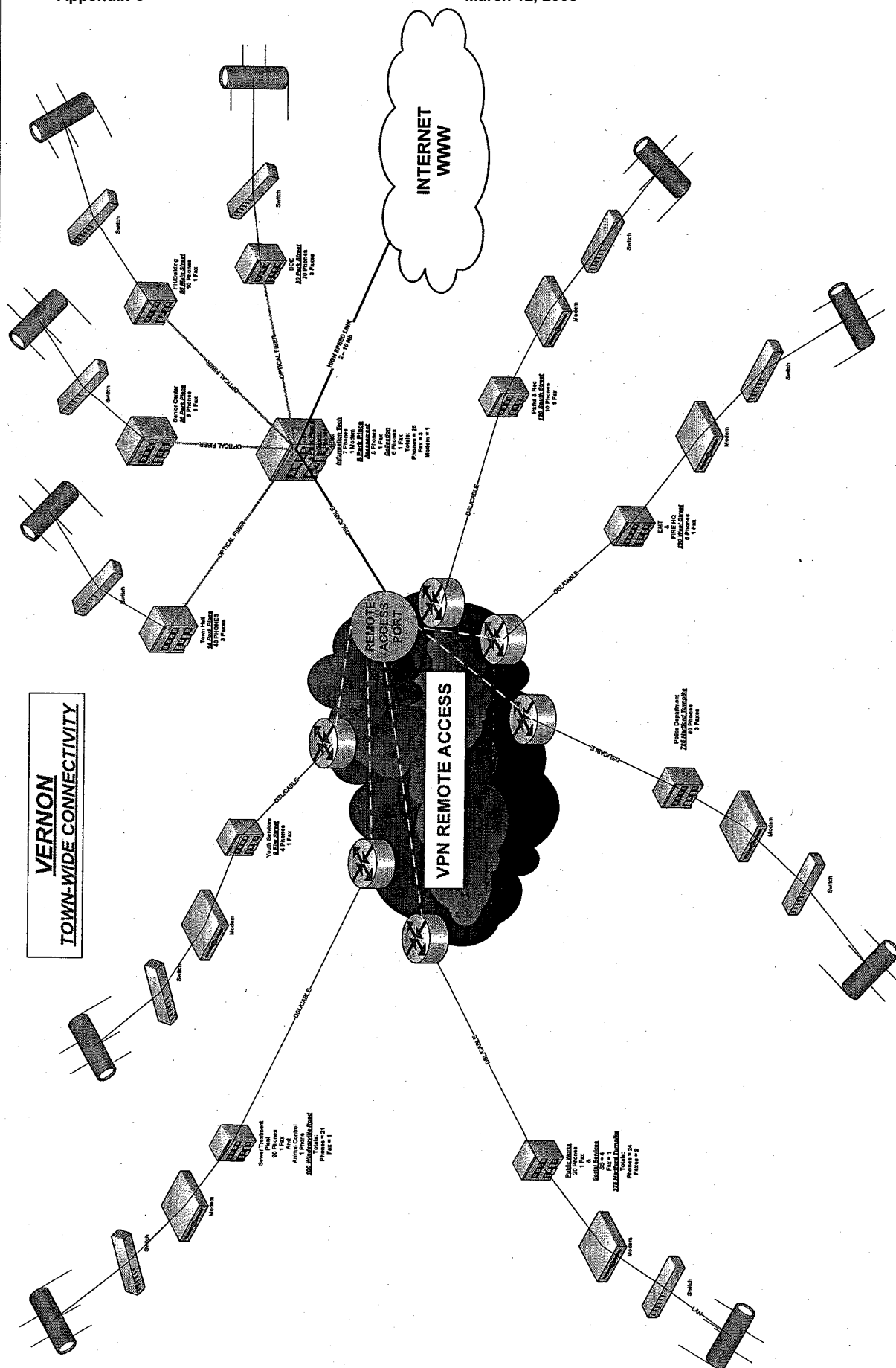
•	Teach.	Adm.	Other	Total	NC-Inst.	Enroll.
• 95-96	303.9	29.6	35.5	369.0	100.9	4,188
• 01-02	306.3	26.9	36.4	369.6	128.6	4,132
• 04-05	294.7	20.7	34.8	350.2	123.1	3,989
• 05-06	299.6	22.0	35.8	357.4	116.3	3,936
• 06-07	297.9	21.5	37.1	356.5	107.5	3,783

Cost Saving Measures-(cont.)

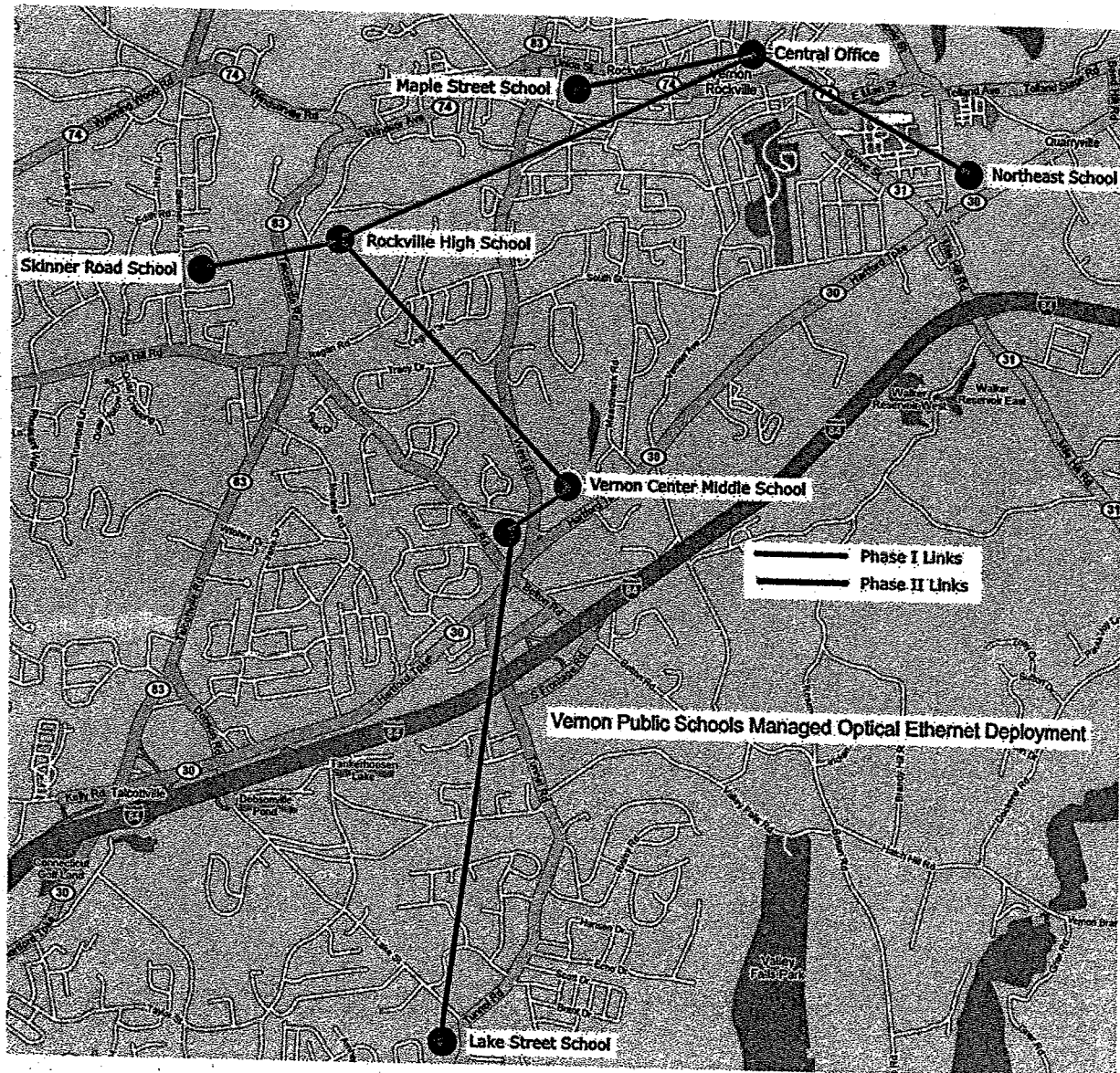
- Medical Insurance, esp. changes in plan design and increased employee contributions
- Efforts at the negotiations “table”

\$ unknowns about the future

- Additional unfunded mandates e.g. magnet schools, in-school suspension, testing inc. NCLB
- Cost of utilities and medical insurance
- Special Education tuition costs



The following graphic provides a schematic picture of the proposed linkage phases (not the actual fiber route detail) and the table on the next page provides the quantitative improvements in bandwidth in detail for each location and phase.



Engineering Drawing ID: Page-1

 Town of Vernon
 Network Topology Drawing - Proposed

Design High Level Town of Vernon2.rvt

Rev 2.0

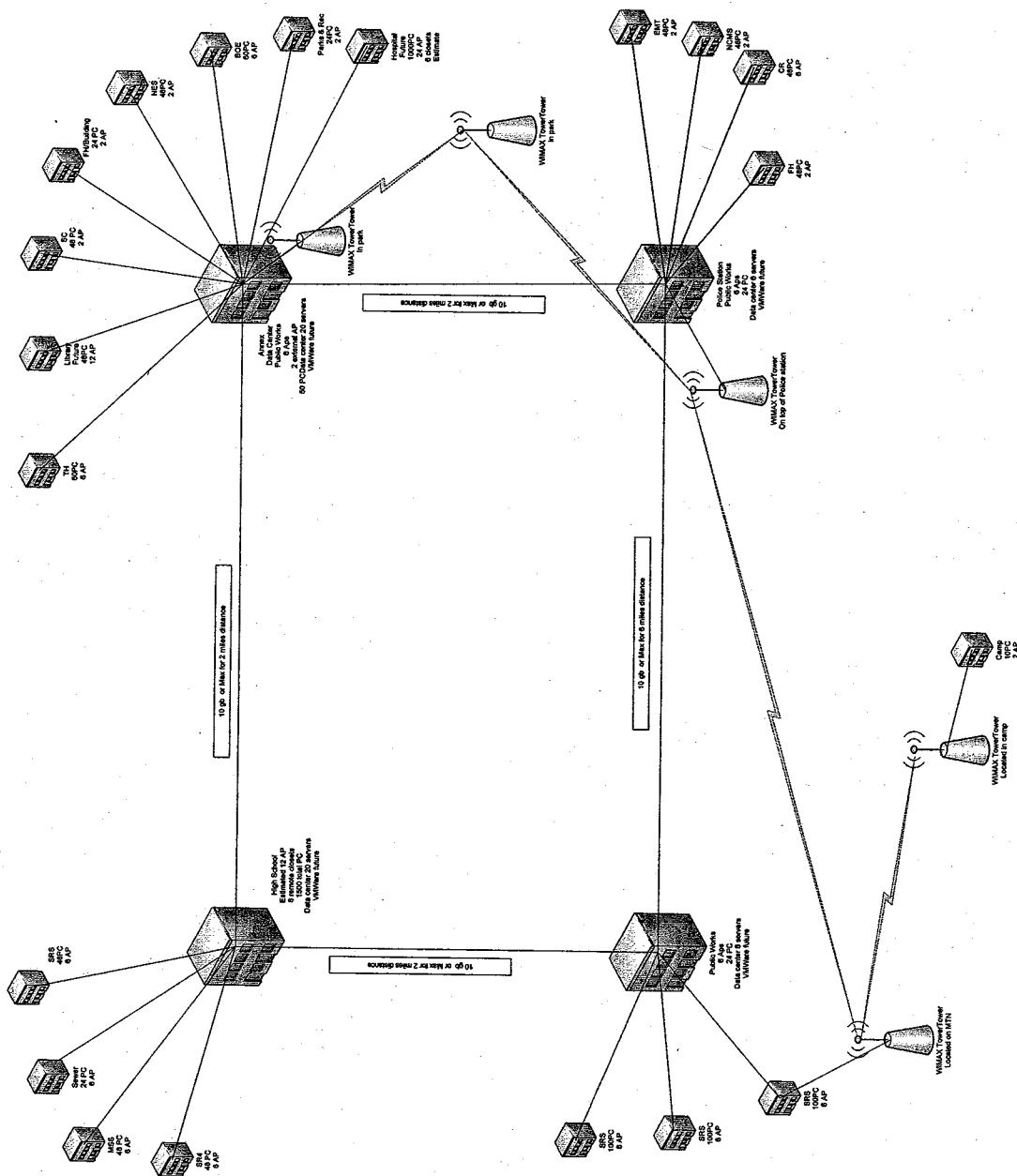
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Rick Field 11/2007

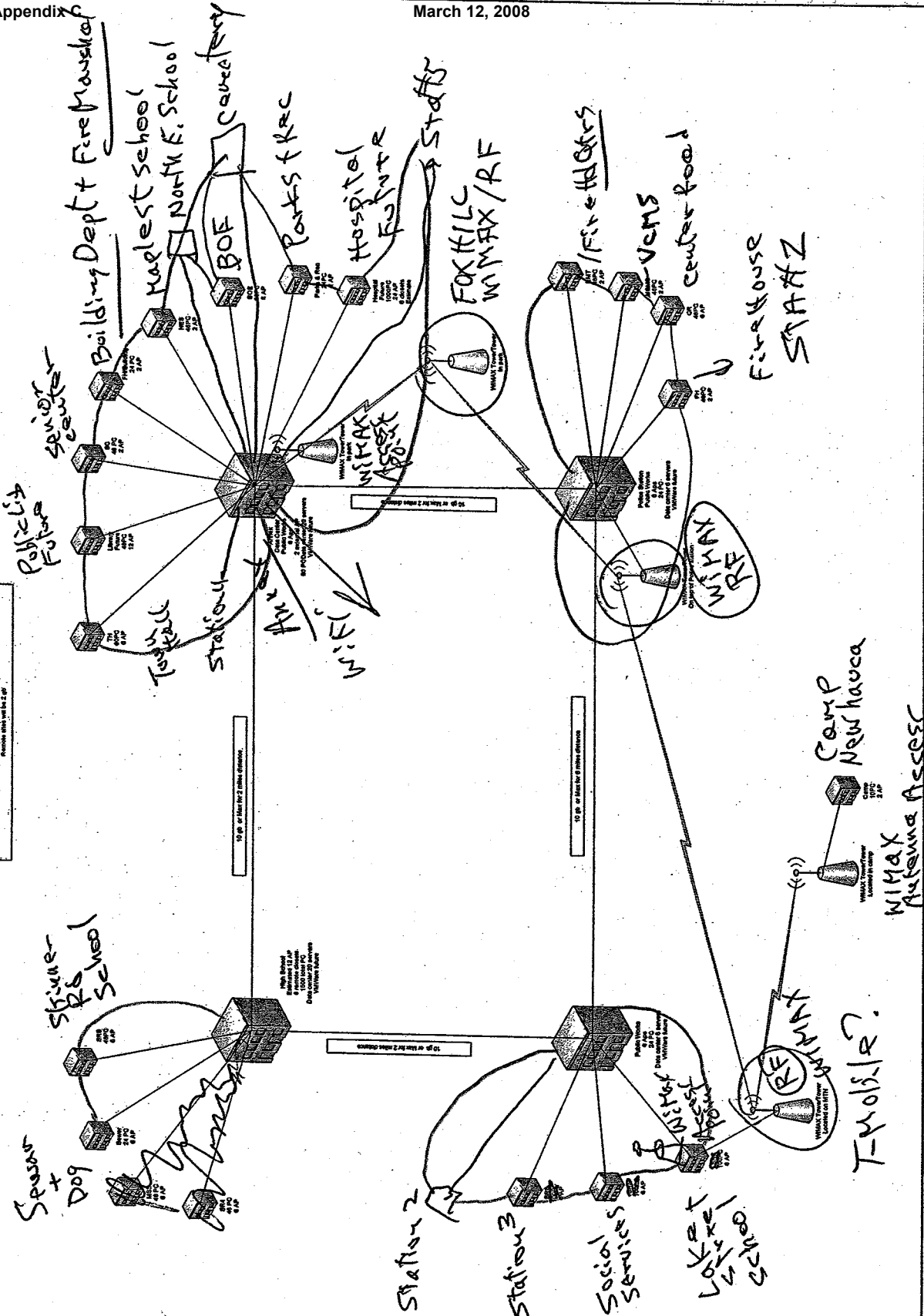
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 All files to be run Single mode multi mode analysis
 Main files are 10 gb
 (or can be run 10 gb)
 Remote files will be 2 gb


All files to be in the design mode (not made online)
 (see comments in the design mode)
 (see comments in the design mode)



<p>Town of Vernon</p>	<p>Engineering Drawing ID: Page-1</p>	<p>MTM TECHNOLOGIES</p>
<p>Network Topology Drawing - Proposed</p>	<p>Created by: Rick Pilo 11/2007 Last Updated by: [blank] Printed on: [blank]</p>	<p>File Name: Design High Level Town of Vernon2.vsd Rev: 2.0 Date: 11/2007 Author: Rick Pilo Title: Network Designer</p>