

December 1, 2020

**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**VERNON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING**

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
21 JAN -7 PM 4:59

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

MEETING ID: 882 3876 4770 PASSWORD: 1201

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2020 – 7:30 PM**

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

**A.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Recited

**ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: Julie Clay, Pauline Schaefer, Michael Wendus

Entered During Virtual Regular Meeting:

Also Present: Town Administrator Michael J. Purcaro, Recording Secretary Kathleen Minor

**B.) CITIZENS FORUM**

- Eileen Dee, 137 Washington Street – spoke regarding reducing speed and sidewalks
- Mark Shekleton, 280 Phoenix Street and Jessica Wawzyniecki, 61 Hublard Street introduced themselves. Mark Shekleton spoke regarding pedestrian safety concerns and introduced two petitions that have been signed by residents; one to install flashing crosswalk lights at the Rails to Trails crossings at Dobson Road and Church Street and Phoenix Street and the other for sidewalks on Phoenix Street from the Manchester town line to the Rails to Trails crossings on Washington Street.

Mayor Champagne asked that the petitions be sent to Town of Vernon Administration

- Maryann Levesque, 183 Bolton Road – spoke regarding recent tragic accidents and public safety concerns and recommended forming a Traffic Safety Committee
- Kim Boulette, 228 Phoenix Street – spoke in support of the two petitions
- Thomas DiDio, 112 Box Mountain Drive- suggested a safety campaigns in the school system as well as a public service announcement advising people on how to safely walk

Mayor Champagne commented that Officer Friendly does teach this topic in the school system.

- Inaudible Caller (name and address unknown) – thanked the police and fire departments
- Genaro Gonzalez, 59 High Street, spoke about traffic safety on High Street and how corona discharges and COVID-19 affect health

7:48 PM - Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made a motion to extend Citizens forum. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- Eileen Dee, 137 Washington Street – added to her previous comment

7:50 PM - Citizens Forum ended

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**C.) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**D.) PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**F.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION**

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne reminded everyone that Winterfest 2020 is Friday, December 4, 2020 from 5:00pm-7:00pm.

**G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made a motion to move the Consent Agenda. Motion carried by roll call vote with 8 in favor. Council Member Bush did not respond to roll call vote.

- C 1. Request the Town Council approve Tax Refunds for Prior and Current years.** (See copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator dated November 19, 2020 included in the Council packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR (134) TAX REFUNDS FOR PRIOR YEARS TOTALING \$43,469.85 AND TWELVE (12) CURRENT YEAR TAX REFUNDS TOTALING \$1,435.21 AS REFERENCED IN THE LETTER FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED NOVEMBER 19, 2020.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Officer Gregory St. Pierre, Liaison from the Vernon Police Department, 725 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, Connecticut as a member of the Vernon Youth Services Bureau, said term to commence January 1, 2021 and expires December 31, 2023.** (Officer St. Pierre is a Town of Vernon employee and therefore no resume is attached.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER XV, SECT. 3; TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION DATED 08-24-1976 AND TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION DATED 03-01-1994, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF OFFICER GREGORY ST. PIERRE, LIAISON FROM THE VERNON POLICE DEPARTMENT, 725 HARTFORD TURNPIKE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A MEMBER OF THE YOUTH SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2021 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2023.

**H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEM(S)**

None

**I.) PENDING BUSINESS**

None

**J.) NEW BUSINESS**

None

**K.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

None

**L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCE(S) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED**

None

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**M.) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**N.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

None

**O.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON **NOVEMBER 17, 2020** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the regular Town Council meeting held on November 17, 2020. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**P.) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, ETC. NOT REQUIRING ACTION**

1. Monthly Report – Town Clerk’s Office for October, 2020, as submitted by Karen C. Daigle, Town Clerk.
2. Monthly Report – Police Department for October, 2020, as submitted by Captain John Kelley.
3. Invitation to Winterfest – December 4, 2020, Henry Park, 120 South Street, Vernon, Connecticut.
4. Approved FOIA dates for your records, as amended.
5. Public Notice “Dart Hill Bridge Replacement – Virtual Public Information Meeting”, December 8, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

**Q.) ADJOURN (7:53PM)**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Received: December 8, 2020

Approved: December 15, 2020

Respectfully Submitted.



Kathleen Minor  
Recording Secretary