

October 6, 2020

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

VIRTUAL INFO: CALL IN #1-929-205-6099
MEETING ID: 833 6392 3802 PASSWORD: 1006
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2020 – 7:30 PM

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

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited

B) ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Julie Clay, Thomas DiDio, Linda Gessay, Maryann Levesque, Brian Motola, Jim Tedford, Steve Wakefield and Michael Wendus

Absent: Council Members Ann Letendre and Pauline Schaefer

Entered During Meeting:

Also Present: Town Administrator Michael Purcaro, Recording Secretary Karen Daigle

C.) CITIZEN'S FORUM

Genaro Gonzalez, 59 High Street, spoke on various topics, including Covid-19.

Citizen's Forum ended at 7:40 PM

E.) PUBLIC HEARING

None

F.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne made a presentation to the Town Council on various topics.

- A crumbling foundation meeting with the New England HUD Administration was hosted by Congressman Joe Courtney and Mayor Daniel A. Champagne.
- Leaf collection has begun with three drop-off locations: Church Street, Legion Field and Nye Street. Call the Public Works Department to schedule a pickup.
- On September 15, 2020 1,400 boxes containing 21,000 pounds of fresh produce were distributed to senior housing facilities in Vernon and surrounding communities, and to residents through the Cornerstone Foundation and the Hockanum Valley Community Council.
- The Planning & Zoning Commission has begun updating the 2012 Plan of Conservation and Development, with a community survey on the Town's website under news/announcements.
- On September 18th the Town of Vernon closed on the land in Vernon and Ellington to be used for athletic fields. More information is forthcoming.
- The Town of Vernon has launched its first official Twitter and Facebook accounts. On Twitter we are @townvernon and on Facebook @TownOfVernonCT.
- The North Central District Health Department and Town of Vernon are partnering in flu clinics at Rockville High School for staff and students and Town Hall for employees and their families.
- Two park maintenance crew leaders, Mark Lucas and Mitchell Reid have been recognized as The Park Maintenance Professionals of the Year by Connecticut Recreation & Parks Association.

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Mayor Danial A. Champagne presented and recited to Fire Marshal Daniel Wasilewski a proclamation in recognition of **"2020 Fire Prevention Week – October 4-10th"**.

G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made a motion to move the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously by 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 September 17, 2020 included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES TWO (2) TAX REFUNDS FOR PRIOR YEARS TOTALING \$548.19 AND ELEVEN (11) CURRENT YEAR TAX REFUNDS TOTALING \$1769.69 AS REFERENCED IN THE LETTER FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED SEPTEMBER 17, 2020.

- C 2.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of TeriLynn Rogers, (D), 26 White Street, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Town of Vernon Cemetery Commission, said term to commence on October 7, 2020 and expires June 30, 2023. (See Ms. Rogers resume for review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO C.G.S. §19A-296; CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SECTION 10, THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF TERILYNN ROGERS, (D), 26 WHITE STREET, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE CEMETERY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON OCTOBER 7, 2020 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2023.

- C 3.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Janet C. DiTarando, (U), 1161 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Vernon Senior Citizen's Advisory Committee, said term to commence on October 7, 2020 and expires June 30, 2023. (See Ms. DiTarando's resume and recommendation letter from Maureen Gabriele, Senior Center Director relative to Ms. DiTarando appointment.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO VERNON'S CHARTER CHAP. XV, SEC. 3; EST. 03-02-1982, THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF JANET C. DITARANDO, (U), 1161 HARTFORD TURNPIKE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A MEMBER OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SAID TERM TO BEGIN ON OCTOBER 7, 2020 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2023.

H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

None

I.) PENDING BUSINESS

None

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J.) NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Request the Town Council authorize the asset disposal for Executive and Administration Department** (See memorandum dated September 29, 2020 from Jeffrey A. O'Neill, Finance Officer & Treasurer to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE DISPOSAL OF FIXED ASSETS FOR THE EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT AS DISCLOSED ON THE REQUEST FOR DISPOSAL OF FIXED ASSET FORMS.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to approve the disposal of fixed assets for the Executive and Administration Department as disclosed on the request for disposal of fixed asset forms. Discussion ensued. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

K.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

None

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 OF **SEPTEMBER 15, 2020** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Clay, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the September 15, 2020 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

7:54 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made the following motion to go into Executive Session #1:

THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES 1-200 (2) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE **VERNON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AND THE VERNON BOARD OF EDUCATION** AND INVITES THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO ATTEND: MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, DR. JOSEPH MACARY, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS;

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DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR; AND MRS. ANN FISCHER,
CHAIRMAN OF THE VERNON BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Dawn Maselek was not in attendance.

8:33 PM Executive Session #1 ended.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made the following motion:

THE TOWN COUNCIL MOVES TO APPROVE THE NEGOTIATED COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE **VERNON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AND THE VERNON BOARD OF EDUCATION** EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2025, ON THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS PRESENTED.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

8:36 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made the following motion to go into Executive Session #2:

THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES 1-200 (2) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL MATTER AND INVITES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.

Dawn Maselek was not in attendance.

8:43 PM Executive Session #2 ended.

No action taken.

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

1. Monthly Report – Town Clerk's Office for August, 2020, as submitted by Karen C. Daigle, Town Clerk.
2. Letter to Clay Furniture owner Julie Clay thanking her for her company's generous donation of six upholstered ottomans for the Rockville Public Library.

Adjourn (8:44 PM)

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

Received: October 13, 2020

Approved: November 17, 2020

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary