

February 4, 2020

**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**VERNON TOWN COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR**  
**VERNON, CONNECTICUT**

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
20 FEB 25 AM 9:29

**February 4, 2020**

Mayor Daniel Champagne called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

**A.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**B.) ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Council Members Pauline Schaefer, Thomas DiDio, Brian Motola, Julie Clay, Michael Wendus, Steve Wakefield, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Jim Tedford, Maryann Levesque

**Absent:** Ann Letendre

**Entered During Meeting:**

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

**C.) CITIZEN'S FORUM**

None

**F.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION**

Mayor Champagne introduced the new Town Planner George McGregor. Mr McGregor spoke and discussion ensued.

7:35 PM – recess to welcome Mr. McGregor.

7:38 PM – reconvened

The Town of Vernon is hosting and presenting a Connecticut Conference of Municipalities CCM – Sustainable CT Workshop entitled, “Supporting Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites” on Friday, February 7, 2020.

The Town Council is invited to the Annual Vernon Fire Department Awards Ceremony on Monday, February 24, 2020 7:00 PM

The Capital Improvement Committee and the Human Services Commission are meeting this month to review the submissions for the 2020-2021 budget.

The CIRMA Annual Meeting was held on January 31, 2020 at the Hartford Marriott Downtown. The Town of Vernon received another award for ***Excellence in Risk Management***

**G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Tedford made a motion to move the Consent Agenda, less item C 2. Motion carried unanimously.

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- 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 January 27, 2020 included in the Council packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES TWO (2) PRIOR YEAR TAX REFUNDS TOTALING \$339.30 AND EIGHTEEN (18) CURRENT YEAR TAX REFUNDS TOTALING \$15,425.36 AS REFERENCED IN THE LETTER FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED JANUARY 27, 2020.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of David C. Nutt, (D), 23 Davis Avenue, Rockville, Connecticut as a regular member of the Housing Authority of the Town of Vernon, said term to commence on February 5, 2020 and expires on February 28, 2023.** (A copy of Mr. Nutt's resume is included for Council review. Mr. Nutt is completed the unexpired term of J. Michael O'Neil who no longer lives in the Town of Vernon.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 8, SECTION 5 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF DAVID C. NUTT, (D), 23 DAVIS AVENUE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF VERNON, SAID TERM TO BEGIN FEBRUARY 5, 2020 AND EXPIRES FEBRUARY 28, 2023.

Item pulled from Agenda per Mayor Champagne. No action taken.

**J.) NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of the new Director of Public Works.** (A copy of the candidate's resume and job description are included for Council review.)

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER X, SEC. 3 AND CHAPTER XI, SEC. 1, 3, AND 12 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF DWIGHT RYNIEWICZ AS DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagnes's appointment of Dwight Ryniewicz as Director of Public Works for the Town of Vernon. Town Administrator Michael Purcaro spoke and discussion ensued. Motion carried with one abstention (Schaefer).

**D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

(1) THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES 1-200 (6) (D) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AND INVITES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.

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Executive Session #1 – Mayor Champagne pulled from Agenda.

7:46 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the following motion to go into Executive Session #2:

**(2) THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES 1-200 (6) (D) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AND INVITES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR; AND DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.**

Motion carried unanimously.

7:56 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the following motion to go into Executive Session #3:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session ended at 8:28PM.

With regard to Executive Session # (2), Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer motioned to approve Mayor Champagne's recommendation to transfer the Chief of Police from Salary Table E-7A to E-7D, and transfer medical coverage from FLEXPOS-CNT-HSA-2000I/4000F-99 Combined Open Access Contract Year Benefit Summary (A) to FLEXPOS-CNT-HSA-1500I/3000F-60 Combined Open Access Contract Year Benefit Summary (A). Motion carried unanimously.

With regard to Executive Session # (3), Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, motioned that in an effort to improve recruitment and encourage retention in the Town of Vernon Emergency Medical Services Corps, the Vernon Town Council moves to accept the revised wage table for all part-time Emergency Medical Services staff as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**E.) PUBLIC HEARING**  
None

**H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS**  
None

**I.) PENDING BUSINESS**  
None

**K.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

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None

**L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCE(S) 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 ON **JANUARY 21, 2020** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the regular Town Council meeting held on January 21, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

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

None

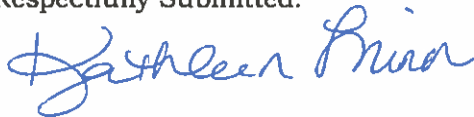
**Q.) ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:31PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Received: February 11, 2020

Approved: February 18, 2020

Respectfully Submitted.



Kathleen Minor  
Recording Secretary