

February 6, 2018

Approved Minutes

Vernon Town Council- Regular Meeting

Town Hall- 14 Park Place- 3rd Floor

Vernon, Connecticut

February 6, 2018- 7:30PM

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
18 MAR -1 PM 6:49

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

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B) ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Thomas DiDio, Brian Motola, Julie Clay, Mike Wendus, Laura Bush, Ann Letendre, Jim Tedford, and Steve Peterson

Absent: Pauline Schaefer, Steve Wakefield and Bill Campbell

Entered During Meeting: Ralph Zahner at 8:16 PM

Also Present: Assistant Town Administrator Dawn R. Maselek, Recording Secretary Cassandra Minor

C) CITIZENS FORUM

Robert Dickinson of 19 Birch Road, South Windsor spoke in regards to fracking and the recycling of wastewater. "What is this thing called fracking and why do we care about its waste?" handout was given to clerk.

F) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMIMISTRATION

None

E) PUBLIC HEARING (7:35PM)

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO "THE SALE OF THE TOWN OWNED PROPERTY KNOWN AS 133 TUNNEL ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT."

- MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE CALLS THE PUBLIC HEARING TO ORDER TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS
- CLERK READS THE LEGAL NOTICE INTO THE RECORD
- MAYOR CHAMPAGNE AND TOWN COUNCIL RECEIVE COMMENTS
- MAYOR CHAMPAGNE DECLARES THE PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED
- RETURN TO THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA (7:37PM)

(Action on this item to be considered during NEW BUSINESS #1)

D) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

7:38PM Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush made the following motion to go into Executive Session #1. Motion carried unanimously.

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THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SECTION 1-200(2) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS STRATEGY AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF VERNON AND THE PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY LOCAL 818 OF COUNCIL 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, AND INVITES THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO ATTEND: MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

- Michael J. Purcaro was not present.

7:54PM Executive Session #1 Ended.

Council Member Motola seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to accept the contract as negotiated by the Town and the Union. Motion carried unanimously.

G) **ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA:**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to move the Consent Agenda. Motion to approve C-1 – C-9 carried unanimously.

- C 1.** **Request for the Town Council to approve Tax Refunds for Prior Years.** (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator dated January 22, 2018 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES NINE (9) TAX REFUNDS TOTALLING \$2076.82 FOR PRIOR YEARS, AND THIRTY-NINE (39) TOTALLING \$7588.08 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED JANUARY 22, 2018.

- C 2.** **Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Jason Mistretta, (R), 57 Vernwood Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Permanent Municipal Building Committee, said term to commence on February 7, 2018 and expires June 30, 2019.** (A copy of Mr. Mistretta's resume is included for Council review. It should be noted that Mr. Mistretta is completing the unexpired term of Ralph Zahner who resigned.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER VIII, SECTION 7, THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF, JASON MISTRETTE, (R), 57 VERNWOOD DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE, SAID TERM TO BEGIN FEBRUARY 7, 2018 AND EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2019.

- C 3.** **Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Mark Summers, (U), 84 Brookview Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Energy Improvement District Board, said term to commence on February 7, 2018 and expires on June 30, 2018.** (A copy of Mr. Summers resume is included for Council review. It should be noted that Mr. Summers is completing the unexpired term of Elma Alikhanov who resigned.)

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PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE TOWN OF VERNON ORDINANCE # 292 AND TOWN CODE SECTION 3(A), THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF MARK SUMMERS, (U), 84 BROOKVIEW DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON FEBRUARY 7, 2018 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2018.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Mason Thrall, (U), 172 Irene Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Vernon Traffic Authority, said term to commence on February 21, 2018 and expires on February 20, 2021.** (A copy of Mr. Thrall's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CODE, ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 13-16 AND 13-17; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF MASON THRALL, (U), 172 IRENE DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY. SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON FEBRUARY 21, 2018 AND EXPIRES ON FEBRUARY 20, 2021.

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Chief James Kenny, 725 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Vernon Traffic Authority, said term commences on February 21, 2018 and expires on February 20, 2021.** (Chief Kenny is a Town of Vernon employee and therefore no resume is attached.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CODE, ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 13-16 AND 13-17; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF CHIEF JAMES KENNY, 725 HARTFORD TURNPIKE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY. SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON FEBRUARY 21, 2018 AND FEBRUARY 20, 2021.

- C 6. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Jason Ellis, (U), 95 Hockanum Blvd, Apt 5811, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Energy Improvement District Board, said appointment to commence February 7, 2018 and expires on June 30, 2022.** (A copy of Mr. Ellis' resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE TOWN OF VERNON ORDINANCE # 292 AND TOWN CODE SECTION 3(A), THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF JASON ELLIS (U), 95 HOCKANUM BLVD, APT 5811, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD, SAID APPOINTMENT TO COMMENCE FEBRUARY 7, 2018 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2022.

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- C 7.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of J. Michael O'Neil, (U), 101 Rambling Road, Vernon, Connecticut to the Vernon Housing Authority Board as a Commissioner, said term to commence on March 1, 2018 and expires February 28, 2023. (A copy of Mr. O'Neil's resume is included for Council review as well as a letter from Peter Olson, Chair of the Vernon Housing Authority Board dated January 22, 2018.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 8, SECTION 5 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF J. MICHAEL O'NEIL, (U), 101 RAMBLING ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO THE VERNON HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD AS A COMMISSIONER, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON MARCH 1, 2018 AND EXPIRES FEBRUARY 28, 2023.

- C 8.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Judy Mitchell Hany, Franklin Park, Franklin Street, Vernon, Connecticut to the Vernon Housing Authority Board as a Commission, said term to commence on February 7, 2018 and expires on February 28, 2020. (A copy of Ms. Hany's resume is included for Council review. Ms. Hany is completing the expired term of Raymond W. Powers who resigned.)

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 JUDY MITCHELL HANY, FRANKLIN PARK, FRANKLIN STREET, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO THE VERNON HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD AS A COMMISSIONER, SAID TERM TO BEGIN ON FEBRUARY 7, 2018 AND EXPIRES ON FEBRUARY 28, 2020.

- C 9.** Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #13, #14, and #15 fiscal year 2017-2018 as provided by Finance Officer and Treasurer James M. Luddecke on the budget amendment forms attached. (See the budget amendment forms with explanation attached to this agenda.)

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS #13, #14 AND #15 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY FINANCE OFFICER AND TREASURER, JAMES M. LUDDECKE.

H) **DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS**

None.

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I) **PENDING BUSINESS**

1. Resume discussion and vote on the pending motion to approve a new Temporary Sign Permit Policy. Final action on this item was postponed from the January 16, 2018 meeting. (See agenda items from the January 16, 2018 and the minutes of the January 16, 2018 meeting in the Council packet.)

PENDING MOTION (Presently on the floor)

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY ADOPTS THE NEW POLICY ENTITLED "TEMPORARY SIGN PERMIT POLICY", AND THE FEE STRUCTURE CONTAINED WITHIN.

Council Member Wendus, seconded by Council Member Clay, made an amended motion to propose \$5.00 per site per week. Parks and Recreation Director, Marty Sitler spoke and answered questions. Discussion ensued. Motion carried with 6 in favor and 2 opposed, Council Members Letendre and DiDio. Motion to approve the new policy entitled "Temporary Sign Permit Policy, and the amended fee structure carried with 6 in favor and 2 opposed, Council Members Letendre and DiDio.

J) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request the Town Council authorize the sale of town-owned real estate known as 133 Tunnel Road, Vernon, Connecticut.** (See documents enclosed from the January 16, 2018 meeting.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO SELL THE PARCEL OF TOWN OWNED LAND KNOWN AS 133 TUNNEL ROAD, VERNON, CT.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to sell the parcel of town owned land known as 133 Tunnel Road, Vernon, CT. Discussion ensued.

Council Member DiDio, seconded by Council Member Letendre made a motion to amend the proposal that prior to the sale, it come before the Town Council again for approval. Discussion ensued.

Council Member Ralph Zahner entered meeting at 8:16PM.

8:18PM Recess; Reconvened: 8:26PM.

Discussion ensued. Amended motion failed with 3 in favor and 6 opposed, Council Members, Peterson, Tedford, Bush, Motola, Wendus and Clay.

Discussion ensued. Main motion carried with 6 in favor and 3 opposed, Council Members DiDio, Letendre and Zahner.

2. **Request the Town Council approve the acceptance of the three streets known as Kristyn Drive, Garden Drive and Carolyn Drive; the Open Space on the parcel of land known as 11 Ogden View Drive (Assessor ID: Map #025, Block #021, Parcel #3A39), conservation easements over Ogden Brook and associated wetlands, and access easements; and Easements for sanitary sewer, drainage, sightline, and grading, all located in Ogden Brook Subdivision at 214 West Street, Vernon, Ct.** (Map of the area available at the Town Council meeting for review.)

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PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOLLOWING THREE STREETS KNOWN AS KRISTYN DRIVE, GARDEN DRIVE AND CAROLYN DRIVE; THE OPEN SPACE ON THE PARCEL OF LAND KNOWN AS 11 OGDEN VIEW DRIVE (ASSESSOR ID: MAP #025, BLOCK #021, PARCEL #3A39); AND CONSERVATION EASEMENTS OVER OGDEN BROOK AND ASSOCIATED WETLANDS, AND ACCESS EASEMENTS; AND THE ADDITIONAL EASEMENTS FOR SANITARY SEWER, DRAINAGE, SIGHTLINE, AND GRADING, ALL LOCATED IN THE OGDEN BROOK SUBDIVISION AT 214 WEST STREET, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AND INDICATED ON MAP ENTITLED: Resubdivision Plan, Ogden Brook Estates, prepared by Tarbell, Heintz & Assoc, LLC, East Hartford, CT., dated 01-31-06 revised to 1-26-07, Sheet 3.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to approve and accept the following three streets known as Kristyn Drive, Garden Drive and Carolyn Drive; the open space on the parcel of land known as 11 Ogden View Drive; and Conservation Easements over Ogden Brook and associated wetlands, and Access Easements; and the additional Easements for Sanitary Sewer, Drainage, Sightline and Grading, all located in the Ogden Brook Subdivision at 214 West Street, Vernon, Connecticut and indicated on map. Motion carried unanimously.

K) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

L) ACTION ON ORDINANCE(S) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED:

None

M) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

None

N) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

None

O) ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 2018 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the regular Town Council Meeting of January 16, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

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

1. Monthly Report for December, 2017 for the Town Clerk's Office as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.

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Q) ADJOURNMENT (8:35pm):

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Peterson, made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received: February 13, 2018

Approved: February 20, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cassandra Minor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cassandra Minor
Recording Secretary