

January 17, 2017

APPROVED MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3rd Floor
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
17 FEB 13 PM 3:33

January 17, 2017 - 7:30 PM

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, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Jim Tedford, Steve Peterson, Ann Letendre and Virginia Gingras

Absent:

Entered During Meeting:

Also Present: Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Karen Daigle

C.) CITIZEN'S FORUM

Mike Winkler, 20 Gottier Drive, reported back from the State that because Vernon is not one of the wealthier towns in the State, we should still benefit some from State funding, although the figure is not known. Also, if the town has decided which building to renovate for the senior center and can provide him with cost figures, he will attempt to get us in line for State funding of projects.

Citizen's Forum ended at 7:32 PM

D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

7:32 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the following motion to go into 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 THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE, AND INVITES JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, TO ATTEND.

Motion carried unanimously.

8:11 PM Executive Session ended. No action was taken.

8:13 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, made the following motion to go into executive session #2:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES § 1-200 (6) (B), HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A POTENTIAL SETTLEMENT RELATED TO **HANNAFORD V VERNON FILE # 0108835** AND INVITES THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS ATTEND: JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, CIRMA REPRESENTATIVE MARK BUDZYNA AND ATTORNEY GEORGE O'DONNELL OF THE LAW FIRM MCGANN, BARLETT AND BROWN.

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Motion carried unanimously.

8:24 PM Executive Session ended.

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

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AGREES TO THE FULL AND FINAL SETTLEMENT AS PRESENTED IN THE MATTER OF *HANNAFORD V VERNON FILE #0108835*, TO RESOLVE SAID CLAIM. ONCE THE SETTLEMENT IS EXECUTED, IT WILL BECOME PUBLIC.

Motion carried unanimously.

8:25 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson, made the following motion to go into executive session #3:

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 THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE AND INVITES JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, TO ATTEND.

Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Letendre left Executive Session.

8:46 PM Executive Session ended. Council Member Letendre returned.

8:46 PM Recess; 8:51 Reconvened

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

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE PURCHASE OF *STATE OF CONNECTICUT SURPLUS PROPERTY AT HARTFORD TURNPIKE (300 SF LAND PARCEL), VERNON, CONNECTICUT*; FURTHER THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES SAID PURCHASE TO BE MADE USING ALREADY BUDGETED OPEN SPACE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000.00.

Motion carried with 11 in favor and 1 abstention, Council Member Letendre.

E.) PUBLIC HEARING

None

F.) PRESENTATIONS

Presentation to the Town Council by Mayor Daniel A. Champagne on various topics.

- Vernon has two residents turning 100 years old – Millie Weber, as member of our senior center; and Henry Butler, our long time Town Clerk. Happy Birthday to both of them.
- January 23, 2017 is the planned Legislative Breakfast hosted by the Board of Education. Please RSVP to the Superintendent's Office.
- The Scouts from Boy Scout Troop 223 were here this evening taking a tour of the mayor's office and learning about their community and government.
- Happy New Year to everyone.

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G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented # C1 – C6. Council Member Gingras pulled C1. Motion carried unanimously to pass #C2-C6.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of David Herrmann, (D), 521 Bolton Road, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Vernon Board of Ethics, said term to commence on January 18, 2017 and expires January 17, 2022 (A copy of Mr. Herrmann's resume is included for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE # 173, TOWN CODE SEC. 2-91 - 2-98; THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF DAVID HERRMANN, (D), 521 BOLTON ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS, SAID NEW TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 18, 2017 AND ENDS ON JANUARY 17, 2022.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #9 and #10, for fiscal year 2016-2017 as provided by Finance Officer and Treasurer James M. Luddecke on the budget amendment forms attached. (See budget forms with explanation attached to this agenda item.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS #9 and #10, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 AS PROVIDED BY JAMES M. LUDDECKE, FINANCE OFFICER AND TREASURER, ON THE ATTACHED BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Town Council Member Ginny Gingras, (D), 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut, as a regular member of the Capital Improvement Committee, said appointment to commence on January 18, 2017 and expires August 30, 2019. (Ms. Gingras is a member of the Town Council therefore no resume is included.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO VERNON TOWN CODE, ARTICLE V, SECTIONS 10-61 - 10-63, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER GINNY GINGRAS, (D), 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE JANUARY 18, 2017 AND EXPIRES AUGUST 30, 2019.

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Town Council Member Ann Letendre, (D), 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Human Services Advisory Commission, said term to commence on January 18, 2017 and expires June 30, 2017. (Ms. Letendre is a member of the Vernon Town Council therefore no resume is included. Ms. Letendre's appointment completes the unexpired term of former Town Council Member Winkler's.)**

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PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER XV, SEC. 3, 05-02-1989
TOWN RESOLUTION VOL. 24, PAGE 382 AS AMENDED /VOL. 37 PAGE 266
AND TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION DATED 02-19-2002, THE TOWN
COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S
APPOINTMENT OF ANN LETENDRE, (D), 14 PARK PLACE , VERNON,
CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 18, 2017 AND
EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2017.

- C 6. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of John Kopec, (R), 24 Jan Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Capital Improvement Committee, said term to commence on January 22, 2017 and expires August 30, 2020.** (A copy of Mr. Kopec's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO VERNON TOWN CODE, ARTICLE V, SECTIONS 10-61-10-63,
THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A.
CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN KOPEC, (R), 24 JAN DRIVE,
VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE JANUARY 22,
2017 AND EXPIRES AUGUST 30, 2020.

H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

- C 1. Request for the Town Council to approve Tax Refunds for Prior and Current Year .** (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated January 3, 2017 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES NINE (9) PRIOR YEAR TAX
REFUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$2141.96 AND TEN (10) CURRENT YEAR TAX
REFUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$12,752.79, AS OUTLINED IN THE
MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO
JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED NOVEMBER 22, 2016.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, made a motion to approve consent agenda item #C-1. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

I.) PENDING BUSINESS
None

J.) NEW BUSINESS (See J #2 later in minutes)

- 1. Request the Town Council schedule a public hearing relative to the sale of the Town owned property known as Bancroft Place adjacent to 214 South Street, Vernon; 97 Main Street, Talcottville; and property located between 17 and 19 Dailey Circle, said public hearing to be scheduled on February 21, 2017 at 7:35 PM to hear comment and answer questions relative to the proposed sale.**

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PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING RELATIVE TO THE SALE OF THE TOWN OWNED PROPERTIES KNOWN AS (1) BANCROFT PLACE ADJACENT TO 214 SOUTH STREET, VERNON – PARCEL NO. 39-0621-00093; (2) 97 MAIN STREET, TALCOTTVILLE – PARCEL #01158A00013; AND (3) PROPERTY LOCATED BETWEEN 17 AND 19 DAILEY CIRCLE – PARCEL NO. 22-0043-00020, SAID PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, **FEBRUARY 21, 2017** AT 7:35 PM IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THIRD FLOOR, TOWN HALL, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO HEAR COMMENT AND ANSWER QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO THE PROPOSED SALE.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson, made a motion to schedule a Public Hearing for the sale of 3 parcels of land described above to be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 7:35 PM in the Town Council Chambers. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

K.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Request the Town Council send proposed ordinance entitled "**Section 11-2 AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE TOWN'S LIABILITY FOR INJURY CAUSED BY ICE AND SNOW ON PUBLIC SIDEWALKS**", to Public Hearing. (See memorandum dated January 10, 2017 from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and the Vernon Town Council relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH CHAPTER V, SECTIONS FIVE AND SIX OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, ENTITLED "PUBLIC HEARING ON AND PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCES", HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "SECTION 11-2 AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE TOWN'S LIABILITY FOR INJURY CAUSED BY ICE AND SNOW ON PUBLIC SIDEWALKS", AT 7:35 PM ON TUESDAY, **FEBRUARY 7, 2017** LOCATED AT THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THIRD FLOOR, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO HEAR COMMENTS AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION RELATIVE TO THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to schedule a Public Hearing regarding an Ordinance entitled "Section 11-2 an Ordinance Concerning the Town's Liability for Injury Caused by Ice and Snow on Public Sidewalks" to be held on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 7:35 PM in the Town Council Chambers. Town Attorney, Lou Spadaccini spoke. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

None

M.) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to add an agenda item concerning the purchase of a parcel with buildings and improvements located at 135 Bolton Road, Vernon, Connecticut, as New Business #2. Motion carried unanimously.

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Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Appleyard, made a motion to add Executive Session #4. Motion carried unanimously.

J.) NEW BUSINESS

2. Purchase of Parcel with Buildings and Improvements located at 135 Bolton Road, Vernon, Connecticut.

PROPOSED MOTION #1

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY MOVES TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE PARCEL, BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS KNOWN AS 135 BOLTON ROAD, AND FURTHER IDENTIFIED AS ASSESSOR'S ID #29-0134-0002A FOR ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,200,000) PENDING 8-24 APPROVAL AND SUBJECT TO FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell, made a motion to approve the purchase of 135 Bolton Road, Vernon, Connecticut for \$1,200,000 pending 8-24 approval and subject to future appropriations. Motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSED MOTION #2

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY MOVES TO REFER THE PARCEL, BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS KNOWN AS 135 BOLTON ROAD AND FURTHER IDENTIFIED AS ASSESSOR'S ID #29-0134-0002A TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR AN 8-24 REFERRAL.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell, made a motion to refer parcel known as 135 Bolton Road, Vernon, Connecticut to the Planning and Zoning Commission for an 8-24 approval. Motion carried unanimously.

9:08 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson, made the following motion to go into executive session:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SUBSECTION 1-200 (6)(B), HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A POTENTIAL SETTLEMENT RELATED TO *JOHN DOE V TOWN OF VERNON* AND INVITES THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO ATTEND: JOHN D WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND ATTORNEY LOU SPADACCINI TO ATTEND.

Motion carried unanimously.

9:15 PM Executive Session ended. No action was taken.

N.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

O.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

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THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF **December 20, 2016** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the December 20, 2016 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

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

1. Monthly Report for the Town Clerk's Office for the month of December, 2016 as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.
2. Monthly Report for the Vernon Police Department for the month of December, 2016 as submitted by John Kelley, Captain of Police.

Adjourn (9:16 PM)

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received: January 23, 2017

Approved: February 7, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary