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MINUTES
TOWN OF VERNON
VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING/SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021 7:35PM
VOTING: OUTSIDE IN FRONT OF TOWN HALL
DRIVE THRU AND WALK UP VOTING AVAILABLE

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84630620894?pwd=U2c5bTVXZE10OVVsQ3p2WINDUDRpZz09>

CALL IN: 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 846 3062 0894 Passcode: 0420

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+19292056099,,84630620894#,,,,*0420# US (New York)

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – recited at 7:30pm at beginning of virtual regular Town Council meeting.
2. MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE CALLED THE VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:35PM.
3. VERNON TOWN CLERK KAREN C. DAIGLE READ THE LEGAL NOTICE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING THAT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL INQUIRER ON APRIL 14, 2021 AND POSTED AT TOWN HALL ON APRIL 12, 2021 INTO THE RECORD.
4. MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE CALLED FOR NOMINATIONS FOR MODERATOR

Brian Motola, seconded by Laura Bush, made a motion to nominate John Leary as Moderator.

5. MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE CLOSED NOMINATIONS FOR MODERATOR AND COMMENCED THE VOTE ON THE NOMINEE AND DECLARED THE MODERATOR

No other nominations were presented. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. John Leary was declared Moderator.

6. MODERATOR EXPLAINED THE PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AND VIRTUAL SPECIAL TOWN MEETING: **TO HEAR COMMENTS AND TAKE THE NECESSARY ACTION REGARDING “CONSTRUCTION OF A TURF FIELD/TRACK AT ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,549,171.00 OF WHICH \$1,129,462.00 SHALL BE FUNDED FROM THE CAPITAL NON-RECURRING EDUCATION ACCOUNT AND \$419,709.00 WHICH SHALL BE FUNDED BY AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FROM THE TOWN’S GENERAL FUND.”**
7. FURTHER, THE MODERATOR EXPLAINED THE RULES OF VOTING ELIGIBILITY ON THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION.

8. MODERATOR SAUGHT COMMENTS ON THE PRESENTED PROPOSED RESOLUTION

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne spoke and explained the history of the proposed resolution.

- Jeff Farrell, Athletic Director at Rockville High School, commented on the committee formed and in favor of the project.
- Genaro Gonzalez, 59 High Street, asked questions regarding the project. Mayor Champagne answered said questions.
- Erick Knickerbocker, Football and Asst. Track Coach, spoke in favor of the project.
- Ariana Nieves, 26 Zoey Drive, wanted a field, but had some reservations and concerns.
- David Lee, 10 Dailey Circle, asked questions and expressed concerns. School Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Macary, answered said questions.
- Matthew Ryan, 684 Hartford Turnpike and a student at Rockville High School, spoke in favor of the project.
- Brooke Landry, 4 Meadow Lark Road and a student at Rockville High School, spoke in favor of the project.
- Bill Bilyak, Girls' Varsity Soccer Coach at Rockville High School, spoke in favor of the project.
- Mike Wendus, 91 Village Street, spoke in favor of the project.
- Hannah Steed, 145 Jonathan Drive and Girls' Jr. Varsity Coach, spoke in favor of the project.
- Greg Caron, Varsity Baseball Coach and physical education teacher at Rockville High School, spoke in favor of the project.
- Nick Willette, 25 Reed Street and Head Track Coach, spoke in favor of the project.
- Lisa Ouellette, 57 Hany Lane, asked questions and expressed concerns. School Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Macary, answered said questions.
- Ariana Nieves, 26 Zoey Drive, asked questions and expressed concerns. School Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Macary, and Jeff Farrel, Athletic Director at Rockville High School, answered said questions.
- Maryann Levesque, 183 Bolton Road, was not in favor of the turf project.

9. MODERATOR CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 8:25 PM.**10. MODERATOR ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO BE PUT ON THE FLOOR FOR A VOTE.****PROPOSED MOTION**

THIS SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HEREBY MOVES TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ENTITLED "CONSTRUCTION OF A TURF FIELD/TRACK AT ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,549,171.00 OF WHICH \$1,129,462.00 SHALL BE FUNDED FROM THE CAPITAL NON-RECURRING EDUCATION ACCOUNT AND \$419,709.00 WHICH SHALL BE FUNDED BY AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FROM THE TOWN'S GENERAL FUND." AS PRESENTED.

Julie Clay, seconded by Brian Motola, so moved the above motion.

11. MODERATOR REQUESTED A MOTION TO RECESS UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF VOTING.

PROPOSED MOTION

THIS SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HEREBY MOVES RECESS TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE VOTING

Mayor Champagne recessed the Special Town Meeting to the conclusion of the voting.

12. THE MODERATOR ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRAR WILL RECEIVE DRIVE-UP AND WALK-UP VOTING OF ALL ELIGIBLE VOTERS. POLLS WERE OPEN DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF TOWN HALL AND CLOSED AT 9:30 PM.
13. MODERATOR CLOSED THE POLLS AT 9:30 PM AND RETURNED TO THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TO ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS OF VOTING.

10:07 PM – Virtual Special Town Meeting reconvened.

Moderator, John Leary, reported that 464 eligible votes were cast and motion carried with 336 in favor and 128 opposed.

14. THE MODERATOR CLOSED THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING AT 10:08 PM AND ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 10:08 PM

Pauline Schaefer, seconded by Laura Bush, made a motion to adjourn the virtual Town Meeting. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary