

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

December 2, 2014 7:30pm.

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

**A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**B) ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Council Members Pauline Schaefer, Virginia Gingras, Brian Motola, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Steven Peterson, Bill Campbell, Michael Winkler, Ann Letendre, Julie Clay, Fred Lehmann and John Kopec

**Absent:**

**Entered During Meeting:**

**Also Present:** Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Danielle Forand

**C) CITIZEN'S FORUM**

Cheryl Arzt, 68 Deepwood Drive, spoke about the Vernon Historical Society.

James Kruplenski, 59 Deerfield Drive, spoke in regards to the New Business Agenda item Number two.

Closed: 7:45PM

Recess:7:45pm

Reconvene: 8:03pm

**D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to go into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

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 TAX APPEAL SETTLEMENT **TTD-CV-14-6008027-S 631 TALCOTTVILLE ROAD COUNTRYWOOD APTS VS TOWN OF VERNON AND INVITES JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR; AND DAVID WHEELER, TOWN ASSESSOR TO ATTEND.**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to authorize the Town Attorney to settle a tax appeal TTD-CV-14-6008027-S, captioned "Vernon Associates Limited partnership LLC vs. Town of Vernon et al, "for personal property taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2013. The property address is commonly known as 631 Talcottville Rd. Personal Property Account# 15452. The 2013 assessment shall be \$66,600.00. The Town Assessor shall execute a Certificate of Correction and the Town Tax Collector to refund the Plaintiff the sum of ~~\$4,061.29.~~ Motion carried unanimously.

**E.) PUBLIC HEARING**

None

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
14 DEC -4 AM 9:07

F.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

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

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to present a Congratulatory Proclamation to the RHS Marching "Ram" Band.

G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to move Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 1. **Request for the approval Tax Refunds for Prior and Current Years. (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated November 21, 2014 is included in the Council packet.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES FIVE (5) CURRENT YEAR TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1049.73, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED NOVEMBER 21, 2014.

- C 2. **Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Basil (Pete) Hobbs, (U), 53 Meadowlark Road, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, said term to commence on January 1, 2015 and expires December 31, 2017. (A copy of Mr. Hobbs' resume is included for Council review.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 1,6 & 11 DATED JANUARY 1, 1985; C.G.S. §8-4A&B, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF BASIL (PETE) HOBBS, (U), 53 MEADOWLARK ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR A TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2017.

- C 3. **Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Wes Shorts, (R), 109 Hany Lane, Vernon, Connecticut, as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, said term to commence on January 1, 2015 and expires December 31, 2017. (A copy of Mr. Shorts' resume is included for Council review.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 1,6 & 11 DATED JANUARY 1, 1985; C.G.S. §8-4A&B, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF WES SHORTS, (R), 109 HANY LANE,

VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR A TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2017.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of John Whitman Kleinhans (R), 60 Old Town Road, Unit #151, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, said term to commence on January 1, 2015 and expires December 31, 2017. (A copy of Mr. Kleinhans's resume is included for Council review.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 1,6 & 11 DATED JANUARY 1, 1985; C.G.S. §8-4A&B, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN WHITMAN KLEINHANS (R), 60 OLD TOWN ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR A TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2017.

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Jason Hahn, (D), 14 Janet Lane, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Building Code Board of Appeals, said term to commence on December 3, 2014 and expires June 30, 2017. (A copy of Mr. Hahn's resume is included for Council review.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO TOWN OF VERNON CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SECTIONS 4 AND 6; C.G.S. §29-266, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF JASON HAHN, (D), 14 JANET LANE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS, SAID TERM TO BEGIN ON DECEMBER 3, 2014 AND EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2017.

- C 6. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Scott Tedeschi, (D), 15 Allan Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Building Code Board of Appeals, said term to commence on December 3, 2014 and expires June 30, 2017. (A copy of Mr. Tedeschi's resume is included for Council review.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO TOWN OF VERNON CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SECTIONS 4 AND 6; C.G.S. §29-266, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF SCOTT TEDESCHI, (D), 15 ALAN DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE

BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS, SAID TERM TO BEGIN  
ON DECEMBER 3, 2014 AND EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2017.

- H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS
- I.) PENDING BUSINESS.
- J.) NEW BUSINESS

1. **Request the Town Council accept the new towns into the Capitol Regional Council of Governments (CRCOG) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).** (See request submitted by CRCOG Executive Director, Lyle Wray dated November 12, 2014 and memorandum from John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated December 1, 2014 relative to same.)

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION:**

**“RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT NEW TOWNS INTO THE CAPITOL REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (CRCOG) METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)”**

**WHEREAS**, the towns of Berlin, Columbia, Coventry, Mansfield, New Britain, Plainville, Southington, Stafford and Willington, have voted to join the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); and

**WHEREAS**, the MPO for the Capitol Region will govern the allocation of federal transportation funding within the Region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal 23 CFR 450.310, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Designation and Redesignation Process requires that units of general purpose local government vote in favor of MPO Redesignation in order for such redesignation to take effect; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the **VERNON TOWN COUNCIL** hereby votes to accept the towns of Berlin, Columbia, Coventry, Mansfield, New Britain, Plainville, Southington, Stafford and Willington, in part or in whole, into the CRCOG MPO.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to authorize the resolution to accept new Towns (Berlin, Columbia, Coventry, Mansfield, New Britain, Plainville, Southington, Stafford and Willington) into the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Request the Town Council authorize the transfer of \$1,170,000.00 from Capital Projects Funds - Ordinance #257 to the Capital Projects Fund - School Roof Replacements and Renovations.** (See documents provided by James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer dated November 24, 2014 to

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and Town Administrator, John D. Ward relative to same.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE TRANSFER OF \$1,170,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND - ORDINANCE #257, ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL ADDITIONS AND RENOVATIONS; TO THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND - SCHOOL ROOF REPLACEMENTS AND RENOVATIONS. THESE FUNDS ARE TO BE UTILIZED AS THE NET LOCAL SHARE OF THE ROOF REPLACEMENT COSTS AT THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS AS PROPOSED BY THE VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT: VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$272,000.00; NORTHEAST SCHOOL, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$383,000.00; AND SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$515,000.00.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to authorize the transfer of \$1,170,000.00 from the Capital Projects Fund- Ordinance #257, Rockville High School additions and renovations; to the Capital Projects Fund- School roof replacements and renovations. These funds are to be utilized as the net local share of the roof replacement costs at the following schools as proposed by the Vernon Public School District: Vernon Center Middle School, in the amount of \$272,000.00; North East School, in the amount of \$383,000.00; and Skinner Road School, in the amount of \$515,000.00. Finance Officer Jim Luddecke was present. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

- K.) INTRODUCTION TO ORDINANCES
- L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCE(S) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED
- M.) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS
- N.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
- O.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES
- P.) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, ETC. NOT REQUIRING ACTION
  - 1. Progress Report – Human Services Commission relative to ***“Results Based Accountability Practices”***, dated November 6, 2014 from the Human Services Commission to the Vernon Town Council.
  - 2. YTD 2014-2015 Board of Education, as submitted by Michael Purcaro, Finance and Business Manager.
  - 3. Invitation to the ***“Winter fest”***, scheduled for Friday, December 5, 2014. The Fire Truck Parade beginnings at 6:15 PM. Please plan to join us!

**Q.) ADJOURNMENT**

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

Adjourned: 9:58 PM

Received: December 4, 2014

Approved: December 16, 2014

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Forand  
Recording Secretary