

December 6, 2022

APPROVED MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL – 14 PARK PLACE – 3RD FLOOR
TUESDAY DECEMBER 6, 2022 7:30 PM

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
22 DEC 29 AM 11:55

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

A.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited

B.) ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Linda Gessay, Maryann Levesque, Brian Motola, John O'Connell, Teri Lynn Rogers, Jim Tedford

Absent: Julie Clay, Ariana Nieves-Matias, Michael Wendus

Entered During Meeting: Ann Letendre

Also Present: Assistant Town Administrator Michael Purcaro, Recording Secretary Jennifer Ide

C.) CITIZEN CITATIONS AND AWARDS

None

D.) CITIZENS FORUM (7:31 PM)

Genaro Gonzales, 133 ½ West Main St, spoke about his concerns with the police department.

Cynthia Soto, 4 Charter Road Ellington/Vernon town line, spoke in regards to Section 13 of the public act #22-81 property tax abatement for Family Childcare.

Maryann Levesque, 183 Bolton Rd, offered thanks to all associated with the Winter Fest.

End 7:44 PM

F.) PUBLIC HEARING

None

G.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne updated the Town Council on the progress of the Dart Hill Bridge.

H.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to move the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 1.** **Request the Town Council approve the tax refunds for prior and current year taxes as outlined in the memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue.** (See memorandum dated November 23, 2022 to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue relative to same.)

December 6, 2022

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES TWO (2) TAX REFUNDS FOR PRIOR YEARS TOTALING \$594.44 AND SEVEN (7) REFUNDS FOR CURRENT YEAR TOTALING \$1,744.85 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED NOVEMBER 23, 2022.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve the budget amendment requests #2, #3 and #4 for fiscal year 2022-2023 as provided on the budget amendment forms from Jeffrey A. O'Neill, Finance Officer and Treasurer.** (See budget amendment forms attached.)

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS 2,3 AND 4 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 AS PROVIDED ON THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS ATTACHED BY FINANCE OFFICER AND TREASURER JEFFREY A. O'NEILL.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Don Schubert, 22 Wildwood Road, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Inland Wetlands Regulatory Commission, said term to commence on January 1, 2023 and expires December 31, 2025.** (A copy of Mr. Schubert's resume is included for Council review).

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 8, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S RE-APPOINTMENT OF DON SCHUBERT, 22 WILDWOOD ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE INLAND WETLANDS REGULATORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2023 AND EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2025.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut as an Alternate Director to the Bolton Lakes Regional Water Pollution Control Authority, said term to commence on January 1, 2022 and expires December 31, 2024.** (Mr. Purcaro is the Town Administrator and therefore no resume is included.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 242 THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S RE-APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS AN ALTERNATE DIRECTOR TO THE BOLTON LAKES REGIONAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY FOR A TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2024.

December 6, 2022

- C 5.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Matt Hellman, Director of Social Services, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of The ACCESS Agency, Inc., said term to commence on January 1, 2023 and expires December 31, 2025. (Mr. Hellman is the Director of Social Services and therefore no resume is included.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE ACCESS AGENCY, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF MATTHEW HELLMAN, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE ACCESS AGENCY, INC. FOR A TERM TO BEGIN ON JANUARY 1, 2023 AND EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2025.

- C 6.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Carmen Melaragno, (R), 71 Pearl Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of Water Pollution Control Authority, said term to commence January 1, 2023 and expires December 31, 2025. (A copy of Mr. Melaragno's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 3; AND CHARTER CHAPTER XII, SEC. 4, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF CARMEN MELARAGNO (R), 71 PEARL DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY, SAID APPOINTMENT TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2023 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2025.

- C 7.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Joseph Greco, (U), 66 Vernwood Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Water Pollution Control Authority, said term to commence on January 1, 2023 and expires December 31, 2025. (A copy of Mr. Greco's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 3; AND CHARTER CHAPTER XII, SEC. 4, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH GRECO, (U), 66 VERNWOOD DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY, SAID APPOINTMENT TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2023 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2025.

- C 8.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Sheila Dunn, (U), 32 Kevin Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board, said term to commence on December 6, 2022 and expires June 30, 2023. (A copy of Ms. Dunn's resume is included for Council review. Ms. Dunn is completing the unexpired term of Mr. Kane.)

December 6, 2022

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO VERNON'S CHARTER CHAP. XV, SEC. 3; EST. 03-02-1982, THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF SHEILA DUNN, (U), 32 KEVIN DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A MEMBER OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SAID TERM TO BEGIN ON DECEMBER 7, 2022 AND EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2023.

- C 9.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Sherrin Roch, 14 Lantern Lane, Vernon, Connecticut as the Parking Violation Hearing Officer, said term to commence on January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024. (A copy of Ms. Roch's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON CODE OF ORDINANCES, ARTICLE III "PARKING, STOPPING AND STANDING", SEC. 13-39 "FINES FOR PARKING VIOLATIONS" § (e), TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF SHERRIN ROCH, 14 LANTERN LANE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS THE PARKING VIOLATION HEARING OFFICER, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2023 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2024.

- C 10.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Linda Gessay, Town Council member, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Human Services Advisory Commission, said term to commence on December 7, 2022 and expires June 30, 2023. (Ms. Gessay is a Town Council member and therefore no resume is included. It should be noted that Ms. Gessay is completing the unexpired term of Judy Lampson.)

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 LINDA GESSAY, TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING DECEMBER 7, 2022 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2023.

I.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

None

J.) PENDING BUSINESS

None

K.) NEW BUSINESS

- 1.** Request the Town Council authorize the funding for the printing of the Historical Society Brochure entitled "Discover Vernon" in the amount of \$1,734.65. (See budget amendment #5 attached and the memorandum from Director Jean Luddy to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator relative to same.)

December 6, 2022

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVE, THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE TRANSFER OF \$1,734.65 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION – PRINTING AND BINDING ACCOUNT 10112120 OBJECT CODE 55500 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE PRINTING OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BROCHURE ENTITLED “DISCOVER VERNON”.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O’Connell, made a motion to approve the transfer of \$1734.65 from the general fund to the executive administration – printing and binding account 10112120 object code 55500 for the purpose of funding the printing of the historical society brochure entitled “Discover Vernon”. Discussion ensued. Motion carried unanimously.

L.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Request the Town Council schedule a public hearing regarding “Be it ordained that the Design Review Advisory Committee ordinances codified in Article VIII, Sections 10-105 through 10-108 in the Vernon Code of Ordinances and originally adopted as Ordinances #191, #193, #219 and #268 are hereby repealed in their entirety”. (Said referenced ordinances are attached for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH CHAPTER V, OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, SEC. 6, ENTITLED “PUBLIC HEARING ON AND PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCES,” HEREBY SCHEDULES A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING “**BE IT ORDAINED THAT THE DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE ORDINANCES CODIFIED IN ARTICLE VIII, SECTIONS 10-105 THROUGH 10-108 IN THE VERNON CODE OF ORDINANCES AND ORIGINALLY ADOPTED AS ORDINANCES #191, #193, #219 AND #268 ARE HEREBY REPEALED IN THEIR ENTIRETY**”, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH CGS §7-157(b) FURTHER AUTHORIZES THE TOWN CLERK TO PUBLISH A SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED ACTION, SAID PUBLIC HEARING TO TAKE PLACE AT 7:35 PM ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022 LOCATED AT THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THIRD FLOOR, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO THE PROPOSED REPEAL.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Levesque, moved to send the ordinance to Public Hearing. Discussion ensued. Motion carried with a vote of 6 for and 3 against; Letendre, Levesque, and Rogers.

M.) ACTION ON ORDINANCE (S) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

None

N.) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

None

O.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

December 6, 2022

P.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON *November 15, 2022* AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Rogers, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the November 15, 2022 regular town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

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

None

E.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

8:14 PM Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made the following motion to go into Executive Session #1:

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 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AND INVITES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.

Motion carried unanimously.

8:27 PM Executive Session #1 ended.

8:27 PM Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made the following motion to go into Executive Session #2:

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2

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

Motion carried unanimously.

8:43 PM Executive Session #2 ended.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made the following motion to Executive Session #1:

December 6, 2022

EXECUTIVE SESSION #1

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF VERNON AND ATLAS INDUSTRIAL IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$82,000.00 TO COME FROM TOWN ARPA FUNDS, FOR THE PURCHASE OF GUARDRAILS FOR MULTIPLE LOCATIONS IN THE TOWN OF VERNON, FURTHER THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the following motion to Executive Session #2:

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2

THE TOWN COUNCIL, HEREBY RESOLVES IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER TWELVE (XII), SECTION NINE (9) OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TOWN OF VERNON TO WAIVE THE SEALED BID REQUIREMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF SECURITY CAMERAS FOR INSTALLATION AT THE WINDERMERE FIELDS SITE FROM THREE-WAY COMMUNICATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,528.42, SAID APPROPRIATION TO COME FROM TOWN ARPA FUNDING AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the following motion to Executive Session #2:

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPROPRIATION OF ARPA FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,406.46 FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE SUPPLIES AND WORK WITH THREE-WAY COMMUNICATION TO PERFORM THE INSTALLATION OF SECURITY CAMERAS FOR THE WINDERMERE FIELDS SITE, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN (8:46 PM)

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

Received: December 13, 2022

Approved: December 20, 2022

Submitted

Jennifer Ide
Recording Secretary