

**Draft Minutes**  
**VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL – 14 PARK PLACE – 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023 -7:30 P.M.**

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
23 APR 11 PM 12:23

Deputy Mayor Brian Motola called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

**A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Recited

**B) ROLL CALL:**

- **Present:** Council Members Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Julie Clay, Linda Gessay, Ann Letendre, Maryann Levesque, Brian Motola, Ariana Nieves-Matias, John O'Connell, Jim Tedford, Michael Wendus
- **Absent:** Teri-Lynn Rogers
- **Entered During Meeting:**
- **Also Present:** Town Administrator Michael Purcaro, Recording Secretary Meriline Sarkar

**C) CITIZEN CITATIONS AND AWARDS:** None

**D) CITIZENS FORUM:** None

**F) PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**G) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION:**

Deputy Mayor Brian Motola updated the Town Council on various topics.

1. The Town of Vernon First Responders welcomed home the 2023 National Men's Basketball Champion - UCONN Huskies this afternoon as they returned to the UCONN Campus. Deputy Mayor Brian Motola thanked and congratulated them for their achievements.

2. Some dates to remember:

**April 6, 2023 is the Annual Easter Egg Hunt,** Henry Park, on McCoy Field. The first group starts at 5:15. All are welcome!

**April 11, 2023 at 6:00 PM is the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vernon Senior Center.** The Council is requested to contact the Senior Center for reservations.

**April 22, 2023 at 11:00 AM is the Vernon-Rockville Little League Opening Day.** The event is held at Legion Field. All are welcome! The rain date for this event is the next day April 23, 2023 same time same place.

**April 25, 2023 at 7:00 PM is the Annual Town Meeting** at Rockville High School Auditorium, 70 Loveland Hill Road. Everyone is encouraged to attend!

**May 14, 2023 at 9:00 AM is the Annual Mother's Day Dash** at Henry Park. Race registration is at 8:15 AM and the race begins at 9:00 AM.

**May 29, 2023 at 10:00 AM is the Annual Memorial Day Parade.** The parade stages at Northeast School and steps off at 10:00 AM; travels to the Grove Hill Cemetery for a brief ceremony and concludes with a ceremony in Central Park for 11:00 AM.

**H) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA:**

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made a motion to move the Consent Agenda as written and the 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 March 27, 2023 to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue relative to same.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES FOUR (4) REFUNDS FOR PRIOR YEAR TOTALING \$1,080.37 AND TWO (2) CURRENT YEAR TOTALING \$684.19 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED MARCH 27, 2023.

- C 2.** Request the Town Council approve the reappointment of Jeffrey A. O'Neill, as Town Treasurer from April 5, 2023 and expires January 16, 2024. (Mr. O'Neill is employed by the Town of Vernon and therefore no resume is included.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH CHAPTER IX, SECTION TWO OF THE TOWN CHARTER, ENTITLED "OFFICERS AND BOARDS APPOINTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL, HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF JEFFREY A. O'NEILL, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS TOWN TREASURER, SAID TERM TO BEGIN APRIL 5, 2023 AND EXPIRES JANUARY 16, 2024.

**I) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS:** None

**J) PENDING BUSINESS:** None

**K) NEW BUSINESS:** (Taken out of order)

- 2.** Request the Town Council authorize the grant application to the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood for operational and project support for birth to five system projects. (See memorandum dated March 23, 2023 from Michelle Hill, Director of the Youth Services Bureau to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator relative to same.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS RELATIVE TO THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS AND PROJECT SUPPORT FOR BIRTH TO FIVE SYSTEM PROJECTS ON BEHALF OF THE VERNON YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU.

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Gessay made a motion to approve the grant application by the Vernon Youth Service to the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood for operational and project support for birth to five system projects authorizes Mayor Daniel A. Champagne or his designee to sign any and all documents for same. Michelle Hill, Director of the Youth Services Bureau, spoke to the Council. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**1. Presentation and discussion relative to the Horowitz Pool Project.**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY MOVES TO AWARD THE HOROWITZ POOL RENOVATION CONTRACT TO JULIANO'S POOLS.

Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator spoke to the Council and gave brief history and overview of the Horowitz Pool project. Brian Juliano, Owner of Juliano's Pools, and Chris Low, Juliano's Pool, presented the plan and materials to build the new pool at Henry Park. They answered questions. Discussion ensued. Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Gessay made a motion to award the Horowitz Pool Renovation Contract to Juliano's Pools. No further discussion on the motion taken place. Motion carried with 10 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention, Council Member Levesque.

**L) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:** None

**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

**P) ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE **REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 21, 2023** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the March 21, 2023 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**E) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

8:48 PM Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Tedford, made the following motion to go into Executive Session. Motion Carried Unanimously.

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.

9:32 PM Executive Session ended.

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Wendus, made the following motion to the Executive Session:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF VERNON AND THE POLICE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO AND MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA, U.E. 222, CONNECTICUT INDEPENDENT LABOR UNION, CILU LOCAL #47, SAID CONTRACT TO COMMENCE ON JULY 1, 2023 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026 AS PRESENTED.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Q) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, ETC. NOT REQUIRING ACTION:** None

**R) ADJOURN (9:34 PM)**

Council Member Bush, seconded by Council Member Nieves-Matias, made a motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Meriline Sarkar