

March 21, 2023

**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL – 14 PARK PLACE – 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR**  
**VERNON, CONNECTICUT**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023 - 7:30 P.M.**

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
23 APR 19 AM 8:21

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

A.) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Recited

B.) **ROLL CALL:**

- **Present:** Present: Council Members Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Linda Gessay, Ann Letendre, Maryann Levesque, Brian Motola, John O'Connell, Teri-Lynn Rogers, Jim Tedford, Michael Wendus
- **Absent:** Julie Clay, Ariana Nieves-Matias
- **Entered During Meeting:** Ann Letendre at 7:31 PM
- **Also Present:** Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, 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**

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

1. On March 13, 2023 the Mayor Daniel A. Champagne attended the Quarterly Meeting of the Vernon Volunteer Collaborative. They discussed their participation in the Vernon Voice Magazine and various ongoing projects. The Collaborative shared some of their upcoming activities. The Town of Vernon is fortunate to have this large collaborative group committed to public service.
2. The Vernon Rockville Little League Opening Day is on April 22, 2023 at 11:00 AM Legion Field. All are welcome! If anyone plans to attend please contact Administration to rsvp.
3. Annual Town Meeting is on April 25, 2023 at 7:00 PM at Rockville High School, Loveland Hill. Individuals are encouraged to come and make their voices heard.
4. The United States Air Force Concert Band will be in Vernon. The Rockville High School Band is sponsoring a concert this Friday, March 24, 2023 beginning at 7:00 PM. Tickets can be obtained by going to the Town of Vernon home page, by clicking on the link and register for FREE tickets.
5. The Mayor Daniel A. Champagne attended a Ribbon Cutting for AMP Home Care, 94 Union Street, Vernon, on March 13, 2023. This business began in 2016 in Vernon and has grown to 150 employees. They provide Home Health Care.
6. The Senior Center's 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is scheduled for 6:00 PM on April 11, 2023. This event is a celebration for all the senior center members, their invited guests, and the Town Council. It is advised to let the Senior Center know if anyone plan to attend.

H.) **ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA:** Council Member Motola moved the Consent Agenda as written, seconded by Council Member Tedford, 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 Hiarne, Collector of Revenue.** (See memorandum dated March 14, 2023 to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue relative to same.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES SIX (6) REFUNDS FOR PRIOR YEAR TOTALING \$511.67 AND TWELVE (12) CURRENT YEAR TOTALING \$2,954.52 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED MARCH 14, 2023.

- C 2.** Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Robert B. Hurd, (R), 7 Rheel Street, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Historic Properties Commission, said term to commence on April 5, 2023 and expires on April 4, 2028. (A copy of Mr. Hurd's resume is included for Council review.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 185 (TOWN CODE SEC. 2-122) THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF ROBERT B. HURD, (R), 7 RHEEL STREET, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION FOR A TERM TO COMMENCE ON APRIL 5, 2023 AND END ON APRIL 4, 2028.

- I.) **DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS:** None
- J.) **PENDING BUSINESS:** None
- K.) **NEW BUSINESS:** None
- 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 **JOINT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL AND THE VERNON BOARD OF EDUCATION ON MARCH 7, 2023** 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 Joint Special Meeting of The Vernon Town Council And The Vernon Board of Education on March 7, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE **REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 7, 2023** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

- Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the regular Town Council meeting held on March 7, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

E.) **EXECUTIVE SESSION** : (Taken out of order)

- 7:34 PM Executive Session #2 was pulled for discussion.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #2**

THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN AND INVITES MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.

- 7:34 PM Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the motion to go into Executive Session #1. The Motion carried unanimously.

**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.

- 8:11 PM Executive Session #1 ended.
- 8:11 PM Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Levesque, made the motion to go into Executive Session #3. The Motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #3**

THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN Mike 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 AND JOHN KELLEY, CHIEF OF POLICE TO ATTEND.

- 8:30pm Executive Session #3 ended.
- Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Wendus made the following motion to **Executive Session #1**:

**MOTION #1a**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY RESCINDS THE MOTION OF MARCH 7, 2023 APPROPRIATING ARPA FUNDING THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$175,000.00 FOR THE MIRACLE LEAGUE PARKING LOT.

- The motion carried unanimously.
- Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Wendus made the following motion to **Executive Session #1**:

**MOTION #1b**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPROPRIATION OF ARPA FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$175,000.00 TO THE MIRACLE LEAGUE OF NORTHERN CONNECTICUT. SUCH FUNDS WILL BE USED TO ASSIST IN THE COMPLETION OF A STATE-OF-THE-ART ACCESSIBLE BASEBALL FIELD LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF VERNON WHICH WILL SERVE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES THROUGHOUT THE REGION.

- The motion carried unanimously.
- Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O'Connell made the following motion to **Executive Session #1**:

#### **MOTION #2**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE INSTALLATION OF A SEPTIC SYSTEM AT WINDERMERE FIELDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$23,750.00 FROM ARPA FUNDS, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

- The motion carried unanimously.
- Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Wendus made the following motion to **Executive Session #1**:

#### **MOTION #3a**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE PURCHASE OF FENCING FOR THE WINDERMERE FIELDS PROJECT NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF \$88,500.00 FROM ARPA FUNDS, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

- The motion carried unanimously.
- Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Wendus made the following motion to **Executive Session #1**:

#### **MOTION #3b**

THE TOWN COUNCIL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER XII, SECTION 9, OF THE TOWN CHARTER, DETERMINES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TOWN TO WAIVE THE BID PROCEDURE FOR THE PURCHASE OF VINYL FENCING FROM STAR LINE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF \$31,500.00 FROM ARPA FUNDING.

- The motion carried unanimously.
- Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush made the following motion to **Executive Session #1**:

#### **MOTION #4a**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPROPRIATION OF ARPA FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,372,008.00 FOR A COMMUNITY POOL PROJECT AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

- The motion carried unanimously.
- Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Levesque made the following motion to **Executive Session #1**:

**MOTION #4b**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPROPRIATION OF ARPA FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400,000.00 FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO DO THE RENOVATIONS OF THE HOROWITZ POOL HOUSE, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

- The motion carried unanimously.
- Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Wendus made the following motion to **Executive Session #3**:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS RELATIVE TO THE CONTRACT WITH COMMUNITY HEALTH RESOURCES, INC., (CHR) FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, FUNDED BY CHR GRANT FUNDS.

- The motion carried unanimously.

**Q.) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, Petitions, communications, correspondence, reports, etc. not requiring action: None**

**R.) ADJOURNMENT: (8:37 PM)**

- Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Rogers, made a motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously at **8:37pm**.

Received: March 23, 2023  
Approved: April 4, 2023



Meriline Sarkar  
Recording Secretary