

Posted 1/11/24
[Signature]

VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

TOWN HALL – 14 PARK PLACE – 3RD FLOOR
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024
7:30 P.M.

- A.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
 - B.) ROLL CALL
 - C.) CITIZEN CITATIONS AND AWARDS
 - D.) CITIZENS FORUM
-

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
24 JAN 11 PM 6:46

- E.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #3

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.

F.) PUBLIC HEARING

G.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to update the Town Council on various topics.

Training presentation given by Town Attorney Lou Spadaccini of the Law Firm Blackwell and Spadaccini.

H.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

- 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 January 4, 2024 to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES TWO (2) TAX REFUNDS FOR PRIOR YEARS TOTALING \$336.23 AND TEN (10) REFUNDS FOR CURRENT YEAR TOTALING \$3088.34 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO MICHAEL J. PURCARO, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED JANUARY 4, 2024.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Bill Campbell, (R), 214 Tracy Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Human Services Advisory Board, said term to commence on January 17, 2024 and expires June 30, 2025.** (See Mr. Campbell's resume for Council review. Mr. Campbell is converting from a Council Member appointment to a citizen appointment.)

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 BILL CAMPBELL, (R), 214 TRACY DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 17, 2024 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2025.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Bill Campbell, (R), 214 Tracy Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member to the Water Pollution Control Authority, said term to commence on January 17, 2024 and expires on December 31, 2026.** (See Mr. Campbell's resume 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 BILL CAMPBELL, (R), 214 TRACY DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY, SAID APPOINTMENT TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 17, 2024 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2026.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Jeffrey A. O'Neill, Finance Officer and Treasurer, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut commencing on January 17, 2024 and ending February 1, 2024.** (Mr. O'Neill is currently an employee of the Town of Vernon and therefore no resume is attached.)

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 THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JEFFREY A. O'NEILL, FINANCE OFFICIER AND TREASURER, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS TOWN TREASURER, SAID TERM TO BEGIN ON JANUARY 17, 2024 AND EXPIRES ON FEBRUARY 1, 2024.

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Leslie Campolongo, 55 W. Main Street, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Capital Region Council of Governments Regional Planning Board, said term to commence January 17, 2024 and expires on December 31, 2025.** (Ms. Campolongo is an employee of the Planning Department therefore no resume is included in the packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION BY-LAWS, THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF LESLIE CAMPOLONGO, 55 W. MAIN STREET, VERNON, CONNECTICUT TO THE CRCOG REGIONAL PLANNING BOARD, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 17, 2024 AND EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2025.

I.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

J.) PENDING BUSINESS

K.) NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Request the Town Council approve the generous donation from American Eagle Financial Credit Union to Address Local Food Insecurity .** (See memorandum dated January 2, 2024 from Matt Hellman, Director of Social Services relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTS THE DONATION FROM AMERICAN EAGLE FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00 TO ADDRESS LOCAL FOOD INSECURITY.

- 2. Request the Town Council hereby approve the Vernon Republican Town Committee's endorsement of _____ as a Town Council member to complete the term of Julie Clay.** (This candidate will fill the vacated seat of Julie Clay effective January 18, 2024. The candidate information will be provided as soon as it arrives.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE VERNON REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE'S NOMINATION OF _____ AS A TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER FOR A TERM EFFECTIVE JANUARY 18, 2024 AND EXPIRING ON NOVEMBER 10, 2025.

- 3. Request the Town Council approve the Fire Department's application for the Firefighter Support Grant through the Connecticut Water Company.** (See memorandum dated January 2, 2024 from Stephen Eppler, Fire Chief to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVE THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE VERNON FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR FUNDING THROUGH THE FIREFIGHTER SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

- 4. Request the Town Council approve the Fire Department's application for the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection - Commission on Fire Prevention and Control grant program.** (See memorandum dated December 28, 2023 from Stephen Eppler, Fire Chief to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVE THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE VERNON FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR FUNDING THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION – COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL GRANT PROGRAM AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

5. **Request the Town Council rescind the resolution of October 23, 1999 establishing the “Conservation Open Space Task Force”, whose purpose was to identify, prioritize and recommend the acquisition of open space to the Conservation Commission. This group has fulfilled its duties and is no longer required. (See the October 23, 1999 resolution for review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY RESCINDS THE RESOLUTION OF OCTOBER 23, 1999 ESTABLISHING THE CONSERVATION OPEN SPACE TASK FORCE AND RETURNS SAID DUTIES TO THE TOWN OF VERNON CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

6. **Request the Town Council approve the Vernon Parks and Recreation grant application for funding through the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.** (See memorandum from Marty Sitler, Director of Parks and Recreation to Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator dated January 8, 2024 relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVE THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE VERNON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR FUNDING THROUGH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GRANT PROGRAM AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SAME.

7. **Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of the Town of Vernon Deputy Assessor.** (See memorandum from Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to the Vernon Town Council dated January 10, 2024 relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO CHAPTER X, SEC. 3 AND CHAPTER XI, SEC. 1 AND 4 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF JAMISON BOUCHER AS DEPUTY ASSESSOR FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON.

8. **Request from Town Council Member Terilynn Rogers relative to an update on the Restoration, Access and Community Engagement Grant.** (See email from Council Member Rogers relative to same.)

NO ACTION REQUIRED

9. **Request from Town Council Member Phyllis Winkler relative to an update on the process for Board and Commission Appointments.** (See email from Council Member Phyllis Winkler relative to same.)

NO ACTION REQUIRED

L.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

M.) ACTION ON ORDINANCE (S) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

N.) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

O.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

P.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF **DECEMBER 19, 2023** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON **MAY 16, 2023** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED. (THESE MINUTES WERE NEVER MOVED FROM DRAFT TO APPROVED.)

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

1. Monthly Report Town Clerk – December, 2023 as submitted by Town Clerk Karen C. Daigle.

R.) ADJOURNMENT