

January 19, 2016

APPROVED MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL – 14 PARK PLACE 3RD FLOOR
VERNON, CT 06066

January 19, 2016 – 7:30 PM

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

A.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B.) ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Laura Bush, William Campbell, Julie Clay, Virginia Gingras, Ann Letendre, Brian Motola, Steven Peterson, Pauline Schaefer, Jim Tedford, Steve Wakefield, and Michael Winkler

Absent: Council Member Kimberly Appleyard

Entered During the Meeting:

Also Present: Mayor Daniel Champagne, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Jill Kennedy

C.) CITIZEN'S FORUM:

Richard Cello, 108 ½ West Street, spoke about blight and his concerns with enforcement.

Joe Tarzi, 155 West Main Street spoke about his concerns with graffiti. He gave credit to the Department of Public Works, Vernon Greenway Volunteers, and the Rockville Volunteer Corps for removing the graffiti on public property. The town has no jurisdiction over private property. He requested the Town Council adopt an ordinance that states: "No person shall permit graffiti to remain on any commercial or industrial property for a period of more than 72 hours after notification by the Mayor or his or her designee."

Karl Prewo, 135 Greir Road, represents the Friends of Bolton Lakes. He spoke about recreational activities that took place over the summer at the lakes. He also spoke about the current activities of the Friends of Bolton Lakes which include looking into issues that impact the water quality such as algae, invasive plants and the opposition to further stocking of cat fish.

David Forest, 82 Wildwood Road, also representing Friends of Bolton Lakes, provided information about the current initiatives of DEEP's "70 hazardous prioritization project" and the winter drawdown of the middle and lower Bolton Lakes. He requested support of own Council members in contacting DEEP to request the Hatch Hill's culverts repairs move up in priority, along with continued support for the lake drawdown.

D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

7:54 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the following motion to go into Executive Session:

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THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES, SECTION 1-200 (6) (A) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL MATTER AND INVITES TOWN ADMINISTRATOR JOHN D. WARD AND DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND.

Motion carried unanimously.

(8:07 PM) Council returned from Executive Session.

E.) PUBLIC HEARING

None

F.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION

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

During the month of December:

- The Town of Vernon celebrated the official groundbreaking of the "Restoration of the Talcott Brothers Mill Property, Main Street, Talcottville"
- The Toys for Tikes campaign had another successful year providing toys, gifts and clothing to Vernon's most needy residents.

During the month of January:

- *Community Builders*, the owner's of Park West Apartments, hosted a ribbon cutting for their most recent renovation of Park West Apartments.
- This Thursday, January 21st Moe's Southwest Grill will open at their new Vernon location in the Tri-City Plaza, Talcottville Road. Also Hartford Hospital Health Partners have taken over the old Adams Supermarket location, and are officially open for business making the store fronts at Tri City Plaza 97 % occupied.

G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Wakefield seconded by Council Member Bush made a motion to approve consent agenda items C1 through C7. Council Member Winkler pulled consent agenda item number C5 for further discussion. Motion to approve consent agenda item numbers C1, C2, C3, C4, C6 and C7 carried unanimously.

C 1. Request for the approval Tax Refunds for Prior and Current Year (s). (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated January 5, 2016 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES (4) FOUR PRIOR TAX REFUNDS TOTALLING \$1231.87 AND (15) FIFTEEN CURRENT YEAR TAX REFUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$2736.29, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED JANUARY 5, 2016.

C 2. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Jeff Adamson (R), 72 Schoolbrook Lane, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member

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of the Economic Development Commission, said term to commence on January 20, 2016 and expires on June 30, 2018. (A copy of Mr. Adamson's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO C.S.G. § 7-136 AND ORDINANCE NO. 15; TOWN CODE SECTION 10-81 AND 82, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF JEFFREY ADAMSON, (R), 72 SCHOOLBROOK LANE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON JANUARY 20, 2016 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of John K. Anderson, (R), 105 Maple Avenue #40, Vernon, Connecticut as a Special Constable, said term to commence January 20, 2016 and expires December 31, 2017.** (A copy of Mr. Anderson's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO C.G.8. §7-92, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN K. ANDERSON, (R), 105 MAPLE AVENUE #40, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A SPECIAL CONSTABLE, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 20, 2016 AND EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2017.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment Michael J. Tormey (U), 101 South Street, Apt. 31, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Human Services Advisory Commission, said term to commence on January 20, 2016 and expires June 30, 2017.** (A copy of Mr. Tormey's resume is included for Council review.)

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 MICHAEL J. TORMEY, (U), 101 SOUTH STREET, APT 31, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 20, 2016 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2017.

- C 6. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Town Council member Michael Winkler, (D), 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Human Services Advisory Commission.**

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said term to commence January 20, 2016 and expires June 30, 2017. (Mr. Winkler is a Town Council member and therefore no resume is provided.)

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 THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL WINKLER, (D), 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 20, 2016 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2017.

- C 7. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Town Council member William Campbell, (R), 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Human Services Advisory Commission, said term to commence on January 20, 2016 and expires on June 30, 2017.** (Mr. Campbell is a Town Council member and therefore no resume is provided.)

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 THE REAPPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM CAMPBELL, (R), 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 20, 2016 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2017.

H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #8 , #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14 and #15 for fiscal year 2015-2016 as provided by Finance Officer James Luddecke on the budget amendment forms attached to this agenda.** (See budget amendment forms with explanation attached to this agenda.)

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMEND REQUESTS #8, #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14 AND #15 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY JAMES M. LUDDECKE, FINANCE OFFICER.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made the above motion to approve budget amendments #8, #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14, and #15 for the fiscal year 2015-2016 as provided by Finance Officer James Luddecke on the budget

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amendment forms attached to this agenda. Finance Officer James Luddecke was available to answer questions. Discussion took place regarding budget amendments #10, #12, #14, and #15. Motion carried unanimously.

I.) **PENDING BUSINESS**
None

J.) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request the Town Council authorize a bid waiver for the installation of traffic loops and sensors.** (See memorandum dated January 7, 2016 from James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL, HEREBY RESOLVES IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER TWELVE (XII), SECTION NINE (9), OF THE TOWN CHARTER, THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TOWN TO WAIVE THE SEALED BID REQUIREMENTS FOR COSTS INVOLVING THE INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC LOOPS AND SENSORS ON DART HILL ROAD; WINDERMERE AVENUE; AND NAEK ROAD, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$14,800.00; AND FURTHER, AUTHORIZES THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF VERNON ANY INSTRUMENT (S) TO THAT EFFECT.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to authorize a bid waiver for the installation of traffic loops and sensors. Public Works Director, Robert Kleinhans was available to answer questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Request the Town Council authorize the disposal or sale of a fixed asset from the Department of Public Works.** (See memorandum dated January 7, 2016 from James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE DISPOSAL OR SALE OF ONE (1) PARKS DEPARTMENT VEHICLE AS DISCLOSED ON THE FIXED ASSET DISPOSAL REQUEST FORMS.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made the above motion to authorize the disposal or sale of a fixed asset from the Department of Public Works. Public Works Director, Robert Kleinhans was available to answer questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to enter into and sign any and all documents related to the Memorandum of Agreement between the**

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State of Connecticut DEEP and the Town of Vernon for the repairs to the Walkers Reservoir Dam. (See memorandum from David Smith, Town Engineer to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated January 11, 2016 relative to same.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLVE, THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO ENTER INTO AND SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEEP AND THE TOWN OF VERNON FOR REPAIRS TO THE WALKERS RESERVOIR DAM.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush made the above motion to adopt a resolution to authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to enter into and sign any and all documents related to the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Connecticut DEEP and the Town of Vernon for the repairs to the Walkers Reservoir Dam. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

K.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCE(S) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

None

M.) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

None

N.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

O.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 15, 2015 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the regular town council meeting of December 15, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

P.) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, Petitions, communications, correspondence, reports, etc. not requiring action.

1. Monthly Report for Vernon Town Clerk for the month of November, 2015, as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.
2. Monthly Report for Vernon Town Clerk for the month of December, 2015 as submitted by Bernice K. Dixon, Town Clerk.

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3. Monthly Report Vernon Police Department for the month of December, 2015 as submitted by Captain John Kelley.

Adjourn (8:33 PM)

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

Received: January 25, 2016

Approved: February 2, 2016

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill M. Kennedy

Recording Secretary,

Karen C. Daigle
By *Karen C. Daigle, Asst. Town Clerk*