

December 6, 2016

APPROVED MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3rd Floor
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
16 DEC 27 PM 2:49

December 6, 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 Pauline Schaefer, Michael Winkler, Brian Motola, Julie Clay, Steve Wakefield, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell, Jim Tedford, Steve Peterson, Ann Letendre and Virginia Gingras

Absent: Kim Appleyard

Entered During Meeting:

Also Present: Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Karen Daigle

C.) CITIZEN'S FORUM

McLean Oakeson, of Glastonbury, as board president of the Vernon Chorale, thanked the council for supporting the Vernon Arts Commission. She invited the council members to attend the upcoming concert at St. John's Episcopal Church on December 10th at 7:30 PM.

Citizen's Forum closed at 7:34 PM

D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

E.) PUBLIC HEARING

None

F.) PRESENTATIONS

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

- The Engineering Department has scheduled a Public Information Meeting on December 13th at 6:30 PM to discuss the Pleasantview Bridge Project with DOT. Anyone interested in the project are invited to attend.
- On November 18th, Administration met with the eight towns comprising the North Central Health District to discuss potential changes proposed by the Department of Public Health. Said towns will send a collective letter in opposition to the proposal.
- Girl Scout Troop 10715 visited the Mayor's Office to learn about their community and government.
- In observance of Veteran's Day, the Mayor attended the Annual Elks Veteran's Luncheon, thanking those in our community who protected our freedom.
- Winterfest 2016 was held last weekend and was a huge success. Staff from the Parks Department, Public Works, Police, Fire, Board of

December 6, 2016

Education, Administration and EMS all participated to ensure a safe event for our residents. Town Council members attended with Brian Motola as Master of Ceremonies. Santa and Mrs. Claus added to the evening's events, and thanks to Michelle's Florals for consulting on the float decorations.

- Wish State Representative Elect Michael Winkler well as he leaves his seat in the Vernon Town Council and moves to Hartford in January.

G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented # C1 – C7. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 1. Request for the Town Council to approve Tax Refunds for Prior and Current Year .** (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated November 22, 2016 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES FIVE (5) PRIOR YEAR TAX REFUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$1362.21 AND SIXTEEN (16) CURRENT YEAR TAX REFUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$6579.14, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED NOVEMBER 22, 2016.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Michael Guminiak, (R), 19 Duncaster Lane, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Design Review Advisory Commission, said term to commence on January 1, 2017 and expires December 31, 2019.** (A copy of Mr. Guminiak's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE #268, TOWN CODE SEC. 10-105 - 10-108 THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL GUMINIAK, (R), 19 DUNCASTER LANE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE JANUARY 1, 2017 AND EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2019.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Robin C. Lockwood, (U), 121 Huntington Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Design Review Advisory Commission, said term to commence on January 1, 2017 and expires on December 31, 2019.** (A copy of Ms. Lockwood's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE #268, TOWN CODE SEC. 10-105 - 10-108 THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF ROBIN C. LOCKWOOD, (U), 121 HUNTINGTON DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE JANUARY 1, 2017 AND EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2019.

December 6, 2016

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Robert Lewis, 655 Talcottville Road, Unit 160, Vernon Connecticut as a regular member of the Inland Wetland Regulatory Commission, said term to commence on January 1, 2017 and expires on December 31, 2019. (A copy of Mr. Lewis' resume is included for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 8, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF ROBERT LEWIS (R), 655 TALCOTTVILLE ROAD, UNIT 160, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE INLAND WETLANDS REGULATORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2017 AND EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2019.

- C 5. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Lynda Morhardt, (D), 114 Valley Falls Road, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Inland Wetlands Regulatory commission, said term to commence on January 1, 2017 and expires on December 31, 2019. (A copy of Ms. Morhardt's resume is included for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 8, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF LYNDA MORHARDT, (D), 114 VALLEY FALLS ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE INLAND WETLANDS REGULATORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2017 AND EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2019.

- C 6. Request the Town Council approves Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Doreen Margo Evans, (D) 56 Thomas Street, Suite #3, Vernon, Connecticut as the Parking Hearing Officer, said term to commence on January 1, 2017 and expires on December 31, 2017. (A copy of Ms. Evans 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 SUBSECTION (e), THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF DOREEN MARGO EVANS, (D), 56 THOMAS STREET, SUITE #3, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS THE PARKING VIOLATION HEARING OFFICER, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2017 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2017.

- C 7. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of John K. Anderson, (R), 105 Maple Avenue, #40, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Water Pollution Control Authority, said term to commence January 1, 2017 and expires December 31, 2019. (A copy of Mr. Anderson's resume is included for Council review.)**

December 6, 2016

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 3; AND CHARTER CHAPTER XII, SEC. 4, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE, REAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN K. ANDERSON, (R), 105 MAPLE AVENUE, #40, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY, SAID APPOINTMENT TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2017 AND EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2019.

H.) **DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS**
None

I.) **PENDING BUSINESS**
None

J.) **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Martin Sitler as Director of the Parks and Recreation Department for the Town of Vernon.** (Attached please find a copy of the job description and Mr. Sitler's resume.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER X, SEC. 3 AND CHAPTER XI, SEC. 1,3 AND 16 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF MARTIN SITLER AS DIRECTOR OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Tedford made a motion to approve the appointment of Martin Sitler as Director of the Parks and Recreation Department. Martin Sitler answered questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

7:48 PM Recess; 7:56 Reconvened.

2. **Request the Town Council authorizes John D. Ward, Town Administrator to make application for DECD Urban Act Funds to assist in the completion of Phase I – Buildings 2,3,4 located at 200 West Main Street in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00, and further authorizes John D. Ward, Town Administrator by resolution to sign the necessary documents for same.** (See memorandum dated November 17, 2016 from Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator and John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, relative to the background of this subject. Also see memorandum dated December 1, 2016 from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and the Vernon Town Council relative to the motion and resolution requested.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, JOHN D. WARD TO MAKE APPLICATION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR URBAN ACT FUNDS TO ASSIST IN THE COMPLETION OF PHASE 1 - BUILDINGS 2, 3, 4 LOCATED AT

December 6, 2016

200 WEST MAIN STREET IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS(\$500,000); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAME.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to **SEC. 4-66C. URBAN ACTION BONDS**, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable and in the public interest that the **TOWN OF VERNON** make an application to the State for \$500,000 in order to undertake the **PHASE I BUILDINGS 2,3,4 COMPLETION AT 200 WEST MAIN STREET** and to execute an Assistant Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL, (1) That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the State Assistance imposed by **SEC. 4-66C, URBAN ACTION BONDS** (2) That the filing of an application for State Financial Assistance by the **TOWN OF VERNON** in the amount not to exceed **\$500,000** is hereby approved and that **John D. Ward, Town Administrator** is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the **TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT**.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to authorize Town Administrator, John D. Ward, to apply for DECD Urban Act Funds to assist in the completion of Phase I – Buildings 2, 3, 4 located at 200 West Main Street in an amount not to exceed \$500,000. Discussion took place. Motion carried with 9 in favor and 2 opposed, Council Members Wakefield and Clay.

K.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCES 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 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF **NOVEMBER 15, 2016** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the November 15, 2016 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

December 6, 2016

Council Member Schaefer gave a shout out to the Exchange Club and Freedom Riders for providing meals for our Veterans. December 17, 2016 is Wreaths Across America, a moment of silence observed at the same time across the United States. Lineup is at 11:30 in Grove Hill Cemetery.

- P.) **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, ETC. NOT REQUIRING ACTION**
None

Adjourn (8:04 PM)

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

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary