

**MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SENIOR CENTER 2ND FLOOR, CONFERENCE ROOM
26 PARK PLACE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2007
7:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM

ROLL CALL:

Present: Daniel Anderson, George Apel, Bill Campbell, Daniel Champagne, Mark Etre, Bill Fox, Marie Herbst, Jason McCoy, Brian Motola, Pauline Schaefer, Connie Simon

Absent: Mary Oliver

Also Present: Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Town Administrator Christopher Clark, Recording Secretary Linda Bukowy, James Krupienski, Technical Assistant Christopher Prue

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

- Katherine Melan, 21 Court Street – Executive Director of the Town of Vernon Housing Authority, We provide affordable housing for the town, we provide a Sub-station at no cost to the town we also provide an office for a DCF worker at no cost to the State. We administer a thousand housing units, we put into the community \$108,000. HUD designated us a high performer, we provided the non-profit with seed money. We are not a line item in the Town's budget and that's important for this body to note.
- Peter Olson, 39 Tolland Avenue – Chairman of the Vernon Housing Authority, The events of the last few weeks have been challenging, with the fire that occurred on Franklin Street and were fortunate that we had no injuries. The fire and police department were exemplary and on behalf of the housing authority I would like to thank them and how grateful we are. WE are deeply indebted, on behalf of the Vernon Housing authority I would like to present a check in the amount of \$21,896.10.
- Jason McCoy, 216 Skinner Road – I will not be sitting at the council table anymore, politics aside I want to thank everyone. I believe that we have all helped people over the years, it's been something that has made the town better. Just wanted to say thank you to you all and the people of the town.
- Citizen's forum was closed at 7:40 PM

Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Herbst moved to go into Executive Session.

Councilmember Champagne abstained.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:41PM

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY DECIDES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS AND INVITES EDWARD O'DONNELL, ESQ., DANIEL SULLIVAN, HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR, JAMES LUDDECKE, FINANCE OFFICER, JAMES KENNY, POLICE CHIEF, AND CHRISTOPHER CLARK, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ATTEND. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WAS MATTHEW CURTIN.

Councilmember Herbst, seconded by Councilmember McCoy moved to come out of Executive Session.

Motion carried.

Executive Session ended 8:24PM

MOTION:

Councilmember McCoy, seconded by Councilmember Herbst moved a motion to accept the Police contract as presented

Motion carried. Councilmember Champagne abstained

PRESENTATIONS:**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:****PROPOSED MOTION :**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 2, 2007, AND MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Herbst seconded by Council Member Simon moved to approve the minutes of October 2, 2007

Motion carried. Councilmember's McCoy opposed and Schaefer abstained

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- C 1.** Request for Tax Refunds – Current and Prior Fiscal Year(s).
- C 2.** Request Town Council to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract with the State of Connecticut for the relocation of the Vernon sanitary sewer.
- C 3.** Request the Town Council to cancel the meeting of November 7, 2007 and reschedule for November 13, 2007.

Council Member Herbst seconded by Council Member moved a motion to approve Consent #1 & 2.
Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Apel asked consent item #3 be pulled for discussion

NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT ITEMS):

1. **Request for Tax Refunds – Current and Prior Year(s).** (Memorandum from Carol S. Nelson, Collector of Revenue, dated October 11, 2007 to Christopher Clark; Town Administrator, is in the packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO APPROVE TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,213.25 FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, AND \$823.79 FOR THE PRIOR YEAR, AS OUTLINED IN MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED OCTOBER 11, 2007 TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

2. **Request the Town Council to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract with the State of Connecticut for the relocation of the Vernon sanitary sewer.** (Memorandum from Christopher Clark, Town Administrator along with copy of letter from Close, Jensen and Miller, P.C., and memorandum from Mr. Clark to Town Attorney Susan Boyan is in the packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT ON THE STATE BRIDGE

PROGRAM FOR STATE PROJECT #146-171 FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$8,490.00 FOR THE RELOCATION OF THE VERNON SANITARY SEWER AND TO PROVIDE FOR SAID FUNDING THROUGH AVAILABLE SOURCES, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO TAKE ANY OTHER ACTION NECESSARY TO COMPLETE SAID AGREEMENT.

3. **Request the Town Council to cancel the regular meeting of November 7, 2007, and schedule a special meeting for November 13, 2007.** (Memo from Mayor Ellen L. Marmer is in the packet).

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE CANCELLATION OF ITS REGULAR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 7, 2007, AND HEREBY SCHEDULES A SPECIAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2007 AT 7:30 IN THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE VERNON SENIOR CENTER, 26 PARK PLACE, FOR PURPOSES OF SWEARING IN THE NEW DULY ELECTED MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL.

Proposed Friendly Amendment:

The regular meeting on November 7, 2007 be scheduled as a special meeting on November 8, 2007 at 7:30 PM on the second floor of the senior center.

Discussion

Councilmember Apel, seconded by Councilmember McCoy moved to approve the friendly amendment. Motion approved. Councilmember's Herbst, Fox opposed and Schaefer abstained.

Councilmember Herbst, seconded by Councilmember Simon moved the original motion as amended. Motion passed. Councilmember's Herbst, Simon, Schaefer opposed

IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Discussion of zoning enforcement issues.** (Copy of email from Councilmember Etre is in the packet)

Discussion

Motion:

Pull item #6 on Informational Items

Councilmember Schaefer, seconded by Herbst moved a motion to pull Information Item #6 for discussion. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Minutes from the Board of Education meeting of September 24, 2007.
2. Monthly report from July-August and September from Alan M. Slobodien, Director, Vernon Youth Services Bureau.
3. Letter from Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor to Jack Fisher relative to his appointment as the alternate voting representative to the Tolland County Mutual Aid Service, Inc.
4. Copy of letter from Ann B. Massengill to the Vernon Police Department, Fire Department, and 911 volunteers.
5. Copy of response to citizen concern from Town Administrator Christopher Clark relative to burning at 75-77 Peterson Road.

6. Information from the State of Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection relative to "Recall Round Up", a statewide effort to permanently remove dangerous and recalled toys.

Discussion was held for Item #6

Councilmember Etre, seconded by Councilmember Herbst moved a motion to adjourn.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:02 PM

Received: October 18, 2007

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Bukowy
Recording Secretary