

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
May 16, 2006**

Senior Center 2nd Floor Conference Room, 26 Park Place, Vernon, CT

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the Roll as follows:

Present: Council Members Bill F. Campbell, Daniel A. Champagne, Mark S. Etre, Bill Fox, Marie A. Herbst, Pauline A. Schaefer, Connie Simon; 7.

Absent: Council Members Daniel E. Anderson, Jason L. McCoy, Brian R. Motola, Mary A. Oliver, Christy N. Vale; 5.

Entered During Meeting: Council Members Daniel A. Anderson (7:35 p.m.), Jason L. McCoy (7:42 p.m.), Brian R. Motola (7:32 p.m.), Mary A. Oliver (8:09 p.m.), Christy N. Vale (7:32 p.m.); 5.

Also Present: Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Town Administrator Laurence R. Shaffer, Recording Secretary Karin Z. Pike.

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. announced that the Vernon Women's Garden Club had put up a display by Lafayette Square at the entrance to Vernon and thanked the members and Garden Barn for their efforts.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

Chester Morgan, 60-37 Old Town Road, requested from Council members whether or not they would be taking part in the Memorial Day parade to be held May 29.

No other residents wished to speak and Citizens Forum was closed at 7:34 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. called the Public Hearing to order at 7:34 p.m. to receive comments and recommendations regarding the "Changes in Program Utilization".

The legal notice was advertised in the Journal Inquirer on April 25, 2006 and May 8, 2006. It was also posted on the Town Hall bulletin board on April 24, 2006.

(A copy of the legal notice is appended to these minutes and marked as "Appendix A".)

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No residents wished to speak and Public Hearing was closed at 7:35 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

None.

Council Member Anderson entered the meeting (7:35 p.m.)

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 2, 2006, AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Request for Tax Refunds – Prior Fiscal Year.
2. Request for Tax Refunds – Current Fiscal Year.
3. Request Town Council authorize Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor to execute the necessary forms to make application for and receive School Readiness funds for FY 2006/2007.
4. Request the Town Council to authorize Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor to establish the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the standard for incident management in Vernon.
5. Request the Town Council to enter into a contract for architectural services for the Kindergarten Building not to exceed \$16,000.00.

NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT ITEMS):

Council Member Motola requested C.N.B. 5 be pulled for discussion.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO APPROVE C.N.B. 1 THROUGH C.N.B. 4 AS FOLLOWS:

C.N.B. 1. Request for Tax Refunds – Prior Year.

THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO APPROVE ONE (1) TAX REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$131.08 AS OUTLINED IN MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED MAY 10, 2006 TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

(A copy of the memorandum is appended to these minutes and marked as "Appendix B.")

C.N.B. 2. Request for Tax Refunds – Current Year.

THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO APPROVE FOUR (4) TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,240.48 AS OUTLINED IN MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED MAY 10, 2006 TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

(A copy of the memorandum is appended to these minutes and marked as Appendix C.)

C.N.B. 3. Request Town Council authorize Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor, to execute the necessary forms to make application for and receive School Readiness funds for FY 2006/2007.

THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES ELLEN L. MARMER, M.D., MAYOR, TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY FORMS TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR AND RECEIVE SCHOOL READINESS FUNDS FOR FY 2006/07 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$107,000.00.

C.N.B. 4. Request Town Council authorize Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor, to establish the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the standard for incident management in the Town of Vernon.

THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES ELLEN L. MARMER, M.D., MAYOR, TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) AS THE STANDARD FOR INCIDENT MANAGEMENT IN THE TOWN OF VERNON.

The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS(TAKEN FROM CONSENT AGENDA):

C.N.B. 5. Request the Town Council to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract with Schoenhardt Architects for an amount not to exceed \$16,000.00.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Simon, moved THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER XII, SECTION 9, ENTITLED "PURCHASING" HEREBY DEEMS THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TOWN, AS THE RESULT OF NEEDING TO COMPLY WITH STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT REQUIREMENT, TO WAIVE THE SEALED BID PROCESS, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SCHOENHARDT ARCHITECTS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$16,000.00.

The motion was carried 8 to 1 on a voice vote with Council Members Champagne, Etre, Fox, Herbst, Motola, Schaefer, Simon and Vale voting yes and Council Member Anderson voting no. Council Member Campbell abstained.

OLD BUSINESS:

Request the Town Council to adopt a Resolution Authorizing the assignment of Tax Liens for the properties known as Hockanum Mill.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL CONSISTENT WITH VERNON ORDINANCE #217 AND ORDINANCE #231 HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ASSIGN THE TAX LIENS FOR THE PROPERTIES TRADITIONALLY KNOWN AS THE HOCKANUM MILL AND FURTHER DESCRIBED AS 200 WEST MAIN STREET AND WEST MAIN STREET TO 1140 DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$88,100.00.

Council Member McCoy entered the meeting (7:42 p.m.)

Frank Serignese, 1140 Development Company LLC and Town Administrator Laurence R. Shaffer were available for questions and comment.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Oliver entered the meeting (8:09 p.m.)

Council Member Etre requested that the word "hereby" as used in line 2 of the motion be checked for spelling. According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary "hereby" is one word and means "by means of this".

The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Member Oliver abstained.

IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council Member Vale left the table for the following discussion.

N.B. 1. Request Town Council to adopt a Resolution entitled "Town of Vernon Resolution for the Use of Program Income."

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY ADOPTS THE RESOLUTION ENTITLED "TOWN OF VERNON RESOLUTION FOR THE USE OF PROGRAM INCOME."

Katherine Melan, Vernon Housing Authority, was available for questions and comment.

Discussion took place.

The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

Council Member Vale returned to the table.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

1. Request for Town Council to schedule Public Hearing regarding proposed Ordinance entitled: "An Ordinance Establishing a Design Review Advisory Commission Within the Town of Vernon."

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY SETS THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 6, 2006, 7:35 P.M. AT THE VERNON SENIOR CENTER, 26 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT ON THE ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMISSION WITHIN THE TOWN OF VERNON".

Discussion took place.

The motion was carried unanimously 12 to 0 on a voice vote.

DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Minutes from the Board of Education meeting held on April 24.
2. Monthly report for April 2006 from Alan Slobodien, Director, Youth Services, monthly report for April 2006 from Bernice Dixon, Town Clerk.
3. Copy of "Official Statement" from Governor M. Jodi Rell, officially proclaiming May 10, 2006 as "SCHOOL NURSE DAY".
4. Letter to James Hoover from Laurence Shaffer, Town Administrator with attachments relative to Contract #785 and the provision in the "Special Instructions to Bidders".

ADJOURN:

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved TO ADJOURN.

The motion was carried unanimously 12 to 0 on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

RECEIVED: May 23, 2006
APPROVED: Vernon Town Council
June 6, 2006

Karin Z. Pike
Asst Town Clerk/Recording Secretary

Appendix A

Appendix B

Appendix C