

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
July 25, 2006**

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

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

Present: Council Members Daniel E. Anderson, Bill F. Campbell, Daniel A. Champagne, Mark S. Etre, Bill Fox, Marie A. Herbst, Brian R. Motola, Pauline A. Schaefer, Connie Simon, Christy N. Vale; 10.

Absent: Council Members Jason L. McCoy, Mary A. Oliver; 2.

Entered During Meeting: Council Members Jason L. McCoy (7:47 p.m.); 1.

Also Present: Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Town Administrator Christopher Clark, Recording Secretary Karin Z. Pike.

Mayor Marmer reported that the Town of Vernon had recently signed on with the Energy Consortium in an effort to save on rising energy costs.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

No residents wished to speak and Citizen's Forum was closed at 7:33 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

None.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR/PUBLIC HEARING/SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 11, 2006, AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED. The motion was carried unanimously 8 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Members Schaefer and Simon abstained.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Request for Tax Refunds – Current and Prior Fiscal Year(s).
2. Request the Town Council approve the appointment of Guillaume Brousseau as a member of the Design Review Advisory Commission.
3. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of Jonathan Dodge as a member of the Permanent Municipal Building Committee.
4. Request the Town Council to approve cancellation of the regular meeting of August 1, 2006.
5. Request the Town Council approve changes to long-term investment strategy as it relates to the Town of Vernon retirement plan.

NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT ITEMS):

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

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

C.N.B. 1. Request for Tax Refunds – Current and Prior Year(s).

THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES ONE (1) TAX REFUND FOR THE CURRENT YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$139.21 AND ONE (1) TAX REFUND FOR THE PRIOR YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$51.90, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED JULY 20, 2006 TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

(A copy of the memoranda are appended to these minutes and marked as "Appendix A.")

C.N.B. 2. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Guillaume Brousseau, (D) 335 Center Road, Apt. 12A, as an alternate member of the Design Review Advisory Commission, to fill a current vacancy, said term to expire on December 31, 2007.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF GUILLARME BROUSSEAU (D) TO SERVE AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2007.

C.N.B. 3. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Jonathan Dodge, (R) 205-181 Vernon Avenue, as a member of the Permanent Municipal Building Committee, to fill a current .

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF JONATHAN DODGE (R) TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2009.

C.N.B. 4. Request the Town Council to approve the cancellation of the regular meeting of August 1, 2006.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE CANCELLATION OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 1, 2006.

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

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS: (TAKEN FROM CONSENT AGENDA):

C.N.B. 5. Request the Town Council to approve changes to the long term investment strategy for the Town of Vernon retirement plan and Town of Vernon Police retirement plan.

Finance Officer James Luddecke was present for questions and comment.

Council Member McCoy entered the meeting (7:47 p.m.)

Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Etre, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES CHANGES TO THE LONG-TERM INVESTMENT STRATEGY FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON RETIREMENT PLAN AND TOWN OF VERNON POLICE RETIREMENT PLAN AS INDICATED ON THE ATTACHED CHARTS, EFFECTIVE TO THE EARLIEST DATE THAT THE CHANGES CAN BE IMPLEMENTED.

The motion was carried 10 to 1 on a voice vote with Council Members Campbell, Champagne, Etre, Fox, Herbst, McCoy, Motola, Schaefer, Simon and Vale voting no and Council Member Anderson voting no.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

A.A.I. 1. Council Member Anderson requested that the Council receive updates on ongoing Town projects at future meetings.

A.A.I. 2. Council Member Etre requested that the Administration look into the replacement poles that were put up on Union and West Street stating that the old poles were placed in the grass and the replacement poles were placed in the middle of the sidewalk. He requested an update regarding this matter.

NEW BUSINESS:

N.B. 1. Request for Town Council to approve the budget amendments for fiscal year 2005-2006 as outlined in the Budget Amendments #49-66 or additional amendments as provided by the Finance Officer at the meeting.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Simon, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE AMENDMENT REQUEST(S) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 AS OUTLINED IN BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS #49-66 AND/OR ADDITIONAL AMENDMENT FORMS AS PROVIDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER AT THE MEETING.

Finance Officer James Luddecke was available for questions and comment.

Discussion took place.

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

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

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

None.

DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

A.A.I. 1. Council Member Anderson requested that the Council receive updates on ongoing Town projects at future meetings.

A.A.I. 2. Council Member Etre requested that the Administration look into the replacement poles that were put up on Union and West Street stating that the old poles were placed in the grass and the replacement poles were placed in the middle of the sidewalk. He requested an update regarding this matter.

Both A.A.I. 1 and 2 will be updated at future meetings.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Minutes from the Design Review Committee meeting held on May 1, 2006.
2. Copy of flyer for "NATIONAL NIGHT OUT", which is to be held on August 1, 2006, Talcott Park, from 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.
3. Copy of letter from Edward S. Fratto, Executive Director, Northeast States Emergency Consortium, announcing the selection of Emergency Management Director Michael J. Purcaro as "Manager of the Year".
4. Memorandum from Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor to Richard Paskiewicz, Acting Superintendent of Schools, and members of the Board of Education regarding budget concerns.
5. Tally sheet from July 13 referendum and age breakdown information from four budget referenda held this year.
6. Memo from Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor to Town Council members regarding budget binders and separators.
7. Monthly reports for May and June from Bernice Dixon, Town Clerk, monthly reports for May and June from Penny Rand, Senior Center Director.

ADJOURN:

Council Member Fox, seconded by Council Member Herbst, moved TO ADJOURN.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Received: September 1, 2006
Approved: August 15, 2006
Vernon Town Council

Karin Z. Pike
Asst Town Clerk/Recording Secretary

