

**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL  
December 5, 2006**

Senior Center 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, 26 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. called the meeting to order at 7:32 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, Mary A. Oliver, Pauline A. Schaefer, Connie Simon, Christy N. Vale; 11.

**Absent:** Council Member Jason L. McCoy; 1.

**Entered During Meeting:** Council Member Jason L. McCoy (7:40 p.m.); 1.

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

Mayor Marmer pulled the Executive Session and New Business #1 portions of the meeting.

**CITIZEN'S FORUM:**

Joe Grabinski, 623 Dart Hill Road, spoke against the process in which the appointment of incoming Police Chief James L. Kenny was handled.

Thomas Didio, 112 Box Mountain Drive, thanked Registrar Judy Beaudreau and all others involved in their contributions to the Dickens' Day celebration.

No other residents wished to speak and Citizen's Forum was closed at 7:39 p.m.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

None.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

Council Member McCoy entered the meeting (7:40 p.m.).

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2006, AND THAT THE MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Members Champagne and McCoy abstained.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 21, 2006, AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote. Council Members Etre and McCoy abstained.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. Request for Tax Refunds – Current and Prior Fiscal Year(s).
2. Request the Town Council to approve the reappointment of Michael Winkler as a member of the Board of Directors, Community Voice Channel.
3. Request Town Council to ask for an §8-24 review from the Planning and Zoning Commission relative to street acceptance of Zoey Drive, Sutton Drive, and Tobias Court.
4. Request the Town Council to approve Rental/Labor Fees Policy for use of Town Buildings.
5. Request the Town Council adopt a Resolution authorizing the Town Administrator to submit a funding request to the Capitol Region Council of Governments for improvements to Bolton Road South.
6. Request the Town Council to approve job description and new job classification of Senior Assessment Technician.
7. Request Town Council approve base fees for the Building Department effective February 1, 2007.

Council Member McCoy pulled C.N.B. 2 for a separate vote.

Council Member Motola pulled C.N.B. 7. for discussion.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO APPROVE C.N.B. 1, 3, 4, 5 & 6 AS FOLLOWS:

**NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT ITEMS):**

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

THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES SIX (6) TAX REFUNDS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,252.74 AND TWO (2) TAX REFUNDS FOR THE PRIOR YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,814.85 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED NOVEMBER 30, 2006 TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

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

C.N.B. 3. Request the Town Council to ask for an §8-24 review from the Planning and Zoning Commission relative to street acceptance of Sutton Drive, Zoey Drive, and Tobias Court.

THE TOWN COUNCIL MOVES TO REQUEST AN §8-24 REVIEW FROM THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION RELATIVE TO STREET ACCEPTANCE REQUESTS OF GREG PINTO OF PAW PROPERTIES LLC FOR SUTTON DRIVE, ZOHEY DRIVE, AND TOBIAS COURT.

C.N.B. 4. Request the Town Council to approve the "Town of Vernon Administration Rental/Labor Fees for Use of Town Buildings 2006/2007".

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE TOWN OF VERNON ADMINISTRATION RENTAL/LABOR FEES POLICY FOR USE OF TOWN BUILDINGS FOR THE PERIOD 2006/2007.

C.N.B. 5. Request the Town Council to adopt a Resolution entitled "Resolution authorizing Town Administrator Christopher Clark to Submit a Funding Request in the Amount of \$2,500,000.00 to the CRCOG Transportation Committee for Reconstruction of Bolton Road South".

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY MOVES TO HAVE BOLTON ROAD SOUTH BE SUBMITTED UNDER THE STP URBAN PROGRAM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS THROUGH THE CAPITOL REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, AND FURTHER, ADOPTS A RESOLUTION ENTITLED "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TOWN ADMINISTRATOR CHRISTOPHER CLARK TO SUBMIT A FUNDING REQUEST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500,000.00 TO THE CRCOG TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF BOLTON ROAD SOUTH".

C.N.B. 6. Request Town Council to approve new job description and classification of Senior Assessment Technician.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES A NEW JOB DESCRIPTION AND CLASSIFICATION OF SENIOR ASSESSMENT TECHNICIAN EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 6, 2006.

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

**NEW BUSINESS (TAKEN FROM CONSENT AGENDA):**

C.N.B. 2. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Michael Winkler, 20 Gottier Drive, to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Community Voice Channel, said term to expire on October 19, 2008.

Council Member McCoy, seconded by Council Member Vale, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL WINKLER TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY VOICE CHANNEL, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON October 19, 2008. The motion failed 5 to 7 on a voice vote with Council Members Fox, Herbst, Oliver, Schaefer and Simon voting yes and Council Members Anderson, Campbell, Champagne, Etre, McCoy, Motola and Vale voting no.

C.N.B. 7. Request Town Council to approve increase in Building Department fees effective February 1, 2007.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES AN INCREASE IN BASE BUILDING DEPARTMENT FEES FROM \$14 PER THOUSAND TO \$15 PER THOUSAND EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2007.

Discussion took place. Council Member Motola requested that the fee process be visited every year.

The motion was carried 11 to 1 on a voice vote with Council Members Anderson, Champagne, Etre, Fox, Herbst, McCoy, Motola, Oliver, Schaefer, Simon and Vale voting yes and Council Member Campbell voting no.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION :** (Executive Session was pulled from the agenda.)

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY DECIDES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS AND INVITES CHRISTOPHER CLARK, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, DANIEL SULLIVAN, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR, MARTIN BURKE, ESQ., AND GENE BOLLES, BUILDING OFFICIAL, TO ATTEND.

**IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:**

A.A.I. 1. Council Member Anderson requested that Informational Item #3 (Copy of letter from Martin B. Burke Esq. to Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor regarding appointment of Police Chief and copy of email from Councilmember Daniel Anderson) be pulled for discussion.

By unanimous consent, A.A.I. 1 was added to the agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS:** (New Business was pulled from the agenda.)

Request Town Council to approve appointment of Martin B. Burke as Town Attorney, to fill a vacancy due to the resignation of Joseph Courtney.

THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH CHAPTER XI, SECTION V, ENTITLED 'OTHER OFFICERS', HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MARTIN B. BURKE, 38 REED STREET, VERNON, AS TOWN ATTORNEY, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 6, 2006.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

None.

**DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:**

A.A.I. 1. Council Member Anderson requested that Informational Item #3 (Copy of letter from Martin B. Burke Esq. to Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor regarding appointment of Police Chief and copy of email from Councilmember Daniel Anderson) be pulled for discussion.

Human Resources Director Dan Sullivan was available for questions and comment.

Discussion took place.

The Council requested a second legal opinion concerning the incoming Police Chief's appointment process.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

1. Minutes from Board of Education regular meeting of November 13, 2006.
2. Letter from Gregory LaChance, Chair, Planning and Zoning Commission relative to his request not to be reappointed to the PZC.
3. Copy of letter from Martin B. Burke Esq. to Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor regarding appointment of Police Chief and copy of email from Councilmember Daniel Anderson.
4. Copy of schedule of meeting dates for Town Council for calendar year 2007.
5. Copy of Proclamation for "Dickens" Day Celebration.
6. Copy of letter to Councilmember Daniel Anderson relative to Building Department reports and copy of spreadsheet from Building Department is in the packet.
7. Mayor Ellen L. Marmer would like to invite members of the Town Council to Rein's Deli after the meeting of December 19<sup>th</sup> for some holiday cheer.

**ADJOURN:**

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Received: December 12, 2006

Approved: December 19, 2006

Karin Z. Pike  
Asst. Town Clerk/Recording Secretary

