

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL
December 19, 2006**

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

Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D. called the meeting to order at 7:30 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, Bill Fox, Marie A. Herbst, Brian R. Motola, Pauline A. Schaefer, Connie Simon, Christy N. Vale; 9.

Absent: Council Members Mark S. Etre, Jason L. McCoy, Mary A. Oliver; 3.

Entered During Meeting: Council Members Jason L. McCoy (8:06 p.m.), Mary A. Oliver (7:31 p.m.); 2.

Also Present: Mayor Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Finance Officer James Luddecke, Recording Secretary Karin Z. Pike.

Council Member Oliver entered the meeting (7:31 p.m.).

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

Michael Carlo, 34 Reed Street, spoke regarding his investigation of the release of his daughter's personal information by the College Board while taking the PSAT Exam at Rockville High School.

Rudolf Rossmly, Vernon Police Chief, thanked the Council and Town staff for their support & opportunity throughout his time in Vernon as police chief. He also invited all to a Change of Command Ceremony to take place on January 5, 2007 at VCMS at 4:15 p.m. to swear in the new police chief and new police captain. Mayor Marmer also announced that as of January he would be the official chair of the Bicentennial Committee.

Kate Melan & Peter Olsen, Vernon Housing Authority, presented a check to the Town in lieu of taxes in the amount of \$21,669.27 for the past year.

No other residents wished to speak and Citizen's Forum was closed at 7:48 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

Bruce Dinnie and Bruce Watt, Vernon Parks and Recreation Department and Mayor Marmer recognized the following individuals and businesses/organizations for their contributions to the Parks and Recreation Department and our community.

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| 1. | Distinguished Service Award | Ronald Dixon |
| 2. | Outstanding Volunteer Coach Award | Al Hutwagner |
| 3. | Outstanding Sponsor Award | Mark Nicholas & Family |
| 4. | Outstanding Services Award | Frank Mizorski |

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 DECEMBER 5, 2006,

AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED. The motion was carried unanimously 10 to 0 on a voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

Council Member Motola pulled C.N.B. 16 (Request the Town Council approve an increase for the designation of compensated absences) for discussion.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved TO APPROVE C.N.B. 1-15 and 17 AS FOLLOWS:

1. Request for Tax Refunds – Current and Prior Fiscal Year(s).
2. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of Craig Segar as a member of the Board of Directors, Community Voice Channel.
3. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of James L. Kenny as a member of the Traffic Authority.
4. Request the Town Council to approve the reappointment of Lawrence Geissler as a regular member of the Conservation Commission.
5. Request the Town Council to approve the reappointment of Scott A. Wieting as a regular member of the Conservation Commission.
6. Request the Town Council to approve the reappointment of Jennifer Holt as a regular member of the Design Review Advisory Commission.
7. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of Guillaume Brousseau as a regular member of the Design Review Advisory Commission.
8. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of Roland Klee as a regular member of the Design Review Advisory Commission.
9. Request the Town Council to approve the reappointment of Steven L. Wakefield as Hearing Officer for the Town of Vernon.
10. Request the Town Council to approve the reappointment of Vishnu Khade as a member of the Municipal Flood and Erosion Control Board.
11. Request the Town Council to approve the reappointment of Kathleen Porter as a member of the Board of Directors for the North Central District Health Department.
12. Request the Town Council to approve the reappointment of Pat Settembrino as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission.
13. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of Ralph E. Zahner as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission.
14. Request the Town Council to approve the reappointment of E. Mason Thrall, III as a member of the Water Pollution Control Authority.
15. Request the Town Council to approve disposal of fixed assets, desk top copier and typewriter, Social Services Department.
16. Request the Town Council approve an increase for the designation of compensated absences.
17. Request the Town Council to approve the appointment of Harry D. Thomas as a regular member of the Inland Wetlands Regulatory Commission.

NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT ITEMS):

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

THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES NINE (9) TAX REFUNDS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,231.49 AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED DECEMBER 13, 2006 TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

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

C.N.B. 2. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Craig P. Segar, 4D Mount Vernon Drive, to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Community Voice Channel, to fill a vacancy due to the expired term of Michael Winkler, said term to expire on October 19, 2008.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF CRAIG P. SEGAR TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY VOICE CHANNEL, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 19, 2008.

C.N.B. 3. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Captain James L. Kenny of the Police Department, to serve as a member of Vernon Traffic Authority due to the retirement of Rudolf Rossmly, Police Chief, said term to commence on January 5, 2007.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF JAMES L. KENNY TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 5, 2007.

C.N.B. 4. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Lawrence Geissler, (U) 6 Green Road, to serve as a member of the Conservation Commission, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF LAWRENCE GEISSLER TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

C.N.B. 5. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Scott A. Wieting, (D) 64 Valley Falls Road, to serve as a member of the Conservation Commission, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF SCOTT A. WIETING TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

C.N.B. 6. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Jennifer Holt, (U) 30 King Street, to serve as a member of the Design Review Advisory Commission, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JENNIFER HOLT TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

C.N.B. 7. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Guillaume Brousseau, (D) 335 Center Road, Apt. 12A, to serve as a regular member of the Design Review Advisory Commission due to the term expiration of John C. Lampson, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF GUILLARME BROUSSEAU TO SERVE AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

C.N.B. 8. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Roland Klee, (D) 132 Hany Lane, to serve as a regular member of the Design Review Advisory Commission due to the term expiration of William A. Walach, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF ROLAND KLEE TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

C.N.B. 9. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Steven L. Wakefield, (R) 152 Brookview Drive, to serve as Hearing Officer, said term to expire on December 31, 2007.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF STEVEN L. WAKEFIELD TO SERVE AS HEARING OFFICER, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2007.

C.N.B. 10. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Vishnu Khade, (D) 125 Merline Road, to serve as a regular member of the Municipal Flood and Erosion Control Board, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF VISHNU KHADE TO SERVE AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL FLOOD AND EROSION CONTROL BOARD, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

C.N.B. 11. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Kathleen Porter, (D) 214 Merline Road, to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the North Central District Health Department, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF KATHLEEN PORTER TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

C.N.B. 12. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Pat Settembrino, (U) 188 Hatch Hill Road, to serve as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF PAT SETTEMBRINO TO SERVE AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

C.N.B. 13. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Ralph E. Zahner, (U) 142 Vernon Avenue #66, to serve as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission due to the term expiration of Gregory LaChance, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF RALPH E. ZAHNER TO SERVE AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

C.N.B. 14. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's reappointment of E. Mason Thrall, III, (U) 172 Irene Drive, to serve as a member of the Water Pollution Control Authority, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF E. MASON THRALL, III TO SERVE AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

C.N.B. 15. Request the Town Council to approve the disposal of fixed assets pursuant to a request from Paula Claydon, Director of Social Services.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REQUEST FOR DISPOSAL OF FIXED ASSET #91018004, DESK TOP COPIER, #94021115, TYPEWRITER, AND #94021116, TYPEWRITER.

C.N.B. 17. Request the Town Council to approve the Mayor's appointment of Harry D. Thomas, (R) 125 Dockerel Road, to serve as a regular member of the Inland Wetlands Regulatory Commission due to the term expiration of Joanne P. Wiley, said term to expire on December 31, 2009.

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF HARRY D. THOMAS TO SERVE AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE INLAND WETLANDS REGULATORY COMMISSION, SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

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

NEW BUSINESS: (Taken from Consent Agenda):

C.N.B. 16. Request the Town Council to approve an increase of \$222,000.00 to the designation of compensated absences.

Finance Officer James Luddecke was available for questions and comment.

Council Member McCoy entered the meeting (8:06 p.m.)

Discussion took place.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member Schaefer, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES, AS OF JUNE 30, 2006, AN INCREASE OF \$222,000.00 TO THE DESIGNATION FOR COMPENSATED ABSENCES IN THE GENERAL FUND, RESULTING IN A TOTAL DESIGNATION OF \$322,000.00. The motion was carried 10 to 1 on a voice vote with Council Members Anderson, Campbell, Champagne, Fox, Herbst, Motola, Oliver, Schaefer Simon and Vale voting yes and Council Member McCoy voting no.

IDENTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

N.B. 1. Request Town Council to approve appointment of Susan Boyan as Town Attorney, to fill a vacancy due to the resignation of Joseph Courtney.

Council Member Herbst, seconded by Council Member McCoy, moved that THE TOWN COUNCIL, CONSISTENT WITH CHAPTER XI, SECTION V, ENTITLED 'OTHER OFFICERS', HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF SUSAN BOYAN, 59 OLD POST ROAD, TOLLAND, AS TOWN ATTORNEY, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 20, 2006. The motion was carried unanimously 11 to 0 on a voice vote.

N.B. 2. Discussion of skate board park funding.

Bruce Dinnie, Parks and Recreation Director was available for questions and comment.

Discussion took place.

Council Member Motola requested a recess. The meeting recessed at 9:14 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:17 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

None.

DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Minutes from Board of Education regular meeting of November 27, 2006.
2. Letter from Jane Seymour, resigning from the Inland Wetlands Regulatory Commission.
3. Copy of letter from Martin B. Burke Esq. to Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor resigning as Special Counsel for the Town of Vernon.
4. Letter to Town Council members from Sheryl McMullen, Chair of the Conservation Commission relative to the appointment of a new Assistant Town Planner/Economic Development Coordinator.
5. Memo from Elections Department – Registrar of Voters relative to the disposal of AVM voting machines which are no longer being used in the Town of Vernon.
6. Copy of November EMS report from Fire Chief Robert Kelley.
7. Letter from Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor, appointing Captain James L. Kenny as a member of the Public Safety Council, Capitol Region Council of Governments, effective upon the retirement of Police Chief Rossmly. (refer to New Business Consent #3).
8. Letter from Ellen L. Marmer, M.D., Mayor reappointing Jeffrey Schambach as Tree Warden for the Town of Vernon.

ADJOURN:

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Received: December 26, 2007
Approved: January 16, 2007
Vernon Town Council

Karin Z. Pike
Asst Town Clerk/Recording Secretary