

TOWNSHIP OF VERNON
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

August 26, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Vernon was convened at 6:09 p.m. on Thursday, August 26, 2010 in the Vernon Municipal Center, 21 Church Street, Vernon, New Jersey with Mayor Sally Rinker presiding.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Adequate notice of this meeting had been provided to the public and the press on January 5, 2010, and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Present were Council Members Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, and Mayor Sally Rinker. Also present were Township Manager Jerry Giaimis and Township Attorney John Ursin. Council Member Valerie Seufert was absent.

RESOLUTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:10 p.m. Mayor Sally Rinker asked for a motion to go into Executive Session Council Member Harry Shortway made a motion to close the meeting to the public and enter into executive session. Motion seconded by Council Member Richard Carson with all members voting in favor.

The Municipal Clerk read the following resolution to go into executive session:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed is:
 - a. Personnel matter regarding the Municipal Clerk position. Executive Session Minutes only with respect to the successful candidate hired for the Municipal Clerk position will be released at the conclusion of the matter or upon the offer of employment to the successful candidate.
3. It is anticipated that the above-stated subject matter will be made available upon final decision.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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The meeting was reopened to the public at 7:01 p.m. Present were Council Members Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, and Mayor Sally Rinker. Also present were Township Manager Jerry Giaimis and Township Attorney John Ursin.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Mayor led the assemblage in the salute to the flag.

APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP MANAGER

RESOLUTION #10-181

APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP MANAGER

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Vernon has conducted an extensive search for candidates to fill the position of Township Manager;

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Vernon has determined that Gerald Giaimis is the most qualified of the candidates;

WHEREAS, the position has been offered to Gerald Giaimis and he has accepted;

WHEREAS, a three year contract has been prepared and reviewed by the Township Attorney;

WHEREAS, Gerald Giaimis has reviewed the contract and found it to be acceptable with a starting date of August 26, 2010;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon that Gerald Giaimis is hereby appointed Township Manager for the Township of Vernon effective August 26, 2010;

NOW THEREFORE IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a contract paying the Township Manager the sum of \$118,000 (with a \$7,000 relocation reimbursement) for the first year, \$128,750 for the second year and 3% raises subsequent years.

MOVED: Richard Carson
SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:
AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker
NAYES: None
Resolution #10-181 was approved.

The Mayor and Council welcomed Mr. Giaimis to the Township.

PROCLAMATION
Turn the Town Teal – September 2010 as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Mayor Rinker read a statement regarding the appointment of Jerry Giaimis as the new Township Manager of Vernon and asked the residents, employees, Council and professionals to welcome this chance to start anew; with the work on our issues and a renewed commitment to the future of our Town. Mayor Rinker asked that we all work together and asked for respectful communication from our public and respectful treatment of our public and one another by this Governing Body. Mayor Rinker requested a work session be scheduled to address the manner and method in which we go forward. Identify our agendas, appoint sub-committee members for our main issues and pledge to go forward for the sake of our Town in a civilized and communicative manner. We must all now row the ship in the same direction and this Town will prosper. Let's respect ourselves and our Town and the rest will follow.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Rinker opened the meeting for Public Comments.

Brian Lynch, Highland Lakes, welcomed the new Township Manager; and stated that he was hoping that the Mayor would read something of that liking tonight. Mr. Lynch added that he was very confused after the last Council meeting and commented that

the public and Governing Body should be able to have spirited debates with reasonable questions, honesty and integrity. Just before Council Member Pier got up to leave at the last Council Meeting, he was making an ethics issue, Mr. Lynch questioned the Township Attorney if this is anything we need to be concerned about. Mr. Ursin answered that he honestly does not know what the issue is; if someone has an ethics complaint, they make it with the Local Finance Board and it's investigated, no one has made a complaint to him, and he does not know if anyone has made a direct complaint to the Local Finance Board. Mr. Lynch questioned the recent allegations about ethics in the paper and here in these chambers, and asked if there is anything, the citizens need to know that they are not hearing. Mr. Ursin said there is nothing that he is aware of. Council Member Pier stated there is no issue, we are putting that behind us and the Council is moving forward as a whole. Mr. Lynch asked if the Friends of Vernon plaque could be updated. Mr. Lynch further stated three things that need to be looked at are economic development, fiscal responsibility, and services to the community.

Robert Oliver, [REDACTED] Mr. Oliver had asked the former Township Manager, Mr. Katz, to investigate what perceived to be Council Member Harry Shortway's conflict of interest in regards to the PAL contract and the Open Space Ordinance. Mr. Oliver stated Mr. Katz told him that he had contacted you; Mr. Oliver has heard nothing. If that is the case, then Mr. Katz, we are well rid of him.

Thomas McClachrie, *Vernon Taxpayers Association*, addressed the Police arbitration holiday resolution. Mr. Ursin stated under the current PBA contract the practice has been that at the turn of every year, the police will be entitled to the holiday pay for the entire year, the PBA voluntarily sat down and came to an agreement where the holidays would be vested in two parts – ½ on January 1st and ½ on July 1st. Mr. McClachrie questioned the ordinance for the sewers and asked what the value is of what we are conveying to United Water. Mr. Ursin answered that we are not conveying to United Water any of the Town's property; we are conveying to them the right to operate the franchise within a certain area. Mr. Ursin stated that all of these issues are continuing to be analyzed and continuing to be negotiated as this time. It was the recommendation of Bob Benecke, the redevelopment consultant, that we give United Water the franchise so they could process the BPU application. Mr. McClachrie was concerned about the time limit in the contract. Mr. Ursin stated that the obligation is to convey the franchise area to United Water, and we are obligated to do that by the agreement that Vernon Township signed in December of 2009. Mr. Ursin further stated that Vernon Township has hired a water and sewer engineer, Hatch Mott Macdonald, who are very experienced and have spent a lot of time analyzing the system and have made a series of recommendations. Mr. Ursin continued that as soon as the new Manager is up to speed with what Hatch Mott is doing, we will make all of the current issues much clearer, and is confident that the public will see that there is progress being made to improve the existing agreements. Mr. McClachrie stated that until there is further clarity on the contracts in place stating a time limit, the Vernon Taxpayers Association is against this. Regarding the property maintenance code proposed which is increasing the penalty fees from the current \$100. to \$250., \$500. and then \$1,000. Mr. McClachrie stated that during these hard economic times, perhaps this is not the time to be raising fines on homeowners.

Phyllis Pfeifer, *Vernon resident*, stated she was at the last Council meeting where three Council Members walked out and was appalled by the unprofessional behavior of our elected officials. Ms. Pfeifer stated that we lost out on a grant writer that was going to work for the Township pro bono. Ms. Pfeifer further stated that if Council Members can't deal with the stress and you're getting sick over it, resign the position, and we will elect somebody to handle it.

Margaret Borstad from McAfee, stated that her main concern is the sewers and water in Vernon Township. Ms. Borstad further stated that everyone in Vernon has their own septic tanks and water, and now we have to also pay for this new water and sewer that we cannot use and feels this is wrong.

Jeanne Jameson, *President Highland Lakes Country Club* questioned whether or not the Municipal Services Agreement which was adopted back in March was on the top 10 items of things being close to a resolution or at least on the agenda. Mayor Rinker stated that it was way up on the top 10 and the Manger will be speaking to that tonight.

Mr. Ursin stated that under the Manger's direction, there is a meeting scheduled with Highland Lakes Association next week. Ms. Jameson understood that is for the 2008 agreement, but she was asking about the newly revised one that had been adopted back in March. Mr. Ursin stated that clearly it is one of the top issues, which is a major budget item and involves interaction with a large number of the public and it's on the top of the list.

Marcia Lynn, the pro bono Grant Writer, she commended the Town people who called her after the last Council meeting and asked her to come back tonight. Ms. Lynn stated that unfortunately Vernon Township missed the deadline for the big grant, but there are many energy efficient grants that are coming up, which is her specialty. Mr. Ursin stated the grant application that was proposed to the Town, the previous Manager did not recommend that the Town become part of that coalition and Mr. Ursin strongly supported his opinion because the documents that were presented, had the Town being part of a coalition that was undisclosed. Ms. Lynn stated that it was disclosed in the grant and it was on the internet for all to view. If the Town wishes, she would file grants on their behalf. Mayor Rinker suggested that Ms. Lynn contact our Township Manager. Ms. Lynn stated that the Town should contact her.

Laura Elkhart Verdon of Highland Lakes spoke of the succession of Township Managers and questioned with the new Manager, what would be different about the way the government of Vernon is going forward. Mayor Rinker stated that she believes Mr. Giaimis has made a thorough commitment to come here and the continuity is going to be the key and the Council unanimously approved his being hired and they are all committed to working with him.

Gary Martinsen, Vernon Resident, welcomed the new Manager and questioned if the new Ordinance 10-11 will be open to the public for discussion. Mr. Ursin stated that ordinances on their second reading always have a public hearing. Mr. Martinsen commented that there were no apologies from anyone for what happened at the last meeting, and he used an analogy in regards to fixing a problem and then it quickly falls apart again. Mr. Martinsen thanked Marcia Lynn for coming back and asked the Council to work with her. Mr. Martinsen questioned the address on one of the resolutions on for tonight. Regarding another resolution, Mr. Martinsen asked if the Township could sell some of the equipment from the Health Department on e-bay. Mr. Martinsen commented that he has seen banners in other towns that were sponsored by businesses in the town. He stated he would be willing to sponsor a banner and is sure other business owners in Town would too, that could show different aspects of Vernon in the off-season.

Joe Verdin, Highland Lakes, he commended the Grant Writer for coming to help out the community. Mr. Verdin has been a full time resident in Vernon for the last 6 years and would like to ask if new projects go out to bid. Mr. Giaimis stated that all contracts have a threshold and any project that is above the threshold goes out to bid. Mr. Verdin welcomed Mr. Giaimis to the community and hopes he can help the Township especially on the Town Center road issue.

Adam Paladini, Pleasant Valley Lake, commended the Council and also Mayor Rinker on her earlier statement. As far as Council comments on coming together as a group, Mr. Paladini does not trust it; and feels the Council has to prove their solidarity to the public. Council Member Pier stated that the Council needs the help of the public to keep the negativity out of the public and if there are any issues to approach the Council Member, but it must be kept civil. Mr. Paladini stated that the Council needs to set the example on how to act.

Jessi Paladini, as a member of the Committee of Petitioners, read a statement on behalf of the Committee of Petitioners regarding the change in the form of government. Ms. Paladini stated that Vernon residents were overwhelmingly enthusiastic to change their form of government. The petition circulated easily got 3,620 signatures, actually they stopped collecting signatures after they got 3,620 signatures, and she was confident that figure would have doubled had they continued to collect signatures. Ms. Paladini further stated that a change in government at this point is their only hope for government in our Town to be run with honesty, integrity and competence. Our Council and Manager form of government has not worked, and she apologized to Mr. Giaimis

because this is not directed at him and stated she appreciated his taking the call and coming. Ms. Paladini stated for many, a change in our form of government is our only hope. Ms. Paladini further stated the residents are tired of the unlawful executive session votes, conflicts of interest, and governing body members who profit from the actions that they take. More than anything else, a Mayor/Council form of government will give residents accountability that past Council Members as well as some of the current Council Members think that you do not have to have to the citizens of this Town. Ms. Paladini went on to say that due to the Municipal Clerk being on vacation all of last week, they were told that they could not submit their petition until she returns, that is no fault of the Municipal Clerk, however, she needs to get the petitions certified by September 3rd and report it to the County in order for the question to be on the ballot in November. Some seem to be questioning just what the Clerk must certify, County officials have already said that she can do a random sampling of the signatures and that can easily be accomplished in a day or two, if it goes beyond the deadline for getting it on the November ballot, there will be a special election at a cost to the Township, but have no doubt that it will go for a vote of the people one way or another. Ms. Paladini continued that the people who have had a stranglehold on our Town government for years will do everything that they can to prevent that referendum from passing, and once it does go on the ballot, they will put out mis-information and negative campaigns to mislead people. More people signed this petition than the average number who go to the polls in Vernon on a regular basis; and Ms. Paladini stated this referendum is the will of the people.

Ms. Paladini stated that on June 24, 2010 this Council unlawfully took action in executive Session to file a lawsuit against Council Member Carson. A lawsuit that Judge Bozonelis promptly threw out of court, one of the Council Persons in that Executive Session meeting was Harry Shortway, who is a named defendant in Mr. Carson's federal conspiracy lawsuit, Ms. Paladini believes that Harry Shortway had a conflict of interest and had no business being in that Executive Session, much less taking any action.

Ms. Paladini spoke regarding PAL, stating this Council turned the Township's recreation program over to the PAL. As Mr. Shortway advertises his lacrosse program in communities surrounding Vernon, one in particular was in Warwick, NY, shortly after the PAL took over the recreation program Mr. Shortway got the PAL lacrosse contract. Ms. Paladini questioned Mr. Shortway if he ever sat in on any meetings with members of the Council and PAL to discuss PAL taking over the recreation program. Council Member Shortway stated he is not going to answer any questions, that Ms. Paladini is only to direct questions to the Council as a whole. Ms. Paladini stated that the record will show that Mr. Shortway will not answer that question.

Janelle Pasafaro, Vernon resident, represents On Board, which is an anti-heroin movement. Ms. Pasafaro stated that trust and respect are two things that can't be stolen, they have to be earned and if we work together and not say we are working on things, a sense of community can be brought to this Town that we all long for and move forward as a whole.

Cherie Shortway, [REDACTED] wanted to speak to the accusations and stated the PAL program was done as a benefit to everybody, Mad Dawg Lacrosse brings people in, over 200 players in the month of July came into the Town. Ms. Shortway further stated anyone can put in an Open Public Records Act request for anything that Mad Dawg Lacrosse did. Everything was done the way it should have been done. It was a fund raiser for PAL, they made money, the Township made money for their fields as per ordinance, the Township also reaped the benefits of their Monday and Wednesday programs in the month of July, where we had over 200 athletes coming into town. Mad Dawg Lacrosse paid \$6,400. for eight days and they also paid for port-a-johns to be put down there, because it was for the convenience of the players and also could be used by anyone for the month of July. Ms. Shortway stated that they have a business that brings people into Town and now there is a problem with it, if anyone wishes to contact her with any questions, she gave her phone number and email address.

Bernie Nagle, Highland Lakes, stated he sent Mayor Rinker an email before the election regarding whether his family was going to stay in Vernon or not. Since Mayor

Rinker won the election, they are not going to move. Mr. Nagle respectfully asked the Council Members to stay in their position and to stay the course.

Robert Oliver, stated he did request the information through an Open Public Records Act request that Mrs. Shortway spoke about. Mr. Oliver spoke with the Township Manager today and reported that OPRA request has been stalled for over a month, and that is breaking a few rules.

At this time, the Mayor asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. Council Member Shortway made a motion, seconded by Council Member Carson, with all in favor.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

Jerry Giaimis thanked the Mayor and Council for providing him the opportunity to serve Vernon. Mr. Giaimis stated he is committed to serving this community and helping by being a part of the solution, and is intending to move to this community very soon and anticipates being here for quite some time. Mr. Giaimis stated he has an open door policy and offered the public to feel free to contact him regarding any issues.

Mr. Giaimis spoke regarding a meeting that is set up between himself, Mr. Ursin, our Public Works Director, Dave Pullis and the attorney and one representative from Highland Lakes, all issues will be on the table at that meeting and they hope to come to a resolution as quickly as possible.

Mr. Giaimis advised the Council and public that there will be some painting in the Court Room and there might be a little bit of a mess and some paint smell at the next Council Meeting of Monday, September 13th; and questioned if anyone was opposed to having the meeting that night. No one was opposed.

The Township Manager stated there is a resolution on the Township audit, and stated he is satisfied with the recommendations of the Auditor.

Mr. Giaimis reported there was an issue that arose with the State Park, regarding the opening of the gate. The State had agreed to open it a little longer, however, because of internal issues, are back to closing it at the same time as before. If there is consensus at this time next year, we will look at it again, and we will hope to come to a resolution on that.

Mr. Giaimis stated that he has only been in the office a couple of days, but there is plenty to report on and he will give the Council written reports on a weekly basis; and again thanked the Council for the opportunity and further stated that he is looking forward to working with all of us.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Ursin felt it was important to comment on what Ms. Paladini brought up. One of the things for Government to operate properly and transparently is to have as little Closed Sessions as possible. This council has had a fraction of the Closed Sessions than previous Councils have had, due partly to his advice. If it wasn't for the Manager and Clerk interviews, there would have been a small fraction this year of the amount of Executive Session that was done last year. With respect to Mr. Shortway's conflict in being in the Closed Session on June 24th, that was Mr. Ursin's, decision and advice. Mr. Ursin stated he felt the issue that was being discussed was separate and distinct from Mr. Carson's lawsuit against the Town, and he is sensitive to those issues. The minutes reflected that Mr. Shortway did ask him if he should leave the room, and Mr. Ursin made the determination. If it was the wrong call, Mr. Ursin stated, it was his. With respect to the issue of the declaratory judgement involving Mr. Carson, it is a sensitive and difficult situation, Mr. Ursin stated the issue was brought up to the attention of the Council, it was his decision, again, and felt it needed an answer. It was briefed to Mr. Carson and the Council and we sought alternatives, even speaking to Mr. Carson's lawyers, and in his view, there was no other alternative, it was a declaratory judgement where we went to the assignment judge and asked the question. The assignment judge felt it should be resolved in the the other case, his decision was

respected and Mr. Ursin took solace in the fact that Judge Bozonelis felt it was a question that should be answered another day. This Council made efforts to answer it and the government can continue on without this open question hanging out there. With respect to a decision in Closed Session, Mr. Ursin stated he frequently briefs the Council on litigation items, there was no action item, there was no vote, it was his decision and felt it was necessary. The only reason Mr. Ursin felt the need to comment, was that he stated, again with force, there was no effort to conceal anything from the public the minute he filed those papers, they became public, and the hearing was open to the public, so there was absolutely no concept or intent to conceal anything from the public. It was only a matter of briefing the Council on legal action that was about to happen, and after that it would play out with the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 8, 2010 Regular Meeting & Executive Session Minutes

MOVED: Richard Carson
 SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker
 NAYES: None

Township Attorney, John Ursin, made a comment that the Executive Minutes from July 22nd have not been presented to the Council yet, the only issues in Executive Session that night were the interviews of Clerk candidates. Because there is no practical way to process those minutes while the Clerk interviews are going on and your Acting Clerk is a candidate, we have postponed those minutes to be considered probably at the next meeting.

RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING SEPARATE ACTION

RESOLUTION # 10-164

AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF BILLS LIST

BE IT RESOLVED that the following bills listed are hereby approved:

Disbursement Journal	Fund	Amount	Major Vendor
#1	Current	\$ 23,000.00	
#2	Current	\$1,157,204.42	Vernon BOE
#3	Current	\$1,522,103.55	Vernon BOE
#4	Current	\$1,233,550.85	Vernon BOE
#5	Current	\$ 180.00	
#6	Current	\$5,598,971.54	County Taxes
#7	Current	\$ 120,866.76	SCUMA
#8	Grant	\$ 500.00	
#9	Capital	\$ 699.70	
#10	Capital	\$ 1,444.46	
#11	Recreation	\$ 1,143.27	
#12	Recreation	\$ 1,000.00	
#13	Recreation	\$ 422.50	
#14	Recreation	\$ 1,340.33	
#15	Outside Services	\$ 974.54	
#16	Outside Services	\$ 278.44	
#17	Outside Services	\$ 1,392.20	
#18	Outside Services	\$ 208.83	
#19	Outside Services	\$ 1,531.42	
#20	Other Trust	\$ 5,219.04	
#21	Other Trust	\$ 398.00	

#22	PVL Dam Rehab	\$ 10,000.00	Transfer Funds
#23	Dog Trust	\$ 100.00	
#24	Sewer Operating	\$ 450.37	
#25	Planning & Zoning	\$ 15.27	
	Payroll	\$ 314,436.12	2nd Pay in July 2010
	Payroll	\$ 294,209.28	1 st Pay in Aug 2010
	Payroll	\$ 282,089.05	2 nd Pay in Aug 2010
	Total	\$10,573,729.94	

MOVED: Richard Carson
 SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-164 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-165

AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE THROUGH THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX FOR THE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT FOR 2011 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,467.00

WHEREAS, The Township of Vernon Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages: and

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Sussex.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Township of Vernon Council does hereby authorize submission of an application for the Municipal Alliance Grant for calendar year 2011 in the amount of \$20,467.00.
2. The Township of Vernon Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

MOVED: Richard Carson
 SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-165 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-166

APPROVING ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FIREMAN FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS, the Township Council recognizes the extraordinary contributions made by volunteer firefighters to our community and seeks to encourage their full participation in professional organizations; and

WHEREAS, Scott V. Styles, an active firefighter and member of the Vernon Township Volunteer Fire Department, Pochuck Valley Company #4, is requesting approval to submit an application for membership to the New Jersey State Firemen's Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Vernon, Sussex County, New Jersey hereby approves Scott V. Styles for membership in the New Jersey State Firemen's Association.

MOVED: Michael Pier
SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:
AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker
NAYES: None
Resolution #10-166 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-167

AUTHORIZING WAIVER OF ALL FEES REQUIRED BY TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE KIWANIS CLUB OF VERNON'S ANNUAL CIRCUS OCTOBER 1, 2010

WHEREAS, the Vernon Kiwanis Club is a non-profit organization whose fundraising events benefit the children of Vernon; and

WHEREAS, the Kiwanis Club of Vernon, has submitted a request to the Township Council that all fees required by Township Ordinance in relation to the Annual Circus be waived including temporary food license, fire prevention and zoning fees; and

WHEREAS, the Kiwanis Club's Annual Circus will be held this year on Friday October 1, 2010, at Mountain Creek South.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon, that Kiwanis Club of Vernon is granted a waiver of fees required by Township Ordinance in relation to the Annual Kiwanis Circus to be held on October 1, 2010 at Mountain Creek South; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Fire Prevention, Zoning and Manager's offices for their records.

MOVED: Michael Pier
SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:
AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker
NAYES: None
Resolution #10-167 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-168

APPROVING ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FIREMAN FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS, the Township Council recognizes the extraordinary contributions made by volunteer firefighters to our community and seeks to encourage their full participation in professional organizations; and

WHEREAS, Christopher S. Herring, an active firefighter and member of the Vernon Township Volunteer Fire Department, Highland Lakes Company #3, is requesting approval to submit an application for membership to the New Jersey State Firemen's Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Vernon, Sussex County, New Jersey hereby approves Christopher S. Herring for membership in the New Jersey State Firemen's Association.

MOVED: Michael Pier
SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-168 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-169

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2010 INTRODUCED BUDGET

WHEREAS, the annual municipal budget of the Township of Vernon for the year 2010 was approved by the Township Council on May 13, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on the 2010 budget was conducted on June 10, 2010 as advertised; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey initially reduced the amount of State Aid to be received and anticipated as revenue in the 2010 Township of Vernon Budget by approximately \$779,168, as indicated in the Governor's proposed FY 2011 State Budget;

WHEREAS, the legislature, in the adopted 2011 FY State Budget, restored the sum of \$294,455 in 2010 State Aid to the Township of Vernon, specifically from the State "Watershed Moratorium Aid" account; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 Township of Vernon Budget includes various economies, such as the reduction of six (6) permanent positions, elimination of the engineering department, and instituting an employee furlough program; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon experienced a reduction in tax collections due to the sluggish economy; so that the percentage of tax collections was 96.09% in 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon used a tax collection rate of 96.68% to compute the legally required 2010 appropriation for the "Reserve for Uncollected Taxes"; the higher percentage being allowed by the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Township must fund one-hundred percent (100%) of the amount of the voter approved School District tax levy and one-hundred percent of the County of Sussex tax levy, regardless of the percentage of taxes collected by the Township; and

WHEREAS, so as to avoid a cash deficit and to be better able to fund the school and county tax levies, it is desired to increase the legally required 2010 appropriation for the "Reserve for Uncollected Taxes" by \$294,455; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council finds that it is in the best interest of the residents of Vernon to amend the 2010 introduced budget to add thereto the State Watershed Aid and increase the Reserve for Uncollected Taxes, in the same sum of \$294,455.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, that the following amendments to the 2010 approved and introduced Township of Vernon Budget be made:

Recorded Vote { Carson
 (insert last names) AYES { Pier
 { Shortway
 { Rinker
 {

NAYS { ABSTAINED { ABSENT { Seufert
 { { {

	FROM	TO
3. Miscellaneous Revenues - Section B: State Aid Without Offsetting Appropriations		
Watershed Moratorium Aid	\$ -	\$ 294,455.00
Total Section B: State Aid Without Offsetting Appropriations	\$ 2,021,193.00	\$ 2,315,648.00
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 3,545,655.32	\$ 3,840,110.32
5. Subtotal General Revenues (Items 1,2,3 and 4)	\$ 5,790,655.32	\$ 6,085,110.32
7. Total General Revenues	\$ 21,951,358.32	\$ 22,245,813.32

	FROM	TO
8. General Appropriations:		
(M) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$ 2,300,000.00	\$ 2,594,455.00
(9) Total General Appropriations	\$ 21,951,358.32	\$ 22,245,813.32

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon, that three certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director of Local Government Services for their certification of the local municipal budget so amended.

MOVED: Richard Carson
 SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:
 AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker
 NAYES: None
 Resolution #10-169 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-172

**AUTHORIZATION TO DISPOSE OF OUTDATED OR BROKEN
 MUNICIPALLY OWNED OFFICE EQUIPMENT**

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon has various office equipment which is outdated or no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Township would like to request approval from the governing body to dispose of the equipment included on the attached Exhibit "A".

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Vernon that authorization is given to the Township Manager to dispose of the various outdated office equipment included on the attached Exhibit "A".

MOVED: Richard Carson
SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-172 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-173

TAX COURT JUDGMENT TAX OVERPAYMENTS

WHEREAS, a Tax Court Judgment has been favorably awarded to Milelli Vernon Plaza Family, for the fiscal year 2009; and,

WHEREAS, such judgment has resulted in overpayments of 2009 property taxes

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, hereby authorize the Township Treasurer to issue checks for said overpayments and the Tax Collector refund said overpayments of taxes on the following account:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
270	6.03 CM/L8	Milelli Vernon Plaza Family	\$25,451.62	2009	████████
270	6.03 CT1	Milelli Vernon Plaza Family	\$ 835.23	2009	████████
270	6.03 CT2	Milelli Vernon Plaza Family	\$ 880.96	2009	████████
270	6.03 CT5	Milelli Vernon Plaza Family	\$ 1,003.72	2009	████████
270	6.03 CT6	Milelli Vernon Plaza Family	\$ 1,039.83	2009	████████
270	6.03 CT7	Milelli Vernon Plaza Family	\$ 1,675.27	2009	████████

MOVED: Harry Shortway
SECONDED: Richard Carson

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-173 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-174

AUTHORIZING IN REM FORECLOSURE PROCEEDINGS

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon holds a Tax Certificate more specifically set forth in the Tax Foreclosure List here in below, which pertains to property within Vernon Township; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council of the Township of Vernon has determined that said Tax Certificate shall be foreclosed by summary proceedings In Rem.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Vernon, Sussex County, New Jersey, as follows:

That the Tax Certificate, as shown on the Tax Foreclosure List below, now held by the Township of Vernon, be foreclosed by summary process In Rem as described in N.J.S.A. 54:5-104.29, et.seq., as amended, and pursuant to the Rules of Civil Practice of the Superior Court of New Jersey.

TAX FORECLOSURE LIST

Certificate No.	Block	Lots	Assessed to	Amount to redeem as of 8/26/10
01/114	103.05	11 & 12	Parella, Thomas & Gelsomina	\$22,752.36

MOVED: Harry Shortway
SECONDED: Richard Carson

A roll call vote was taken:
AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker
NAYES: None
Resolution #10-174 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-175

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN 2009 AUDIT

WHEREAS, the 2009 Annual Audit Report was delivered in August 2010 and regulations promulgated by the Local Fiscal Affairs Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:5 requires that the Chief Finance Officer prepare a Corrective Action Plan covering all findings and recommendations in the audit report; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5 further requires approval of the Corrective Action Plan within 60 days of audit receipt by the Township Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon that the Corrective Action Plan for the 2009 Annual Audit Report prepared by the Township Chief Financial Officer and attached hereto as "Appendix A" be approved.

MOVED: Richard Carson
SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:
AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker
NAYES: None
Resolution #10-175 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-176

AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH MICROSYSTEMS-NJ, LLC, FOR THE YEAR 2010
IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,000.00

WHEREAS, there exists a need for Computer services for the Township of Vernon for the Tax Assessment Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal System (CAMA); and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Assessor has determined that Microsystems-NJ, LLC, the Township's current contractor providing Computer services for Tax Assessment/CAMA is qualified and authorized by the State of New Jersey to continue providing the Township with such services; and

WHEREAS, Vernon desires to appoint Microsystems-NJ, LLC, pursuant to a contract under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1) (dd), which states computer software services are an exception to public bidding; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available for this purpose in the 2010 Municipal budget and the value of the contract will not exceed \$3,000.00.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the 26th day of August, 2010, by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Township of Vernon is authorized to engage Microsystems-NJ, LLC, for the purpose of Computer Services for Tax Assessment; and
2. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a Professional Services Contract with Microsystems-NJ, LLC

This Professional Services Contract is authorized to engage Microsystems-NJ, LLC, without competitive bidding for the provision of performance of goods or services for the support or maintenance of proprietary computer hardware and software.

MOVED: Harry Shortway
SECONDED: Michael Pier

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-176 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-177

AUTHORIZING WAIVER OF TOWNSHIP FEES AND PLACEMENT OF TEMPORARY SIGNAGE FOR ANNUAL BLACK CREEK POW WOW AND HARVEST FESTIVAL

WHEREAS, the Vernon Historical Society has requested permission from the Township Council to waive all Township Fees and place temporary signage on the A & P property, near Rt 515 for their Annual Black Creek Pow Wow and Festival to be held on September 26, 2010; and

WHEREAS, approval for this signage has been received from the A & P property owner; and the temporary signage requested will be one (1) banner, 3' x 6', and will be displayed from August 27 through September 26, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Vernon Historical Society would also like to request that any Township fees required by Township Departments in relation to the September 26, 2010 Festival be waived.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon, that the Vernon Historical Society is granted permission to place temporary signage, as described above, on the A & P property, near Rt 515, from August 27, 2010- September 26, 2010, for the Annual Black Creek Pow Wow and Festival; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any and all signage placed pursuant to this Resolution shall be removed on the day following the event; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all Township fees required by Township Departments in relation to the September 26, 2010 Annual Black Creek Pow Wow and Festival be waived

MOVED: Richard Carson
SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-177 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-178

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE CANISTEAR ROAD – PHASE I PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon seeks to submit a grant application with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Proposed Improvements to Canistear Road Project – Phase 1; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon is requesting \$250,000.00 towards the estimated cost of the Proposed Improvements to Canistear Road.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Vernon Township Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey formally approves the grant application for the above stated project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2011- Vernon Township-00255 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of Vernon Township; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of Vernon Township and that their signatures constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approve the execution of the grant agreement.

MOVED: Richard Carson

SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-178 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-179

AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN TOWNSHIP OF VERNON AND NEW JERSEY STATE POLICEMEN'S BENEVOLANT ASSOCIATION LOCAL NO. 285

WHEREAS, the Township and PBA Local 285 are parties to a Collective Negotiations Agreement with a term of January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2011 (hereafter, the "2008-2011 Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Township and PBA Local 285 seek to affirm their mutual understanding of how Article IX, regarding Holiday Time, should be applied in the event of a retirement or other separation from employment; and

WHEREAS, the parties have negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding to affirm their mutual understanding.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Council of the Township of Vernon hereby approves the execution of the Memorandum of Understanding between that the Township and PBA Local 285 which sets forth the mutual understanding with respect to the implementation of Article IX of the 2008-2011 Agreement in the event of a retirement or other separation from employment. This mutual understanding is effective January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Memorandum of Understanding shall not be effective unless and until it is ratified by the PBA membership and the Township Council.

MOVED: Richard Carson
SECONDED: Harry Shortway

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Michael Pier

Resolution #10-179 was approved.

RESOLUTION #10-180

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT TO EXTEND CONTRACT TO ACQUIRE REAL PROPERTY BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON AND MAIN STREET ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR AN ADDITIONAL SIXTY (60) DAYS

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey with offices located at 21 Church Street, Vernon, New Jersey 07462 (the "Township") and Main Street Associates, Inc., a corporation of the State of New Jersey with offices located at 15 Church Street, Vernon, New Jersey 07462 ("MSA"), entered into a contract to acquire real property dated September 8, 2003, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the contract provided for each party to perform certain obligations concerning the Town Center Project; and

WHEREAS, many of the obligations are ongoing and not yet complete; and

WHEREAS, both the Township and MSA wish to mutually extend the term of the contract for an additional sixty (60) days pursuant to the terms and conditions as substantially set forth in the Agreement to Extend Contract to Acquire Real Property attached to this Resolution as Exhibit B.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement to Extend Contract to Acquire Real Property between the Township and Main Street Associates, Inc., substantially in the form as attached to the Resolution as Exhibit B.
2. Notice of this Resolution shall be published in accordance with law as necessary.
3. The within Resolution and subject Contract shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Municipal Clerk.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication in accordance with law, if required.

MOVED: Harry Shortway
SECONDED: Richard Carson

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-180 was approved.

VOTE TO CONFIRM MOTION OF WITHDRAWAL OF ORDINANCE #10-18

ORDINANCE #10-18

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF SUSSEX COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REGARDING AUTHORIZING A REFERENDUM TO MODIFY THE ORDINANCE RESTRICTING EXPENDITURES FROM THE OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon as follows:

WHEREAS, Vernon Township created an Open Space Trust Fund by Ordinance #00-16, which authorized a municipal tax to fund an Open Space Trust Fund;

WHEREAS, Ordinance #00-16 limited expenditures from the Open Space Trust Fund to be dedicated to farmland preservation and to preserving open space;

WHEREAS, the current Open Space Trust Fund has a balance of \$889,349.34 as of July 16, 2010;

WHEREAS, the renewal of the Open Space municipal tax was presented to the voters by Ordinance #06-29 and by Ordinance #07-18 and was defeated both times;

WHEREAS, there is no current municipal tax to fund the Open Space Trust Fund;

WHEREAS, there have been no recent purchases of land or easements using funds from the Open Space Trust Fund;

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Vernon has proposed modifying the limitations on expenditures from the Open Space Trust Fund;

WHEREAS, since the Open Space Trust Fund was created by voter referendum and the limitation on the Open Space Trust Fund were linked to that referendum, it is appropriate to seek voter approval to change the restrictions on expenditures from the Open Space Trust Fund;

WHEREAS, a majority of the governing body seeks to amend the restrictions on the Open Space Trust Fund to make Vernon Township's Ordinances more similar to the applicable state statute;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED by the governing body of the Township of Vernon that:

1. A copy of this Ordinance should be immediately forwarded to the County Clerk.
2. That the County Clerk should be requested to put the following question on the ballot for the November 2, 2010 general election:

"Should Vernon Township's Ordinances govern the Open Space Trust Fund, which had a balance of approximately \$889,349.34 as of July 16, 2010, be changed to allow funds in the Open Space Trust to be used for the following purposes:

- (a) acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes;
- (b) development of lands acquired for recreation and conservation purposes;
- (c) maintenance of lands acquired for recreation and conservation purposes;
- (d) acquisition of farmland for farmland preservation purposes;
- (e) historic preservation of historic properties, structures, facilities, sites, areas, or objects, and the acquisition of such properties, structures, facilities, sites, areas, or objects for historic preservation purposes; or
- (f) payment of debt service on indebtedness issued or incurred by a municipality for any of the purposes set forth in subparagraph (a), (b), (d) or (e) of this paragraph."

3. In the event that the above referendum question is certified by the Board of Elections to have been approved by a majority, then the following Ordinances adopted replace Chapter 244 in its entirety as follows:

§ 244-1. Establishment of Open Space and Recreation Committee.
There is hereby established an Open Space and Recreation Committee which shall consist of nine members whose terms and powers are set forth below.

§ 244-2. Membership.
The Open Space and Recreation Committee shall be comprised of the following persons to be appointed by the Township Council:

- A. The Mayor of the Township of Vernon.
- B. One member of the Township Council.
- C. One member from the Township Land Use Board.
- D. One member of the Township Environmental Commission.
- E. One member of the Township Board of Recreation
- F. Four citizens of the Township holding no other elected, appointed or employment position, one to be appointed by the Mayor and three to be appointed by the Township Council.

§ 244-3. Terms of office.

All members of the Open Space and Recreation Committee shall have a term of office of two years (or, term of Mayor and Councilperson would coincide with their respective term of office).

§ 244-4. Power and functions.

A. The Open Space and Recreation Committee shall select from among its members a Chairman and a Vice Chairman to serve as the presiding officer in the absence of the Chairman. In the event of a tie vote, the Chairman's vote shall be counted twice to break the tie. The Committee shall also select a Secretary, whose function shall be to maintain minutes of the Committee's meetings and records of the proceedings of the Committee.

B. The Open Space and Recreation Committee shall hold public meetings, which public meetings shall be held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings and the Committee shall give appropriate notification of said meetings.

C. The Open Space and Recreation Committee shall prepare an Open Space and Recreation Plan (the "plan") to be used by the Township Council in prioritizing expenditures and in conjunction with applications for participation in the green trust planning incentive funding category and submitted to other sources of funding to fulfill the purposes for which the Open Space and Recreation Trust Fund was created.

D. The Open Space and Recreation Committee shall also make a determination of properties which it recommends that the Township acquire and/or properties for which it recommends that development rights should be acquired, developed and/or maintained for open space and/or recreation purposes.

E. The Open Space and Recreation Committee shall submit a prioritized list of those properties to the Township Council, which shall review the list and make a determination as to which properties are to be acquired and shall state the amount of funds that the Committee shall make available for such acquisition, development, maintenance and/or preservation.

F. After selection of the properties referred to in Subsections D and above, the Township may proceed to acquire by gift, purchase or by eminent domain proceedings, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 20:3-1 et seq., the identified parcels within the financial constraints established by the Township Council.

§ 244-5. Organization meeting.

The Open Space and Recreation Committee shall hold its initial organization meeting within 30 days of the effective date of this article or appointment of the Committee, whichever occurs last.

§ 244-6. Fund for open space acquisition.

There is hereby established an account to be known and designated as the "Open Space and Recreation Fund" (the "fund") which shall be maintained in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-1 and N.J.S.A. 40A:5-1. Funds from the fund may, as directed by the Township Council, be utilized to acquire or develop vacant land, as well as land which has improvements upon it at the time of acquisition, or to acquire development rights, where the principal purpose of the acquisition is to preserve open space and recreation.

§ 244-7. Funding.

A. The fund shall be funded with the funds collected and maintained in the previous Farmland and Open Space Tax, which was authorized by Ordinance 00-16 and resulted in a tax for 5 years beginning in 2001. [A historical note: subsequent Ordinances 6-29 and 7-18 failed to obtain voter approval to continue the tax.]

B. The funds accumulated within the fund may be utilized for any of the purposes set forth in N.J.S.A. 40:12-15.7. Any and all interest that accrues shall remain in the fund and may be utilized for the above-described purposes.

C. If the Township Council determines that additional funds are needed, it may seek approval for future taxation to support the fund by adopting an ordinance to put the question to the voters by referendum.

§ 244-8. Sale of property.

A. Property acquired with funds from the fund may not be leased or sold, until and unless the sale or lease has been authorized by the Township Council in the manner prescribed by law.

B. The Mayor and Township Council, after at least one public hearing, and upon a finding that the purposes of this article will be better served, or that any land acquired by the Township pursuant to this article is required for another public use, may by ordinance convey, through sale, exchange, transfer or other disposition, title to or a lesser interest in that land, provided that the Township shall replace any land conveyed under this section with land of at least equal fair market value and reasonably equivalent usefulness, size, quality and location. Any money derived from the conveyance shall be deposited into the fund.

C. Any conveyance made pursuant to this section shall be made in strict accordance with the Local Lands and Buildings Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq.). In the event of conveyance by exchange, the land or improvements thereon to be transferred to the trust shall be at least equal in fair market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness, size, quality and location to the land or improvements transferred from the fund.

4. In the event that the Board of Elections certifies that the referendum question set forth above is not approved by a majority, then this Ordinance shall be null and void and Chapter 244 of the Vernon Township Code shall remain as currently written.

MOVED: Harry Shortway
SECONDED: Richard Carson

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Ordinance #10-18 was withdrawn.

SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE #10-11

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A FRANCHISE EXPANSION AND PERMISSION FOR UNITED WATER VERNON SEWAGE INC. AND UNITED WATER GREAT GORGE INC., TO LAY THEIR SEWER PIPES BENEATH SUCH PUBLIC ROADS, STREETS AND ALLEYS AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THEIR CORPORATE PURPOSES AND TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN SEWER PIPES AND MANHOLES ON AND ALONG PUBLIC STREETS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

WHEREAS, United Water Vernon Sewage Inc. and United Water Great Gorge Inc., New Jersey public utility corporations having their principal offices at 200 Old Hook Road, Harrington Park, New Jersey, (the "Sewer Company"), desire to expand the Vernon Sewer Franchise area and lay and otherwise own and maintain sewer pipes beneath such public roads, streets, alleys and places as they may deem necessary for their purposes and to construct and maintain sewer pipes and manholes in and along such roads, streets, alleys and places, and desire to obtain the consent of the Township of Vernon for the same pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:19-17, N.J.S.A. 40:67-1 and such pertinent statutes of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Sewer Company owns and operates a sewer franchise collection and transmission system (the "System") granted by Vernon and approved by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("BPU"), located in Vernon, Sussex County, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Township and the Sewer Company entered into a Sewer Extension Agreement in December, 2009 to permit sewer connections in the Vernon Town Center, including a portion of Mountain Creek. A copy of the 2009 Sewer Extension Agreement is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, so as to implement the provisions of the aforesaid Sewer Extension Agreement, including but not limited to Article 2.1, it is necessary to expand the sewer franchise area to include the geographic region of Vernon known as the Town Center, as hereinafter described; and

WHEREAS, granting consent for said purpose is necessary and proper for the public convenience and properly serves the public interest; and

WHEREAS, United Water Vernon Sewage Inc. and United Water Great Gorge Inc., are public utilities created and organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey to operate and maintain facilities for the provision of wastewater collection and transmission for residential and commercial use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Vernon in the County of Sussex and State of New Jersey as follows:

Section 1. United Water Vernon Sewage Inc. and United Water Great Gorge Inc., are hereby given the consent and permission of the Township of Vernon to expand the Sewer Franchise area, subject to BPU approval, and to own, install/lay, maintain and relay sewer pipes and manholes beneath such public roads, streets, alleys and places as they may deem necessary for their corporate purposes, subject to such additional approvals or consents as the law may require, and to construct and maintain sewer mains and manholes in and along such roads, streets, alleys and places within the lands and premises hereinafter designated and under all public roads, streets, alleys and places abutting same, viz;

As to United Water Vernon Sewage Inc. which will furnish only sewage transmission service applicable to a municipal exempt utility:

Those tracts or parcels of land, generally located in the Vernon Town Center, shown on the Tax Map of the Township of Vernon and designated as follows:

Block 141, Lots: 2, 10, 10.01-10.05, 12, 12.04-12.07, 13, 13.01, 15.03-15.05, 16.02, 18; Block 141.01; Block 141.02; Block 141.03; Block 141.04; Block 141.05; Block 142, Lots: 1-3, 6-8, 8.01, 9, 9.01, 9.02, 10, 11; Block 142.01; Block 143, Lot 19; Block 144, Lots: 11, 16-24, 28.01, 32, 32.01, 36, 37; Block 144.01; Block 145, Lots: 1, 1.01-1.05, 2-5, 5.01, 6-8; Block 146, Lots: 3, 4, 6; Block 147, Lots: 1, 2, 2.01, 2.03, 3; Block 148.

Vernon Township will furnish collection sewer services to all the above-referenced tracts or parcels of land.

As to United Water Great Gorge Inc. (collection sewer service) and United Water Vernon Sewage Inc. (transmission sewer service) which will furnish sewage collection and transmission services applicable to non-exempt utilities:

Those tracts or parcels of land shown on the Tax Map of the Township of Vernon and designated as follows:

Block 183, Lots: 12-13; Block 184, Lot 13; Block 190, Lots: 9, 10, 10.01.

Section 2. The consent and permission granted by this Ordinance is made expressly subject to the following conditions: in the event of any disturbance of pavement, sidewalk, driveway or other surfacing of any public street, road, highway or other public place, caused by United Water Vernon Sewage Inc. and/or United Water Great Gorge Inc., the Sewer Company shall at its own cost and expense, replace and restore all paving, sidewalks, driveway and other surface of any street, road, highway or other public place disturbed, in as good a condition as before said work was commenced, and shall maintain the restoration for a period of six months.

Section 3. The Sewer Company shall accept this Ordinance in writing within thirty (30) days after the final passage hereof.

Section 4. The consent and permission granted herein is unlimited in time. However, both the Township of Vernon and the Sewer Company may exercise

their respective rights under the 2009 Sewer Extension Agreement.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage and publication according to law subject only to the approval of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities as required by law.

Section 6. All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions that are in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed to the extent necessary.

Mayor Rinker read Ordinance #10-11 by title only. First reading was held on June 24, 2010.

Council Member Harry Shortway made a motion to adopt the above Ordinance, seconded by Council Member Michael Pier.

Mayor Rinker opened the meeting for Public Hearing on this ordinance.

Thomas McClachrie, Vernon Taxpayers Association, stated that his Association is objecting to this Ordinance for its lack of clarity and the longevity of the Ordinance itself, and it does not specify the value of what is being given away.

Margaret Borstad, Vernon, agreed with Mr. McClachrie's opinion. Mrs. Borstad stated that even though the public can't do anything about it, they should voice their opinions. Mrs. Borstad further stated that at the time this all started the front page of the local newspaper reported that Mountain Creek was to pay 75% of this work and only the ones that hook-up will be paying for it, but that is not happening.

Mr. Ursin stated the series of sewer agreements were made by prior Councils up until the point where this agreement was made with United Water in December of 2009 and that requires the Township of Vernon to grant the franchise and the consideration, meaning the money, transferred hands between the parties was apparently considered at the time that agreement was signed. The decision to go forward with the franchise at this time is contractual and recommended by our redevelopment consultant and also recommended by our water and sewer engineer. These agreements are still being actively negotiated and alternatives are being explored and sought. Until the Board of Public Utilities approves this franchise area, under the current agreements, the sewer pipes cannot be connected and begin to recoup any of the previous investment.

Phyllis Pfeifer, Vernon, questioned when we would have some information regarding Mountain Creek accepting or continuing their responsibility in this contract. Mr. Ursin stated there was supposed to be a public hearing sometime in September or October, however, the new Manager is on board and has to be brought up to speed, so certainly this fall there will be more public commentary presentations on where we stand with this project. Mr. Ursin further stated that regarding Mt. Creek's obligations, the idea under the original agreement, was that there was a letter of credit for the benefit of the Municipality that was posted by Mt. Creek, which was to ensure that Mt. Creek met its first obligations.

Jessi Paladini, questioned if Mt. Creek was reneging on their payment of the sewers. Mr. Ursin stated that Mt. Creek's lawyers have written a letter to the Town pointing out in a general way, an allegation the Town had not met its obligations under the agreement. Mr. Ursin further stated that when the letter was delivered, it was closely followed by communication from Mt. Creek that they are very willing to meet with the Town and work out their obligations. Mr. Ursin stated the emphasis of the letter was on perceived defaults not on what the remedy is.

Gary Martinsen, questioned if the agreement signed in December was valid and was concerned that they were going to own the land. Mr. Ursin stated that if United Water puts pipe in the ground, they own it. Mayor Rinker stated that this is still a work in progress, and said there will be work sessions for the public.

Jamie Rickey, local business owner and Vernon resident, commented that the sewer issue goes back twenty plus years and has always been the presentation that it would

not cost the residents, just the users. Mr. Ursin stated that the Town has already signed bonds and agreements that the bills for SCMUA are coming due and cannot be re-negotiated. The analysis that is going on right now is how to mold the project, involving all the players, in order that this be done efficiently and that a mechanism is created to pay the SCMUA bills in the fairest and most economical way possible.

There being no further comments from the public, the Mayor made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Council Member Harry Shortway, with all in favor.

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Ordinance #10-11 was approved.

ORDINANCE #10-15

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE CHAPTER 160 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON REGARDING BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS AND ROLLER SKATES

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon as follows:

Section 1.

The Code of the Township of Vernon is amended to create Chapter 160 as follows:

Chapter 160

Bicycles, scooters, skateboards and roller skates.

160-1. Definitions.

For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the definitions provided for herein:

PUBLIC ACCESS WAY

All sidewalks and parking lots for any private business establishment, including but not limited to, shopping centers, stores, offices or any other places of business.

BICYCLE

A vehicle with two wheels propelled solely by human power and having pedals, handlebars and a saddle-like seat. The term shall include a bicycle for two or more persons having seats and corresponding sets of pedals arranged in tandem.

MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT

Any and all parking lots owned or controlled by the Township of Vernon or any agency thereof.

ROLLER SKATES

A device or devices worn on the feet with a set of wheels attached, regardless of the number or placement of those wheels and used to glide or propel the user over the ground.

SCOOTER

A vehicle with wheels propelled solely by human power without pedals and having handlebars or other steering component.

SKATEBOARD

A platform or board with roller-skate wheels or other similar wheels affixed to the underside, designed to be ridden by a person or persons, which has no steering device or mechanism to steer or control the direction thereof while being used or ridden, even though the direction may be controlled to some degree by shifting the feet or weight of the rider during such use.

160-2. Operation prohibited. No person shall use, operate or ride any skateboard, scooters, roller skate or bicycle in any municipal parking lot or in any public access way as defined herein. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit the use of bicycles as a means of transportation to or from any municipal parking lot or any public access way, as defined herein, nor shall this chapter be construed to prohibit the walking or parking of bicycles by the operator thereof within any municipal parking lot or in any public access way, as defined herein.

160-3. Enforcement. The provisions of this chapter may be enforced by any Township Police Officer and by any owner or tenant of any business establishment with a parking lot or sidewalk or municipal parking lot to which the public is invited; provided, however, that the provisions of this chapter shall not be enforceable on any private or municipal property until such time as the owner or tenant thereof conspicuously posts a sign stating that the use of skateboards, roller skates or bicycles on this property is prohibited by Ordinance #10-15.

Section 2.

Severability: If any provision of this Ordinance or the application of this Ordinance to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3.

Effective Date: This Ordinance shall take effect after publication and passage according to law.

Mayor Rinker read Ordinance #10-15 by title only. First reading was held on July 8, 2010.

Council Member Richard Carson made a motion to adopt the above Ordinance, seconded by Council Member Harry Shortway.

Mayor Rinker opened the meeting for Public Hearing on this ordinance.

There being no comments from the public, the Mayor asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Council Member Harry Shortway made a motion, seconded by Council Member Michael Pier, with all in favor.

Council Member Richard Carson stated the genesis of this Ordinance came from Mr. Borstad in relation to damage that he was receiving on his property due to bicycles, scooters, etc., and wanted to make the public aware that he viewed some damage that had been done to Mr. Borstad's property.

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Ordinance #10-15 was approved.

ORDINANCE #10-16

**AN ORDINANCE TO REPLACE CHAPTER 447 OF THE CODE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON REGARDING PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon as follows:

Section 1.

The Code of the Township of Vernon, Chapter 447, is hereby amended in its entirety as follows:

Chapter 447

Property Maintenance Code of the Township of Vernon.

447-1 Findings, declaration of policy.

It is hereby found and determined that there exist in the Township of Vernon structures used for residential and nonresidential use which are or may become in the future substandard with respect to structure, equipment or maintenance. It is further found that conditions of the above-described property, including but not limited to structural deterioration, lack of maintenance and appearance of the exterior of premises, infestation, lack of essential heating, plumbing, storage or refrigeration equipment, lack of maintenance or upkeep of essential utilities and facilities, existence of fire hazards, inadequate provisions for light and air, unsanitary conditions, constitute a menace to

health, safety, welfare and reasonable comfort of the citizens and inhabitants of the Township of Vernon. The Township Council of the Township of Vernon further finds and declares that, by reason of lack of maintenance and the existence of progressive deterioration, certain properties have the further effect and/or the further potential effect of creating blighted conditions that, if the same are not curtailed and removed, the aforesaid conditions will grow and spread and will necessitate, in time, the expenditure of public funds to correct and eliminate the same and that, by reason of timely regulation and restrictions as herein contained, the growth of depressed areas, slums and blight may be prevented. It is further found that such prevention will maintain neighborhood and property values, as well as the desirability and amenities of residential and nonresidential uses; and it is further found that such prevention will protect and foster the public health, safety and welfare.

447-2 Purposes.

The purposes of this Property Maintenance Code are as follows:

- A. To protect the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Vernon by establishing minimum standards governing the maintenance, appearance, conditions and occupancy of property.
- B. To authorize and establish procedures for the enforcement of this code.
- C. To fix certain responsibilities and duties upon owners and operators and establish distinct and separate responsibilities and duties upon occupants; to authorize and establish procedures for the inspection of residential and nonresidential premises.
- D. To fix penalties for the violations of this code.

447-3 Effect on other ordinances and regulations.

Nothing in this article shall be construed to abrogate or impair the powers of the Township of Vernon to enforce any provisions of its ordinances or regulations or prevent or punish violations thereof, and the power conferred by this article shall be in addition to and supplemental to the powers conferred by any other law or ordinance.

447-4 Property other than multiple dwellings.

A. All structures and premises in the Township of Vernon shall be kept free of all the following conditions:

- (1) Broken glass, excessive brush, weeds, stumps and roots, obnoxious growth, filth, garbage, trash, refuse, rubbish and debris.
- (2) Dead and dying trees, limbs or other natural growths which by reason of rotting, deteriorating conditions, storm damage or weathering constitute a hazard to persons in the vicinity thereof. Trees shall be kept pruned and trimmed to prevent such conditions. Naturally wooded areas are exempt from this section which pertains to the vicinity of a residence.
- (3) Loose and overhanging objects and accumulations of ice and snow which, by reason of location above ground level, constitute a danger of falling on persons in the vicinity thereof.
- (4) Holes, excavations, breaks, projections, obstructions, icy conditions, and other safety hazards related to walks, driveways, parking lots, parking areas and other parts of the premises which are accessible to and used by persons on the premises. All such holes and excavations shall be filled and repaired, walks and steps replaced and other conditions removed where necessary to eliminate safety hazards or unsanitary conditions.
- (5) Sources of infestation or potential infestation by rodents, mosquitoes, flies and other harmful vermin.
- (6) Runoff drains shall be maintained to eliminate any recurrent or excessive accumulations of storm water.

B. The exterior of every structure or accessory structure, including fences, shall be maintained in good repair, and all surfaces thereof shall be kept painted and finished where necessary for purposes of preservation and appearance. The same shall be maintained free of broken glass, loose shingles, crumbling stone or brick, excessive peeling of paint or other conditions reflecting weathering, deterioration or inadequate

maintenance, to the end that the property itself may be preserved, safety and fire hazards eliminated and adjoining properties in the neighborhood protected from blighting influences. All accessory structures must have functional doors and windows where necessary.

C. Outdoor storage will be allowed in accordance with part 330-192 of the Township Code.

D. Natural vegetation, landscaping, lawns, hedges and bushes shall not be allowed to become overgrown and unsightly where exposed to public view. The length of lawn grass shall not exceed nine inches at any time.

E. All tarps used to cover such firewood or stored trailers, boats, etc., shall be blue, dark green, brown, black or camouflage tarpaulin or canvas.

F. All parts of the premises shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition, free of nuisances and free from health, safety and fire hazards.

447-5 Enforcement procedure.

A. Where a violation of this article or the regulations hereunder is found to exist, a written notice from the Code Enforcement Officer or County Health Officer shall be served upon the owner responsible for correcting such condition. The notice shall contain the following:

- (1) A description of the property sufficient for identification;
- (2) An identification of the conditions constituting the violation;
- (3) The necessary corrective action;
- (4) A time period not to exceed 10 days after service of the notice upon the owner to correct or abate the violation;
- (5) A statement that the notice shall become an order of the Code Enforcement Officer in 10 days after service; and
- (6) A statement of the penalty for violation of the notice.

B. The notice may be served personally or by certified mail at the last known address of the owner alleged to be in violation. Where it is ascertained that the owner does not reside on the premises and the last known address cannot be ascertained, the notice may be posted on the outside front entrance of the affected building. Service upon any owner may also be achieved by service of any notice upon a member of the family of the owner, provided that such family member is 16 years of age or older and resides with such owner.

C. After 10 days from the date of service of the notice, the notice shall constitute a final order. If the violation is not corrected or abated at the time the notice constitutes a final order, the Code Enforcement Officer shall issue a summons to the owner to appear in municipal court for violation of the final order, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:12-17a.

D. The Code Enforcement Officer or Health Inspector may extend the time for correction and abatement of any violation of this article for an additional period of time not to exceed 30 days, except where major capital improvements or renovations are involved, in which case, the time for completion may be extended for such period of time as the Code Enforcement Officer may deem reasonably adequate.

E. In the event that the Owner of the property does not respond to violation notices, fails to abate the subject of the violation notice, or can not be located after diligent inquiry and effort, the Township may take reasonable steps up to and including demolition of real property to abate or minimize the violations for the health, safety and welfare of the surrounding properties. In the case of failing to maintain a lawn constituting a violation, the Township may, at its sole discretion, cut the grass or hire a contractor to cut the grass. The owner shall be charged \$100.00 per hour for grass cutting and the Township shall record the charges as a lien against the property. The Township may from time to time by resolution adopt a fee schedule to establish the cost charged to the owner for other measures of abatement. The Township is also enabled to hire contractors to accomplish abatement or demolition and lien the cost for the charges against the property.

447-6 Violations and penalties.

A violation of this article by failure to comply with an order entered by the Code Enforcement Officer pursuant to the Property Maintenance Ordinance shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250 for the initial violation, not to exceed \$500 for the second violation and not to exceed \$1,000 for the third violation committed hereunder. Each violation of a different section of this Code shall constitute a separate and distinct violation independent of any other section. Each day of noncompliance with any provision of this Code, and any subsequent violation, shall constitute a separate violation and shall be subject to a summons without further notification. An owner shall be considered "notified" of the violation for a period of two years after the initial notification.

Section 2.

Severability: If any provision of this Ordinance or the application of this Ordinance to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3.

Effective Date: This Ordinance shall take effect after publication and passage according to law.

Mayor Rinker read Ordinance #10-16 by title only. First reading was held on July 8, 2010.

Council Member Harry Shortway made a motion to adopt the above Ordinance, seconded by Council Member Michael Pier.

Mayor Rinker opened the meeting for Public Hearing on this ordinance.

Jessi Paladini, commented about the huge concerns she has regarding this Ordinance and the ramifications of it, enforcement being the number one concern. Ms. Paladini mentioned selective enforcement and has seen instances where a Zoning Officer gave a resident a violation notice for having a shed extend one foot in front of house, and yet there were approximately 27 other similar sheds in violation in the same neighborhood, but they were not cited. Ms. Paladini also commented on a business in the Town Center that was in violation of our sign ordinance that had been going on for over 6 months. Another concern is that the Town will take over to cut overgrown grass and bill the homeowner. Mr. Ursin stated the paragraph regarding the overgrown grass makes reference to health, safety and welfare; typically that is meant to address the situation if the grass is blocking a sight line at an intersection or if the grass is overgrown and is creating a rodent or infestation problem. Ms. Paladini cautioned the Council about not creating an enforcement nightmare.

Mary Ellen Vichiconti, [REDACTED] questioned why the weeds on Main Street in between the Belgium block is not trimmed. The Manager stated he would address that with the DPW Director.

Thomas McClachrie, *Vernon Taxpayers Associates*, addressed the fees the Council is charging. Mr. McClachrie stated a lot of the items in this Ordinance is left up to the objectivity of the Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. McClachrie asked the Council to exempt the Fire Departments and the Ambulance Squads from this Ordinance.

Harold MacPeek, stated he spoke about this before, the intersection at Route 94 and Route 515 is overgrown and is a hazard to drivers.

Gary Martinsen, previously worked in the Health Department, stated not having this Ordinance was a blessing to them, because of neighbors complaining about neighbors. In these economic times, it is hard to fix up your house because of costs.

Margaret Borstad, *McAfee*, appealed to the Council not to increase the rates, due to these hard economic times.

There being no further comments from the public, the Mayor asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Council Member Harry Shortway made a motion, seconded by Council Member Michael Pier, with all in favor.

Mayor Rinker commented that she reviewed the Ordinance and has issues with some of the items and details as well. Mayor Rinker asked the Council to entertain a public work session on this item before moving forward on this Ordinance. Council Member Richard Carson agreed and is also concerned about the fines.

Mayor Rinker made a motion to table Ordinance 10-16, seconded by Council Member Richard Carson.

A roll call vote was taken to table Ordinance 10-16:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker

NAYES: None

Ordinance #10-16 was tabled.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Council Member Michael Pier directed a question to the Township Attorney, before the former Manager Andy Katz left; he had a discussion with him regarding the issue of the summons that was issued to the Fire Department. Mr. Ursin stated the appropriate course of action would be to ask the new Manager to look into it with the caution that the Construction Official has his own jurisdiction. The Manager may be able to broker some resolution between this important agency of the Municipality and the Township, but it is not the Manager's decision or the Council's decision.

Council Member Pier apologized for his actions at the last Council meeting, it was not fair to the resident who attended the meeting, but does not regret his actions, as it has opened the door of communications between certain parties in Town.

Council Member Richard Carson followed up on his comments about the MAC Committee and some programs that are coming up in the fall. Mr. Carson asked for the participation of the parents and adults in the community. The problems that the youth are facing in this Town need the support and the guidance of parents and other adults. Information regarding the upcoming programs can be found on the PAL web site.

Mayor Rinker mentioned that Teresa Vhiti, President of the Vernon Rotary, was in attendance and is putting together a charity event called the Zachary Decker Mini Golf Outing which is to take place on September 11th at Cobblestone Village. Zachary Decker is a four year old boy with leukemia, Mayor Rinker urged the public to attend for this very worthy cause.

Mayor Rinker spoke regarding forming some sub-committees that will assist the Manager in the effort on a whole. Mayor Rinker passed out a listing of suggested Committees and asked if there could be a work session prior to a Council meeting to go forward on this.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business to be conducted on the Regular Meeting agenda, a motion for Adjournment was made by Council Member Richard Carson . Motion seconded by Council Member Harry Shortway with all members voting in favor.

The Regular Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Vernon was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Bates
Acting Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved: November 29, 2010