

**TOWNSHIP OF VERNON**  
**TOWNSHIP COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

**October 14, 2010**

The Regular Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Vernon was convened at 6:03 p.m. on Thursday, October 14, 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, Valerie Seufert, and Mayor Sally Rinker. Also present were Township Manager Jerry Giannis and Township Attorney John Ursin. Council Member Harry Shortway arrived late to the meeting.

**RESOLUTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:03 p.m. Mayor Sally Rinker asked for a motion to go into Executive Session Council Member Valerie Seufert made a motion to close the meeting to the public and enter into executive session. Motion seconded by Council Member Michael Pier 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 a candidate interview for the position of Municipal Clerk. Executive Session minutes only with respect to the successful candidate will be released at the conclusion of the matter or upon the offer of employment to the successful candidate.
  - b. Legal matter regarding former employee. Executive Session minutes to be released upon the conclusion of this matter.
  - c. Potential Litigation matter regarding the Lake Conway Dam. Executive Session minutes to be released upon the conclusion of this matter.
  - d. Potential Litigation matter Highland Lakes reimbursement issue. Executive Session minutes to be released upon the conclusion of this matter.
  - e. Contract negotiations with respect to Mt. Creek. Executive Session minutes will be released upon conclusion of the matter or after the execution of a contract.
  - f. Contract negotiations with respect to Stanhill Conservation Project. Executive Session minutes to be released upon conclusion of the matter or after the execution of a contract.
  - g. Personnel matter, regarding the Department of Public Works, there is no anticipated release of executive session minutes.
3. It is anticipated that the above-stated subject matter will be made available upon final decision.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The Township Council entered into Executive Session at 6:05 p.m.

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The meeting was reopened to the public at 7:15 p.m. Present were Council Members Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Valerie Seufert and Mayor Sally Rinker. Also present were Township Manager Jerry Giaimis and Township Attorney John Ursin. Council Member Harry Shortway was absent.

Council Member Harry Shortway joined the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

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

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Police Department Promotions:**

Police Chief Roy Wherry spoke about Officer Stephen Moran's employment history with the Vernon Police Department. Mayor Rinker read the Oath of Office for the promotion of Officer Moran from Sergeant to Lieutenant. Officer Moran is also a member of the Police Pipes and Drums of Morris County.

Police Chief Roy Wherry spoke about Officer Scott Alsberge's employment history with the Vernon Police Department. Mayor Rinker read the Oath of Office for the promotion of Officer Alsberg from Patrolman to Sergeant.

**Police Department Retirement:**

Mayor Rinker honored Captain Kenneth Kuzicki by sharing some of his career accomplishments. Police Chief Roy Wherry asked Captain Kuzicki's son, Patrolman Ken Kuzicki, to present his father with his retirement plaque.

The Police Pipes and Drums of Morris County performed.

**McAfee Fire Department:**

The Mayor asked the McAfee Fire Department to attend a Council meeting to address their need for equipment. The McAfee Fire Department Ex-Chief Ken Clark spoke regarding this issue due to his experience and knowledge of the Jaws of Life equipment. Mr. Clark stated that the department has been requesting the equipment for many years. The equipment is old and slow and subject to fail. Mr. Clark explained several advantages that the new equipment has versus the old equipment. The tools can be purchased through the Morris County Cooperative Program at approximately \$35,000.

Council Member Shortway stated that this project has to go to the top of the list of projects.

Council Member Valerie Seufert asked if any additional money had been set aside for this project. The Township Manager and Chief Financial Officer, Bill Zuckerman, are currently exploring the funding mechanisms for this.

Mayor Rinker made a motion for the Township Manager to find additional funding alternatives for these items, seconded by Council Member Seufert.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

NAYES: None

**Bus Accident on Route 638:**

Chief Wherry was asked to step forward to speak about the school bus accident that occurred this week. He thanked the school bus driver for her operation of the bus and her compassion for helping the children. He collectively thanked all the emergency service departments for their service on the scene.

Council Member Carson stated that he felt the scene on a mass causality basis went flawlessly as Chief Wherry stated, unfortunately, with the loss of only one life.

Mayor Rinker stated that she spoke with Dr. Alfieri at the Board of Education and he stated that the very next day, although she did not drive, the bus driver rode the bus with the children to provide assurance by seeing her there.

The Township Manager on behalf of Dr. Alfieri thanked the Police Department and the volunteer personnel for the assistance that day. The school district was very pleased and proud of how the situation was handled.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Rinker opened the meeting for Public Comment.

*Jeanne Jameson, President of Highland Lakes*, commented on the costs of winter maintenance responsibilities along private roadways in Vernon Township.

*Doreen Edwards, Highland Lakes*, commented on the inefficiency of current snow removal equipment and maintenance in her neighborhood.

*Harold McPeck, Vernon*, commended dispatcher, Robin Addesa, for a job well done during the recent bus accident on Rt. 638.

*Robert Oliver, Vernon*, questioned a potential conflict of interest in regard to Council Member Harry Shortway and the PAL.

*Thomas McClachrie, Vernon*, questioned the score given in regard to what funds will be received by Vernon Township from the State of New Jersey next year. Township Manager, Jerry Giaimis stated that Vernon received a score minimum of 99% and further explained this information will be posted on the Township's website. Mr. McClachrie requested an update on tax sales. Township Attorney, John Ursin informed Mr. McClachrie the first round of tax foreclosures has been filed and gave an approximate completion date in early 2011. Mr. McClachrie commented the Vernon Taxpayer's Association supports the change in government to a Mayor/Council format.

*Mary Ellen Vichiconti, [REDACTED]*, reported there will be a change of government forum on Monday, October 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the McAfee firehouse in Vernon sponsored by the Committee of Petitioners.

*Gary Grey, Vote SOS Member*, commented on the low voter turnout for May elections as well as the expenses incurred, as opposed to November elections.

*Mike Furrey, Vote SOS Member*, questioned Mayor Rinker in regard to her involvement in petitioning for signatures. Mayor Rinker commented that it is her Democratic right as an American citizen to do so.

*Jessi Paladini, [REDACTED]*, commented on Council Member Shortway and the conflict of interest with the PAL. Ms. Paladini also questioned the Township Attorney on the cost of certifying the petition after it was rejected due to invalid signatures. Ms. Paladini also commented on the inappropriateness of council members and municipal employees joining Vote SOS on Facebook.

*Gary Martinsen, Vernon*, questioned if a trust fund can be used to purchase a new Jaws-Of-Life and suggested it can be stored in McAfee.

*Edward Williams, Highland Lakes*, offered his 5 minutes for public comment to Jessi Paladini.

*Eddie Dunn, Highland Lakes*, commented regarding the forum of SOS. Mr. Dunn stated that Vernon's government is broken, and that Vernon residents need to come together for the good of the town.

*John Curry, Glenwood*, commented on poor planning on the part of Regular Republicans on the Township Council.

*Craig Benda, Highland Lakes*, commented on his disappointment in the Mayor and asked her to step down and resign her post as Council Member.

*Jean Murphy, Glenwood*, commented on a recent meeting she attended where the message sent from the County and State level said Vernon should not be allowed to go non-partisan. Ms. Murphy stated that Vernon is our town, not theirs.

*Josephine Curry, Glenwood*, commented on her embarrassment of Republicans. Ms. Curry commended Mayor Rinker for doing a fantastic job.

*Pete Hagedoorn, Vernon*, questioned non-premise sign ordinance to put 13 roadside signs up to notify the town of registration for little league. Signs will be up for a maximum of 28 days. Signs are 24" long and 18" high.

A motion was made by Council Member Valerie Seufert for approval for Vernon Little League to put up temporary signs for 28 days providing they are taken down after the 28 days, seconded by Council Member Richard Carson.

A roll call vote was taken on the approval of the Temporary Signs.

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

NAYES: None

Motion carried. Temporary Signs were approved as presented.

The Mayor asked where the Township is with the Sign Ordinance. Council Member Seufert stated there have been draft ordinances created. The chair of the Sign Committee and Council Member Seufert will be meeting with the Township Attorney on Tuesday to go over the changes. A meeting will then be scheduled with the business community to review the changes and the ordinance will then come before the Council for approval.

Mayor Rinker made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Council Member Valerie Seufert. All members were in favor.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to speak, Mayor Sally Rinker closed the public portion of the meeting.

A 5 minute recess was taken.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Council Member Richard Carson made a motion to approve the July 22, 2010. Motion seconded by Michael Pier.

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Valerie Seufert, Mayor Rinker

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Harry Shortway

Council Member Valerie Seufert made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting on August 12, 2010. Motion seconded by Richard Carson.

A roll call vote was taken:

AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Valerie Seufert, Harry Shortway, Mayor Rinker

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: None

## **TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT**

Township Manager Jerry Giaimis, commented with respect to the forum that was set for October 21, 2010. Mr. Giaimis explained there were some conflicts regarding the date for the forum and further explained there was no ill intent and apologized for any inconvenience this conflict may have caused.

The Township Manager recommended the Executive Session on October 28, 2010 start at 5:00 p.m. because of a lengthy presentation by the water and sewer engineer. With Council approval the Township Clerk will be directed to advertise the change in meeting time.

Council Member Valerie Seufert made a Motion to advertise the Executive Session on October 28, 2010 to begin at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Rinker seconded with all members in favor.

The Township Manager distributed bus schedules for the new shuttle bus service which is now underway. There was a request from TransOption to place a 6ft. by 2ft. yellow sign advertising the new bus service in front of the A&P shopping plaza.

The Township Manager reported the HVAC System would have a two week delay due to an error by the engineer's office opening bids on the Tuesday after a federal holiday, which is against state regulations. All costs incurred for re-advertising will be incurred by the engineer's office. All those who submitted bids were notified.

Mr. Giaimis discussed the municipal reimbursement for snow plowing the private communities of Vernon Township. The communities disputed the Township's calculations for the reimbursement. It is proposed that Vernon Public Works take over snowplowing responsibilities, thereby eliminating any future conflict. A decision on this proposal will need to be made by the end of November 2010. There are two options for suggested for implementing this change. Option #1 would have a total operating cost of \$319,000 and Option #2 would have an operating cost of \$293,760.

#### **TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY REPORT**

Township Attorney John Ursin provided a follow up to the Township Manager's report since he has been involved in the Municipal Services discussions. Although the Council may decide to change the way that the communities are handled for 2011-2012, there are still 2 years of services that need to be addressed. The past 12 years have been marked by an insufficient amount of documentation and analysis; he is working on providing more documentation and analysis on how this year and next year's reimbursements will be handled.

Mr. Ursin stated that at the last Council meeting one of the larger issues facing the township is that Mt. Creek's letter which was to expire October 1, 2010. The letter of credit has been renewed and replaced. Mr. Ursin felt that the Township is in significantly better condition than it was one month ago. The Township will continue to work with Mt. Creek to complete the sewer line project.

Mr. Ursin addressed a concern from a member of the public regarding the Township entering into a contract with United Water for water for the Town Center. To date there is no contract although United Water did make a presentation about the issue. The sewer engineer is still involved and researching the project.

Both the Township Manager and Mr. Ursin will continue to work on the issues of possibly auctioning off properties in the Town Center for development. They are getting closer to the point where the Council can make a decision in the near future.

#### **RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING SEPARATE ACTION**

##### **RESOLUTION #10-195**

##### **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	\$1,149,173.66	Vernon BOE

#2	Current	\$	596.16	
#3	Current	\$	910,303.58	Vernon BOE
#4	Current	\$	878,871.18	Vernon BOE
#5	Planning & Zoning	\$	600.00	
#6	Capital	\$	1,769.00	
#7	Capital	\$	2,990.70	
#8	Grant	\$	4,866.75	
#9	Grant	\$	4,117.58	
#10	Recreation	\$	31,970.00	Money Transfer
#11	Recreation	\$	2,161.38	
#12	Other Trust	\$	2,177.62	
#13	Other Trust	\$	30.84	
#14	Other Trust	\$	3,435.94	
#15	Outside Services	\$	6,455.95	
#16	Outside Services	\$	730.91	
#17	Sewer Operating	\$	501.38	
	Payroll	\$	286,630.83	3rd Pay in Sept
	Total	\$	3,287,383.46	

MOVED: Richard Carson  
 SECONDED: Valerie Seufert

A roll call vote was taken:

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

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-195 was approved.

**RESOLUTION #10-196**

TOTAL DISABLED VETERAN

**WHEREAS THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS** on July 2, 2009 awarded Galvano, Charles a 100% permanent and total disabled veteran; and

**WHEREAS**, the law exempts said property from taxation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon authorizes the Tax Collector to cancel the taxes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of 2010 in the amount of \$2,806.03. Re: Block 74.10 Lot 2 Location [REDACTED]

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector.

**THIS RESOLUTION** shall take effect immediately upon adoption according to law.

MOVED: Harry Shortway  
 SECONDED: Valerie Seufert

Council Member Valerie Seufert asked if the Township is notified if this disabled resident moves, or does it stay on the tax roll until the property is sold. Mr. Ursin stated that the Tax Collector tracks the owner of the property and if it has been sold.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-196 was approved.

**RESOLUTION #10-197**

**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**, Dave S. Vesely, 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 Dave S. Vesely for membership in the New Jersey State Firemen's Association.

MOVED: Valerie Seufert  
SECONDED: Richard Carson

A roll call vote was taken:

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

NAYES: None

Resolution #10-197 was approved.

**RESOLUTION #10-198**

**AUTHORIZING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH *SIGNATURE INFORMATION SOLUTIONS* FOR "INQUIRY ONLY" ACCESS TO CERTAIN TAX COLLECTORS TAX AND/OR UTILITY RECORDS VIA VITAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Vernon received a request from Signature Information Solutions seeking electronic "look only" inquiry access to the public tax records administered by the tax collector; and

**WHEREAS**, Vernon Township's tax records are currently maintained in an electronic format by Vital Communications Inc. of Trenton, New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, upon authorization, Signature Information Solutions, agrees to use this information for the sole purpose of providing tax search information to the title industry; and

**WHEREAS**, Signature Information Solutions also agrees to protect the information obtained and to not re-sell or re-distribute this same information or make available to a third party except as needed for the purpose of providing information for tax searches to the title industry.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Township of Vernon:

1. Vernon Township will authorize Vital Communications, Inc. to provide look up information access to Signature Information Solutions, LLC for Vernon Township property tax and/or utility records.

2. Signature Solutions shall be subject to Vital Computers policies and procedures.

3. Signature Solutions waives any claim that it may have against Vernon Township in connection with Vital Communications, Inc.'s policies and procedures.

4. Signature Information Solutions, agrees to use this information for the sole purpose of providing tax search information to the title industry, agrees to protect the information obtained and to not re-sell or re-distribute this same information or make

available to a third party except as needed for the purpose of providing information for tax searches to the title industry.

5. The Township of Vernon shall not incur any charges for providing this access or means of information exchange to Signature Solutions.

MOVED: Michael Pier  
SECONDED: Harry Shortway

Township Manager Jerry Giaimis stated that this is a read only access and that there is no cost to the Township.

A roll call vote was taken:  
AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Valerie Seufert, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker  
NAYES: None  
Resolution #10-198 was approved.

**RESOLUTION #10-199**

**DUPLICATION OF 2010 BILLING**

**WHEREAS, THE 2009** County Board Judgment has combined the following Block and Lots for the year 2009;

**WHEREAS,** this has resulted in creating a duplication for the 2010 taxes;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED** By the Mayor and Council of the Township of Vernon, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to cancel the 2010 duplicate taxes.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, THAT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS** Resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector.

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Amount</u>
155	9	Highland Lakes Country Club	[REDACTED]	\$298.10
155	10	Highland Lakes Country Club	[REDACTED]	\$295.59
155.05	86&87-90	Highland Lakes Country Club & Comm.	[REDACTED]	\$921.84
207.16	13&14-17	Highland Lakes Country Club & Comm.	[REDACTED]	\$929.36

MOVED: Michael Pier  
SECONDED: Valerie Seufert

A roll call vote was taken:  
AYES: Richard Carson, Michael Pier, Valerie Seufert, Harry Shortway, Sally Rinker  
NAYES: None  
Resolution #10-199 was approved.

**PUBLIC HEARING AND DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE #10-19**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A FRANCHISE EXPANSION AND PERMISSION FOR UNITED WATER NEW JERSEY INC., TO LAY ITS WATER PIPES BENEATH SUCH PUBLIC ROADS, STREETS AND ALLEYS AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR ITS



CORPORATE PURPOSES AND TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN WATER PIPES  
ON AND ALONG PUBLIC STREETS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON,  
COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

**WHEREAS**, United Water New Jersey Inc., a New Jersey public utility corporation having its principal offices at 200 Old Hook Road, Harrington Park, New Jersey, (the "Water Company"), desires to expand its Vernon water franchise area and lay and otherwise own and maintain water pipes beneath such public roads, streets, alleys and places as it may deem necessary for its purposes and to construct and maintain water pipes in and along such roads, streets, alleys and places, and desires 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 Water Company owns and operates a water franchise 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**, it is necessary to expand the water franchise area to include the geographic region of Vernon known as Valley View Apartments, a 24 unit apartment complex to be served by the Water Company, 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**, the Water Company is a public utility created and organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey to operate and maintain facilities for the provision and transmission of water 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 New Jersey Inc., is hereby given the consent and permission of the Township of Vernon to expand its water franchise area, subject to BPU approval, and to own, install/lay, maintain and relay pipes beneath such public roads, streets, alleys and places as it may deem necessary for its corporate purposes, subject to such additional approvals or consents as the law may require, and to construct and maintain water mains 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;

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

Block 141, Lot 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 the Water Company, the Water 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 Water 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.

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 #10-19 by title only. First reading was held on September 13, 2010.

Council Member Richard Carson made a motion to approved Ordinance #10-19, seconded by Council Member Harry Shortway.

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

Township Attorney John Ursin clarified that this ordinance is to allow Valley View Apartment to allow them to supply them with a water source that is not contaminated. There is no cost obligation to the township. They have to expand the franchise in order to apply to the BPU.

*Tom McClachie, Vernon Taxpayers Association*, requested that there should be something stated in the ordinance the financial obligation of the Township.

There being no comments from the public, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Richard Carson made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Council Member Harry Shortway seconded with all members in favor.

Council Member Carson asked that the record reflect that Mr. Ursin stated that there is no cost to the Township.

There was no Council discussion.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

NAYES: None

Ordinance #10-19 was approved.

### **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Council Member Michael Pier stated he had a draft copy the agenda from the July 22, 2010 Council Meeting showing Ordinance #10-19 which calls for a referendum to change the Charter of the Township to allow the voters to elect the mayor directly. He asked Mr. Ursin what the difference was between this ordinance and the referendum that is going to be on the November 2<sup>nd</sup> ballot.

Mr. Ursin stated when the public was requesting an ordinance be drafted that he started working on it. This ordinance would allow the council to place on the ballot a referendum question to have the mayor elected directly. The statue of the optional forms of government provides for 5-6 different options. When the ordinance began to be circulated there were more that was being requested. Those items could not be placed on the ballot by ordinance it had to be done by petition.

Council Member Shortway asked that if the referendum does not pass can the Council pass this Ordinance to put the question on the ballot for the voters to elect a Mayor. Mr. Ursin stated yes. Council Member Shortway stated that he would support that option.

Council Member Richard Carson stated that he attended the MAC program at the Glen Meadow School for a peer support program. The emphasis of the program is to have a core group of student that are used as mentors to help other students. It will be about a 5 week course. Council Member Carson also stated that the Narcotics Anonymous program at St. Thomas has been very well attended.

Council Member Seufert asked fellow Council Members and members of the public to show each other respect.

Mayor Sally Rinker added that if we just keep politics out of this room, we would all stand a better chance.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

The Regular Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Vernon was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Bates  
Acting Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved: December 16, 2010