

April 10, 2023

A special meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 6:45 p.m. on the above date at the Town Office Building for the purpose of a public hearing regarding granting a cable television license franchise agreement by and between the Town of Vernon and Spectrum Northeast, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Charter Communications. Council members present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Steve Adamkowski, John Peters and Myron Thurston. Also present: 8 community members. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 6:45 p.m. There was no discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at the Town Office Building on the above date with the following persons present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Steve Adamkowski, John Peters and Myron Thurston, Council members. Also present: County Legislator, Keith Schiebel and 8 residents.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silence. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Watson asked the council members if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the March 13, 2023 meeting. There being none, a motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Peters, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Tony Peppenelli wanted to know when the start date would be for the Vernon Center Water district. Peters advised that the planning was almost ready. It still needs to go to the fire department to assure they are on the correct side of the road and where the fire hydrants are. Then the project will be ready to be quoted. The request for quotes will go out around July, August, September then will be awarded by the end of the year. Then digging will begin in 2024. Peters said the project lost some time due to the pumps in the Village of Vernon not being big enough to supply Vernon Center. More funding was then needed for these pumps. The Village of Vernon was only allotted a certain percentage of water from Oneida. The project in Verona is now pulling from the water supply in Rome which has since allowed more water to be allocated to Vernon. Thurston also stated that the engineer advised them that they have been six months trying to get the permits from the state to drill core holes. In order for them to move forward with the bid process this needed to be completed.

Friends of Sherrill Kenwood Library requested permission to place a Little Free Library/Take a Book, Share a Book Library at the Town of Vernon Offices. Board members agreed that they could put one up behind the office building. A location will be marked by the Town so they know where to put it.

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented Town Clerk, Codes Enforcement, Highway Superintendent, Intergovernmental Relations; Adamkowski is planning on having the memorial trees planted in the next couple of weeks. County Legislator; Schiebel submitted a written report highlighting Economic Development, approved poll site agreements for locations of in-person voting and taking care of infrastructure and equipment. Peters asked what the county does with old equipment. Schiebel said that it is auctioned. Peters would like to get with the Highway Superintendent to provide a wish list of items that they may be able to acquire from the county.

There were no reports from Zoning/Planning Board, Assessors, Education and Libraries, Economic Development, Operations, SWOCO and Supervisor.

A motion to accept above reports was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to pay bills was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

A motion to approve the renewal of Charter Communications Franchise Agreement for 15 years at 5% was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to agree to spend Town Highway Funds of \$375,000 for paving was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve VVS School District request to use Town Hall on May 16, 2023 from 12:00pm-9:00pm for school budget vote was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve Assessor Chairman request to allow increase to tax exemption eligibility for low-income seniors and persons with disabilities per NYS Property Tax Exemption RPTL-459-c was made by Bennati, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve Say I Do Event submission of liquor license application and request to wave the 30-day advance notice was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Tax Collector completed 2023 tax collection on March 31, 2023. Any unpaid taxes now are to be paid directly to Oneida County.

Received \$7,701.43 from NY State JCAP Grant for new cabinets in court clerk's office.

Town of Vernon Newsletter was mailed out on April 5th. Adamkoswki thanked everyone for their support getting articles together.

Tree Memorials are doing great, 6 more trees have been ordered for a total of 15 at our walking trail.

A motion to approve Supervisors request to hold January 2024 meeting on the first Thursday, January 4, 2024 was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to adopt a Resolution authorizing the Town of Vernon Supervisor to sign any necessary documents to facilitate the transfer of the southern half of surplus State property on Churton Road and accept the ownership of the parcel was made by Peters, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter into executive session to discuss Personnel at 7:40p.m. was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried

Board members returned from Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Additions to minutes on file
in Town Clerk's Office.

Jennifer Champney
Town Clerk

This meeting was digitally recorded and is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None