



# BOARD OF FINANCE

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street  
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203) 794-8501

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 17, 2015  
7:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

RECEIVED  
2015 FEB 23 P 3 08  
TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**PRESENT:** Bruce Cornwell, Chairman, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and Timothy Draper. Also in attendance were members of the Board of Selectmen, Comptroller Robert Kozlowski and Assistant Comptroller Brad Heering.

**Bruce Cornwell called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.**

### Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Department Budget Presentations

**250 - Planning & Zoning                      Fiscal Year 2015-2016                      \$223,636**

Steven Palmer, Zoning Official presented the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget request in the amount of \$223,636. He noted a 14% increase in their revenues and will look at their fee schedule. He noted that impact fees are illegal; developers cannot be charged fees for any impact that may arise to town infrastructure from development projects. A discussion took place regarding several development projects in place and anticipated development associated with the Transit Oriented District (TOD) grant. He advised that the Planning & Zoning Commission will soon begin work on the next Plan of Development.

**290 - Emergency Mgmt.                      Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request                      \$30,250**

Emergency Management Director Thomas Galliford presented the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget request in the amount of \$30,250. He noted an increase in the cost of the tower lease and pointed out that this account is offset by a State grant.

**300 - Fire Marshal                              Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request                      \$90,968**

Fire Marshal Thomas Galliford presented the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget request in the amount of \$90,968. He noted an increase to office expense due to having to replace code books due to revisions to the state codes. Fees were discussed. It was agreed to look into increasing existing fees and the implementation of a new fee schedule for items not presently associated with fees.

**310 - Bethel Fire Department Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request****\$219,675**

BFD Chief Fred Ingram presented the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget request in the amount of \$219,675. He noted increases to several items, including a request for a Chief's stipend to help offset some of the lost income associated with being a chief, and to serve as an incentive to attract younger members to move up in the ranks. He had requested a replacement for the air compressor, discussed was purchasing this item from the current capital non-recurring account. Several building repair/maintenance items have been requested, including painting and replacement of exterior doors. He advised that next year they will be coming in for a request to replace fire apparatus.

**320 - Stony Hill Fire Dept.****Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request****\$147,250**

SHFD Chief Thomas Galliford presented the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget request in the amount of \$147,250. He advised that he had transferred several line items from equipment and supplies to maintenance. Membership remains steady. He advised that with the garage door project completed, they are saving on heating costs and they are now connected to the water line (Aquarion). He noted a request for a new Thermal Imaging Camera to assist with firefighter safety and victim survivability.

**360 - Police Department****Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request****\$4,216,766**

Police Commission Chairman Michael Duff and Captain David Bruckenthal presented the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget request in the amount of \$4,216,766. Captain Bruckenthal noted that the overall account requested represents a 2.94% increase of which 90% is direct salary costs, 3.9% is contractual, 5.9% is required operations and .03% is other. They are requesting 4 vehicles again this year along with related changeover equipment. It was noted that \$123,000 +/- was brought in as revenue for the use of police cars for private duty assignments. New this year is the request for 5 Body Cameras.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Eileen Freebairn made a motion, which was seconded by Bruce Cornwell, to adjourn the Special Meeting at 8:40 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary