



BOARD OF FINANCE

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

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 29, 2015
7:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

PRESENT: Bruce Cornwell, Chairman, William Kingston, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Also in attendance were Selectman Richard Straiton, Comptroller Robert Kozlowski and Assistant Comptroller Brad Heering.

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

Deliberation on Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget(s)

390 - Employee Benefits

Bruce Cornwell made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 390-113 Hospitalization by \$125,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Bruce Cornwell made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 390-115 Pension by \$35,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

100 - Selectmen

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 100-103 Secretary - Adm. Assistant by \$2,000. Voting against the motion: Claudia Stephan and Eileen Freebairn. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 100-106 Economic Development Coordinator by \$17,000. Voting against the motion.

William Kingston, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion failed.

250 – Planning & Zoning

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to reduce 250-123 Zoning Inspector by \$17,000. Voting against the motion: Timothy Draper, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Bruce Cornwell and Gary Regan. Motion fails.

360 – Police Department

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 360-107 Police Overtime by \$15,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

400 – Non Government Agency Subsidies

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce the entire account by \$17,369. William Kingston amended his motion which was seconded by Gary Regan, to reduce all except 400 – 372 New Opportunities (Meals on Wheels) and fund at \$1,869. Voting in favor of the amendment: Gary Regan. Voting against the amendment: William Kingston, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Bruce Cornwell and Timothy Draper.

Voting against the original motion to fund at zero: Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and Bruce Cornwell. Voting in favor of original motion to reduce to zero: William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion fails.

410 – Utilities

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 410-204 Gas by \$20,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 410-205 Fuel Oil by \$20,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

435 – Library

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 435 – Library by \$4,692. Voting against the motion. Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

405 - Intra Government Agency Subsidies

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 405-349 VNA by \$20,000. Voting against the motion. Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

450 - Board of Education

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 450 – Board of Education by \$300,000. Voting against the motion. Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

120 – Finance

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to reduce 120-102 Assistant Comptroller by \$5,000. Voting against the motion. Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and Bruce Cornwell. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion fails.

Gary Regan made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to recommend a Fiscal Year 2015-2016 town budget which includes Board of Education maintenance and debt service of \$27,343,159. Voting against the motion. Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend a Fiscal Year 2015-2016 education budget in the amount of \$42,982,535. Voting against the motion. Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

Consideration of revenue appropriation and increase to the current year road construction account to apportion \$265,841 in MGIA funds.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to increase the current year (Fiscal Year 2014-2015) revenue by Municipal Grant In Aid (MGIA) funds in the amount of \$ 265,841 and to increase the current year (Fiscal Year 2014-2015) 240-Highway Department Road Construction Account by \$265,841. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Consideration of appointment of Auditor

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to re-appoint the firm of Cohen-Reznick as the town auditors. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Gary Regan made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary