



# BOARD OF FINANCE

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

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, April 30, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.  
CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

**PRESENT:** William Kingston, Chairman, J. Philip Gallagher, Eileen Freebairn, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper.

William Kingston called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### Consideration of modifications to capital items for FY 2012-2013 as previously approved by the Board of Finance on April 23, 2012

First Selectman Knickerbocker was present and explained a technical difficulty that was recently discovered. The Board of Finance had proposed \$1,625,000 in capital items, which because is over \$1,000,000 requires referendum action. The "chips" for the voting machines are only programmed for 4 separate questions - these are already reserved. A 5<sup>th</sup> spot is needed. He explained that there may (or may not) be a problem in getting them reformatted, tested, shipped, etc. in time.

At this time, William Kingston advised that he sees three solutions to this problem: (1) remove some items from the proposed capital expenditures so that the capital items are below the \$1,000,000 threshold and can be decided at the town meeting, (2) Remove the capital items and address them at a separate referendum at a later date and (3) Have both a machine vote and a paper ballot.

J. Philip Gallagher proposed the "normal" budget items - town side and its related Too High/Too Low question and the Board of Education budget and its related Too High/Too Low question - remain on the ballot as is. And, the capital items could be addressed on a paper ballot. He thought that this would work because several years back there was a problem with the voting machines and paper ballots were used. Board of Finance members agreed that if this is not possible, then at the town meeting, the capital items could be removed from the call of the meeting. Eileen Freebairn offered that as having been a moderator at various referendum, was not sure that this would be possible.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to use the regular ballot for the town and education budgets with their related Too High/Too Low questions and to use a paper ballot format for the capital items, and if this is not possible, remove the capital items from the call at the town meeting. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to adjourn the special meeting at 7:20 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary

RECEIVED

2012 MAY -1 P 3:10

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK