



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

Matthew S. Knickerbocker, First Selectman
Richard C. Straiton, Selectman
Paul R. Szatkowski, Selectman

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, August 20, 2013 - 7:30 p.m.
CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

RECEIVED

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

PRESENT: First Selectman Knickerbocker, Selectman Straiton and Selectman Szatkowski. Also in attendance was Town Counsel Martin Lawlor.

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance: First Selectman Knickerbocker called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to tonight's agenda, under New Business, Item # 5 – Consideration of appointment – Veterans' Service Contact Person. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to add to tonight's agenda, under New Business, Item # 6 – Consideration of appointments – Inland Wetlands Commission and Police Commission. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Public Comments: Cynthia McCorkindale (meeting minutes)

Correspondence: None that was not already on tonight's agenda.

Minutes of August 6, 2013 Regular Meeting: Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the minutes with the amendment that the votes on the July 2nd & July 5th minutes were unanimous and the correction to the name Hislop which was noted as Islip. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Report: First Selectman Knickerbocker provided an update on the paving projects, noting that Gretchen Lane, Fawn Road and Diamond Avenue are

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complete. Crews are working on Oakridge Drive, Evergreen, and a portion of Rockell and will then move to Bethpage Drive, Oven Rock and Fairchild Drives. Selectman Straiton reported on the Walnut bridge project, noting that construction ran into a delay due to a ledge issue but that the project is still anticipated to be complete by December 1st.

Presentation – Clean Energy Communities Program

Diana McCarthy-Bercury from CL&P's Clean Energy Communities Program was in attendance and presented the program to the Board of Selectmen, asking for their pledge of support. She explained that the program essentially has the town pledge to reduce its municipal building energy consumption by various percentages by certain timeframes. If the town has achieved certain goals, they would then qualify for energy efficiency and renewable energy rewards including credits and financial awards to use in various energy saving projects and initiatives. Once the program is initiated, residences and businesses could participate and the town would receive points with their participation. Selectmen will refer this program to the Energy Conservation Commission and will look at ways to get the community involved.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add this topic to tonight's agenda, under New Business, Item # 7. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

New Business

1) Consideration of Adoption of amended Emergency Plan Policy for Registrar of Voters

Registrar of Voters, Mary Legnard and Mary O'Leary were present and advised that the state required two additions to the Emergency Plan Policy which had previously been adopted by the Board of Selectmen.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adopt the amended Emergency Plan Policy for the Registrar of Voters as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

2) Consideration of resolution - September 19, 2013 "No Texting While Driving Day"

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to proclaim September 19, 2013 in the Town of Bethel as "No Texting While Driving Day". Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

September 19, 2013
"No Texting While Driving Day"

Whereas texting has become the way many people communicate today, which means some people are doing it at the worst possible time - while driving, and

Whereas texting while driving is involved in over 100,000 motor vehicle crashes each year, often causing injuries and deaths, and

Whereas those who text while driving are 23 times more likely to be involved in some type of safety critical event as compared to those drivers who don't text while they drive, and

Whereas in 2009 AT&T launched the public awareness campaign "It Can Wait" to educate the public about the dangers of texting while driving by encouraging consumers to take the personal pledge not to text while driving, and

Now, therefore be it proclaimed, that the Town of Bethel, Connecticut designates September 19, 2013 as "**No Texting While Driving Day**" to focus attention on the dangers of texting while driving, and

Be it further proclaimed that the members of the Board of Selectmen have taken the personal pledge to not text and drive, support efforts to raise public awareness about the dangers of texting while driving and encourage others to take the pledge not to text and drive.

3) Consideration of Tax Collector's request for Tax Refund Authorization

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the Tax Collector's request, dated August 19, 2013 and authorize Tax Refunds in the amount of \$3,928.42. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

4) Consideration of request – Bennett Memorial Park fee for Veterans' Groups

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to establish a weekday rental rate of \$35.00 for Bethel Veterans' Groups at the Bennett Memorial Park. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

5.) Consideration of Appointment - Veterans' Service Contact Person

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First Selectman Knickerbocker advised that in accordance with Public Act 13-34, which takes effect on October 1st, each town is to designate a Veterans' Service Contact Person.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint John Sarver as the Veterans' Affairs Coordinator for the Town of Bethel. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

6.) Consideration of appointments – Inland Wetlands Commission and Police Commission.

Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to appoint Laura Ferguson (R) to the Inland Wetlands Commission. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Catherine Cuggino. This term expires 12/2/2013.

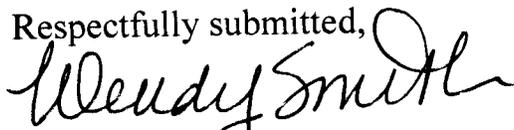
Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint Anthony Rubino (R) to the Police Commission. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This fills the vacancy created by the death of Dan Grosso. TThis term expires 12/2/2013.

7.) Consideration of Clean Energy Communities Program

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adopt the Clean Energy Communities Program pledge. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:09 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary