



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

Robert Burke, First Selectman
Paul Szatkowski, Selectman
Kevin L. Cleary, Selectman

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, December 18, 2007

7:30 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

PRESENT: First Selectman Burke, Selectman Szatkowski and Selectman Cleary.
Also attendance was William Hagan, Town Attorney.

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance: First Selectman Burke called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Public Comments: David Glahn and Jason Bartlett spoke.

Correspondence:

- Letter from Jason Bartlett regarding the earmarking of \$500,000 for downtown development (copy attached).
- Letter from Library Building Committee advising that a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued and that their committee should be dissolved (copy attached).

Minutes of December 4, 2007 Regular Meeting: Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of December 4, 2007 Special Meeting and December 10, 2007 Special Meeting: Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Report: First Selectman Burke provided an update of the various projects that the town is undertaking: culvert project, safe routes to school sidewalk grant, municipal center windows, high school, etc.

New Business

1.) Consideration of request – Tax Refund Authorization

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the Tax Collector's request, dated December 17, 2007 to authorize Tax Refunds in the amount of \$8,782.39. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

2.) Consideration of request from Town Clerk – appointment of sub-registrar

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to re-appoint Robert Mastropietro of Green Funeral Home, Thomas Green of Green Funeral and Jeffrey Hull of Hull Funeral Home as sub-registrars to perform the duties of a registrar in relation to issuing burial permits when the Town Clerk's office is closed. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

3.) Establish date(s) for Special Town Meeting – (1) Additional appropriation for the South Street Firehouse ADA Project and (2) to balance the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Budget Shortfall.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by ?, to hold a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, January 15, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in Meeting Room "A" of the CJH Municipal Center to consider and take action on the additional appropriation for the South Street Firehouse ADA Project, and to balance the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Budget Shortfall. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

4.) Consideration of request from the Library Board of Directors – grant resolution and discussion of Library fundraising

Members of the Library Board were present to provide an update to the Board of Selectmen on their fundraising efforts to date. They advised that the Library was awarded the opportunity for an additional construction grant from the State Library for a total consideration of \$898,432. Additionally, they suggested that perhaps some of the \$500,000 earmarked for downtown improvements could be designated towards the library project. Discussion took place regarding the estimated \$3,045,298 required in order to complete the Library. First Selectman Burke advised that he would like to meet with the Project Architect to discuss the project components and determine whether there are any cost savings available. Selectman Cleary suggested holding a public hearing to determine the public's support of the project. The Selectmen made no commitment to go back to the

town for an additional appropriation to complete the project. Library Board members stated their commitment to continue fundraising efforts and seeking out grant opportunities. Library Board Chairman Jane Bickford asked about the feasibility of the Library borrowing the money from the town to complete the project and continuing fundraising efforts could repay the loan.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, that:

RESOLVED, that the duly elected First Selectman, Robert E. Burke, is empowered to apply for a State Public Library Construction Grant and to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this organization, a certain contract with the Connecticut State Library, State of Connecticut, for a State Public Library Construction Grant in the amount of \$898,432.

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on the agenda, Selectman Cleary made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wendy Smith". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary