



# BOARD OF FINANCE

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

**RECEIVED**

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

JUL 10 2007

Monday, July 9, 2007 - 7:30 p.m.  
CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**PRESENT:** Kevin Cleary, Chairman, J. Philip Gallagher, William Britt, Spruille Braden, Jr., Kevin Riley, Jeffrey Kenausis and Claudia Stephan. Also attending was Comptroller Barry Curina.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Kevin Cleary called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** none

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Robert Fand spoke

**MINUTES OF JUNE 11, 2007:** William Britt made a motion, which was seconded by Spruille Braden, Jr., to approve the minutes of June 11, 2007 as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### 1) Consideration of Elderly Tax Freeze Program:

Discussion took place regarding the Public Act which would enable municipalities to institute a freeze program which could be in addition to our current program for tax benefits to the elderly. Several points were discussed, including asset limitations, liens, income guidelines, cost of the program, etc. It was agreed to expand our current program rather than initiate the freeze program.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to withdraw his motion of December 11, 2006 (to adopt the freeze program with a \$27,000 single level income limit, \$33,000 married income limit.) Kevin Riley withdrew his second. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to raise the income limits to \$45,000 for our existing Elderly Tax Relief Program. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1) Discussion with Director of Fiscal Services – Board of Education account**

Theresa Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services for the Board of Education was present at the meeting. A general discussion of transfers, year end closing and salary funding took place. She advised that while the fiscal year is not closed out yet, she anticipates ending the year in the “black”. She pledged to forward reports to the Board of Finance when available and would attend future meetings on a regular basis.

### **2) Consideration of recommendation from the Board of Selectmen – funding of the Bethpage Waterline Project**

The cost for the Bethpage Waterline Project is \$825,000, \$500,000 of which is from a State of Connecticut STEAP Grant, the balance required for the project is \$325,000. This amount will be paid from the Utilities Department Account. The Board of Selectmen has referred it the request to the Board of Finance as required by Charter, and upon Board of Finance concurrence, will be sent to a Special Town Meeting which has been scheduled for July 18, 2007.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Cleary, to approve the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund the Bethpage Waterline Project. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

### **3) Consideration of recommendation from the Board of Selectmen – capital expenditures**

Discussion took place on the recommendations for capital expenditures from the Board of Selectmen. It was pointed out that the Rockwell School boiler is the last component necessary to aid the two recently replaced. The Middle School Water Tank is over 17 years old; it had a 10 year warranty and is “on its way out”. The remediation of the ceramics room is mandated by OSHA. Mr. Curina discussed the Accounting & Payroll Software; he has been advising the Board of Finance for several years that it was time to replace the system, which is over 25 years old. The new programs are through Munis.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve the Board of Selectmen recommendation of the capital expenditures as follows:

Replace Boiler - Rockwell School	\$102,000
Replace Water Tank - Middle School	\$45,000
Replace 2 Dump Truck Bodies	\$64,000
Replace 2 Trip Edge Plows	\$12,400
Remediate Ceramic Room - Municipal Center	\$38,000
Repeater Station - Public Works Radios	\$10,200
Public Works Management Software	\$13,200
Accounting & Payroll Software	\$159,896
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$444,696</b>

And, that \$284,800 (all items except the Accounting & Payroll Software) from the Capital Non-recurring Fund and \$159,896 by short term notes and/or bonds. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**TRANSFERS, IF REQUIRED, BY COMPTROLLER:** None

**ADJOURN:** As there was no further business on the agenda, William Britt made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary