



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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FEB 25 2008

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 19, 2008 6:30 p.m.
CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

Present: First Selectman Burke, Selectman Szatkowski and Selectman Cleary. Also in attendance was the Board of Finance.

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance: First Selectman Burke called the Special Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1.) Consideration of establishing Water Rates:

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to adopt the proposed rates as published. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Discussion took place regarding increasing the rates. Selectman Szatkowski clarified that the rates could be reviewed again at any time.

Selectman Cleary offered that he is unable to attend the Public Utilities Commission afternoon meetings and was not able to question Mr. Woodcock on the water/sewer rates and is concerned that there were no provisions for future repairs and reserves; he was unclear on the expenses.

Selectmen agreed that there is no doubt that the department has debt and the rates should have been adjusted years ago; establishing a rate increase is taking a step in the right direction.

2.) Consideration of rescinding Appointment to the Board of Finance and Plumtrees Schoolhouse Landmark Preservation Commission

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to rescind the February 5, 2008 Board of Selectmen appointment

of Gary Regan to the Board of Finance. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to rescind the March 20, 2007 Board of Selectmen appointment of Jon Menti to the Plumtrees Schoolhouse Landmark Preservation Commission. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Burke advised that Mr. Menti has not been sworn in nor attended any meetings of the Plumtrees Schoolhouse Commission.

Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Departmental Budget Presentations

330 Registrar of Voters

Registrar of Voters Mary Legnard and Mary O'Leary presented the Registrar of Voters budget request. The registrars advised that the new voting machines have created more work for them and asked that their salaries be increased; they offered that on average, one or the other of them works 2-3 hours a day.

380 Parks & Recreation

Parks & Recreation Commission Chairman Meghan O'Connor and Director of Parks & Recreation Eileen Earle presented the Parks & Recreation budget request. Discussed was the request for a utility vehicle and a trailer. They offered that this was not the type of vehicle that would do well on a lease as there would be considerable "wear & tear". They discussed the work that needs to be done at Parloa Park; plans are to replace the backstop. They remarked that Meckauer Park is becoming the "place to be - again." Usage at Meckauer continues to increase as more are taking advantage of the grounds. The programs were discussed, fees are reviewed with each season; programs continue to realize a profit.

180 Building Inspection

Building Official Gary Boughton presented the Building Inspection budget request; noting that his office continues to be busy. He indicated the increase to their contracted services relates to the lease payments for staff vehicles.

290 Emergency Management

Emergency Management Director Thomas Galliford presented the Emergency Management budget request. He reminded the Board of Selectmen and Board

of Finance that based upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and subsequent approval of the Board of Finance, \$6,538 has to be added to this budget request to accommodate funding the Mass Notification System. Mr. Galliford included funding for the relocation of the siren that used to be near the Municipal Center. It had been taken down and stored at the Bethel Fire House. It is anticipated that there will be a cost associated with the siren relocation (and perhaps repair).

300 Fire Marshal

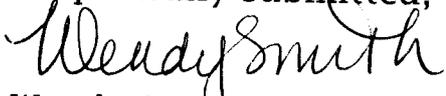
Fire Marshal Thomas Galliford presented the Fire Marshal budget request. It was pointed out that there are a lot of inspections required with High School Project. He has included additional funds for the deputy fire marshal. A request for a computer is included although this may be funded from the Data Processing account.

360 Police Department

Police Commission Chairman Nick Ellis and Police Chief Jeffrey Finch presented the Police Department budget request. Among the items discussed was the new software system which is almost up and running. Selectman Cleary explained how the overtime has been funded in the past; funded at a minimum and transfers occur from the salary account. They have requested 3 vehicles. Discussion took place regarding the proposed security officer for the high school parking lot; this is a Board of Education proposal and the security officer would not be a police officer.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary