



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

RECEIVED

FEB 29 2008

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, February 25, 2008 - 7:00 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.

First Selectman Burke called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget Presentations

450 – Board of Education

Board of Education Chairman William Kingston and Director of Fiscal Services Theresa Yonsky presented the Board of Education budget request. Mr. Kingston outlined the history of the budget being presented this evening and advised that the Board of Education took one last look at the Superintendent's proposed budget and reduced it further to reflect a 4.7% increase. He offered that this is the budget that the Board of Education feels best meets the needs of the school system and would like to see the proposed budget be passed on to the voters as is. Among the items included in the request is funding for a HS Tech Ed position (this position was discussed at length; Board of Education offered that this is a very popular class and an additional position would give the opportunity for more students to participate), a MS Reading Specialist, 2 High School Custodians – this sparked considerable discussion. Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance members questioned the need for additional custodians since the building is still under construction. The Board of Education has proposed hiring several Lunch Monitors which would “free up” teacher time to enable them to provide different student services. The Summer School program was discussed at length as well since additional costs are proposed in the budget request. It was pointed out that the enrichment program portion is self-sustaining; however some students are invited to participate, either because they have

failed a class or because they have been identified as requiring additional help. The cost for that portion is not self-sustaining.

Also discussed was the proposal for a Security Guard at the High School; currently there is a parking lot attendant, the cost of which is paid by a parking fee. Mr. Kingston offered that the Board of Education is undecided on the role of the Security Guard and have included the funding in their proposed budget as a placeholder and will meet to further discuss the security needs at the High School.

The new proposals to the budget which are payroll associated are \$199,665 and there is an additional \$77,225 in non-payroll proposals to the budget. Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen members continued discussions regarding the proposed Board of Education budget.

460 – Board of Education – Building Maintenance

Board of Education Chairman William Kingston, Director of Fiscal Services Theresa Yonsky, Facilities Manager Robert Germinaro, and Facilities Sub-Committee members Michael Duff and Lawrence Craybas presented the Board of Education budget request. Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen members noted that there were no historical actual expenditures being presented, only proposed costs. They felt that without this historical information they would not be able to determine a funding level. First Selectman Burke advised that some of the proposed work could be performed by town workers.

Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget Deliberations

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recess the meeting to Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Burke reconvened the Special Meeting on Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 4:03 p.m.

100 Selectmen

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 100 – Selectmen at \$188,423. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

110 Treasurer

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 110 – Treasurer at \$6,750. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

120 Finance

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 120 – Finance at \$336,216. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

130 Town Clerk

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 130 – Town Clerk at \$208,007. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

140 Assessor

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 140 – Assessor at \$180,426. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction of \$18,398 to 140-105 Part-time clerk.

150 Tax Collector

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 150 – Tax Collector at \$174,425. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

160 Professional Services

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 160 – Professional Services at \$181,380. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a \$25,000 reduction to 160-352 Litigation.

170 Probate Court

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 170 – Probate Court at \$2,650. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

180 Building Inspection

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 180 – Building Inspection at \$196,155. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

190 Data Processing

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 190 – Data Processing at \$134,388. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

200 Social Services

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 200 – Social Services at \$56,521. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

210 Town Insurance

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 210 – Town Insurance at \$732,403. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

220 Fleet Maintenance

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 220 – Fleet Maintenance at \$311,550. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

230 Public Works

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 230 – Public Works at \$321,979. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

240 Highway Department

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 240 – Highway Department at \$1,769,692. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction to 240-106 Negotiated Salaries by \$49,234, 240-308 Clothing Allowance by \$500 and 240-404 Road Construction by \$130,000 for a total reduction of \$179,734.

250 Planning & Zoning

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 250 – Planning & Zoning at \$192,316. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

260 Building Maintenance

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 260 – Building Maintenance at \$680,006. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

270 Tree Warden

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 270 – Tree Warden at \$93,700. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

290 Emergency Management

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 290 at \$38,538. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a \$6,538 increase to 290-201 Supplies to accommodate the Mass Notification System recently approved by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.

300 Fire Marshal

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 300 – Fire Marshal at \$83,161. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

310 Bethel Fire Department

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 310 – Bethel Fire Department at \$163,850. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

320 Stony Hill Fire Department

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 320 – Stony Hill Fire Department at \$155,450. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

330 Registrar of Voters

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 330 – Registrar of Voters at \$79,886. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

340 Town Boards and Commissions

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 340 – Town Boards and Commissions at \$134,448. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

350 Health Department

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 350 – Health Department at \$253,457. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

360 Police Department

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 360 – Police Department at \$3,492,978. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction to 360-107 Overtime by \$145,000.

380 Parks & Recreation

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 380 – Parks & Recreation at \$923,202. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

390 Employee Benefits

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 390 – Employee Benefits at \$4,272,996. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for an increase to 390-113 Hospitalization by \$110,000.

400 Non Government Agency Subsidies

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 400 – Non Government Agency Subsidies at \$35,509. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

405 Intra Government Agency Subsidies

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 405 – Intra Government Agency Subsidies at \$446,483. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

410 Utilities and Other Charges

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 410 – Utilities and Other Charges at \$2,310,078. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

420 Misc. Charges & Transfers

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 420 – Misc. Charges & Transfers at \$368,574. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

430 Senior Center

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 430 – Senior Center at \$129,018. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction to 430-403 Capital Equipment by \$2,000.

435 Library

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 435 – Library at \$808,717. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction to 435-105 Part-time Clerks, Pages of \$17,000.

440 Debt Services

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 440 – Debt Services at \$3,956,602. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

450 Board of Education

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 450 – Board of Education at \$37,350,417. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction of \$150,000.

460 Board of Education – Building Maintenance

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 460 – Board of Education – Building Maintenance at \$350,829. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction of \$100,000.

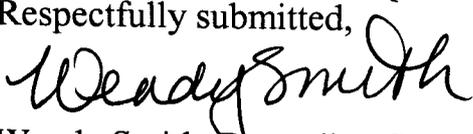
First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Town Budget at \$23,419,934. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Education Budget at \$37,350,417. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Board of Education – Building Maintenance at \$350,829. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding a Fiscal Year 2008-2009 budget of \$61,121,180. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on today's agenda, First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary