



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

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**TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK**

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, July 21, 2009

7:30 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

Present: First Selectman Burke, Selectman Szatkowski and Selectman Cleary. Also in 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: William Slifkin spoke regarding the condition of the crosswalks.

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

Minutes of June 16, 2009: 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 on the upcoming paving projects noting that drainage and catch basin work will continue prior to paving operations. He advised that Payne Road will be the first road to be paved.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to add to tonight's agenda, under New Business, Item # 1 – Eastbrook Construction / Church Campground – land conveyance for road acceptance. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

New Business

- 1.) **Consideration of Eastbrook Construction / Church Campground – land conveyance for road acceptance**

Attorney James Driscoll was present at tonight's meeting and advised that the developer of the three lot subdivision has requested Church Campground be accepted as a town road; the town already plows and sands this roadway. It had been determined that the cost to reclaim and repave the roadway will be \$55,000 which the developer will pay to the Town of Bethel.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, as part of the approval of the three lot subdivision for Eastbrook Construction/Church Campground, to accept land on which the road is located. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

2.) Consideration of purchase/land swap with Oven Rock Partners, LLC and establish date for Special Town Meeting if applicable.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, that as part of the court settlement, to establish a Special Town Meeting date of Tuesday, August 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the CJH Municipal Center, Meeting Room "A" for consideration of the purchase/land swap with Oven Rock Partners, LLC and the Town of Bethel. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

3.) Consideration of Non-discrimination Certification – Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism Grant (Summer Concert Series).

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

RESOLVED: That the Town of Bethel hereby adopts as its policy to support the nondiscrimination agreements and warranties required under Connecticut General Statutes 4a-60(a)(1) and 4a-60a(a)(1), as amended in State of Connecticut Public Act 07-245 and sections 9(a)(1) and 10 (a)(1) of Public Act 07-142.

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

4.) Consideration of Resolution – Homeland Security Grant 2008 Funds

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

RESOLVED, that the Town of Bethel may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Robert E. Burke, as First Selectman of the Town of Bethel is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Bethel and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents,

including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

5.) Consideration of establishing a Special Town Meeting date to accept grant funds for the Bethel Public Library

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to place the acceptance of grant funds for the Bethel Public Library on the agenda for Special Town Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 18, 2009. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Discussion took place regarding the Library's fundraising efforts to date. Library Board of Directors Chair Shani Burke Specht was present and explained the fundraising efforts thus far. She noted that the State Library Commission will meet next week to consider Bethel's request to extend the State Library Board Construction Grant (\$898,432) deadline one year and that if necessary, they may also request another one year extension in the event that they have not raised the full amount to complete the project. Selectman Cleary suggested that representatives be present at the Special Town Meeting to be able to discuss the project and it's fundraising.

6.) Consideration of Tax Collector's request for Tax Abatement – Bethel Housing Authority and Augustana Homes (Congregate)

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the Tax Collector's request, dated July 20, 2009 and authorize the abatement of taxes for the Bethel Housing Authority and Augustana Homes Inc., for the Grand List of October 1, 2008 in the amount of \$97,209.28. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

7.) Consideration of appointment – Board of Education vacancy

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to appoint Cynthia J. McCorkindale (I) to the Board of Education vacancy caused by the resignation of Benjamin Foulk. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This term expires December 3, 2011.

8.) Consideration of establishing a date for a Special Town Meeting – AT&T easement request.

Attorney Hagan explained that AT&T has an existing easement at the Bethel Fire Department but requires an additional 7 feet beyond their right of way to install guide wire anchors on the existing pole.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to place the AT&T easement request on the agenda for the Special Town Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 18, 2009. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

9.) Consideration of Skateboard/Slalomboarding event – Francis J. Clarke Industrial Park

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the request to hold the Slalom Race for Charity event on Saturday, August 8th (rain date August 9th) from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Francis J. Clarke Industrial Park subject to receipt of the appropriate insurance and notification to park occupants. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to add to tonight's agenda, as item # 10 on the agenda – Discussion of Kevin Riley – Ethics Complaint Issue. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

10.) Discussion of Kevin Riley – Ethics Complaint Issue

Selectman Cleary had requested an update on the Kevin Riley – Ethics Complaint issue. Attorney Hagan advised that he will be submitting a letter to the Board of Selectmen explaining that while the Town of Bethel Charter/Code grants the Board of Selectmen the ability to remove elected officials from office (for cause), the State of Connecticut law does not. First Selectman Burke advised that he will (at a date not determined) reconvene the meeting which had been held to discuss the matter.

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Selectmen, Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary