



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

Matthew S. Knickerbocker, First Selectman
Richard C. Straiton, Selectman
Paul R. Szatkowski, Selectman

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, February 16, 2010

7:30 p.m. or immediately following the Special Town Meeting
CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

RECEIVED

2010 FEB 18 P 12:59

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

PRESENT: First Selectman Knickerbocker, Selectman Straiton and Selectman Szatkowski. Also in attendance was Town Counsel Martin J. Lawlor.

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

Public Comments: none

Correspondence: Nick Ellis statement (attached) and a letter from Lawrence Craybas, Chairman of the Board of Education dated February 5, 2010 with the disclosure of a familial relationship.

Minutes of February 2, 2010 Regular Meeting: Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Old Business

- 1.) **Consideration of two new committees – Energy Conservation and Business Outreach.**

First Selectman Knickerbocker distributed a draft proposal for the proposed Energy Conservation Commission for Selectmen review.

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to table discussion of the two new committees until the next meeting. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

New Business

1.) Consideration of Tax Collector's request for Tax Refund Authorization.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the Tax Collector's request, dated February 11, 2010 authorizing Tax Refunds in the amount of \$2,547.57. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

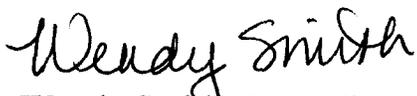
2.) Consideration of mandatory referral Connecticut General Statutes 8-24 for the Bethel High School Track project.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton to forward the Bethel High School Track and related improvements project to the Planning & Zoning for consideration and report under the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes 8-24 Mandatory Referral. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Knickerbocker asked for a moment of silence to reflect upon the life and contributions by former town treasurer Martin Ryan who died this morning; his death is truly a loss for the Town of Bethel.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE.

Contact: James D. Diamond, Esq.
203-739-0400

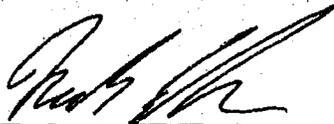
**STATEMENT FROM NICK ELLIS
CHAIRMAN BETHEL POLICE COMMISSION**

February 5, 2010

In the last week, former Bethel First Selectman Robert E. Burke has made allegations that I attended a certain party where "strippers and dancers" were hired as entertainment.

Mr. Burke has alleged that I "ran" the event and that I distributed narcotics. Although I did attend that party, I did not organize the party nor did I distribute or use narcotics of any kind. I did not witness nor am I aware of any illegal activity happening that evening. If I did become aware of unlawful conduct I would, in fact, notify the Bethel Police Department. I am not a drug user.

Furthermore, my attorney, James Diamond of Danbury has issued a demand that Mr. Burke immediately retract the defamatory statements Mr. Burke has made against me and cease and desist from any further character assassination.



Nick Ellis

2-5-10

Date