



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, June 7, 2011
7:30 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

RECEIVED

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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.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to tonight's agenda under New Business #7) Consideration of recommendation from Procurement Committee – Disposal of Surplus Equipment. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Public Comments: Stanley Weston (presented a packet on an assessment issue), David Glahn, Timothy Draper, J. Philip Gallagher, Patrick Daubert, Robert Burke (submitted an FOIA request), William Slifkin, Robert Crnic, and Daniel Gaita spoke.

Correspondence: Letter from William Michael, dated 5-17-2011
Letter from Town Counsel Martin J. Lawlor, dated 6-7-2011
Letter/packet from Public Site & Building Committee, dated 6-2-2011

Minutes of May 3, 2011: Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Report: First Selectman Knickerbocker provided an update on the Farmer's Market; anticipated opening on July 7th – hours 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. He also

provided an update on the road construction project – several roads have been reclaimed and are to be paved soon, trees work and drainage has been completed on many roads. He complimented Selectman Straiton for all his hard work on the temporary Teen Center who will be having their Open House on June 15th. Selectman Straiton also received the CHAMP award from the Board of Education for his service to the community.

New Business

1.) Consideration of Library Resolution – State Public Library Construction Grant

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, that:

RESOLVED, that the duly elected First Selectman, Matthew S. Knickerbocker is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this organization a certain contract with the Connecticut State Library, State of Connecticut, for a State Public Library Construction Grant. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, that:

RESOLVED, That 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 07-425 and sections 9(a)(1) and 10(a)(1) of Public Act 07-142. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

2.) Consideration of Connecticut General Statutes 8-24 Mandatory Referral – “Old” Town Hall and Oak Tree Hill Subdivision (Knollwood Drive)

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, that the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes do hereby refer to the Planning & Zoning Commission for its comments and report on a proposal to raze the Old Town Hall located at the corner of School Street and Library Place as set forth in a certain study entitled Task 1 Calculation of Parking Demand and Supply, MMI#4494-01-1 by Milone & MacBroom and dated May 4, 2011 which study shall be attached to this referral and presented to the Planning & Zoning for its review.

Town Counsel Martin J. Lawlor clarified that the existing parking lot use to the south of the Old Town Hall and north of the Library, remains with the Library. The 1964 deed recognized the same when a license was granted to the Town of Bethel to use and maintain the parking area which is shown on the map. The license to use the same can be terminated upon six (6) months notice by the "Grantor" to the Grantee, Town of Bethel. The Town of Bethel was the Trustee for the Library and was the Grantor. Under this scenario we have, in reality, the Library Board of Directors now assuming the authority of the Town of Bethel as Trustee. This is evidenced by the fact that the 1964 deed was signed by the Chairman of the Library Board on behalf of the Town of Bethel as Trustee. In summary, the town owns the "old" town hall building but the Library retains the parking.

Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to hold a Public Hearing on the topic of the "Old" Town Hall. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. A date will be established as soon as practical based on the availability of either the High School or Middle School.

The motion and seconded were withdrawn to refer to Planning & Zoning.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, that the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes and C6-4.C of the Charter to hereby refer to the Planning & Zoning for its comment and report to accept open space in the amount of 3.874 acres known as "Resubdivision for Oak Tree Hills Granite Dr - Knollwood Dr, File 21 Map 81". Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the Tax Collector's request, dated June 6, 2011 and authorize Tax Refunds in the amount of \$1,452.35. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

4.) Consideration of Appointment – Public Site & Building Commission

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint John Perna (U) to the Public Site & Building Commission. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This fills the expired term of Timothy Draper and expires on January 5, 2015.

5.) Consideration of Appointment(s) – Municipal Center Farmer's Market Committee

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to appoint Layna Haitch-Palumbo, Elizabeth Cavagna, Eileen Earle, Violet Mattone and Chelsea Berg to the Municipal Center Farmer's Market Committee. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

6.) Consideration of Resolution(s) – 3 STEAP Applications (#1: Teen Center Addition to Municipal Center in the amount of \$400,000, #2: Road Repaving in the amount of \$500,000 and #3: Library Building Project in the amount of \$150,000)

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to add #4 – Sidewalk Rehabilitation in the amount of \$250,000 and, revise Item #1 – Teen Center Addition to Municipal Center in the amount of \$370,000 (not \$400,000) and # 3 Library Building Project in the amount of \$60,000 (not \$150,000). Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

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

WHEREAS, The Town of Bethel has been invited to apply for a STEAP grant with the State of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Bethel make four applications for STEAP grant funding for the following projects:

1. Teen Center addition to the Municipal Center - \$370,000
2. Road Repaving - \$500,000
3. Sidewalk Rehabilitation -- \$250,000.
4. Library Building Grant to complete Library Project - \$60,000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the Board of Selectmen that the filing of these applications for State STEAP funding is hereby approved and that Matthew S. Knickerbocker, First Selectman is directed to sign any agreements with the State should any or all of the above applications be approved.

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

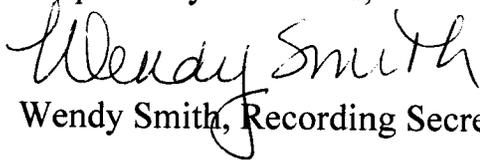
7.) Consideration of recommendation from Procurement Committee – Disposal of Surplus Equipment.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, that in accord with the recommendation from the Procurement Committee,

Public Utilities Commission, and the Town of Bethel Charter, to authorize the sale of surplus vehicles of the Utilities Department as follows: 1996 Chevrolet 2500 Pick Up with plow in the amount of \$2,160, 1989 Chevy 3500 Dump Truck in the amount of \$1,919.99, 1994 GMC Vandura 3500 Van in the amount of \$2,001 and the Military Trailer in the amount of \$158 said proceeds to be referred to the Comptroller to reimburse either the town general fund or the utilities department, depending on where the items were initially purchased. The 1999 Chevy Blazer received no offers and will be scrapped. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

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 8:35 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wendy Smith". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary