



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, January 31, 2010 *2011 TR*
4:00 p.m.

C.J. Hurgin Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

RECEIVED
2011 FEB - 3 P 2: 14
TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

Present: First Selectman Matthew Knickerbocker, Selectmen Richard Straiton, Selectman Paul Szatkowski and Commissioners Michael Gribbin and Peter Valenti. Also in attendance were Town Engineer Andrew Morosky, Utilities Consultant Len Assard, Supervisor of Utilities Kelly Curtis and Town Attorney Martin Lawlor.

Call to Order: First Selectman Knickerbocker called the Special Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of Rate Study Update-Chris Woodcock:

Mr. Woodcock addressed the commission to discuss the preliminary draft of his findings on Bethel's water and sewer rates. Mr. Woodcock reported the sewer department appears to be recovering sufficient revenues to cover all operating costs, dept service and on-going capital needs. No funds are reported to be owed to the general fund due to past revenue shortfalls. Mr. Woodcock reiterated his belief that the sewer rates should be set independent of the water rates and not simply be a multiple of the water rates.

Mr. Woodcock indicated that prior recommendations from his company to the Commission for rate increases on the water side were not fully adopted and as a result, the water fund has had to borrow even more from the Town's General Fund to cover budget shortfalls. Mr. Kozlowski indicated the Water Department now owes approximately \$1.5 million to the General Fund. The draft report presented several possible rate scenarios for the next five years; however, the projected water rate increases in the report are insufficient, as Mr. Woodcock's assumption of the amount of debt owed to the General Fund was roughly half of the amount owed. Mr. Woodcock will reformulate the proposed rate schedule, using the updated financial information, so that the debt can be retired in approximately five years and present this information to First Selectman Knickerbocker.

First Selectman Knickerbocker would like to see all financial reporting for water and sewer department prior to the commission voting on a rate increase. Mr. Kozlowski will have all financials for the next meeting.

Invoices:

Mr. Morosky submitted the three invoices from Martin Lawlor for Professional Services totaling a balance of \$1,915.89 which will be distributed among three different accounts: Water, Sewer, and Stony Hill Sewer project.

Mr. Morosky submitted an invoice from Pullman and Comley for Professional Services regarding the Water Storage Tank in the amount of \$2,767.40.

Mr. Morosky submitted two invoices from Heitkamp, Inc. for Professional Services totaling \$2,205.00.

Mr. Morosky submitted an invoice from Woodcock & Associates for Professional Services in the amount of \$3,120.00.

Selectman Straiton made a motion which was seconded by Commissioner Szatkowski to approve all invoices submitted to the commission totaling \$10,008.29. Vote All in Favor, Motion Unanimously Approved.

Adjourn: As there was no further business on the agenda Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 p.m. Vote: All in Favor, Motion Unanimously Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tracy Rogalski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tracy Rogalski, Recording Secretary