

RECEIVED

2024 JAN 30 A 11: 04

TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT.

TOWN OF BETHEL
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2024

GENERAL PURPOSE ROOM
7:00 PM

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Present: First Selectman Dan Carter, Town Counsel Melanie O'Brien, Comptroller Brad Heering, Town Clerk Lisa Bergh.

Call to Order: First Selectman, Dan Carter called the Special Town Meeting to order at 7:06 P.M. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Town Clerk, Lisa Bergh read the call (see attached).

Motion to accept the call made by John Lennon, the motion was seconded by Nick Ellis. Vote taken; motion accepted.

John Lennon made a motion to nominate Dan Carter as Moderator. The motion was seconded by Jay Streaman. Vote taken; motion accepted;

Nick Ellis made a motion to close nominations; the motion was seconded by Jay Streaman. Vote take, nominations closed.

John Lennon made a motion to approve Dan Carter as Moderator, the motion was seconded by Jay Streaman, Vote taken, Dan Carter is elected Moderator.

Resolution #1

Town Counsel Melanie O'Brien read Resolution #1 (see attached).

A motion to accept was made by John Lennon, the motion was seconded by Nick Ellis.

Discussion: Comptroller Heering explained that the 2023-2024 Park and Recreation budget was not budgeted correctly (see attached). If this

appropriation is not approved, then there will be no choice than to cut services.

Daniel Lebreque, 94 Nashville Road- asked if approved would it cover the expenses through June 30th?

Comptroller Heering replied yes, this covers to the end of this fiscal year.

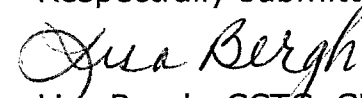
First Selectman Carter noted an email correspondence in favor of this appropriation by Mike and Kristin Flynn of 64 Ridgedale Road (see attached).

A vote was taken on the Resolution as presented; the motion was unanimously accepted.

As there was no further business to be had, a motion to adjourn was made by John Lennon, the motion was seconded by Nick Ellis. Vote taken; motion accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Lisa Bergh, CCTC, CMC
Bethel Town Clerk

**WARNING
NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
OF THE TOWN OF BETHEL, CONNECTICUT**



2024 JAN 22 P 3:44
TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT
RECEIVED

The Legal Voters of the Town of Bethel, Connecticut, and those persons entitled to vote therein, are notified to assemble at a Special Town Meeting to be held in the Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center – General Purpose Room, 1 School Street, Bethel, Connecticut 06801 on Monday, January 29, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. for the following purpose, to wit:

- 1.) To consider and take action upon a recommendation by the Bethel Board of Selectmen and approved by the Bethel Board of Finance that the Town of Bethel fund a special appropriation supplemental to that provided in the annual Parks and Recreation budget in the amount of \$319,000. Said funding shall be allocated from additional budgeted revenue sources, or other funding source(s) as recommended by the Town of Bethel Comptroller.
- 2.) To take any and all action legally necessary or appropriate to accomplish the above intended results.

Dated at Bethel, Connecticut, this 18th day of January, 2024.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Daniel E. Carter, First Selectman
Richard C. Straiton, Selectman
Bryan Terzian, Selectman

2024 JAN 29 A 8:16
TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT
RECEIVED

DRAFT 1/25/2024

**MOTIONS FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
GENERAL PURPOSE ROOM
CLIFFORD J. HURGIN MUNICIPAL CENTER
1 SCHOOL STREET, BETHEL, CONNECTICUT
JANUARY 29, 2024 at 7:00PM**

Shall the Town of Bethel, pursuant to the Charter of the Town of Bethel, as requested by the Parks and Recreation Commission, recommended by the Bethel Board of Selectmen and approved by the Bethel Board of Finance, fund a special appropriation supplemental to that provided in the annual Parks and Recreation budget, in the amount of \$319,000, to be allocated from additional budgeted revenue sources, or other funding source(s) as recommended by the Town of Bethel Comptroller?

Requested Adjustment to the 2023-2024 Budget

			Current Budget	Requested Adjustment	Adjusted Total
0110380	5101	SALARIES	936,158	50,000	986,158
0110380	5201	OFFICE EXPENSE	7,400	-	7,400
0110380	5206	MAINTENANCE & SUPPLIES	136,100	34,000	170,100
0110380	5301	DUE & EDUCATION	3,000	-	3,000
0110380	5308	CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	2,000	-	2,000
0110380	5313	CONTRACTED SERVICES	26,070	-	26,070
0110380	5315	PARK MAINT & REPAIR	50,500	-	50,500
0110380	5316	PROGRAMS	534,305	235,000	769,305
		Department Total	1,695,533	319,000	2,014,533

			Current Budget	Requested Adjustment	Adjusted Total
		Town Operating	29,681,165	319,000	30,000,165
		Debt Service	5,427,044	-	5,427,044
		Board of Education Maintenance	463,880	-	463,880
		Total Town Budget	35,572,089	319,000	35,891,089
		Board of Education	53,159,164	-	53,159,164
		Total Budget	88,731,253	319,000	89,050,253

Proposed Revenue Adjustment to the 2023-2024 Budget

			Current Budget	Proposed Adjustment	Adjusted Total
0110700	4705	Recreational Programs	750,000	190,000	940,000
0110750	4751	Interest	450,000	129,000	579,000

			Current Budget	Proposed Adjustment	Adjusted Total
		GENERAL TAX REVENUE	77,160,250	-	77,160,250
		LICENSES AND PERMITS	363,500	-	363,500
		INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	9,116,003	-	9,116,003
		CHARGES FOR SERVICES	1,610,500	190,000	1,800,500
		USE OF MONEY AND PROPERTY	480,000	129,000	609,000
		OTHER REVENUES	1,000	-	1,000
			88,731,253	319,000	89,050,253

BETHEL PARKS & RECREATION

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street, Bethel, CT 06801

Phone: 203-794-8531

Fax: 203-794-8592

January 16, 2024

Dear Board of Selectmen,

Due to a projected budgetary shortfall, the Commission respectfully requests an adjustment to the 2023-2024 budget for the Parks & Recreation Department in the amount of \$319,000 in additional funds. This sum will fund the Department through the end of the fiscal year without requiring the substantial program cuts which would otherwise be necessary. The \$319,000 consists of \$235,000 in program expenses, \$50,000 in salaries, and \$34,000 in maintenance and supplies.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Lou Valenti

Chairman

Bethel Parks and Recreation Commission

Dear First Selectman Carter, Selectman Straiton, Selectoman Terzian, and to whom else it may concern,

We are writing today in support of the special appropriation in supplemental support to be provided to the annual Parks & Recreation budget in the amount of \$319,000 to be allocated from additional budgeted revenue sources or other funding sources as recommended by the Town of Bethel Comptroller.

As parents of young children and homeowners in Bethel - we are proud to raise our children here. A small town that we have always found to be family-oriented - and a large part of that reason is because of the Parks & Recreation Department and the vast variety of programs that they offer for the youth in town. Two of our sons (currently age 7 and 5) have participated in a wide range of programs from the Mommy & Me classes to the Preschool Programs to Summer Camp and Sports Offerings. And, our youngest son (age 1) will participate as soon as he is eligible. We also recently attended their theater arts performance of Seussical the Musical and were blown away by the show! The Parks & Recreation programs are so much more than "recreational" programs, they are programs that working parents/caregivers in Bethel rely on, especially the preschool programs, summer camps, and before & after-school programs.

As youth development professionals who have dedicated their lives (over 25 years of experience each) to non-profit programs similar to the offerings of our Park & Recreation, we know firsthand the ins and outs of budgeting - and it's certainly not easy! The past couple of years (since 2020) have been unpredictable for us all but one thing has remained true, the demand for youth programs has increased and has never been more important. Studies conducted since the pandemic have determined that 84% of parents and caregivers are concerned about their child's social and emotional well-being and 55% expressed concern about their children spending time unsupervised. It is evident that youth programs are needed now more than ever before. We truly can not think of a better reason - or more important - to allocate additional town funds. We like to think of it as an investment into Bethel's future. We are confident that Rachel & her team will ensure that the budget moving forward will account for inflation and any additional unexpected expenses and fees.

We would be amiss if we didn't take a moment to praise the teachers of the Preschool classes Sharon DiBuono and Lisa Freebain. We are tough critics - as youth development professionals ourselves, how can you not be? Yet, we have nothing but amazing things to say about them both. Both of our older sons have grown up attending their Preschool Programs, and they have created a safe, loving, fun environment for the youngest members of the Bethel Community to grow and thrive. We could never thank them enough for the educational foundation they have laid for them. There is NO doubt that our youngest will attend their programs as soon as he is old enough. As a working parent, it means the world knowing that when you drop your child off every day, they are being loved and cared for in the same way you would. THOUSANDS of Bethel youth have been impacted by them — so many parents I met in Bethel have had children participate in programs run by "Miss Sharon" & "Miss Lisa." I know they would all be in support of them tonight - and always. We look forward to the day in which we can properly honor them for all they have contributed to the youth of Bethel.

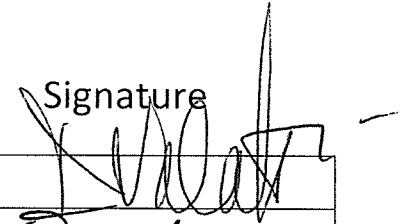
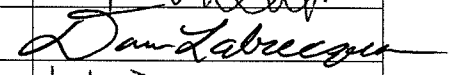

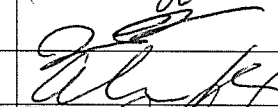

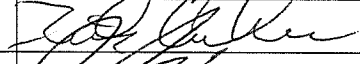
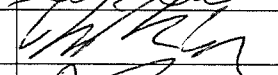
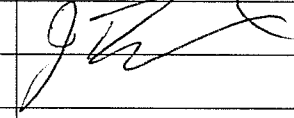
Thank you.
Sincerely yours,

Kristin & Mike Flynn
64 Ridgedale Road
Bethel

Bethel Special Town Meeting

January 29, 2024

Attendance

	Print Name	Address	Signature
✓	1 Dana Valent	4 Hay Rd	
✓	2 Daniel Labrecque	94 Nashville Rd	
✓	3 Mameen Dufazio	3 Karen Drive	
✓	4 Jon PHILIPS	9 FAWN RD	
✓	5 Alison Kennedy	13 Settlers Rd	
✓	6 Rick Courchene	10 Sky Edge Lane	
✓	7 Rick Ellis	13 Fawn rd	
✓	8 Jeffrey Pagelson	8 Settlers Rd	
	9		
	10		
	11		
	12		
	13		
	14		
	15		
	16		
	17		
	18		
	19		
	20		
	21		
	22		
	23		
	24		
	25		

Bethel Special Town Meeting

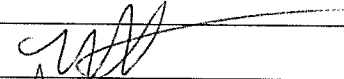
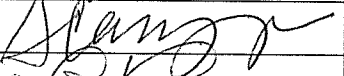

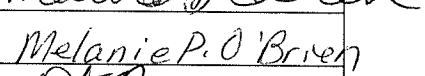

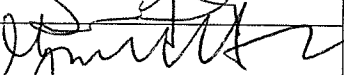
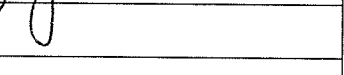

January 29, 2024

Attendance

Print Name

Address

Signature

Print Name	Address	Signature
1 Michael Moore	19 Garella Rd.	
2 Shannon Carrizzo	11 Lindberg St.	
3 Scott Carrizzo	11 LINDBERG ST.	
4 Maura Leaden	2 Wine Sap Run	
5 Melani O'Brien	12 Cross Hill Rd.	
6 T. Scott Perry	9 Settlers Road	
7 Sean Fesh	53 Apollo Rd	
8 Greg Henry	37 Taylor Rd	
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		