



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

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

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TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT

MINUTES OF SPECIAL JOINT MEETING with the Board of Finance

Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 7:00 pm - Hybrid Meeting
Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, Mtg Room A, 1 School St., Bethel, CT

Present:

First Selectman Dan Carter, Selectman Richard Straiton, and Selectman Bryan Terzian. Also in attendance were members of the Board of Finance, Comptroller Brad Heering and Assistant Comptroller Sebbie Preston

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

First Selectman Carter and Board of Finance Chair, Nick Ellis called the special meeting to order at 7:01pm and led the Boards in the Pledge of Allegiance

2024 - 2025 Department Budget Presentations:

10-330 – Registrars of Voters

Request \$156,275

Registrars of Voters, Tim Beeble and Wendy Cahill, presented the request and noted a 38.06% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-130 - Town Clerk

Request \$266,452

Town Clerk, Lisa Bergh, presented the request and noted a 4.61% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-150 - Tax Collector

Request \$232,982

Tax Collector, Paula Usher, presented the request and noted a 4.48% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-250 - Planning & Zoning

Request \$329,148

Planning and Zoning Director, Beth Cavagna, presented the request and noted a 20.24% increase. Discussion ensued.

20-180 - Building Inspector

Request \$356,482

Building Official, Chris Baldwin, presented the request and noted a 2.34% increase. Anticipated capital request in the amount of \$18,000 was also presented. Discussion ensued.

30-200 - Social Services

Request \$111,000

Social Services Director, Megan Alworth-Khazadian, presented the request and noted a 19.62% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-105 - Economic Development

Request \$88,077

Economic Development Director, Janice Chrzysjanek, presented the request. Comptroller Heering said this is the first year Economic Development is its own account and not under the Selectman account. Discussion ensued.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to take a five-minute recess starting at 8:07pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Meeting back in session at 8:15pm.

20-290 - Emergency Management

Request \$46,455

Emergency Management Director, Tom Galliford, presented the request and noted a 3.04% increase. Discussion ensued.

20-300 - Fire Marshal

Request \$114,234

Fire Marshal, Tom Galliford, presented the request and noted a 0.83% increase. Discussion ensued.

20-320 - Stony Hill Fire Department

Request \$197,450

Fire Commission chair, Fred Ingram, and Chief John Baker, presented the request and noted a 11.36% increase. A capital request in the amount of \$1,730,826 was also presented. Discussion ensued.

20-310 - Bethel Fire Department

Request \$217,142

Fire Commission chair, Fred Ingram, and Chief Chris McCollam, presented the request and noted a 7.30% increase. A capital request in the amount of \$2,713,416 was also presented. Discussion ensued.

10-100 - Selectmen:

Request \$296,386

Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted a decrease of 11.24%. Discussion ensued.

10-110 - Treasurer:

Request \$5,500

Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted a 0% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-120 – Finance: **Request \$452,057**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 4.32%.
Discussion ensued.

10-160 - Legal / Professional Services: **Request \$306,180**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 10.86%.
Discussion ensued.

10-170 – Probate: **Request \$7,500**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 20.83%.
Discussion ensued.

10-190 - Data Processing: **Request \$429,538**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 2.52%.
Discussion ensued.

10-210 - Town Insurance: **Request \$1,370,371**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 1.28%.
Discussion ensued.

10-340 - Boards & Commissions: **Request \$68,600**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 0%.
Discussion ensued.

10-390 - Employee Benefits: **Request \$6,942,518**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 4.46%.
Discussion ensued.

10-405 - Intra Government Agencies: **Request \$649,659**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 34.49%.
Discussion ensued.

10-410 - Utilities & Other Charges: **Request \$3,053,208**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 6.20%.
Discussion ensued.

10-420 - Misc. Charges & Transfers: **Request \$850,400**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted a decrease of 21.53%.
Discussion ensued.

50-440 - Debt Service: **Request \$5,269,569**
Comptroller, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted a decrease of 2.90%.
Discussion ensued.

Adjourn:

Selectman Terzian made a motion to adjourn and 10:03pm, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Churchill

Mary Churchill
Recording Secretary