



# BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

Dan Carter, First Selectman  
Bryan Terzian, Selectman  
Richard C. Straiton, Selectman

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2024 MAY 23 A 10: 21

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 7:00 pm - Hybrid Meeting  
Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School St., Bethel, CT Meeting Room A

**Present:** First Selectman: Dan Carter, Selectman Bryan Terzian, Selectman Rich Straiton  
Also present, Town Counsel: Melanie O'Brien, Comptroller Brad Heering, Board of Finance chair: Nick Ellis, Parks and Recreation Director: Rachael McGrath, and Public Site and Building Commission chair: Nancy Ryan

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by First Selectman Carter.

**Public Comments:** None

**Correspondence:** None

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to move the agenda item *Consideration of using ARPA funds in the amount of \$225,000. toward the replacement of the tennis courts behind Bethel High School* to the next item on the agenda. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

### **Consideration of using ARPA funds in the amount of \$225,000. toward the replacement of the tennis courts behind Bethel High School:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve \$225,000. from ARPA funds toward the repair of the tennis courts behind Bethel High School. Parks and Recreation Director, Rachael McGrath gave an overview of three quotes that were received. Discussion ensued. Motion tabled.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to add to the agenda: a bid waiver for the replacement of the tennis courts behind Bethel High School. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of a bid waiver for the replacement of the tennis courts behind Bethel High School:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to waive the bids for the replacement of the tennis courts behind Bethel High School. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

First Selectman Carter returned to the motion that was tabled: Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve \$225,000. from ARPA funds toward the repair of the tennis courts behind Bethel High School. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to the agenda: consideration of recommending to the Board of Finance to use \$253,941.22 from CNR to finance the balance of the total of \$478,941.22 to replace the tennis courts behind Bethel High School. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of recommending to the Board of Finance to use \$253,941.22 from CNR to finance the balance of the total of \$478,941.22 to replace the tennis courts behind Bethel High School:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to recommend to the Board of Finance to use \$253,941.22 from CNR to finance the balance of the total of \$478,941.22 to replace the tennis courts behind Bethel High School. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to the agenda consideration of allowing the First Selectman, Dan Carter, to enter into a contract for the tennis courts and to take any other actions necessary to facilitate the project, pending Board of Finance approval of funds. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of allowing the First Selectman, Dan Carter, to enter into a contract for the tennis courts and to take any other actions necessary to facilitate the project, pending Board of Finance approval of funds:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to allow the First Selectman, Dan Carter, to enter into a contract for the tennis courts and to take any other actions necessary to facilitate the project, pending Board of Finance approval of funds. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Approval of minutes:**

**Consideration of approval of Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes from May 7, 2024:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on 5/7/2024 as written. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Reports:**

**First Selectman Carter's Report:**

- Looking into ways to stop speeding in town
- Animal Shelter needs to be addressed

- Recently had coffee with the seniors from the Senior Center. Among other things, seniors are concerned about tax relief for seniors, development in town, and traffic.

**Public Site and Building Commission Update:**

Chair, Nancy Ryan discussed:

- Johnson School and Rockwell School Renovations
- BHS HVAC upgrades
- Municipal Center Renovations-Locker Rooms
- Police Training Station Range

**Unfinished Business:**

**Continuation of discussion of Charter Revision:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to add to the discussion of Charter Revision, the appointment of the Charter Revision Commission. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to add to the agenda: consideration of recommendation of the modifications to the Charter Revision for 2024. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of the appointment of the Charter Revision Commission:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to appoint the following seven members to the Charter Revision Commission:

Joan Bradley	Karen Foster
Tim Beeble	Alice Hutchinson
John Lennon	Penny Kessler
Patrick Daubert	

Discussion ensued. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of recommendation of the modifications to the Charter Revision for 2024:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to recommend to the Charter Review Commission the draft of proposed modifications to the Charter as discussed by the Board of Selectmen. Discussion ensued regarding the Fire Commission. First Selectman Carter amended his motion, which was seconded by Selectman Terzian, to add to the recommendations that the Fire Commission have two of the seven members be residents of Bethel and current firefighters employed outside of Bethel or former firefighters, who cannot serve as chair. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of modifications to Deferral of Assessment Increases Ordinance, Chapter 98 Article 8**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to table this agenda item. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of modifications to Solid Waste Ordinance**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to table this agenda item. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of repeal of Dumpster Ordinance:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to table this agenda item. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**New Business:**

**Consideration of Town Insurance and possible bid waiver:**

Comptroller Heering reviewed current and proposed pricing if our contract with CIRMA (our current insurance company who provides Worker's Comp and LAP coverage) is renewed. Comptroller Heering recommended we accept the terms of the renewal contract with CIRMA. Discussion ensued. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to waive the bid for the Liability, Auto, and Property (LAP) coverage. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to allow the First Selectman, Dan Carter, to enter into a contract with CIRMA and to take any other actions necessary to facilitate the contract. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of approval of Homeland Security Grant Program Resolution:**

First Selectman Carter read the following into the record:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen may enter into with and deliver to the **State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security** any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Daniel E. Carter, as First Selectman of the Town of Bethel, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the resolution as presented. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of approving \$75,000. from ARPA funds for the Paramedic program:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the use of \$75,000. from the ARPA funds for the paramedic program. Discussion ensued. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of approving \$30,000. from ARPA funds for repairs to Stony Hill Fire Department's Day Room and Community Room:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve an amount, not to exceed \$30,000. from ARPA funds to repair Stony Hill Fire Department's Day Room and Community Room. Discussion ensued. First Selectman Carter amended his motion, which was seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve \$27,500. from ARPA funds for the project. Discussion ensued. Vote: Selectman Straiton opposed, First Selectman Carter and Selectman Terzian in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of approving an amount not to exceed \$70,000. from ARPA funds to replace the Animal Control Officer's vehicle:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve an amount, not to exceed \$70,000. from ARPA funds for the Animal Control Officer's vehicle. Discussion ensued. Vote: Selectman Straiton opposed, First Selectman Carter and Selectman Terzian in favor. Motion carries.

**Consideration of tax refunds in the amount of \$13,246.83 due to overpayment of taxes:**

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$13,246.83 due to overpayment of taxes. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

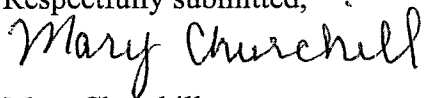
**Consideration and discussion of purchase of 159 Greenwood Avenue. Executive Session Expected:**

First Selectman Carter made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to go into Executive Session at 8:50pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries. Invited into Executive Session were: Town Counsel O'Brien, Comptroller Heering, Board of Finance chair: Nick Ellis, and Mary Churchill.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to go out of Executive Session at 9:28pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adjourn the meeting at 9:28pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Churchill  
Recording Secretary