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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, October 15, 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 Rich Straiton, and Selectman Bryan Terzian
Also present: Town Counsel: Melanie O'Brien

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

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: None

Approval of minutes:

Consideration of approval of Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes from September 3, 2024:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the minutes from 9/3/2024, as written. Vote, Selectman Straiton abstained, the other two votes were in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval of Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes from October 1, 2024:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the minutes from 10/1/2024, as written. Vote, Selectman Terzian abstained, the other two votes were in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval of Board of Selectmen special meeting minutes from October 7, 2024:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the minutes from 10/7/2024, as written. Vote, Selectman Straiton abstained, the other two votes were in favor. Motion carries.

Reports:

First Selectman's Report:

- Parloa Park: Hopefully we will be getting money from the State of CT. It is on the State's bonding agenda for a vote on 10/22/2024.
- The Charter Revision Commission met on 10/9/2024. Among the topics discussed were: the possibility of a 4-year term and/or a 5-member Board of Selectmen.
- A meeting was held on 10/8/2024 to get public input on the TOD, parking, and mobility.

Old Business: None

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to the agenda, consideration of approval of Inlands Wetlands request for a survey of wetlands at 9 Putnam Park Road. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to the agenda, consideration of approval of installation of five Electric Vehicle chargers in Town. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

New Business:

Consideration of approval of tax refunds in the amount of $8,459.97 due to the overpayment of taxes:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the tax refunds in the amount of $8,459.97 due to overpayment of taxes. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of appointment of attorney for property tax appeal:

Town Counsel O'Brien updated the Board as to the current situation. The attorneys will be setting up a meeting to give the taxpayer an opportunity to share information. If it moves forward, the special counsel should be in place. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to appoint Owen T. Weaver of Marino, Zabel, & Schellenberg, PLLC for the tax appeal issue on 25 Henry Street. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval of refuse and recycling bid:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to accept the recommendation of the Procurement Committee for the bid for Refuse and Recycling to Oak Ridge. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Discussion of Wells Fargo property Executive Session Anticipated:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to enter into Executive Session at 7:13pm and invite in Town Counsel O'Brien and Recording Secretary, Mary Churchill. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to come out of Executive Session at 7:23pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

First Selectman Carter stated no votes were taken in Executive Session.

Consideration of approval of Inlands Wetlands request for a survey of wetlands at 9 Putnam Park Road:
Town Counsel O'Brien updated the Board as to why this request was before them. Discussion ensued. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to table this agenda item until the next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen on November 5, 2024. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval of installation of five Electric Vehicle chargers in Town:
The Economic Development Director has been in discussions with Titan Energy and QiOn, with a R&D and Assembly Line in Bethel, regarding EV chargers. Five sites have been identified in Bethel as potential spots for EV Chargers: the Municipal Center, the Library, the train station, the old train station, and Bethel High School. There are currently project incentives to reduce the expected outlay of funds for the Town. Discussion ensued. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to allow First Selectman Daniel E. Carter to negotiate and enter into agreements for 5 EV charging stations in Town with approval of the final agreement by the Town attorney. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Selectman Straiton, and seconded by Selectman Terzian to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Churchill

Mary Churchill
Recording Secretary