



BOARD OF FINANCE

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

MINUTES OF SPECIAL JOINT MEETING with the Board of Selectmen

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 7:00 pm - Hybrid Meeting
Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, Mtg Room A, 1 School St., Bethel, CT

TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT

2026 FEB 11 A 11: 04

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Present:

Chair Pat Cosentino, Karen Foster, Jessica Ferguson, James Keene, Will Duff, Nick Ellis, and Cynthia McCorkindale. Also in attendance were all members of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Director Brad Heering, and Assistant Finance Director Sebbie Preston.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

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

2026 - 2027 Department Budget Presentations:

30-200 - Social Services

Request \$128,670

Social Services Director, Megan Alworth-Khazadian, presented the request and noted a 11.16% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-430 Senior Center

Request \$270,816

Senior Center Director, Lisa Plumb, presented the request and noted a 1.94% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-380 - Parks and Recreation

Request \$2,265,418

Parks and Recreation Director, Rachael McGrath, presented the request and noted a 3.33% increase. Discussion ensued.

Consideration of approval of a replacement Ventrac SSV (Sidewalk Snow Vehicle) for the Parks and Recreation Department in an amount not to exceed \$30,500. from CNR:

Parks and Recreation Director, Rachael McGrath, gave an overview of the request. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Nick Ellis, and seconded by Cynthia McCorkindale,

to approve an amount, not to exceed \$30,500., from CNR for the purchase of a Ventrac SSV. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

10-330 Registrar of Voters

Request \$150,800

Registrar of Voters Tim Beeble and Wendy Cahill, presented the request and noted a 3.19% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-130 Town Clerk

Request \$287,156

Town Clerk, Lisa Bergh, presented the request and noted a 6.17% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-140 Tax Assessor

Request \$292,862

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted a 3.65% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-150 Tax Collector

Request \$249,730

Tax Collector, Paula Usher, presented the request and noted a 3.42% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-105 - Economic Development

Request \$93,580

Economic Development Director, Janice Chrzescijanek, presented the request and noted a 2.84% increase. Discussion ensued.

20-290 - Emergency Management

Request \$47,350

Emergency Management Director, Tom Galliford, presented the request and noted a 3.07% increase. Discussion ensued.

20-300 - Fire Marshal

Request \$168,500

Fire Marshal, Tom Galliford, presented the request and noted a 30.50% increase. Discussion ensued.

20-310 - Bethel Fire Department

Request \$231,867

Chief Bill McAllister presented the request and noted a 7.59% increase. Discussion ensued.

20-320 - Stony Hill Fire Department

Request \$238,850

Chief Doug Evanuska presented the request and noted a 11.20% increase. Discussion ensued.

10-100 - Selectmen:

Request \$336,115

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 4.61%. Discussion ensued.

10-110 – Treasurer:

Request \$5,500

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

10-120 – Finance:

Request \$490,184

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 2.72%.
Discussion ensued.

10-160 - Legal / Professional Services:

Request \$431,180

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 17.75%.
Discussion ensued.

10-170 – Probate:

Request \$8,000

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 0%.
Discussion ensued.

10-210 - Town Insurance:

Request \$1,334,816

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 3.05%.
Discussion ensued.

10-340 - Boards & Commissions:

Request \$55,600

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted a decrease of 12.58%.
Discussion ensued.

10-390 - Employee Benefits:

Request \$7,512,369

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 3.79%.
Discussion ensued.

10-405 - Intra Government Agencies:

Request \$681,043

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 4.31%.
Discussion ensued.

10-410 - Utilities & Other Charges:

Request \$3,719,417

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted an increase of 3.29%.
Discussion ensued.

10-420 - Misc. Charges & Transfers:

Request \$1,303,574

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted a decrease of 5.45%.
Discussion ensued.

50-440 - Debt Service:

Request \$4,958,900

Finance Director, Brad Heering, presented the request and noted a decrease of 0.87%.
Discussion ensued.

Consideration of approval of Board of Finance regular meeting minutes from 1/13/2026:

Motion made by James Keene, and seconded by Will Duff, to approve the BOF minutes from 1/13/2026, as written. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Finance Director's Report:

Motion made by Nick Ellis, and seconded by Will Duff, to accept the Finance Director's report. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Discussion of 159 Greenwood Avenue Executive Session Anticipated

Motion made by Pat Cosentino, and seconded by Will Duff, to table this agenda item. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Adjourn:

Pat Cosentino made a motion to adjourn and 9:58pm, which was seconded by Will Duff. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Churchill
Recording Secretary