BOARD OF FINANCE

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

RECEIVED
2026 FEB 11 A 11:04
TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT

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

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 Cynthis 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

Mary Churchill
Recording Secretary