



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

TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT.

2025 JAN 23 A 9:14

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, January 21, 2025 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, and Selectman Rich Straiton. Town Counsel Melanie O'Brien was also present.

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm by First Selectman Carter

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: email from a resident regarding early morning trash pick-up times

Approval of minutes:

Consideration of approval of Board of Selectmen special meeting minutes from January 2, 2025:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the special meeting minutes from 1/2/2025, as written. Vote: Selectman Straiton abstained, First Selectman Carter and Selectman Terzian in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval of Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes from January 7, 2025:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the regular meeting minutes from 1/7/2025, as written. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Reports:

First Selectman's Report:

- Bethel Historical Society approached the First Selectman to see if the Town would be interested in taking over the building on Main Street
- Police contract negotiations will be underway soon. The First Selectman met with the new union representative.

- Preliminary research has been done to see if moving toward a Health District would be good for the Town. At this point, it does not look like a good move for the Town.
- Both boilers at BMS had problems today but were resolved. The leak at BHS has been fixed.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to add to the agenda: Consideration of agreement to settle lawsuit Snowfield, LLC v. Heirs and/or Assigns Creditors of the Estate of Emil Garella et al. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Consideration of agreement to settle lawsuit Snowfield, LLC v. Heirs and/or Assigns Creditors of the Estate of Emil Garella et al :

Town Counsel Melanie O'Brien gave an overview of the situation. Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to accept the settlement in the case of Snowfield LLC v. Heirs and/or creditors of the Estate of Emil Garella et als. and the Town of Bethel, Docket No. CV-24-6051605-S, as presented, subject however to an 8-24 referral report from P & Z without objection. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to authorize Daniel E. Carter, First Selectman, to execute any documents reasonably necessary to effect the intent of the motion. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Presentation by Commission on Aging regarding property tax relief for Senior Citizens living in Bethel:

Diane Golden, Chair of the Commission on Aging, gave a PowerPoint presentation titled, "Senior Property Tax Benefit Proposal." Several other members of the Commission were present and discussion ensued regarding the proposal. The next step is for the First Selectman to discuss the proposal with the Comptroller and get back to the Commission.

Consideration of recommendation from the Fire Commission regarding changing tax abatement provisions for firefighters:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table this agenda item until the next meeting on 2/4/2025. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of appointments to Boards and/or Commissions:

Motion made by Selectman Straiton, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to appoint Chief William McAllister to the Emergency Medical Services Commission who will be entitled to Commission membership so long as he is Chief of the Bethel Volunteer Fire Department. (Seat 2) Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint Thomas Cardillo to the Public Site and Building Committee to fill the vacancy created by John Perna for a term ending on 1/4/2027. (Seat 2) Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint Edward Tomasko, Jr to the Economic Development Commission to fill the vacancy created by Michael Boyle (Seat 7). Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint Peter Holmberg to the Board of Fire Commission to fill the vacancy created by Anthony Rubino for a term ending on 12/2/2027. (Seat 2) Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of tax refunds in the amount of \$935.29 due to overpayment of taxes:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$935.29 due to overpayment of taxes. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval to accept a grant from the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for costs related to supporting all-hazards emergency management mission areas:

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

Consideration of approval of recommendation of the Procurement Committee for Bid Award #2025-004: Commissioning Services for the BHS HVAC Mechanical Upgrades to Sustainable Engineering Solutions, LLC :

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table this agenda item until more bid information is available. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of possible property acquisitions, leases, and/or agreements in regard to Wells Fargo and Stony Hill Preserve Executive Session Anticipated

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to enter into Executive Session at 8:18pm and invite in Town Counsel Melanie 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 exit Executive Session at 8:50pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries. No action necessary at this time.

Adjourn:

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton to adjourn the meeting at 8:51pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Churchill
Recording Secretary