



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

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

RECEIVED
2024 APR -3 P 3:21
TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 2, 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, Parks and Recreation Director: Rachael McGrath
in-person. Planning and Zoning Director: Beth Cavagna (joined via Goggle Meet)

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

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: *review of FOI policy which was read into the record by First Selectman Carter
* letter from the Park/Rec. Commission

Approval of minutes:

Consideration of approval of Board of Selectmen special meeting minutes from March 20, 2024:

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the minutes of the special meeting on 3/20/2024 as written. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Reports:

First Selectman Carter did not give a report due to the length of the agenda.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to add to the agenda, under Unfinished Business, an Executive Session for discussion of 159 Greenwood Avenue property. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to add to the agenda, under Unfinished Business, consideration to allow the First Selectman to do any due diligence required to secure an offer for 159 Greenwood Avenue. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to the agenda under New Business, consideration of Benedict Road easement. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to the agenda under New Business, consideration of approval of Field Maintenance Account for Park and Recreation. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to the agenda under New Business, conveyance of property on Benedict Road. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Unfinished Business:

Consideration of appointments to Boards and Commissions including but not limited to:

Ethics Commission- resignation of member (R)

Fire Commission-currently 4 members, should be 5 (“U” resigned)

Planning and Zoning Alternate- alternate moved to full seat when vacancy arose(R):

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to appoint Tom Smith to the Fire Commission. Discussion ensued. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to add to the agenda an appointment to the Board of Education due to a resignation. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to appoint Anthony J. Cassio to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education due to the resignation of Jenn Lewis. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Executive Session for discussion of 159 Greenwood Avenue property:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to move the Executive Session to the end of the meeting. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

New Business:

Consideration of creating a Bethel Service Award for non-elected volunteers for outstanding service to the Town of Bethel:

First Selectman Carter gave an overview of where the idea of a Bethel Service Award came from and put together a Community Service Proposal which the Board of Selectmen received. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table this agenda item. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Discussion of Charter Revision:

First Selectman Carter reviewed the process of appointing a Charter Revision Committee and giving the committee some items to consider for revision. The Draft Proposed Modifications to Charter, 2024 document was partially reviewed and discussed by the Board of Selectmen. The Board decided to resume discussion of the remaining items in the document at the next regular meeting on 4/16/2024.

New Business:

Consideration of delegation of authority to the First Selectman for approval of legal counsel to the Planning and Zoning and Inland Wetlands Commissions:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to delegate authority to the First Selectman for approval of legal counsel for the Planning and Zoning and Inland Wetlands Commissions upon the recommendation of Town Counsel and with subsequent notification to the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of Benedict Road easements:

Town Counsel, Melanie O'Brien, gave an overview of this item. A small piece of Benedict Road encroaches on private party. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the conveyance to the Town of Bethel that portion of property on Benedict Road as shown on the survey depicting Parcel "Z" to be conveyed for roadway purposes dated September 25, 2023 and filed in the Bethel Land Records at File 28, Map 181, subject to Town Counsel approval of conveyance documentation. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of formalizing three undocumented sanitary sewer easements, and infrastructure contained therein, in the Stony Hill Road, Old Field Drive, and Millbrook Road area:

Town Counsel, Melanie O'Brien, gave an overview of this item. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve, subject to Public Utilities Commission approval, sanitary sewer easements as shown on survey depicting sanitary sewer easements A,B, and C dated January 26, 2024, and to authorize Town Counsel to prepare the appropriate and customary documentation for this purpose. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval of Field Maintenance Account for Park and Recreation:

Parks and Recreation Director, Rachael McGrath explained the request for a separate account. A \$25.00 player fee has been added for all groups that utilize the Bethel athletic fields. Of the \$25.00, \$10.00 would be put in the Turf Replacement Fund account, which has already been established, and \$15.00 would be put in the Field Maintenance account, if approved. The Field Maintenance account would be for unplanned expenses that were not in the budget. Discussion ensued. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to create a Field Maintenance account for Parks and Recreation and the fees and approval are subject to the Board of Finance approval. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

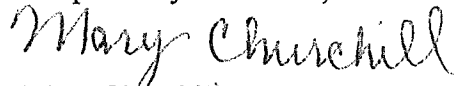
Consideration to allow the First Selectman to do any due diligence required to secure an offer for 159 Greenwood Avenue:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to allow the First Selectman to secure a broker and do any due diligence with regard to the purchase of 159 Greenwood Avenue. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

The full Board agreed to delay the Executive Session until the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Churchill".

Mary Churchill
Recording Secretary