



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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 7:00 pm - Hybrid Meeting

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School St., Bethel, CT Meeting Room A

Video/ Teleconference video link: <https://zoom.us/j/7360902790>

One tap mobile: 1.646.558.8656, 7360902790# US (New York)

Materials can be viewed at: <https://www.bethel-ct.gov/Zoom-Documents>

TOWN CLERK
BETHEL, CT.

2023 AUG -3 P 3:33

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Present: First Selectman: Dan Carter, Selectman Rich Straiton, and Selectman Bryan Terzian

Also present were: Town Counsel Martin Lawlor (via Zoom), Bob Dibble: Highway Superintendent, Eric Swenson: Director of Public Works (via Zoom), and Fire Chief (BVFD) Chris McCollam

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

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: None

First Selectman's Report: No report given

Motion made by Selectman Straiton, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to add to the agenda consideration of forwarding to the Board of Finance, the approval to purchase two chassis for the Highway Department. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to add to the agenda consideration of approval to appoint Charles Andres, Barclay Damon LLP to represent the Town of Bethel in the Board of Zoning Appeals case for 42 Nashville 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 an emergency easement. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to the agenda consideration of an ARPA request from the Bethel Volunteer Fire Department for \$1507.10 from the fire department allotted funds and \$3428.00 from the EMS allotted ARPA funds. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval of Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes of July 18, 2023:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2023 as written. Vote, all in favor. Motion Carries.

Continuation of consideration of approval of mobile license plate readers for the Bethel Police Department:

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to open the topic for discussion. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries. Town Counsel Lawlor reviewed the answers to questions that were posed by the Board. The mobile license plate readers would be considered personal property of the Town and would be covered as such under our insurance policy. Discussion ensued. One quote was to lease, the other to purchase, mobile license plate readers. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to forward to the Board of Finance a request to lease mobile license plate reader in the amount of \$4,889.00. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Continuation of discussion on meeting policies:

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table this discussion to another time. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval to allow Bethel's Health Director to receive and implement the CT DPH Immunization Grant in the total amount of \$47,516. :

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to allow Bethel's Health Director to receive and implement the CT DPH Immunization Grant in the total amount of \$47,516. Discussion ensued. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval of resolution to change the Defined Benefit Plan for Classified Employees of the Town of Bethel to whom it applies: change 35 years of contributions to 37 years of service:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to discuss the aforementioned resolution. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adopt the resolution. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries. First Selectman Carter read the resolution into the record:

WHEREAS, the Retirement Plan for Employees of the Town of Bethel (the "Town Employee Plan") requires non-union employees in Classified Service who are active participants (the "Non-Union Participants") to contribute six (6%) percent of base pay; and

WHEREAS, the Non-Union Participants' obligation to make mandatory employee contributions to the Town Employee Plan does not cease until the participant has made thirty-five (35) years of contributions; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to collective bargaining, effective June 7, 2023, mandatory employee contributions for members of Local 1303-188 (Highway Department) cease once a member has accrued thirty-seven (37) Years of Credited Service under the Town Employee Plan; and

WHEREAS, the First Selectman has recommended that Non-Union Participants be provided a similar cap on mandatory employee contributions to the Town Employee Plan;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT:

RESOLVED, that the Retirement Plan for Employees of the Town of Bethel be amended effective on the date of this Resolution to permit Non-Union Participant mandatory employee contributions to cease upon the completion of thirty-seven (37) Years of Credited Service; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that all action deemed appropriate and recommended by counsel to the Town to effectuate the foregoing resolution, including, but not limited to the execution of any further plan amendments, or other documents as may be necessary or advisable to effectuate the foregoing resolution is hereby authorized.

Consideration of forwarding to the Board of Finance, the approval to purchase two chassis for the Highway Department:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to recommend to the Board of Finance to purchase two chassis for the Highway Department from CNR in the amount of \$257,273. Discussion ensued as to whether the funds came from ARPA or CNR. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table the discussion while the Recording Secretary looked up minutes from previous meetings to determine the account from which the funds were approved. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of approval of an emergency easement:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to accept an emergency access easement for 49 Starr Lane. Discussion ensued. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of an ARPA request from the Bethel Volunteer Fire Department for \$1507.10 from the fire department allotted funds and \$3428.00 from the EMS allotted ARPA funds:

Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to open the topic for discussion. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries. Chief McCollam explained the request. Discussion ensued. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to recommend to the Board of Finance to fund the replacement rope equipment in the amount of \$1507.10 out of CNR. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Selectman Straiton, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the clothing allotment request of \$3428. from the EMS account of the BVFD ARPA funds. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

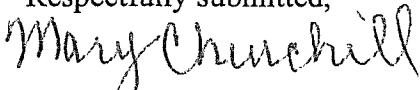
Motion was made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to take from the table the **Consideration of forwarding to the Board of Finance, the approval to purchase two chassis for the Highway Department.** Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

First Selectman Carter read from the Board of Selectman minutes from their regular meeting minutes on , *“Motion made by Acting First Selectman Straiton, and seconded by Selectman Terzian, to forward to the Board of Finance for approval, \$365,000.00 to purchase one chassis and one loader from CNR fund.”* First Selectman Carter made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton , to recommend to the Board of Finance to purchase 2 chassis from the CNR fund in the amount of \$257,273. First Selectman Carter amended the motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton , to recommend to the Board of Finance to purchase two complete chassis and body packages in the amount of \$257,273. from CNR. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Consideration of appointment of Charles Andres, Barclay Damon, LLP to represent the Town of Bethel in the Board of Zoning Appeals case for 42 Nashville Road. Motion made by First Selectman Carter, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint Charles Andres, Barclay Damon, LLP to represent the Town of Bethel in the Board of Zoning Appeals case for 42 Nashville Road. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Selectman Terzian, and seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adjourn the meeting at 7:38pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Churchill
Recording Secretary