



# BOARD OF FINANCE

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

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, February 18, 2015  
7:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room "A"

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TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**PRESENT:** Bruce Cornwell, Chairman, William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, and Timothy Draper. Also in attendance were members of the Board of Selectmen, Comptroller Robert Kozlowski and Assistant Comptroller Brad Heering.

Bruce Cornwell called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Department Budget Presentations

**380 - Parks & Recreation                      Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request    \$957,572**

Megan O'Connor, Parks & Recreation Chairman and Eileen Earle, Director of Parks & Recreation presented the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget request in the amount of \$957,572. They noted an increase to the part-time salary accounts and programs to reflect the increase in minimum wage. It was also pointed out that they have increased the program fees to generate additional revenues and are exploring options to charge fees for various specialty events, like the sporting tournaments and increase rental fees as well. Larger ticket items are not included in the departmental request and will be requested under the capital account.

**435 – Library                                      Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request            \$842,875**

Tia Murphy, Chairman of the Library Board of Directors and Lynn Rosato, Librarian presented the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget request in the amount of \$842,875. Among the highlights of their request is the reclassification of two existing positions, Network Administrator and Library Assistant. They noted that they completed a salary survey and reviewed data for comparable positions. Included is the request to replace their server, which is at the end of its life cycle

and purchase a Raspberry PI system which will replace 3 of the oldest computers. A new system for self-checkout has been requested; this will help with staffing needs and assist the public in checking out.

**Consideration of recommendation from the Board of Selectmen to consider a language change to permit the use of BONDS/BANS to fund the Ameresco project.**

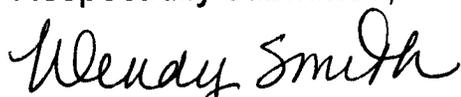
Comptroller Robert Kozlowski explained that there may be an opportunity to bond the Ameresco project instead of leasing as originally thought. This could prove to save interest costs over a 15 year period. A Special Town Meeting would be required since the wording on the referendum ballot stipulated a lease.

The Board of Selectmen approved a motion to recommend to the Board of Finance, a wording change to allow for a BOND opportunity (versus leasing) with the Ameresco project.

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to concur with the Board of Selectmen recommendation to permit the wording change to allow for a BOND opportunity with the Ameresco project. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to adjourn the Special Meeting at 8:15 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary