



BOARD OF FINANCE

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

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, March 2, 2015

6:30 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

RECEIVED

2015 MAR -5 A 11: 33

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

PRESENT: Bruce Cornwell, Chairman, William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Also in attendance were First Selectman Knickerbocker, Comptroller Robert Kozlowski and Assistant Comptroller Brad Heering.

Presentation of Board of Selectmen recommended Capital Items

First Selectman Knickerbocker presented the Board of Selectmen recommendations for capital items as follows:

Assessor	Revaluation	\$50,000
Planning & Zoning	Plan of Development	\$50,000
Fleet Maintenance	Gasboy Fuel System	\$20,000
Highway Department	Road Construction	\$1,038,808
Highway Department	Backhoe / Loader	\$118,000
Highway Department	42,000 GVW Truck	\$170,000
Highway Department	Funnel Plows (2)	\$15,000
Board of Education	Berry School Parking Lot	\$150,000
Building Maintenance	PW Garage Structural Repairs	\$52,000
Building Maintenance	Paint Above Ground Storage Tank -PW Garage	\$14,000
Building Maintenance	High School Generator	\$285,000
Building Maintenance	Replace Truck 58-BL	\$35,000
Bethel Fire Dept.	SCBA Air Compressor	\$30,000
Stony Hill Fire Dept.	Thermal Image Camera	\$13,000
Library	Security Gates	\$3,395
Parks & Recreation	Cab Trailer	\$12,000
Parks & Recreation	Top Dresser	\$18,000
Parks & Recreation	Field Construction – Rubino property	\$30,000
Parks & Recreation	Downtown Benches, Garbage Cans	\$9,500
Parks & Recreation	Greenwood Avenue decorative streetlamps	\$12,500

TOTAL CAPITAL ITEMS **\$2,126,203**

Deliberation on Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budgets

100 Selectmen's Office	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$236,970
	BOS recommendation	\$236,970
	BOF recommendation	\$232,955

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to reduce Account 100-103 Secretary – Admin. Assistant by \$4,015, and fund Account 100 – Selectmen's Office at \$232,955. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Comptroller Robert Kozlowski had advised that 103 – Secretary could be reduced; previously two part-time employees at different salary levels were funded from this account, now there is only one part-time employee.

110 Treasurer	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$7,500
	BOS recommendation	\$7,500
	BOF recommendation	\$7,500

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to fund Account 110 – Treasurer at the Board of Selectmen recommended amount of \$7,500. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

120 Finance Dept.	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$409,382
	BOS recommendation	\$409,382
	BOF recommendation	\$403,608

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 102 – Finance Administrator by \$5,774 and fund Account 120 – Finance Department at \$403,608. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion. Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed. Some members felt that the increase was too high despite Comptroller Robert Kozlowski and First Selectman Knickerbocker's explanation of the increase in salary due to the increase in responsibilities.

130 Town Clerk	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$213,227
	BOS recommendation	\$213,227
	BOF recommendation	\$213,227

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 130 – Town Clerk at \$213,227. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

140 Assessor	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$209,696
	BOS recommendation	\$209,696
	BOF recommendation	\$209,696

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 140 – Assessor at the Board of Selectmen recommended amount of \$209,696. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

150 Tax Collector	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$196,745
	BOS recommendation	\$196,945
	BOF recommendation	\$192,345

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to reduce 201 – Office Expense by \$4,600 and fund Account 150 – Tax Collector at \$192,345. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Comptroller Robert Kozlowski advised that due to a change in the Motor Vehicle reporting statute for this year, funding is not required this year.

160 Professional Services	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$237,680
	BOS recommendation	\$237,680
	BOF recommendation	\$212,680

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Eileen Freebairn, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 160 – Professional Services at \$237,680.

Timothy Draper amended the motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to reduce 160-352 Legal Services by \$25,000 and fund Account 160 – Professional Services at \$212,680. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion. Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

170 Probate Office	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$4,966
	BOS recommendation	\$4,966
	BOF recommendation	\$4,966

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 170 – Probate Office at \$4,966. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

180 Building Inspection	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$214,979
	BOS recommendation	\$214,979
	BOF recommendation	\$214,979

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 180 – Building Inspection at \$214,979. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

190 Data Processing	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$264,552
	BOS recommendation	\$264,552
	BOF recommendation	\$264,552

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Eileen Freebairn, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 190 – Data Processing at \$264,552. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

200 Social Services	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$34,500
	BOS recommendation	\$34,500
	BOF recommendation	\$34,500

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 200 – Social Services at \$34,500. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

210 Town Insurance	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$1,162,537
	BOS recommendation	\$1,162,537
	BOF recommendation	\$1,162,537

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 210 – Town Insurance at \$1,162,537. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

220 Fleet Maintenance	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$359,096
	BOS recommendation	\$359,096
	BOF recommendation	\$350,000

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to reduce 220-206 Equipment & Supplies by \$9,096 and fund Account 220 – Fleet Maintenance at

\$350,000. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion. Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

230 Public Works	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$310,542
	BOS recommendation	\$279,595
	BOF recommendation	\$279,595

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 230 – Public Works at \$279,595.

William Kingston amended the motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 230-104 Civil Engineer by \$57,275 and increase 230-313 Contracted Services by \$57,275. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Bruce Cornwell and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion. Timothy Draper. Motion passed. This provides for funding for professional services for the time being and if it is determined that the town would be better served by hiring for a civil engineer, the funding would be in place.

240 Highway Department	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$1,346,248
	BOS recommendation	\$1,357,248
	BOF recommendation	\$1,357,248

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Claudia Stephan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 240 – Highway Department at \$1,357,248. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Bruce Cornwell and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion. Gary Regan. Motion passed.

250 Planning & Zoning	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$223,636
	BOS recommendation	\$223,636
	BOF recommendation	\$223,636

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 250 – Planning & Zoning at \$223,636. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

260 Building Maintenance	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$698,413
	BOS recommendation	\$698,413
	BOF recommendation	\$698,413

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by Eileen Freebairn, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 260 – Building Maintenance at \$698,413. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

270 Tree Warden	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$94,400
	BOS recommendation	\$94,400
	BOF recommendation	\$90,400

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by Claudia Stephan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 270 – Tree Warden at \$94,400.

Timothy Draper amended the motion which was seconded by William Kingston, to reduce 270-314 Streetscape Tree Maintenance by \$9,000 and increase 270-313 Contracted Services by \$5,000 to fund Account 270 – Tree Warden at \$90,400. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion. Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

290 Emergency Management	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$27,250
	BOS recommendation	\$27,250
	BOF recommendation	\$27,250

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 290 – Emergency Management at \$27,250. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

300 Fire Marshal	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$90,968
	BOS recommendation	\$90,968
	BOF recommendation	\$90,968

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 300 – Fire Marshal at \$90,968. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

310 Bethel Fire Department	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$219,675
	BOS recommendation	\$176,675
	BOF recommendation	\$176,675

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 310 – Bethel Fire Department at \$176,675. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Bruce Cornwell recused himself from voting.

320 Stony Hill Fire Department	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$147,250
	BOS recommendation	\$128,750
	BOF recommendation	\$128,750

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 320 – Stony Hill Fire Department at \$128,750. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

330 Registrar of Voters	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$108,786
	BOS recommendation	\$108,786
	BOF recommendation	\$108,786

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Eileen Freebairn, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 330 – Registrar of Voters at \$108,786. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

340 Town Boards & Comm.	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$113,350
	BOS recommendation	\$113,350
	BOF recommendation	\$113,350

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 340 – Town Boards and Commissions at \$113,350. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

350 Health Department	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$289,545
	BOS recommendation	\$284,545
	BOF recommendation	\$284,545

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 350 – Health Department at \$284,545. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

360 Police Department	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$4,189,366
	BOS recommendation	\$4,189,366
	BOF recommendation	\$4,189,366

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 360 – Police Department at \$4,189,366. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

380 Parks & Recreation	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$957,572
	BOS recommendation	\$947,572
	BOF recommendation	\$947,572

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 380 – Parks & Recreation at \$947,572.

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to reduce 380-105 Part Time Salary by \$2,500. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Bruce Cornwell and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion. Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, and Claudia Stephan. Gary Regan recused himself. Motion fails.

Voting in favor of original motion to fund 380 – Parks & Recreation at \$947,572 was William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and Bruce Cornwell. Voting against the motion. Timothy Draper. Gary Regan recused himself. Motion passed.

390 Employee Benefits	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$6,649,543
	BOS recommendation	\$6,649,543
	BOF recommendation	\$6,649,543

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Eileen Freebairn, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 390 – Employee Benefits at \$6,649,543. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

400 Non Govt. Agency Subsidies	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$34,588
	BOS recommendation	\$17,369
	BOF recommendation	\$-0-

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce Account 400 – Non Government Agency Subsidies at -0-. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion. Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

William Kingston noted that he proposed this motion to reduce the account to zero as he awaits information on his proposal to include a contribution/check-off box on motor vehicle tax bills and advised that if there is no new information, he would reluctantly support reinstatement of funds after the public hearing.

405 Intra Govt. Subsidies	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$442,840
	BOS recommendation	\$422,840
	BOF recommendation	\$422,840

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Eileen Freebairn, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 405 – Intra Government Subsidies at \$422,840. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Patricia Smithwick recused herself from voting.

410 Utilities, Charges & Services	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$2,405,362
	BOS recommendation	\$2,405,362
	BOF recommendation	\$2,405,362

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 410 – Utilities, Charges & Services at \$2,405,362. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

420 Misc. Charges & Transfers	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$543,390
	BOS recommendation	\$543,390
	BOF recommendation	\$540,890

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 420 – Misc. Charges & Transfers at \$540,890.

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to reduce 420-403 Capital Equipment by \$2,500 and fund the account at \$540,890. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion. Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

430 Senior Center	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$187,061
	BOS recommendation	\$187,061
	BOF recommendation	\$176,671

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to reduce 430-105 Asst. Center Director by \$10,390 (retains part-time status) and fund Account 430 – Senior Center at \$176,671. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Bruce Cornwell and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion. Gary Regan. Motion passed.

435 Library	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$854,486
	BOS recommendation	\$834,692
	BOF recommendation	\$834,692

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by Eileen Freebairn, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 435- Library at \$834,692. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Bruce Cornwell and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion. Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

440 Debt Service	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$3,871,613
	BOS recommendation	\$3,871,613
	BOF recommendation	\$3,871,613

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 440 – Debt Service at \$3,871,613. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

450 Board of Education	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$43,382,535
	BOS recommendation	\$43,382,535
	BOF recommendation	\$43,282,535

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce the Board of Selectmen recommendation by \$100,000 to fund Account 450 – Board of Education at \$43,282,535. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

460 BOE Maintenance	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$500,000
	BOS recommendation	\$500,000
	BOF recommendation	\$500,000

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation and fund Account 460 – Board of Education Maintenance at \$500,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to recommend a Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget of \$70,904,243 which includes the town operating budget of \$23,250,095, Debt Service of \$3,871,613, Board of Education maintenance of \$500,000 and a Board of Education budget of \$43,282,535. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

CAPITAL ITEMS

Assessor	Revaluation	\$50,000
-----------------	--------------------	-----------------

William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Bruce Cornwell, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion. Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

Building Maintenance PW Garage Structural Repairs \$52,000

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to recommend funding in the proposed capital items. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Building Maintenance Paint Storage Tank -PW Garage \$14,000

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to consider funding this from the Capital Non-recurring Account. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Building Maintenance High School Generator \$285,000

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by Claudia Stephan, to recommend funding in the proposed capital items. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Bruce Cornwell and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion. Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

Building Maintenance Replace Truck 58-BL \$35,000

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Bruce Cornwell, to recommend funding in the proposed capital items. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Bethel Fire Dept. SCBA Air Compressor \$30,000

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Bruce Cornwell, to consider funding this from the Capital Non-recurring Account. Voting in favor of the motion: William Kingston, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion. Timothy Draper. Bruce Cornwell recused himself from voting.

Stony Hill Fire Dept. Thermal Image Camera \$13,000

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to consider funding this from the Capital Non-recurring Account. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Library Security Gates \$3,395

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Eileen Freebairn, to consider funding this from the Capital Non-recurring Account. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Parks & Recreation Cab Trailer \$12,000

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by Claudia Stephan, to recommend funding in the proposed capital items. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Gary Regan recused himself from voting.

Parks & Recreation Top Dresser \$18,000

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to recommend funding in the proposed capital items. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Gary Regan recused himself from voting.

Parks & Recreation Field Construction – Rubino property \$30,000

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to recommend funding in the proposed capital items. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Gary Regan recused himself from voting.

Parks & Recreation Downtown Benches, Garbage Cans \$9,500

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by Claudia Stephan, to consider funding this from the Capital Non-recurring Account. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Parks & Recreation Greenwood Avenue decorative streetlamps \$12,500

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to consider fund \$12,500 from the current year Capital Non-recurring Account and \$12,500 from the proposed Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Capital Non-recurring Account. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

TOTAL CAPITAL ITEMS \$1,923,808

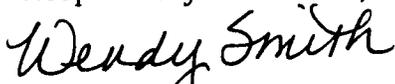
Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to recommend funding the above items, in the amount of \$1,923,808. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Establish date for Public Hearing on Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budgets

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to establish the Public Hearing date of Monday, March 23, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bethel Middle School. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary