



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

Matthew S. Knickerbocker, First Selectman
Richard C. Straiton, Selectman
Paul R. Szatkowski, Selectman

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, February 23, 2015
7:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

PRESENT: First Selectman Knickerbocker, Selectman Straiton and Selectman Szatkowski. Also in attendance were Town Counsel Martin Lawlor, Comptroller Robert Kozlowski and Assistant Comptroller Brad Heering.

First Selectman Knickerbocker called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1.) Consideration of appointment - Bethel Housing Authority

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint Linda Ryan (D) to the vacancy on the Housing Authority. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

2.) Consideration of Resolution - Hart Transportation Grant

First Selectman Knickerbocker advised that this is the annual Resolution for the continuation of the SweetHart Bus/HART Bus.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, that: "

RESOLVED that Matthew S. Knickerbocker, First Selectman, is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute all necessary Agreement/Contract documents on behalf of the Town of Bethel with the Department of Transportation of the State of Connecticut and to affix the corporate seal."

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

3.)Consideration of Resolution - Tax Lien Assignment

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the assignment of the tax liens, in accordance with State Statutes, for property located at 3 Bethpage Drive, Bethel, CT 06801, terms to be negotiated by town tax attorney Adam Cohen of the law firm of Pullman & Comley. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

4.)Consideration of Bid Waiver - 2005 Ford Crown Victoria

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, that:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen, in accordance with the provisions of the Town of Bethel Charter, Section C8-13.C.(4)(iii), finds that it is in the public interest and the public economy to waive the advertising and bidding requirements for the transfer of a damaged 2005 Ford Crown Victoria automobile (Auto) for the sum of Three hundred (\$300.00) dollars to Smitty's Auto Body for the following reasons:

- 1.) The Auto was scheduled to be traded in when it was damaged and deemed "totaled" by the Town's auto insurance carrier. The valuation by the Town's auto insurance carrier for the damaged Auto was Two thousand eight hundred (\$2,800.00) dollars.
- 2.) The Town's auto insurance carrier has paid the Town the sum of Two thousand three hundred (\$2,300.00) dollars; the value of the vehicle by the Town's auto insurance carrier less the Town's deductible of Five hundred (\$500.00) dollars.
- 3.) That the repairs on the Auto will be equal to or greater than the value of the Auto of Two thousand eight hundred (\$2,800.00) dollars.
- 4.) The waiving of advertising and receiving of bids will result in substantial time and cost savings to the Town.
- 5.) The waiving of this bid will also result in additional time savings which will allow for the Town to proceed with obtaining a replacement vehicle instead of repairing the Auto first.
- 6.) That Smitty's Auto Body has agreed to purchase the Auto "as is".
- 7.) That the value of the Auto in its present condition of not being "road safe/worthy" is no more than Three hundred (\$300.00) dollars which represents reasonable and fair consideration for the Auto.

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the First Selectman and or his designee(s) on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to execute any documents and to take any actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate and finalize the foregoing.

5.)Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget Deliberation

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 100 - Selectmen's Office at \$236,970. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Discussion took place regarding the salaries for classified employees; in each account, it appears that all classified employees received increases of 4+/-%, however, this represents two years worth of increases, not a single year increase. And, one of the year increase was mid year end so while it was an increase in dollars, the effective raise was only half. Also, this reflects the salaries that are in place right now in the current budget. It was pointed out that unlike prior years, the salaries (except for the Police) are also what they are making in the current budget, not what they would be on July 1st since their contracts are in negotiations. Comptroller Robert Kozlowski advised that funding for increases is included in the wage contingency accounts.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 110 - Treasurer at \$7,500. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

120-Finance	Fiscal Year 2015-2016	\$409,382
	BOS recommendation	\$409,382

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 120 - Finance at \$409,382. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

130-Town Clerk	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$220,227
	BOS recommendation	\$213,227

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 130 - Town Clerk at \$213,227. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction of \$7,000 to 130-305 Codification/Microfilming.

140-Assessor	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$209,696
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Board of Selectmen

\$209,696

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 140 - Assessor at \$209,696. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 150 - Tax Collector at \$196,945. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This represents a correction to 150-109 Longevity; the amount should have been \$600 but was listed as \$400.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 160 - Professional Services at \$237,680. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding 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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding 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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 190 - Data Processing at \$264,552. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding 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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding 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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 270 - Tree Warden at \$94,400. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

290-Emergency Mgmt.	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$30,250
	BOS recommendation	\$27,250

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 290 - Emergency Management at \$27,250. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction of \$3,000 to 290-201 Supplies for the Tower Lease.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding 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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 310 - Bethel Fire Department at \$176,675. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction of \$4,000 to 310-207 Fire House Maintenance (painting at \$2,500 and grounds maintenance of \$1,500) and a reduction of \$5,000 to 310-301 Dues & Education (Chief's stipend). It was understood that the Hurst motor

replacement (\$4,000) and the Station air compressor replacement (\$30,000) would be considered for funding from either the Capital Non-Recurring account, the "to be" proposed Capital items, or even their current budget.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 320 - Stony Hill Fire Department at \$128,750. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This represents a reduction to 320-202 Equipment & Supplies of \$5,500 consisting of removal of the LED light bar @ \$4,500 and a reduction of \$1,000 (recruitment). They also reduced 320-403 Capital Equipment for the Thermal Imaging Camera by \$13,000 (which is planned to be recommended to be funded from either the Capital Non-Recurring Account, or the "to be" proposed Capital items.)

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding 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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 340 - Town Boards & 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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 350 - Health Department at \$284,545. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This represents a \$5,000 reduction to 350-313 Contracted Services for the vehicle.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 430 - Senior Center at \$187,061. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 435 - Library at \$835,692. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a general reduction from the bottom line of \$19,794.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 440 - Debt Service at \$3,871,613. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

At 9:45 p.m. First Selectman Knickerbocker recessed the meeting until 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, 2015.

First Selectman Knickerbocker reconvened the Special Meeting at 4:00 p.m.

360-Police Department	Fiscal Year 2015-2016 request	\$4,216,766
	BOS recommendation	\$4,189,366

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 360 - Police Department at \$4,189,366. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction of \$27,400 from 360-403 Capital Equipment of one vehicle.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 380 - Parks & Recreation at \$947,572. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This provides for a reduction of \$2,500 to 380-206 Maintenance & Supplies, a reduction of \$5,000 to 380-316 Programs and a reduction of \$2,500 to 380-313 Contracted Services for Library areas and islands.

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

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 450 - Board of Education at \$43,382,535. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Mrs. Yonsky advised that at this time, the final cost on the insurance is not known.

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

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to reduce Account 460 - Board of Education Maintenance by \$50,000 as a general reduction and that some items may be tied in with the Ameresco Project. Voting in favor of the motion: Selectman Straiton. Voting against the motion. First Selectman Knickerbocker and Selectman Szatkowski. Motion fails.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 460 - Board of Education Maintenance at \$500,000. Voting in favor of the motion: First Selectman Knickerbocker and Selectman Szatkowski. Voting against the motion. Selectman Straiton. Motion passed.

The Board of Selectmen's recommended Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget is \$71,086,988 which consists of \$23,332,840 (Town Operating) \$500,000 (Board of Education Maintenance) \$3,871,613 (Debt Service) and \$43,382,535 (Board of Education).

CAPITAL ITEMS

A review of the capital items for recommendation for funding to the Board of Finance ensued; no formal recommendations were made at this time.

At 5:45 p.m. First Selectman Knickerbocker recessed the meeting to Monday, March 2, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

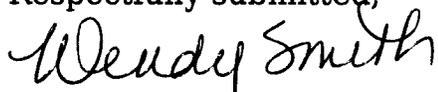
First Selectman Knickerbocker reconvened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2015.

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the capital items and on a motion by First Selectman Knickerbocker which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, recommended the following capital items be funded by the Board of Finance:

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

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adjourn the special meeting at 6:10 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary