



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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, August 4, 2015
7:30 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

PRESENT: First Selectman Knickerbocker, Selectman Straiton and Selectman Szatkowski. Also in attendance was Town Counsel Martin Lawlor.

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance: First Selectman Knickerbocker called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: None that was not already on tonight's agenda.

Minutes of July 7, 2015: Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Report: First Selectman Knickerbocker provided an update on several items: roadwork continues with Codfish Hill completed and Twin Maple being graded. He noted that roadwork contractors have been booked solid; Tilcon has been running their plants 24 hours straight. Water main work will commence on Mt. Orchard Road, Highland Avenue and Cindy Lane. Contracts have been signed for the dismantling of the old water tank on Hickok Avenue and that the bridge work for Plumtrees/Whittlesey received final approval and the project is anticipated to be bid in the fall with work commencing in the spring.

Old Business

1.) Consideration of proposed ordinances – establish Public Hearing date

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to table the proposed ordinances. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

New Business

1.) Consideration of Tax Collector's request for Region 9 and Redding Board of Education Tax Refund Authorization and Abatement of Taxes for The Bethel Housing Authority and Augustana Homes.

Assessor Ann Marie Heering was present and explained, that despite their best efforts, the judge did not rule in the town's favor. She offered that it was the responsible thing to do to assess the buses that are kept in Bethel; documentation provided made a good argument that these were leased vehicles and not owned by Region 9 and Redding and therefore, subject to town motor vehicle taxes.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the Tax Collector's request, dated July 21, 2015 for Region 9 and Redding Board of Education Tax Refund Authorization in the amount of \$ 182,733.48, representing three years worth of tax and interest. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the Tax Collector's request, dated July 21, 2015 and authorize the abatement of taxes for the Bethel Housing Authority and Augustana Homes Inc. for the Grand List of October 1, 2014 in the amount of \$176,081.56. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary