



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 21, 2012
7:30 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

RECEIVED

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

PRESENT: First Selectman Knickerbocker and Selectman Straiton. Also in attendance was Town Counsel Martin J. 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

Minutes of August 7, 2012 Regular Meeting: Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to approve the minutes as amended to reflect the adjourn time of 9:03 p.m. instead of 7:50 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of August 13, 2012 Special Meeting: First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to tonight’s agenda, under New Business, # 4 – Consideration of recommendation from Procurement Committee – Bid #12-07 – Walnut Hill Bridge Replacement. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Report: First Selectman Knickerbocker reported on the paving projects; Aunt Patty’s Lane West is complete, drainage work is being done on Castle Hill

and McNeil Road. He noted that there is the possibility that several more roadways could be added to this season's work if the prices remain stable and the weather cooperates. Eileen Earle, Director of Parks & Recreation advised that the Scotty Fund Picnic will be held on the Municipal Center lawn on September 8th, the application has been submitted and the insurance certificates are pending. Seven bike racks are being installed at various town locations; these were paid for by a federal energy grant.

Old Business

1.) Consideration of request – Oven Rock Partners proposal (*tabled item*)

Mr. Davenport had presented to the Board of Selectmen a request that the Town of Bethel give \$160,000 to Oven Rock Partners in lieu of them building their approved 12 unit condominium style homes with attached garages, instead they would build three single family homes. They would also give the remaining open space and access to that land through an easement to the Town of Bethel.

Both First Selectman Knickerbocker and Selectman Straiton questioned whether there would be any engineering advantage to the town if the open space property were acquired and agreed to forward the proposal off to the town zoning department and regulatory departments.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to refer the proposal to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

New Business

1.) Consideration of Tax Collector's request for Tax Abatement – Augustana Homes and Bethel Housing Authority.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the Tax Collector's request, dated August 21, 2012 and authorize the abatement of taxes for the Bethel Housing Authority (\$71,414.52) and Augustana Homes (\$36,710.60) totaling \$108,125.12 for the Grand List of October 1, 2011. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

2.) Consideration of request for use of Clarke Park Roadways – Greater Danbury Soap Box Association Fall Race Event

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the request of the Greater Danbury Soap Box Derby Association to

hold their Fall Race Event on Saturday, September 29th and Sunday, September 30th (rain date of October 20th and October 21st) in the Clarke Business Park, subject to receipt of the appropriate insurance and notification to the business owners and police department. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

3.) Consideration of appointment – Special Legal Counsel – litigation - RFA Realty vs. the Zoning Board of Appeals.

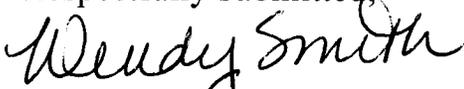
First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint Attorney Charles Andres of LeClair Ryan as Special Legal Counsel for the RFA Realty vs the Zoning Board of Appeals litigation. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

4.) Consideration of recommendation from Procurement Committee – Bid Award #12-07 Walnut Hill Bridge Replacement

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, the award of Bid #12-07 Walnut Hill Bridge Replacement – Bridge No. 04181 to J. Iapaluccio, Inc. for the bid price of \$957,258.50. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

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 regular meeting at 8:05 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary