



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 SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, September 24, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.
CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room "A"

RECEIVED

2012 SEP 26 P 1:01

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

PRESENT: First Selectman Knickerbocker, Selectman Straiton and Selectman Szatkowski. Also in attendance was Town Counsel Martin Lawlor, Attorney Nicholas Vitti and members of the Charter Revision Commission.

First Selectman Knickerbocker called the Special Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Joint session with Charter Revision Commission

First Selectman Knickerbocker advised that due to the timing of the appointments and the first meeting, the Charter Revision Commission would need to be re-appointed. First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski to appoint David Olson, William Shannon, Meghan O'Connor, Wendy Smith, Paul Improta, William Hillman and Nicholas Hoffman to the Charter Revision Commission. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Charge to Charter Revision Commission

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Charter Revision Commission, the following charge:

1. Consider clarification of roles, responsibility and authority of Board of Finance vs. Board of Selectmen.
 - a. Increase flexibility of Board of Selectmen to make budget neutral transfers between accounts when necessary to maintain consistent service levels within town operations.

- b. Clarify duties and responsibilities of Board of Finance with regard to limits of authority, debt ceiling, line item budget authority, bond rating, interface with Insurance and Pension Commission, responsibility for annual audit.
2. Consider increasing monetary "trigger points" for requirements for automatic bids, town meetings and referendums.
3. Consider revisions to Board of Selectmen.
 - a. Consider four-year term of office.
 - b. Consider increase in membership from three to five.
4. Consider changing minimum threshold for petition for referendum to overrule from 5% to 10% in Sec. C6-5.
5. Any other recommendations as deemed in the town's best interest by the Commission.

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Appointment of Counsel for Charter Revision Commission:

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint Attorney Nicholas Vitti as counsel for the Charter Revision Commission. 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 meeting at 8:05 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary