



CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

CJH Municipal Center – 1 School Street – Bethel, CT 06801
(203) 794-8501 – Fax: (203) 778-7520

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, December 10, 2012
7:00 p.m.
CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

PRESENT: David Olson, Chairman, William Hillman, Paul Improta, William Shannon, Meghan O’Connor and Wendy Smith. Also in attendance was Attorney Nicholas Vitti.

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: David Olson called the special meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Input from Boards & Commissions: Larry Craybas, Chairman of the Board of Education offered an Addendum to his October 22nd submission to the Charter Revision Committee for review and consideration.

Mr. Craybas, along with Dr. Kevin Smith, Superintendent and Theresa Yonsky, Director of Finance offered the following suggestions:

- 1) The Connecticut Association of the Boards of Education (CABE) has put forth proposed resolutions to the State legislative body that include the following:
 - a) to allow the Boards of Education the authority to create “Special Revenue Funds” to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources and
 - b) to allow the Boards of Education to carry-over to ensuing fiscal years unexpected funds from the current year’s budget, capping any carry-over at 1%. This would be a much needed tool for long term planning.
- 2) To review all currently fixed dollar amounts stated throughout the charter and consider if the any of the trigger levels need to be adjusted for inflation.
- 3) The Annual Town Meeting should adjourn the public input process to a machine vote where all registered voters have an opportunity to vote on the BOF amended budgets. In addition, the Town should explore more ways to obtain input from the registered voters and to get the input from them earlier in the budget process.
- 4) Advisory questions reflected in Section C6-3B should be deleted.

A general discussion took place regarding these proposals.

Minutes of November 20, 2012: William Hillman made a motion, which was seconded by Paul Improta, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion of Charter: Members had an informal discussion regarding attributes to put in a spreadsheet for town comparisons. There was also a general discussion regarding the two Fire Departments and if or how they should be represented in the charter. No decisions were reached.

Adjourn: As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, David Olson made a motion, which was seconded by Wendy Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra Roper" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Debra Roper, Recording Secretary