



BOARD OF FINANCE

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

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, March 12, 2012

7:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

PRESENT: William Kingston, Chairman, J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Also in attendance were Comptroller Robert Kozlowski, Assistant Comptroller Brad Heering, Town Treasurer Thomas O’Leary, Selectman Straiton and Selectman Szatkowski.

William Kingston called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1.) Consideration of recommendation from the Board of Selectmen – funding of a replacement Lowboy Dump Truck

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by Claudia Stephan, to approve the Board of Selectmen recommendation to purchase a replacement Lowboy Dump Truck (\$90,000) for the Highway Department, funding would come from the Highway Department current 2011-2012 budget accounts for 240-209 Sand and 240-210 Salt plus an insurance reimbursement of \$18,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Comptroller Robert Kozlowski advised that he anticipates additional savings in the current Highway budget due to the mild winter. A Special Town Meeting date of Tuesday, March 20th at 7:00 p.m. had been established by the Board of Selectmen.

2.) Consideration of establishing the date for the Public Hearing for FY 2012-2013 recommended budget.

Eileen Freebairn made a motion, which was seconded by Claudia Stephan, to establish the date of Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. for the Public Hearing for FY 2012-2013 recommended budget. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. The Public Hearing will be held at the High School.

3.) Deliberation on FY 2012-2013 budget

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

100	Selectmen's Office	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$193,103
		Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$193,103
		Board of Finance Recommendation	\$194,666

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to increase 100-101 First Selectman Salary by \$1,563 (2% increase) to fund account at \$79,718. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, and William Kingston. Voting against the motion: Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to fund Account 100 – Selectmen's Office at \$194,666. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, and William Kingston. Voting against the motion: Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

110	Treasurer	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$6,925
		Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$6,925
		Board of Finance Recommendation	\$6,925

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Claudia Stephan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 110 – Treasurer at \$6,925. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

120	Finance Department	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$372,914
		Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$372,914
		Board of Finance Recommendation	\$372,914

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 120 – Finance Department at \$372,914. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

130	Town Clerk	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$218,378
		Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$218,378
		Board of Finance Recommendation	\$219,489

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Eileen Freebairn, to increase 130-101 Town Clerk Salary by \$1,111 (2% increase) to fund at \$56,642. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and William Kingston. Voting against the motion: Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Eileen Freebairn, to recommend funding Account 130 – Town Clerk at \$219,489. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and William Kingston. Voting against the motion: Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

140 Assessor	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$195,738
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$195,738
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$174,918

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 140-105 Part time Clerk by \$20,820 to fund at \$15,600. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

Board of Finance members discussed the request for making this position full time, some felt that it was warranted as it could help to raise the grand list where others expressed concern about adding head count and benefits.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to recommend funding Account 140 – Assessor at \$174,918. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

150 Tax Collector	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$185,144
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$185,144
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$185,144

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 150 – Tax Collector at \$185,144. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

160 Professional Services	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$212,680
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$212,680
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$187,680

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 160-352 Litigation by \$25,000 to fund at \$125,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend funding 160 – Professional Services at \$187,680. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

170 Probate Office	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$5,711
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$5,711
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$5,711

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 170 – Probate Office at \$5,711. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

180 Building Inspection	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$209,933
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$209,933
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$209,933

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 180 – Building Inspection at \$209,933. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

190 Data Processing	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$273,718
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$273,718
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$273,718

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to transfer \$40,000 from 190-102 Asst. IT Technician to 190-306 Professional Services. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

Concern arose that some Board of Finance members believe that the Board of Finance did not authorize the hiring of the IT technician with benefits and wish to discuss this further.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend funding Account 190 – Data Processing at \$273,718. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

200 Social Services	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$60,267
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$60,267
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$60,267

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 200 – Social Services at \$60,267. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

210 Town Insurance	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$925,990
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$925,990

Board of Finance Recommendation \$925,990

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 210 – Town Insurance at \$925,990. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

220 Fleet Maintenance	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$355,742
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$354,842
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$354,842

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 220 – Fleet Maintenance at \$354,842. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

230 Public Works	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$321,600
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$318,600
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$303,295

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 230-103 Secretary by \$15,305 to fund at \$29,026. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

This eliminates the request for the Part-time Secretary to go Full-time. As with the Assessor's part-time person, some members felt that while the position might be warranted, they did not want to add to (full time with benefits) head-count. Discussion took place regarding funding the intern position which had been cut by the Board of Selectmen to use this person to cover some hours in the Public Works Department.

Gary Regan made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to increase 230-104 Intern by \$3,000. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and Timothy Draper. Motion fails.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to recommend funding Account 230 – Public Works at \$303,295. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

240 Highway Department	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$2,122,619
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$1,191,603

Board of Finance Recommendation \$1,259,276

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 240-107 Seasonal Overtime by \$2,500 to fund at \$24,286. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 249-118 Snow and Ice Overtime by \$8,366 to fund at \$75,302. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 240-209 Sand by \$10,483 to fund at \$59,405. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher to reduce 240-210 Salt by \$13,478 to fund at \$76,378. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 240-313 Contracted Services by \$12,500 (sweeper) to fund at \$63,400. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to increase 240-404 Road Construction by \$115,000 to fund at \$200,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Members commented that this account needs to be funded through the budget process and recommends bringing the account back to around \$500,000 over the course of time.

It was discussed that based on our mild winter this year that there were costs savings in the various line items and they could be reduced. If they run short next season, they could come back to the Board of Finance.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to recommend funding Account 240 – Highway Department at \$1,259,276. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

250 Planning & Zoning	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$213,898
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$213,898
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$213,898

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 250 – Planning & Zoning at \$213,898. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

260 Building Maintenance	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$1,037,873
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$666,073
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$665,573

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to reduce 260-107 Overtime by \$500 to fund at \$8,721. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 260-313 Contracted Services by \$5,000 (cleaning services). Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and William Kingston. Motion failed.

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend funding Account 260 – Building Maintenance at \$665,573. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

270 Tree Warden	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$99,400
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$99,400
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$94,400

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was not seconded to reduce 270-101 Tree Warden salary to -0- and 270-313 Car Allowance to -0-.

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 270-313 Contracted Services by \$10,000 to fund at \$70,000. J. Philip Gallagher then amended the motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to reduce that amount to \$5,000. Voting in favor of the amendment: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, William Kingston and Gary Regan. Voting against the amendment: Claudia Stephan and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend funding Account 270 – Tree Warden at \$94,400. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, William Kingston and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion: Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

290 Emergency Management	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$26,000
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$26,000

Board of Finance Recommendation \$26,000

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 290 – Emergency Management at \$26,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

300 Fire Marshal	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$85,884
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$85,884
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$85,884

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 300 – Fire Marshal at \$85,884. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

310 Bethel Fire Department	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$203,950
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$175,950
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$175,950

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 310 – Bethel Fire Department at \$175,950. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

320 Stony Hill Fire Department	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$120,700
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$115,668
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$115,668

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 320 – Stony Hill Fire Department \$115,668. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

330 Registrar of Voters	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$102,386
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$102,386
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$97,386

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 330-201 Office Expense by \$5,000 to fund at \$60,700. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

Board of Finance members commented that if this account runs short due to added costs for primaries and/or referendums, they can come back to the Board of Finance.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend funding Account 330 – Registrar of Voters at \$97,386. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

340	Town Boards & Commissions	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$113,350
		Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$128,350
		Board of Finance Recommendation	\$118,350

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to accept the Board of Finance recommendation to fund Account 340 at \$128,350. The motion and second were withdrawn.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 340 – 509 Charter Revision Commission by \$10,000 to fund at \$5,000. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend funding Account 340 – Town Boards & Commissions at \$118,350. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

350	Health Department	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$281,269
		Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$281,269
		Board of Finance Recommendation	\$278,269

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 350-104 Public Health Nurse by \$6,000 to fund at -0-. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Timothy Draper recused himself from the vote. Motion fails.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend funding Account 350 – Health Department at \$275,629. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and William Kingston. Timothy Draper recused himself from the vote. Motion fails.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to recommend funding Account 350 – Health Department at \$276,142 (fund at current fiscal year). Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston and Gary Regan. Voting against the

motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Timothy Draper recused himself from the vote. Motion fails.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to recommend funding Account 350 – Health Department at \$278,269 (which reduces 350-104 Public Health Nurse by \$3,000 to fund at \$3,000. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, William Kingston and Gary Regan. Timothy Draper recused himself from the vote. Motion passed.

360 Police Department	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$3,724,315
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$3,724,315
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$3,699,315

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 360 -106 Negotiated Salaries by \$25,000 to fund at \$2,312,966. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

The intent of the motion was to reduce the overall Police Department budget by \$25,000 however, the reduction requires being charged to a line item. Usually, there is an officer out on injury or they are short an officer so it was thought that the reduction could be charged to the 360-106 Negotiated Salaries.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to recommend funding Account 360 – Police Department at \$3,699,315. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

380 Parks & Recreation	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$1,132,488
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$890,348
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$890,348

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 380 – Parks & Recreation at \$890,348. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, Claudia Stephan and William Kingston. Eileen Freebairn and Gary Regan recused themselves from the vote. Motion passed.

390 Employee Benefits	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$5,350,697
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$5,350,697
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$5,335,697

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to reduce 390-113 Hospitalization by \$30,000. Motion and second were withdrawn.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 390-113 Hospitalization by \$15,000 to fund at \$2,395,920. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend funding Account 390 – Employee Benefits at \$5,335,697. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

400 Non Gov't Agency Subsidies	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$28,838
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$20,504
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$20,504

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to recommend funding 400-360 Hospice at \$2,500, 400-362 Veterans' Holding Company at \$5,000 and 400-372 New Opportunities at \$6,371. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, William Kingston and Timothy Draper. Motion fails.

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 400 – Non Government Agencies Subsidies at \$20,504. This provides funding for 400-333 WECHAR at \$2,500, 400-334 Mental Health Center at \$2,046, 400-335 Women's Center at \$3,000, 400-336 Ability Beyond Disability at \$4,000, 400-338 Regional Commission at \$2,767, 400-360 Hospice at \$2,500 and 400-372 New Opportunities at \$3,691. Voting in favor of the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston and Timothy Draper. Motion passed.

405 Intra Gov't Agency Subsidies	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$377,519
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$377,519
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$377,519

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Claudia Stephan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 405 – Intra Government Agency Subsidies at \$377,519. Voting in favor of the motion: Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, William Kingston and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion: J. Philip Gallagher and Timothy Draper. Patricia Smithwick recused herself from the vote. Motion passed.

410 Utilities, Charges & Services	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$2,666,440
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$2,541,440
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$2,541,440

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 410 – Utilities, Charges & Services at \$2,541,440. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

420 Misc. Charges & Transfers	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$436,069
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$436,069
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$436,069

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to fund the following items from Account 420-370 Transfer to Capital Account (Capital Non-recurring):

Fleet Maintenance - Oil System	\$ 7,500
Bethel Fire Department - painting/furniture	\$18,000
Bethel Fire Department – masonry repairs	\$65,000
Board of Education Maintenance – underground wiring/parking lot	\$10,000
Board of Education Middle School – re-lamping repair – Middle School	\$10,000
Animal Control Facility – building repair	\$30,000

Some Board of Finance members felt that these items were more maintenance in nature than capital and felt it best to fund this from the capital non-recurring account.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend funding Account 420 – Misc. Charges & Transfers at \$436,069. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

430 Senior Center	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$137,366
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$137,366
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$135,866

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 430-301 Dues & Education by \$1,500 to fund at \$500. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to recommend funding Account 430 – Senior Center at \$135,866. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan.

435 Library	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$760,051
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Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$735,444
Board of Finance Recommendation	\$735,444

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account – 435 Library at \$735,444. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

440 Debt Service	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$4,324,436
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$4,324,436
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$4,324,436

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to accept the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund Account 440 – Debt Service at \$4,324,436. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

450 Board of Education	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$39,810,925
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$39,810,925
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$39,410,925

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 450 – Board of Education by \$400,000 to fund at \$39,410,925. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Claudia Stephan, Eileen Freebairn and Patricia Smithwick. Motion passed.

Among the Board of Finance member comments, William Kingston offered that he has incredible regrets on making the reduction to the status quo budget but does not believe that the voters would support the increase and they (the Board of Finance) need to balance that with residents ability to pay. J. Philip Gallagher offered that while the grand list increased, the revenue from the state has decreased which only nets additional revenue of only \$18,000 which leaves the taxpayers the burden of paying the increases. Patricia Smithwick offered that Bethel is proud of their school system and this cut will set education back, and Claudia Stephan offered that the Board of Education did their due diligence and that the voters deserved the opportunity to vote on their budget as recommended.

460 BOE - Maintenance	Requested FY 2012-2013	\$535,406
	Board of Selectmen Recommendation	\$535,406
	Board of Finance Recommendation	\$460,000

Timothy Draper made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to reduce 460 – Board of Education Maintenance by \$75,406 to fund at \$460,000. Voting in favor of the motion:

J. Philip Gallagher, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

Discussion took place regarding the contracted snow plowing at the schools; it is included in both the Highway Department Contracted Services and the 460 account; snow maintenance is also provided by Parks & Recreation.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to send a recommended town (operating, debt service and Board of Education maintenance) budget to the Public Hearing of \$25,562,784. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to send a recommended Board of Education budget to the Public Hearing in the amount of \$39,410,925. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, William Kingston, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. Voting against the motion: Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion passed.

Board of Finance members agreed to review the 10 year capital plan requests at their April 10th meeting.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Gary Regan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to adjourn tonight's meeting at 9:55 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,


Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary