



BOARD OF FINANCE

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

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 22, 2013

7:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

PRESENT: William Kingston, J. Phillip Gallagher, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan and Gary Regan. **Absent:** Timothy Draper. Also in attendance were Town Counsel Martin Lawlor, Comptroller Robert Kozlowski and First Selectman Knickerbocker.

Call to order/Pledge: William Kingston called the Special Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Consideration of Tax Collector's request for Suspense Authorization:

Tax Collector Ann Scacco presented a request for Suspense List authorization; she noted that by transferring these accounts to suspense, it will remove them from consideration as assets to the town, but remain a liability of the person against whom it was levied. Accounts will be turned over to a collection agency; the collection agency is paid 18% of all of the charge (15% by the taxpayer and 3% by the town.)

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by J. Phillip Gallagher, to accept the Tax Collector's request dated May 17, 2013 and authorize placing \$70,639.10 in suspense. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Consideration of establishing Mill Rate for Fiscal Year 2013-2014

Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to set the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Mill Rate at 31.50. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Consideration of Board of Selectmen recommendation for the acceptance of open space property as part of a Planning & Zoning approved subdivision.

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J. Phillip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to approve the Board of Selectmen recommendation for the acceptance of open space (2.75 +/- acres) as part of an approved Planning & Zoning subdivision. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

The Board of Selectmen will establish a Special Town Meeting date.

Consideration of the Board of Selectmen recommendation for approval for the sale of real estate included within the terms of the sale of the Bethel Water System, pursuant to the Town of Bethel Charter.

Claudia Stephan made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to approve the Board of Selectmen recommendation for approval for the sale of real estate included within the terms of the sale of the Bethel Water System, pursuant to the Town of Bethel Charter.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Phillip Gallagher to table the proposal to the June meeting.

First Selectman Knickerbocker reiterated the points discussed at the previous meeting, requested that if members had any additional questions to ask.

J. Phillip Gallagher offered that he would like to table this matter until he and the Board of Finance have heard from the public. First Selectman Knickerbocker advised that there would be a public hearing as well as a Special Town Meeting and town referendum. He noted that representatives from Aquarion as well as the Department of Public Health/Public Utilities Regulatory Agency (PURA) will be present at the Public Hearing. Notification would be sent to each resident. Due to the cost associated with the Public Hearing (legal notices, mailings, etc.) he believes it is necessary to have Board of Finance approval first. Without Board of Finance approval, the residents would not have the opportunity to vote on the proposal.

William Kingston offered that he would not vote on the matter this evening but plans to put it on the agenda for the June 11th meeting, at which he does plan a vote.

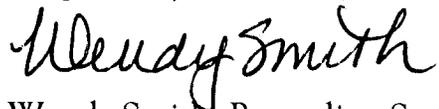
William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by J. Phillip Gallagher, to move the question. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Phillip Gallagher, William Kingston and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion. Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion fails.

Vote on the motion to table: Voting in favor of the motion: Voting in favor of the motion: J. Phillip Gallagher, William Kingston and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion. Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion fails.

Vote on the original motion to approve the Board of Selectmen recommendation: Voting in favor of the motion: Voting in favor of the motion: J. Phillip Gallagher, William Kingston and Gary Regan. Voting against the motion. Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn and Claudia Stephan. Motion fails.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, J. Phillip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Kingston, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wendy Smith". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary