



**TOWN OF BETHEL  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 6, 2013  
BETHEL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM  
7:30 P.M.**

RECEIVED

2013 MAY -7 P 1:10

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**PRESENT:** First Selectman, Matthew S. Knickerbocker, Selectman, Richard C. Straiton, Selectman, Paul R. Szatkowski, Town Counsel, Martin J. Lawlor, Jr., Board of Finance Chairman, William Kingston, Comptroller, Bob Kozlowski, Town Clerk, Lisa Bergh, Board of Education Chairman, Larry Craybas, Board of Education Fiscal Services Director, Teri Yonsky.

**CALL TO ORDER:** First Selectman Knickerbocker called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Town Clerk, Lisa Bergh read the call (see attached). Tom O'Leary made a motion to accept the call; motion was seconded by Wendy Smith. Vote, the motion was approved.

Bob Legnard made a motion to nominate Matthew Knickerbocker as Moderator; motion was seconded by Wendy Smith. Motion to close nominations made by Bob Legnard, motion seconded by Wendy Smith. Vote to close nominations and elect Matthew Knickerbocker Moderator. Nominations closed, Matthew Knickerbocker elected Moderator.

Town Counsel Lawlor read Resolution #1 (see attached). Motion to accept the Resolution made by Wendy Smith, motion seconded by Bob Legnard.

**Discussion on Resolution #1:**

**Billy Michael-** Mr. Michael inquired as to how many new hires were proposed for the Town. Comptroller Kozlowski stated 1 police officer and a half position for the Assessor's office, taking the part-time clerk to a full-time position. Billy stated that this year is not the time to increase head count.

Kathleen Quader made a motion to move the question; motion was seconded by Wendy Smith. Vote to move the question, the motion carries.

Vote on Resolution #1, motion carries.

Town Counsel Lawlor read Resolution #2 (see attached), motion to accept Resolution #2 made by Bob Legnard, motion seconded by Wendy Smith.

**Discussion on Resolution #2:**

**Billy Michael-** Mr. Michael remarked that \$150.00 of the Teachers Union Dues goes to political activities. He made a motion to reduce the Board of Education budget by \$33,750.00. Motion seconded by Rosaly Donofrio.

**Discussion on Amendment:**

**Michael Krupnikoff-** Mr. Krupnikoff asked how much in tax dollars goes to the union dues. Zero was the response from Teri Yonsky.

**Robert Zupperoli-** Mr. Zupperoli stated that the amendment is therefore a motion to reduce the Teacher's salaries.

**Dionne Craig-** Made a motion to move the question; the motion was seconded by Wendy Smith. Question moved. Vote, Amendment fails.

A motion to approve Resolution #2 by Bob Legnard; the motion was seconded by Kathleen Quader. Motion carries.

Town Counsel read Resolution #3 (see attached). Motion to accept Resolution #3 made by Tom O'Leary, motion was seconded by Bob Legnard.

**Discussion on Resolution #3:** None

A motion to move the question was made by Bob Legnard; the motion was seconded by Bill Hillman.

Point of Order: J Philip Gallagher wanted clarification that the Resolution was to be moved to the Referendum. This was confirmed by the Moderator.

Vote was taken to move the question and approve Resolution #3. Motion carries.

Town Counsel Lawlor reads Resolution #4 (see attached). Motion to accept made by Bob Legnard, Motion seconded by Wendy Smith.

**Discussion on Resolution #4:** None

Vote taken on Resolution #4, Motion approved.

Town Counsel Lawlor reads Resolution #5 (see attached). Motion to accept made by Bob Legnard. Motion seconded by Wendy Smith.

**Discussion on Resolution #5:**

J. Philip Gallagher- Point of Information, if the water department is sold, the availability of the Comptroller to borrow money from the Water/Sewer/Transfer Station account will no longer be possible. The previous Comptroller would borrow from this account to fund the Town should the budget not pass in time for the new fiscal year to move forward.

A motion to move the question was made by Bob Legnard; the motion was seconded by Wendy Smith. Vote to move the question and approve Resolution # 5. Motion carries.

Town Counsel read Resolution #6 (see attached). Bob Legnard made a motion to accept Motor Vehicle taxes in one installment. Motion was seconded by Wendy Smith.

**Discussion on Resolution #6:**

J. Philip Gallagher- Speaks in favor of the motion because the Tax Collector does a supreme job and he doesn't want to make her job any more complicated. Mr. Gallagher wanted to inform voters that they will see a reduction in their taxes due to revaluation, but that the car taxes will see an increase. Commercial property taxes along with condominium taxes will also see an increase.

Billy Michael- Inquired as to how much money is brought to the town by motor vehicle taxes. First Selectman Knickerbocker stated a little under \$3 million dollars, the tax revenue will increase in this area by \$300,000 to \$400,000.

Bob Legnard made a motion to move the question; the motion was seconded by Wendy Smith. Vote to move the question and approve the Resolution. Motion carries.

Town Counsel read Resolution #7 (see attached).

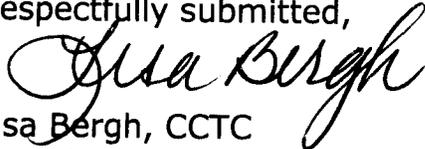
**Discussion on Resolution # 7:** None.

Bob Legnard made a motion to accept Resolution #7, motion seconded by Wendy Smith. Vote, motion approved.

Billy Michael made a motion to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting to a Referendum on May 16, 2013. The motion was seconded by Bill Hillman. Vote taken, motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. to a machine vote on May 16, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Bergh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa Bergh, CCTC  
Bethel Town Clerk/Recording Secretary

# TOWN OF BETHEL, CONNECTICUT

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING



**RECEIVED**

2013 MAY -6 A 11:03

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

The legal voters of the Town of Bethel, Connecticut and those persons entitled to vote therein are hereby notified to assemble at the Annual Town Budget Meeting to be held at the Bethel High School Auditorium, 300 Whittlesey Drive in Bethel, Connecticut on Monday, May 6, 2013 at 7:30 p.m., for the following purposes, to wit:

- 1) To consider and take action upon a resolution to appropriate the sum of Twenty Six Million One Hundred Seventy Seven Thousand Five Hundred Eight (\$26,177,508) Dollars, which sum includes debt service of Three Million Eight Hundred Eighty Six Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Six (\$3,886,486) Dollars and the school's building maintenance account of Five Hundred Thousand (\$500,000) Dollars as recommended by the Board of Finance, as the Annual Town Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2013.
  
- 2) To consider and take action upon a resolution to appropriate the sum of Forty Million Nine Hundred Six Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Three (\$40,906,273) Dollars as recommended by the Board of Finance, as the Annual Board of Education Budget for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2013.
  
- 3) To consider and take action on a resolution to appropriate the sum of One Million Nine Hundred Forty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Forty Two (\$1,949,342) Dollars, as recommended by the Board of Finance, for capital item expenditures and further authorizing the issuance of short term notes and/or bonds of the Town of Bethel in an amount not exceeding One Million Nine Hundred Forty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Forty Two (\$1,949,342) Dollars to finance the appropriation of said sum for all costs incurred for the following capital item expenditures:.

Assessor	\$50,000	Revaluation
Public Works	\$22,000	Large format copier/scanner
Highway Department	\$152,000	42,000 lb GVW Truck
Highway Department	\$1,289,117	Road construction
Bd. Of Education - Maintenance	\$15,000	CCTV – Middle School and Berry School

Bd. Of Education - Maintenance	\$35,225	ADA improvements to fields, dugouts, bleachers
Board of Education Maintenance	\$93,000	Install emergency generator – High School
Board of Education Maintenance	\$25,000	Install emergency generator – Middle School
Building Maintenance	\$125,000	Municipal Center – Accessibility Improvements
Building Maintenance	\$25,000	Plumtrees Schoolhouse Improvements
Building Maintenance	\$50,000	General Purpose Air Conditioning Project
Bethel Fire Department	\$30,000	Epoxy Floor Coating
Parks & Recreation	\$25,000	Irrigation at Berry School fields
Parks & Recreation	\$13,000	Over Seeder

- 4) To authorize the First Selectman and the Treasurer of the Town of Bethel to borrow on short term notes or loans “tax anticipation notes” an amount not to exceed the aggregate of Six Million (\$6,000,000) Dollars for the purpose of paying current expenditures of the Town of Bethel for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013, which tax anticipation notes are to be repaid from anticipated tax revenues.
- 5) To consider and take action upon a resolution that the tax on motor vehicles and personal property be collected in one or more than one installment.
- 6) To establish the date on which the machine vote on the annual town budget shall take place in accordance with the provisions of the Bethel Town Charter.
- 7) To do any and all things which may be legally required or appropriate to accomplish the above named purposes.

Dated at Bethel, Connecticut this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2013

**Board of Selectmen**

Matthew S. Knickerbocker, First Selectman  
Richard C. Straiton, Selectman  
Paul R. Szatkowski, Selectman

**TOWN OF BETHEL**  
**MOTIONS FOR ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING**  
**MAY 6, 2012**  
**BETHEL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**  
**7:30 PM**

- 1.) Pursuant to the Charter of the Town of Bethel, shall the Town of Bethel appropriate the sum of Twenty Six Million One Hundred Seventy Seven Thousand Five Hundred Eight (\$26,177,508.) Dollars as recommended by the Board of Finance, as the Town Operating Budget, a portion of the Annual Town Budget, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013, to be placed on the ballot for a Town wide referendum machine vote?
  
- 2.) Pursuant to the Charter of the Town of Bethel, shall the Town of Bethel appropriate the sum of Forty Million Nine Hundred Six Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Three (\$40,906,273) Dollars as recommended by the Board of Finance, as the Board of Education Operating Budget, a portion of the Annual Town Budget, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013, to be placed on the ballot for a Town wide referendum machine vote?
  
- 3.) Shall the Town of Bethel as recommended by the Board of Selectmen and approved by the Board of Finance, appropriate the sum of One Million Nine Hundred Forty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Forty Two (\$1,949,342) Dollars, to be placed on the ballot for a Town wide referendum machine vote to pay for the direct and ancillary costs including the financing, for the following items, hereinafter referred to in total as the "Projects":

Assessor	\$50,000	Revaluation
Public Works	\$22,000	Large format copier/scanner
Highway Department	\$152,000	42,000 lb GVW Truck
Highway Department	\$1,289,117	Road construction
Bd. Of Education - Maintenance	\$15,000	CCTV – Middle School and Berry School
Bd. Of Education - Maintenance	\$35,225	ADA improvements to fields, dugouts, bleachers
Board of Education Maintenance	\$93,000	Install emergency generator – High School
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Building Maintenance	\$125,000	Municipal Center – Accessibility Improvements
Building Maintenance	\$25,000	Plumtrees Schoolhouse Improvements
Building Maintenance	\$50,000	General Purpose Air Conditioning Project
Bethel Fire Department	\$30,000	Epoxy Floor Coating
Parks & Recreation	\$25,000	Irrigation at Berry School fields

Parks & Recreation

\$13,000

Over Seeder

- 4.) In the event the Town of Bethel approves the appropriation of the sum of One Million Nine Hundred Forty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Forty Two (\$1,949,342) Dollars by a Town wide referendum machine vote for the Projects, shall the Town of Bethel borrow a sum not to exceed the aggregate amount of One Million Nine Hundred Forty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Forty Two (\$1,949,342) Dollars so specified for Projects as set forth in the preceding motion and issue bonds under its corporate name and seal, which bonds shall be general obligations of the Town issued upon the full faith and credit of the Town, for the purpose of financing the appropriations of said sums for the cost of the Projects including, if any, architectural, engineering, demolition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, equipping, equipment costs, financing and all other costs related thereto with the following additional terms and conditions:

**Section 1.** The First Selectman, Town Treasurer and the Comptroller are hereby appointed a "Committee" with full power and authority to cause said bonds to be sold, issued and delivered; to determine their form, including provision for redemption prior to maturity; to determine the aggregate principal amount thereof within the amount hereby authorized and the denominations and maturities thereof; to fix the time of issue of each series thereof and the rate or rates of interest thereon as herein provided; to designate the bank or trust company to certify the issuance thereof and to act as transfer agent, paying agent and as registrar for the bonds, and to designate bond counsel. The Committee shall have all appropriate powers under the Connecticut General Statutes including Chapter 748 (Registered Public Organizations Act) and Chapter 109 (Municipal Bond Issues), as presently in force or subsequently amended, to issue the bonds and, further, shall have full power and authority to do all that is required under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code") as amended and other applicable laws of the United States, including the execution of certifications and agreements on behalf of the Town with respect to compliance with the Code to provide for issuance of the bonds in tax exempt form and to meet all requirements which are or may become necessary in and subsequent to the issuance and delivery of the bonds to ensure that the interest on the bonds be and remain exempt from Federal income taxes, including, without limitation, to covenant and agree to restriction on investment yield, rebate of arbitrage earnings, expenditure of proceeds within required time limitations and the filing of information reports as and when required.

**Section 2.** The bonds may be designated "Public Improvement Bonds of the Town of Bethel", series of the year of their issuance and may be issued in one or more series, or may be consolidated as part of the same issue with other Bonds of the Town; shall be in serial form maturing in not more than twenty (20) annual installments of principal, the first installment to mature not later than two years from the date of issue and the last installment to mature not later than twenty (20) years there from or otherwise as may be provided by statute. The bonds may be sold at not less than par and accrued interest at public sale upon invitation for bids to the responsible bidder submitting the bid resulting in the lowest net interest cost to the Town, provided that nothing herein shall prevent the Town from rejecting all bids submitted in response to any one invitation for bids and the right to so reject all bids is hereby reserved, and further provided, that the Committee may sell the bonds, or notes, on a

negotiated basis, as provided by statute. Interest on the bonds shall be payable semi-annually or annually. The bonds shall be signed on behalf of the Town by at least a majority of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Treasurer, and shall bear the seal of the Town. The signing, sealing and certification of said bonds may be by facsimile as provided by Statute. The Town Treasurer shall maintain a record of bonds issued pursuant to this resolution and of the face amount thereof outstanding from time to time, and shall certify to the destruction of said bonds, or notes after they have been paid and canceled, and such certification shall be kept on file with the Town Clerk.

**Section 3.** The Committee is further authorized to make temporary borrowing as permitted by the General Statutes and to issue a temporary note or notes of the Town in anticipation of the receipt of proceeds from the sale of the bonds to be issued pursuant to this resolution. Such notes shall be issued and renewed at such times and with such maturities, requirements and limitations as provided by Statute. Notes evidencing such borrowing shall be signed by the First Selectman and Town Treasurer and have the seal of the Town affixed, which signing and sealing may be by facsimile as provided by statute, be certified by and payable at a bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of this or any other state, or of the United States, be approved as to their legality by bond counsel, and may be consolidated with the issuance of other Town notes. The Committee shall determine the date, maturity, interest rates, form and manner of sale, including negotiated sale, and other details of said notes consistent with the provisions of this resolution and the General Statutes and shall have all powers and authority as set forth above in connection with the issuance of the bonds and especially with respect to compliance with the requirements of the Code in order to obtain and maintain in tax exempt form.

**Section 4.** Upon the sale and issuance of the bonds authorized by this resolution, the proceeds thereof, including any premium received upon the sale thereof, accrued interest received at delivery and interest earned on the temporary investment of such proceeds shall be applied forthwith to the payment of the principal and interest of all notes issued in anticipation thereof or shall be deposited in trust for such purposes with a bank or trust company, or shall be applied or rebated as may be required under the provisions of law. The remainder of the proceeds, if any, after the payment of said notes and of the expense of issuing said notes and bonds shall be applied to further finance the appropriation made by the appropriation resolution enacted concurrently herewith.

**Section 5.** In each fiscal year in which the principal or any installment of interest shall fall due upon any of the bonds or notes herein authorized there shall be included in the appropriation for such fiscal year a sum equivalent to the amount of such principal and interest so falling due, and to the extent that provision is not made for the payment thereof from other revenues, the amount thereof shall be included in the taxes assessed upon the Grand List for such fiscal year and shall not be subject to any limitation of taxes that may be imposed by any other Town ordinance or resolution.

**Section 6.** Pursuant to regulation of the Internal Revenue Service the Town hereby expresses its official intent to reimburse expenditures paid from the General Fund, Fund Balance or Capital Improvement Fund for the aforesaid Projects with the proceeds of the bonds or notes to be issued

under the provisions of this Resolution. The allocation of such reimbursement of bond proceeds for an expenditure shall occur not later than one year after the later of a) the date on which the expenditure is paid, or b) the date on which the project is placed in service, or for extended periods and in such manner as may be permitted by amendments to the regulations. The Comptroller is authorized to pay project expenses in accordance herewith pending the issuance of the reimbursement bonds or notes.

**Section 7.** The First Selectman (or other proper authority of the Town) is hereby authorized to apply for and accept any available state or federal grant in aid of the financing of the Projects and to take all action necessary and proper in connection therewith.

**Section 8.** The amount of final issuance of the bonds shall be reduced by the amount of funds that may be received from any direct state or federal grants, if any.

**Section 9.** The Committee is hereby authorized to take all action necessary and proper for the sale, issuance and delivery of the bonds and notes in accordance with the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes and the laws of the United States

- 5.) Shall the First Selectman and the Treasurer of the Town of Bethel be authorized to borrow on short term notes or loans known as "tax anticipation notes" in an amount not to exceed the aggregate of Six Million (\$6,000,000.00) Dollars for the purpose of paying current expenditures of the Town of Bethel for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013, which tax anticipation notes shall be repaid from anticipated tax revenues?
- 6.) Shall the Town of Bethel collect motor vehicle and personal property taxes in one installment for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013?
- 7.) Pursuant to the Charter of the Town of Bethel, shall the referendum by machine vote on the Annual Town Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013 take place on Thursday, May 16, 2013?

(Pursuant to Charter C6-3.A.5, the Annual Town Meeting automatically adjourns to the Town wide referendum by machine vote when there is no further business to be conducted.)

**BOARD OF EDUCATION'S BUDGET PROPOSAL 2013-2014**

Description	FTE	Budget 12-13	FTE	Budget 13-14	Change	% Change
Teachers	258.97	18,158,833	260.94	18,677,280	518,447	2.86%
Administrators	15.45	2,134,303	15.45	2,196,533	62,230	2.92%
Retire./Add'l Degrees/Cont.	0.00	536,619	0.00	553,542	16,923	3.15%
Tutors	3.50	364,381	3.50	381,735	17,354	4.76%
Secretaries	24.65	1,075,578	24.65	1,097,184	21,606	2.01%
Lunch Monitors	3.21	33,334	3.21	33,571	237	0.71%
Paras	40.00	1,075,667	40.00	1,082,105	6,439	0.60%
Nurses	7.00	359,092	7.00	359,836	744	0.21%
Custodians	23.00	1,128,814	23.00	1,128,414	-400	-0.04%
Others - System Wide	16.03	980,242	16.03	1,034,424	54,182	5.53%
Substitutes & Interns	0.00	424,523	0.00	445,749	21,226	5.00%
Coaches & Advisors	0.00	398,749	0.00	399,338	589	0.15%
<b>SALARIES</b>	<b>391.81</b>	<b>26,670,135</b>	<b>393.78</b>	<b>27,389,712</b>	<b>719,577</b>	<b>2.70%</b>
Health Benefits		5,855,114		6,236,566	381,452	6.51%
Social Security/Medicare		765,559		784,698	19,139	2.50%
Life/LTD/Unemp/Other		246,898		226,898	-20,000	-8.10%
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>		<b>6,867,571</b>		<b>7,248,162</b>	<b>380,591</b>	<b>5.54%</b>
Purch. Serv. -Fiscal, SW & HS		49,200		49,700	500	1.02%
Purch. Serv. - Special Ed		90,100		90,100	0	0.00%
Adult Ed - Danbury		46,008		46,008	0	0.00%
Curriculum Writing		67,600		67,600	0	0.00%
Professional Development		35,350		36,700	1,350	3.82%
Prof. Technical Services		276,447		248,615	-27,832	-10.07%
<b>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</b>		<b>564,705</b>		<b>538,723</b>	<b>-25,982</b>	<b>-4.60%</b>
Repair and Maintenance System Wide		118,509		116,884	-1,625	-1.37%
Leases - System Wide		24,750		26,250	1,500	6.06%
Leases - Technology		231,000		231,000	0	0.00%
Leases - Copiers		164,000		164,000	0	0.00%
<b>PROPERTY SERVICES</b>		<b>538,259</b>		<b>538,134</b>	<b>-125</b>	<b>-0.02%</b>
District Transportation		2,367,653		2,439,236	71,583	3.02%
St. Mary's Transportation		124,224		127,951	3,727	3.00%
Communications		130,000		130,000	0	0.00%
Printing/Postage/Advertising/Insurance		101,700		108,600	6,900	6.78%
Reg Ed Tuition		141,292		134,100	-7,192	-5.09%
Special Ed Tuition		1,020,993		1,072,622	51,629	5.06%
Prof. Development/Travel		25,470		26,225	755	2.96%
<b>PURCHASED SERVICES</b>		<b>3,911,332</b>		<b>4,038,734</b>	<b>127,402</b>	<b>3.26%</b>
Instructional Supplies & Textbooks		500,603		508,997	8,394	1.68%
Diesel Fuel (Buses)		201,000		201,000	0	0.00%
Library Books/Reference Materials		51,424		52,742	1,318	2.56%
Custodian Supplies		87,000		87,000	0	0.00%
Other Supplies Incl Health/Sports/Clubs		147,320		172,059	24,739	16.79%
<b>SUPPLIES</b>		<b>987,347</b>		<b>1,021,798</b>	<b>34,451</b>	<b>3.49%</b>
<b>EQUIPMENT &amp; FURNITURE</b>		<b>64,475</b>		<b>112,800</b>	<b>48,325</b>	<b>74.95%</b>
<b>DUES</b>		<b>57,101</b>		<b>58,210</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>1.94%</b>
<b>Board of Finance Reduction</b>				<b>-40,000</b>	<b>-40,000</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>39,660,925</b>		<b>40,906,273</b>	<b>1,245,348</b>	<b>3.14%</b>