



BOARD OF FINANCE

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

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MAR 05 2008

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, March 3, 2008

7:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room "A"

PRESENT: J. Philip Gallagher, Chairman, William Britt, Kevin Riley, William Slifkin and James Roden.

J. Philip Gallagher called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation by Board of Selectmen – recommended Fiscal Year 2008-2009 budget.

First Selectman Burke presented the Board of Selectmen recommended budget as follows:

DEPARTMENT	REQUESTED	RECOMMENDED	REVISION
100 – Selectman's Office	\$188,423	\$188,423	-0-
110 – Treasurer	\$6,750	\$6,750	-0-
120 – Finance	\$336,216	\$336,216	-0-
130 - Town Clerk	\$208,007	\$208,007	-0-
140 - Assessor	\$198,824	\$180,426	(\$18,398)
First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved the reduction of \$18,398 which represents the request to increase the Part-time Position to a Full-time position.			
150 - Tax Collector	\$174,425	\$174,425	-0-
160 – Professional Services	\$206,380	\$181,380	(\$25,000)
First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved a reduction of \$25,000 to the litigation account.			
170 – Probate Office	\$2,650	\$2,650	-0-
180 – Building Inspection	\$196,155	\$196,155	-0-
190 – Data Processing	\$134,388	\$134,388	-0-
200 – Social Services	\$56,521	\$56,521	-0-
210 – Town Insurance	\$732,403	\$732,403	-0-
220 – Fleet Maintenance	\$311,550	\$311,550	-0-
230 – Public Works	\$321,979	\$321,979	-0-
240 – Highway Department	\$1,949,426	\$1,769,692	(\$179,734)

First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved reducing the request for one additional employee and related clothing allowance as well as \$100,000 to Road Construction.			
250 – Planning & Zoning	\$192,316	\$192,316	-0-
260 – Building Maintenance	\$680,006	\$680,006	-0-
270 – Tree Warden	\$93,700	\$93,700	-0-
290 – Emergency Management	\$32,000	\$38,538	+6,538
First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved the addition of funding in the amount of \$6,538 for the Mass Notification System.			
300 – Fire Marshal	\$83,161	\$83,161	-0-
310 – Bethel Fire Department	\$163,850	\$163,850	-0-
320 – Stony Hill Fire Department	\$155,450	\$155,450	-0-
330 – Registrar of Voters	\$79,886	\$79,886	-0-
340 – Town Boards & Comm.	\$134,448	\$134,448	-0-
350 – Health Department	\$253,457	\$253,457	-0-
360 – Police Department	\$3,637,978	\$3,492,978	(\$145,000)
First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved a reduction of \$145,000 to the Overtime account.			
380 – Parks & Recreation	\$923,202	\$923,202	-0-
390 – Employee Benefits	\$4,162,996	\$4,272,996	+\$110,000
First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved the addition of \$110,000 to the Hospitalization account to reflect the increase in the rates.			
400 – Non Gov't Agency Subs.	\$24,300	\$35,509	+\$11,209
First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved funding the agency requests at the current level. He pointed out that several agencies did not submit requests but were included anyhow.			
405 – Intra Gov't Agency Subs.	\$446,483	\$446,483	-0-
410 – Utilities Charges & Services	\$2,310,078	\$2,310,078	-0-
420 – Misc. Charges & Transfers	\$368,574	\$368,574	-0-
430 – Senior Center	\$131,018	\$129,018	(\$2,000)
First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved the reduction of \$2,000; they felt that this should be sufficient to replace the portable microphone system.			
435 – Library	\$825,717	\$808,717	(\$17,000)
First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved the reduction of \$17,000 to Part-time Clerks, Pages.			
440 – Debt Service	\$3,956,602	\$3,956,602	-0-
450 – Board of Education	\$37,500,417	\$37,350,417	(\$150,000)
First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved a general reduction of \$150,000.			
460 - BOE – Maintenance	\$450,829	\$350,829	(\$100,000)
First Selectman Burke advised that the Board of Selectmen approved a reduction of \$100,000.			

Deliberation on Fiscal Year 2008-2009 budget

100 Selectmen

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to approve funding of Account 100 – Selectmen at \$188,423* as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. (* This account was revisited after Executive Session.)

110 Treasurer

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 110 – Treasurer at \$6,750 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

120 Finance Department

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to approve funding of Account 120 – Finance Department at \$336,216 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

130 Town Clerk

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 130 – Town Clerk at \$208,007* as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. (* This account was revisited after Executive Session.)

140 Assessor

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 140 – Assessor at \$180,426 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.'

150 Tax Collector

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to approve funding of Account 150 – Tax Collector at \$174,425 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

160 Professional Services

William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by James Roden, to approve funding of Account 160 – Professional Services at \$181,380 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher abstained from the vote.

170 Probate Office

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to approve funding of Account 170 – Probate Office at \$2,650 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

180 Building Inspection

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 180 – Building Inspection at \$196,155 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

190 Data Processing

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 190 – Data Processing at \$134,388 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

200 Social Services

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to approve funding of Account 200 – Social Services at \$56,521 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

210 Town Insurance

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to approve funding of Account 210 – Town Insurance at \$732,403 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

220 Fleet Maintenance

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to approve funding of Account 220 – Fleet Maintenance at \$311,550 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

230 Public Works

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 220 – Fleet Maintenance at \$321,979 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

240 Highway Department

William Britt made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to approve funding of Account 240 – Highway Department at \$1,769,692 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

250 Planning & Zoning

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to approve funding of Account 250 – Planning & Zoning at \$192,316 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

260 Building Maintenance

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to approve funding of Account 260 – Building Maintenance at \$680,006 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

270 Tree Warden

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 270 – Tree Warden at \$93,700 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

290 Emergency Management

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to approve funding of Account 290 – Emergency Management at \$38,538 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

300 Fire Marshal

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to approve funding of Account 300 – Fire Marshal at \$83,161 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

310 Bethel Fire Department

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to approve funding of Account 310 – Bethel Fire Department at \$163,850 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

320 Stony Hill Fire Department

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 320 – Stony Hill Fire Department at \$155,450 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

330 Registrar of Voters

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 330 – Registrar of Voters at \$79,886 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

340 Town Boards & Commissions

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to approve funding of Account 340 – Town Boards & Commissions at \$134,448 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

350 Health Department

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 350 – Health Department at \$253,457 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

360 Police Department

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to approve funding of Account 360 – Police Department at \$3,492,978 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

380 Parks & Recreation

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to approve funding of Account 380 – Parks & Recreation at \$923,202 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

390 Employee Benefits

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to approve funding of Account 390 – Employee Benefits at \$4,272,996 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

400 Non Government Agency Subsidies

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 400 – Non Government Agency Subsidies at \$20,052. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Britt, Kevin Riley and William Slifkin. Voting against the motion: James Roden. Motion passed. This provides funding as follows: WECHAR @\$2,000, Mental Health Center @\$1,384, Women's Center @ -0-, Ability Beyond Disability @ -0-, Regional Commission @ -0-, Danbury Youth Service @ \$2,306, Hospice @ \$4,612,

Veterans Holding Company @ \$5,000, Literacy Volunteers @ \$1,000, Community Council @ \$ 2,000, New Opportunities @ -0-, NCD @ -0-, Shelter of the Cross @ \$500, Family & Children Aid @ -0-, HVA @ \$750, DAWS @ \$500, and Ann's Place @ -0-. It was agreed to revisit this account if those that neglected to send in their request letters should do so.

405 Intra Government Agency Subsidies

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 405 – Intra Government Agency Subsidies at \$446,483 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

410 Utilities, Charges & Services

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 410 – Utilities, Charges & Services at \$2,340,078. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This represents an additional \$30,000 to cover the increased cost based on the recent increase of water/sewer rates.

420 Misc. Charges and Transfers

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 420 – Misc. Charges and Transfers at \$368,574. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

430 Senior Center

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to fund Account 430 – Senior Center at \$129,018 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

435 Library

James Roden made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to reduce 105 – Part time clerks, Pages by \$4,287. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This represents a reduction of the proposed raise from 4% to 3% for the salary accounts. Board of Finance members discussed their understanding that the Library has line item control of their budget whereas the Board of Finance addresses the bottom line.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to fund Account 435 – Library at \$804,430. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

440 Debt Service

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to fund Account 440 – Debt Service at \$3,956,602 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

450 Board of Education

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 450 – Board of Education at \$37,300,417. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This represents a further reduction of \$50,000 from the Board of Selectmen's recommendation.

460 – Board of Education – Maintenance

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 460 – Board of Education Maintenance at \$350,829 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to go into Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of elected officials' salaries. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Comptroller Barry Curina and Wendy Smith, Office Administrator were invited into the Executive Session portion of the meeting.

Executive Session ended at 9:05 p.m.

100 – Selectmen's Office

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 100-101 First Selectman Salary at \$81,000 (an increase of \$3,810). Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. It was pointed out that for a number of years this position did not receive any salary increases, recently other elected officials salaries were increased and this position was not; members agreed that it is important to adequately fund the position.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 100-105 Selectmen at \$10,500 (an increase of \$500 - \$250 for each Selectmen). Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 100 – Selectmen's Office at \$192,733. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

130 Town Clerk

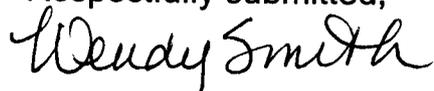
J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 130-101 Town Clerk's salary at \$56,846 (an increase of \$2,000). Voting in favor of the

motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Britt, Kevin Riley and James Roden. Voting against the motion: William Slifkin. Motion passed.

J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to recommend a Fiscal Year 2008-2009 proposed budget of \$61,087,746. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business, William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wendy Smith".

Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary