



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, December 15, 2009

7:30 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

Present: First Selectman Knickerbocker, Selectman Straiton and Selectman Szatkowski. Also in attendance was Town Counsel Martin J. Lawlor.

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance: First Selectman Knickerbocker called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to tonight’s agenda, under New Business, Item # 5) Establish a Special Meeting date for consideration of the Police Chief contract. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Public Comments: Patricia Rist, William Hillman and Robert Legnard spoke

Correspondence: Selectman Straiton presented a letter of disclosure advising that his wife, Sharon Straiton, has worked as an Election Official and would like to continue to do so in the future should the occasion arise.

Minutes of December 1, 2009 Regular Meeting: These minutes were accepted by Selectman Szatkowski, the only seated Selectman who attended the December 1, 2009 meeting.

Minutes of December 8, 2009 Special Meeting: Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Report: First Selectman Knickerbocker advised that he has enjoyed his first few weeks and is familiarizing himself with the various departments and has attended quite a few meetings of various town related groups. The South Street Firehouse Project was briefly discussed and it is anticipated that this will be an agenda topic in January.

New Business

1.) Consideration of Tax Collector's request for Tax Refund authorization.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the Tax Collector's request, dated December 15, 2009 and authorize Tax Refunds in the amount of \$1,978.17. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

2.) Consideration of establishing 2010 Regular Meeting Schedule

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to hold the Board of Selectmen regular monthly meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

The 2010 schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, January 5th and Tuesday, January 19th (previously scheduled)
 Tuesday, February 2nd and Tuesday, February 16th
 Tuesday, March 2nd and Tuesday, March 16th
 Tuesday, April 6th and Tuesday, April 20th
 Tuesday, May 4th and Tuesday, May 18th
 Tuesday, June 1st and Tuesday, June 15th
 Tuesday, July 6th and Tuesday, July 20th
 Tuesday, August 3rd and Tuesday, August 17th
 Tuesday, September 7th and Tuesday, September 21st
 Tuesday, October 5th and Tuesday, October 19th
 Tuesday, November 2nd and November 16th
 Tuesday, December 7th and Tuesday, December 21st
 Tuesday, January 4th and Tuesday, January 18th

All meetings will be held in the CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A” unless otherwise noted.

3.) Consideration of establishing the date for the Annual Town Meeting

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to establish the date of Monday May 3, 2010 as the date for the Annual Town Meeting. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

4.) Consideration of appointment for Planning & Zoning vacancy

Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint John Lennon (R) to the vacancy on the Planning & Zoning Commission as recommended by the Republican Town Committee. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This appointment fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Chris Bresloff and expires on January 5, 2011.

5.) Establish date for Special Meeting – Police Chief Contract

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to set the date of Monday, December 21, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. for a Special Meeting regarding the Police Chief contract. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Updates

1.) Discussion of Bethel High School Track donation

First Selectman Knickerbocker noted that Yvonne Grimes presented a check in the amount of \$600,000 to the Town of Bethel on December 10th for the renovation of the High School track and field storage building. The Board of Selectmen gratefully acknowledged this very generous gift that will benefit the town for many years.

2.) Discussion of Bethel Transfer Station

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to establish an Ad-Hoc committee, members to be appointed in January for the purpose of review and recommendation to the Board of Selectmen, a plan for the Bethel Transfer Station. The duties and responsibilities of the Bethel Transfer Station Ad-Hoc Committee shall, but not be limited to, include making recommendation to the Board of Selectmen on the following:

- a. Analyze financial position of transfer station operations
- b. Review and analyze the two privatization proposals currently on the table, including the following:

1. Investigate existing municipal transfer stations that were privatized including any other transfer stations dedicated solely to construction and debris removal. Said investigation to include but not limited to physical requirements of the land and improvements necessary, costs to set up, operating expenses including manpower required, profitability, protection and effect on the environment, the overall effect including traffic on the neighborhood where located and the community at large, including costs of maintaining roads and other effected municipal infrastructure.
2. Present above findings to the BOS with a public hearing aspect where the public is encouraged to participate and ask questions.
3. Conduct a second public hearing to allow for public comment as to what they expect and want from a transfer station in light of with the information obtained from the ad hoc committee.
4. Establish goals for the operation of the station that are consistent with the attitude of the community.
5. Devise a course of action that is consistent with the goals and feedback obtained (such as raise rates, restructure, privatize, etc).

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary