



# BOARD OF FINANCE

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

**RECEIVED**

MAR 11 2009

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING**  
Wednesday, March 4, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.  
CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**PRESENT:** J. Philip Gallagher, Chairman, William Britt, Kevin Riley, William Slifkin, James Roden, Gary Regan and John Dieter. Also in attendance were First Selectman Burke and Selectman Szatkowski.

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

**Presentation by Board of Selectmen - FY 2009-2010 recommended budget**

First Selectman Burke presented the Board of Selectmen recommended budget for FY 2009-2010:

	Budget 2008-2009	Requested 2009-2010	Recommendation 2009-2010
100 Selectmen	\$188,423	\$186,222	\$186,222
110 Treasurer	\$6,750	\$6,750	\$6,750
120 Finance Department	\$336,216	\$345,889	\$336,216
First Selectman Burke advised that this includes a reduction to 120-101 Comptroller's Salary of \$9,673.			
130 Town Clerk	\$208,007	\$211,147	\$211,147
140 Assessor	\$180,426	\$201,007	\$185,407
First Selectman Burke advised that this includes a reduction of \$15,600 (eliminates the request to turn the part-time position into a full-time position).			
150 Tax Collector	\$174,425	\$181,525	\$181,525
160 Professional Services	\$181,380	\$176,380	\$176,380
170 Probate Office	\$2,650	\$2,650	\$2,650
180 Building Inspection	\$196,155	\$206,059	\$206,059
190 Data Processing	\$134,388	\$134,388	\$134,388
200 Social Services	\$56,521	\$58,188	\$58,188
210 Town Insurance	\$732,403	\$759,699	\$759,699
220 Fleet Maintenance	\$311,550	\$314,751	\$314,751
230 Public Works	\$321,979	\$297,287	\$297,287
240 Highway Department	\$1,529,692	\$1,549,351	\$1,549,351
250 Planning & Zoning	\$192,316	\$201,184	\$201,184
260 Building Maintenance	\$680,006	\$619,564	\$619,564
270 Tree Warden	\$83,700	\$84,400	\$84,400
290 Emergency Mgmt.	\$38,538	\$28,500	\$28,500
300 Fire Marshall	\$83,161	\$86,310	\$86,310
310 Bethel Fire Department	\$163,850	\$183,400	\$180,200

<b>First Selectman Burke advised that this provides for a reduction of \$3,200 to 310-301 Dues &amp; Education.</b>				
320	SHFD Hill Fire Dept.	\$155,450	\$140,450	\$140,450
330	Registrar of Voters	\$79,886	\$77,486	\$77,486
340	Town Boards/Comm.	\$109,448	\$108,017	\$108,017
350	Health Department	\$253,457	\$260,711	\$260,711
360	Police Department	\$3,412,978	\$3,479,041	\$3,455,641
<b>First Selectman Burke advised that this provides for a reduction of \$23,400</b>				
380	Parks & Recreation	\$913,202	\$902,166	\$902,166
390	Employee Benefits	\$4,272,996	\$4,441,154	\$4,441,154
400	Non Gov't Agency Sub.	\$-0-	\$40,518	\$13,871
<b>First Selectman Burke advised that they reduced the request by \$26,647; this provides funding of \$13,871 to Hospice of \$2,500, Veterans Holding Company \$5,000 and New Opportunities of \$6,371.</b>				
405	Intra Gov't Agency Sub.	\$426,483	\$389,214	\$369,214
<b>First Selectman Burke advised that this represents a reduction of \$20,000 to 405-349 Visiting Nurse Association</b>				
410	Util., Charges & Ser.	\$2,340,078	\$2,115,227	\$2,115,227
420	Misc. Charges & Transfers	\$386,574	\$320,574	\$320,574
430	Senior Center	\$128,018	\$132,584	\$130,584
<b>First Selectman Burke advised that they made a reduction of \$2,000 to 430-317 Activities</b>				
435	Library	\$744,430	\$737,618	\$737,618
440	Debt Service	\$3,956,602	\$4,187,023	\$4,187,023
450	Board of Education	\$36,567,417	\$37,181,750	\$36,567,417
<b>First Selectman Burke advised that they made a reduction of \$614,333 which equates to a zero increase over the current budget. When questioned about how this reduction was reached, he advised that the reduction was based on a number of factors like the economy, revenue shortfalls on both the local and state levels, decrease to the grand list; etc. He offered that it would be irresponsible in this economy to put forth anything above a zero increase.</b>				
460	BOE - Bldg. Maintenance	\$350,829	\$336,406	\$336,406

**Establish date for Public Hearing on FY 2009-2010 recommended budget:**

William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by James Roden, to hold the Public Hearing on Thursday, March 26, 2009. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**FY 2009-2010 Budget Deliberations:**

William Britt made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to recess the Board of Finance Special Meeting to Monday, March 9, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

J. Philip Gallagher called the recessed special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All Board of Finance members were present.

Account	Budget 2008-2009	Requested FY 2009-2010	Selectmen Recommendation	Finance Board Recommendation
100 Selectmen	\$188,423	\$186,222	\$186,222	\$186,222
<b>William Britt made a motion, which was seconded by James Roden, to fund Account 100 - Selectmen at \$186,222. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have been frozen for classified employees and that the Board of Finance determines a salary increase for the First Selectman. He noted</b>				

<b>that salary for the First Selectman's position only been raised once in several years.</b>				
<b>110 Treasurer</b>	<b>\$6,750</b>	<b>\$6,750</b>	<b>\$6,750</b>	<b>\$6,750</b>
Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 110 – Treasurer at \$6,750. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>120 Finance</b>	<b>\$336,216</b>	<b>345,889</b>	<b>336,216</b>	<b>336,216</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 120 – Finance Department at \$336,216. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have been frozen for classified employees; this account has both classified service employees and employees in collective bargaining units.				
<b>130 Town Clerk</b>	<b>\$208,007</b>	<b>\$211,147</b>	<b>\$211,147</b>	<b>\$211,147</b>
Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to fund 130 – Town Clerk at \$211,147. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that the salary for the Town Clerk is determined by the Board of Finance; this account has both an elected position and employees in collective bargaining units. He noted that the Board of Finance sets the salaries for Elected Officials and this salary was not increased for 2008-2009.				
<b>140 Assessor</b>	<b>\$180,426</b>	<b>\$201,007</b>	<b>\$185,407</b>	<b>\$185,407</b>
Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 140 Assessor at \$185,407. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have been frozen for classified employees; this account has both classified service employees and employees in collective bargaining units.				
<b>150 Tax Collector</b>	<b>\$174,425</b>	<b>\$181,525</b>	<b>\$181,525</b>	<b>\$181,525</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 150 Tax Collector at \$181,525. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have been frozen for classified employees; this account has both classified service employees and employees in collective bargaining units.				
<b>160 Professional Services</b>	<b>\$181,380</b>	<b>\$176,380</b>	<b>\$176,380</b>	<b>\$176,380</b>
John Dietter made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to fund Account 170 Professional Services \$176,380. Voting in favor of the motion: William Britt, Kevin Riley, William Slifkin, James Roden, Gary Regan and John Dietter. J. Philip Gallagher abstained from voting. Motion passed.				
<b>170 Probate Office</b>	<b>\$2,650</b>	<b>\$2,650</b>	<b>\$2,650</b>	<b>\$2,650</b>
William Britt made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 170 Probate Office at \$2,650. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>180 Building Inspector</b>	<b>\$196,155</b>	<b>\$206,059</b>	<b>\$206,059</b>	<b>\$206,059</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 180 Building Inspection at \$206,059. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have been frozen for classified employees; this account has both classified service employees and employees in collective bargaining units.				
<b>190 Data Processing</b>	<b>\$134,388</b>	<b>\$134,388</b>	<b>\$134,388</b>	<b>\$134,388</b>
Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to fund Account 190 Data Processing at \$134,388. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>200 Social Services</b>	<b>\$56,521</b>	<b>\$58,188</b>	<b>\$58,188</b>	<b>\$58,188</b>
Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to fund Account 200 Social Services at \$58,188. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have been frozen for classified employees; this account has a classified service employee.				
<b>210 Town Insurance</b>	<b>\$732,403</b>	<b>\$759,699</b>	<b>\$759,699</b>	<b>\$759,699</b>
William Britt made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 210 Town Insurance at \$759,699. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				

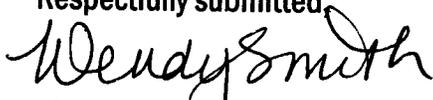
<b>220 Fleet Maintenance</b>	<b>\$311,550</b>	<b>\$314,751</b>	<b>\$314,751</b>	<b>\$314,751</b>
William Britt made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 220 Fleet Maintenance at \$314,751. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>230 Public Works</b>	<b>\$321,979</b>	<b>\$297,287</b>	<b>\$297,287</b>	<b>\$297,287</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by James Roden, to fund Account 230 Public Works at \$297,287. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have been frozen for classified employees; this account has both classified service employees and employees in collective bargaining units.				
<b>240 Highway</b>	<b>\$1,529,692</b>	<b>\$1,549,351</b>	<b>\$1,549,351</b>	<b>\$1,549,351</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 240 Highway Department at \$1,549,351. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>250 Planning &amp; Zoning</b>	<b>\$192,316</b>	<b>\$201,184</b>	<b>\$201,184</b>	<b>\$201,184</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to fund Account 250 Planning & Zoning at \$201,184. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>260 Building Maintenance</b>	<b>\$680,006</b>	<b>\$619,564</b>	<b>\$619,564</b>	<b>\$619,564</b>
Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 260 Building Maintenance at \$619,564. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>270 Tree Warden</b>	<b>\$83,700</b>	<b>\$84,400</b>	<b>\$84,400</b>	<b>\$84,400</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to fund Account 270 Tree Warden at \$84,400. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>290 Emergency Management</b>	<b>\$38,538</b>	<b>\$28,500</b>	<b>\$28,500</b>	<b>\$28,500</b>
Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to fund Account 290 Emergency Management at \$28,500. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>300 Fire Marshall</b>	<b>\$83,161</b>	<b>\$86,310</b>	<b>\$86,310</b>	<b>\$86,310</b>
John Dietter made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 300 Fire Marshall at \$86,310. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>310 Bethel Fire Dept</b>	<b>\$163,850</b>	<b>\$183,400</b>	<b>\$180,200</b>	<b>\$180,200</b>
Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to fund Account 310 Bethel Fire Department at \$180,200. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>320 SHFD</b>	<b>\$155,450</b>	<b>\$140,450</b>	<b>\$140,450</b>	<b>\$140,450</b>
John Dietter made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan to fund Account 320 Stony Hill Fire Department at \$140,450. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>330 Registrar of Voters</b>	<b>\$79,886</b>	<b>\$77,486</b>	<b>\$77,486</b>	<b>\$77,486</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to fund Account 330 Registrar of Voters at \$77,486. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher noted that the Board of Finance sets the salary for the Elected Registrar of Voters.				
<b>340 Town Boards &amp; Comm.</b>	<b>\$109,448</b>	<b>\$108,017</b>	<b>\$108,017</b>	<b>\$108,017</b>
William Britt made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 340 Town Boards & Commissions at \$108,017. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>350 Health Department</b>	<b>\$253,457</b>	<b>\$260,711</b>	<b>\$260,711</b>	<b>\$260,711</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund Account 350 Health Department at \$260,711. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have been frozen for classified employees; this account has both classified service employees and employees in collective bargaining units.				
<b>360 Police Department</b>	<b>\$3,412,978</b>	<b>\$3,479,041</b>	<b>\$3,455,641</b>	<b>\$3,455,641</b>
John Dietter made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to fund Account 360 Police Department at \$3,455,641. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have				

been frozen for classified employees; this account has both a classified service employee, a contract employee and employees in collective bargaining units.				
<b>380 Parks &amp; Recreation</b>	<b>\$913,202</b>	<b>\$902,166</b>	<b>\$902,166</b>	<b>\$902,166</b>
John Dietter made a motion, which was seconded by James Roden to fund account 380 Parks & Recreation at \$902,166. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Britt, Kevin Riley, James Roden and John Dietter. William Slifkin and Gary Regan abstained from voting on this account. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have been frozen for classified employees; this account has both a classified service employee and employees in collective bargaining units.				
<b>390 Employee Benefits</b>	<b>\$4,272,996</b>	<b>\$4,441,154</b>	<b>\$4,441,154</b>	<b>\$4,441,154</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to fund account 390 Employee Benefits at \$4,441,154. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>400 Non Govt Agency Subsidies</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>\$40,518</b>	<b>\$13,871</b>	<b>\$13,871</b>
John Dietter made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 400 Non Government Agency Subsidies at \$13,871. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>405 Intra Govt Agency Subsidies</b>	<b>\$426,483</b>	<b>\$389,214</b>	<b>\$369,214</b>	<b>\$369,214</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to fund Account 405 Utilities, Charges & Services at \$369,214. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>410 Utilities, Charges &amp; Services</b>	<b>\$2,340,078</b>	<b>\$2,115,227</b>	<b>\$2,115,227</b>	<b>\$2,115,227</b>
Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to fund Account 410 Utilities, Charges & Services at \$2,115,227. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>420 Misc. Charges &amp; Transfers</b>	<b>\$368,574</b>	<b>\$320,574</b>	<b>\$320,574</b>	<b>\$320,574</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by James Roden, to fund Account 420 - Misc. Charges & Transfers at \$320,574. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>430 Senior Center</b>	<b>\$128,018</b>	<b>\$132,584</b>	<b>\$130,584</b>	<b>\$130,584</b>
Gary Regan made a motion, which was seconded by John Dietter, to fund Account 430 Senior Center at \$130,584. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. J. Philip Gallagher pointed out that salaries have been frozen for classified employees; this account has both classified service employees and employees in collective bargaining units.				
<b>435 Library</b>	<b>\$744,430</b>	<b>\$737,618</b>	<b>\$737,618</b>	<b>\$737,618</b>
Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by James Roden, to fund Account 435 Library at \$737,618. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				
<b>440 Debt Service</b>	<b>\$3,956,602</b>	<b>\$4,187,023</b>	<b>\$4,187,023</b>	<b>\$4,187,023</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to fund Account 440 Debt Service at \$4,187,023. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Discussion took place regarding this account; this is the first year that the High School project interest appears.				
<b>450 Board of Education</b>	<b>\$36,567,417</b>	<b>\$37,181,750</b>	<b>\$36,567,417</b>	<b>\$37,000,000</b>
J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by John Dietter, to fund Account 450 Board of Education at \$37,000,000. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Britt, Kevin Riley and John Dietter. Voting against the motion: William Slifkin, James Roden and Gary Regan. Motion passed. Discussion took place regarding revenues from the State for ECS (Education Cost Sharing); at this time no one is sure what the State will commit to for reimbursement. James Roden, William Slifkin and Gary Regan offered that based on the economy and reduced revenues; there should be no increase to this account.				
<b>460 BOE - Maintenance</b>	<b>\$350,829</b>	<b>\$336,406</b>	<b>\$336,406</b>	<b>\$336,406</b>
William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley to fund Account 460 - Board of Education Maintenance at \$336,406. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.				

Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to approve a total budget amount of \$60,402,320 to send to the Public Hearing on Thursday, March 26, 2009. Voting in favor of the motion: J. Philip Gallagher, William Britt, Kevin Riley and John Dietter. Voting against the motion: William Slifkin, James Roden and Gary Regan. Motion passed.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, William Britt made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to adjourn the Special Meeting at 7:09 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