



BOARD OF FINANCE

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MAR 11 2009

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Monday, March 9, 2009
7:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

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

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance: J. Philip Gallagher called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

Public Comments: Alice Hutchinson, Lawrence Craybas, Shani Burke Specht and Irene Drake spoke.

Correspondence: Letter dated March 4, 2009 from the Board of Education regarding an invitation to the Board of Finance to attend an Executive Session Meeting regarding Special Education funding.

William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by James Roden, to add this item as #4 to tonight's agenda. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of January 12, 2009: William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by James Roden, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of February 9, 2009: William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of February 10, 2009: William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of February 17, 2009: William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by J. Philip Gallagher, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of February 19, 2009: J. Philip Gallagher made a motion, which was seconded by William Slifkin, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of February 24, 2009: Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

New Business

1.) Consideration of recommendation from Board of Selectmen - funding of matching share for Bethel High School/Bethel Middle School Security Grant

William Slifkin made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin Riley, to concur with the Board of Selectmen recommendation to fund an appropriation not to exceed \$178,590 (\$105,767 local share and \$72,823 State Grant) for the security system at the Bethel High School, funding to come from the 2009-2009 Board of Education operating budget . Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Barry Curina, Comptroller clarified that it was not necessary to act on the grant for the Middle School as the Board of Education was providing the matching funds from their current operating budget and that it falls below the requirement for approval at a town meeting.

Ms. Yonksy, Director of Fiscal Services was present and stressed that the money the Board of Education would be using to fund the matching share for this grant, was money that the Board of Education would have been able to turn back this current year (based on their spending freeze and other cost saving methods) to offset the revenue shortages.

- 2.) Transfers, if required, by Comptroller:** Comptroller Barry Curina advised that there were no transfer requests at this time.
- 3.) Update FY 2008-2009 Budget Shortfall:** Comptroller Barry Curina advised that the Town will be holding a tax sale; this is anticipated to

generate \$250-\$300,000. He advised while there has been some improvement to the projected shortfall, April is a collection month and he will have more information by the end of April.

4.) Board of Education Invitation – March 19, 2009 – Special Education Meeting

John Dietter made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to accept the Board of Education invitation to participate in the Executive Session for the Board of Education on March 19th at 6:30 p.m. to review the accounting done to complete the application for funds to the State. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Kevin Riley made a motion, which was seconded by William Britt, to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:49 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary