



# BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

*Robert Burke, First Selectman  
Paul Szatkowski, Selectman  
Kevin L. Cleary, Selectman*

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 21, 2009  
7:30 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

**RECEIVED**

APR 23 2009

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**PRESENT:** First Selectman Burke, Selectman Szatkowski and Selectman Cleary. Also in attendance was William Hagan, Town Attorney.

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

**Public Comments:** Shani Burke Specht, Alice Hutchinson and Christopher Trodahl spoke.

**Correspondence:** Letter dated March 25, 2009 from Kevin Riley - disclosure of potential conflict of interest, Letter dated April 16, 2009 from J. Philip Gallagher - disclosure of potential conflict of interest and Letter dated April 21, 2009 from Christopher Trodahl- Freedom of Information request for documents. First Selectman Burke noted that correspondence was accepted for the record.

**Minutes of April 7, 2009 Public Hearing:** Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to approve the minutes of April 7, 2009 Public Hearing as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**Minutes of April 7, 2009 Regular Meeting:** Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2009 Regular Meeting as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**Minutes of April 14, 2009 Special Meeting:** First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to table action on the minutes of April 14, 2009 until the conclusion of the hearing. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**First Selectman Report** – First Selectman Burke noted that the Certificate of Occupancy for the Bethel High School has been signed off on by the Building Official and Fire Marshal. He also advised that the elevator and construction project at the South Street Fire Department is moving along.

## **New Business**

### **1.) Consideration of Accepting Call for the Annual Town Meeting**

#### **TOWN OF BETHEL, CONNECTICUT NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING**

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, Whittlesey Drive in Bethel, Connecticut on Monday, May 4, 2009 at 7:30 p.m., for the following purposes, to wit:

- 1) To consider and take action upon a resolution in the amount of Twenty Three Million Four Hundred Three Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy (\$23,403,970) Dollars, of which the sum of Three Million Sixty Three Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Two (\$3,063,582) Dollars will be used for operation, maintenance and other expenditures related to education as recommended by the Board of Finance, as the Annual Town Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2009.
- 2) To consider and take action upon a resolution in the amount of Thirty Six Million Five Hundred Sixty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Seventeen (\$36,567,417) Dollars, as recommended by the Board of Finance, as the Annual Board of Education Budget for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2009.
- 3) 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, 2009, which tax anticipation notes are to be repaid from anticipated tax revenues.
- 4) 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.
- 5) 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.
- 6) To do any and all things which may be legally necessary or appropriate to accomplish the above named purposes.

Dated at Bethel, Connecticut this 21st day of April 2008.

Board of Selectmen  
Robert E. Burke, First Selectman  
Paul Szatkowski, Selectman  
Kevin L. Cleary, Selectman

Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to accept the Call for the Annual Town Budget Meeting as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

## **2.) Consideration of Re-adoption of Fair Housing Resolution**

### **TOWN OF BETHEL READOPTION OF FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, all American citizens are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

**WHEREAS**, State and Federal Fair Housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, age, mental or physical disability, lawful source of income, sexual orientation, familial status, be given equal access to rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Town of Bethel** is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the **Town of Bethel** hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase and obtain financing for adequate housing of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis; And,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the First Selectman of the **Town of Bethel** or his designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practice in the Town of Bethel.

Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to re-adopt the Fair Housing Resolution as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

## **3.) Joint Session with Library Building Committee regarding committee charge and responsibilities.**

The Library Building Committee called itself into session; members included Robert Tripi, William Slifkin, Daniel Gaita, Paul Tripi and Richard Straiton. First Selectman Burke explained that their charge is to finish the Library Project, solicit Request for Proposals (RFP) for construction administrator, engage an architect and do all things possible to bring the project to conclusion, on time and on budget. The Library Building Committee elected officers and established a meeting schedule.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to add to tonight's agenda, as item 4, Target vs Town of Bethel. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to add to tonight's agenda, as item 5, Bethel Associates LP vs Town of Bethel. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of pending legal matters at 8:15 p.m. for Target vs Town of Bethel. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Town Attorney William Hagan and Assessor Ann Marie Heering were invited into the Executive Session portion of the meeting.

Executive Session ended at 8:45 p.m.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, not to change the assessment for Target. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

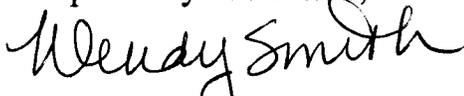
First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of pending legal matters at 8:47 p.m. for Bethel Associates LP vs Town of Bethel. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. Attorney William Hagan and Assessor Ann Marie Heering were invited into the Executive Session portion of the meeting.

Executive Session ended at 8:53 p.m.

First Selectman Burke made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to keep the value for Bethel Associates LP as \$20,058,400 (assessment \$14,040,880). Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Cleary, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary