



# BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

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

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, July 19, 2011  
7:30 pm.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

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TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**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 7:37 p.m.

**Public Comments:** Karen Foster (Farm Court issue) George Bryce, President UPSEU Local 424 (Ellis-Union issue), Robert Burke (Ellis issue) and Robert Crnic (Ellis/Old Rail Station)

**Correspondence:** none that was not already on tonight’s agenda

**Minutes of July 5, 2011:** Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the minutes of July 5, 2011 as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**First Selectman Report:** First Selectman Knickerbocker reported on the first two weeks of the Farmer’s Market; they were a huge success! He also met with commercial property owners today at the first round of meetings. He noted the feedback was great and will provide great insight as to how we as the Town of Bethel can provide better support to our downtown property owners. First Selectman Knickerbocker advised that the Blight Ordinance and Fines/Citation Ordinance has been referred to the appropriate town agencies for feedback and consideration at the next Board of Selectmen meeting. Selectmen noted that a Public Hearing would be held the following evening on the water/sewer rates.

## **New Business**

### **1.) Consideration of Tax Collector's request for Tax Abatement for Bethel Housing Authority and Augustana Homes**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the Tax Collector's request for Tax Abatement for the Bethel Housing Authority and Augustana Homes Inc. for the Grand List of October 1, 2010 in the amount of \$104,396.68. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

### **2.) 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 July 19, 2011 in the amount of \$692.58. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

### **3.) Consideration of request for Senior Center space utilization study**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the request for the Senior Center space utilization study and refer it to the Public Site & Building Committee.

Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table this request. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

### **4.) Consideration of request from Stony Hill Fire Department - vehicle purchase**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table the request of the SHFD. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

### **5.) Consideration of Resolution - Transit Oriented District**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table the TOD. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

### **6.) Consideration of Resolution - Dept. of Energy Management/Homeland Security**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, that:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Bethel may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Matthew S. Knickerbocker, as First Selectman of the Town of Bethel, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Bethel and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**7.) Consideration of request – Bethel Controlled Deer Hunt**

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to approve the 2011 (January 2012 Archery only) Bethel Controlled Deer Hunt. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

They will be advised that they need to provide the town with copies of the waiver/indemnification papers.

**8.) Consideration of appointment – Deer Alliance**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to tonight's agenda, increasing the membership of the Deer Alliance and that the term runs until January 1, 2012. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**8a) Deer Alliance – increase membership**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to increase Bethel's representatives on the Deer Alliance to three members. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to appoint John Rondano and Will Duff as Bethel's representatives to the Deer Alliance. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. These terms expire on January 1, 2012.

**9.) Consideration of request – acceptance of Farm Court as a town road**

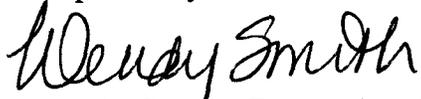
First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton that based on the recommendation from the Town Engineer and approval by the Planning & Zoning Commission, to accept Farm Court as a town road.

Discussion took place regarding Farm Court. Karen Foster, resident of Farm Court was present and discussed with the Selectmen drainage issues on the roadway and her property. The Board of Selectmen agreed to ask Town Engineer Andrew Morosky for more information on the condition of the road. Planning & Zoning had reduced the bond from \$10,000 to \$3,000. The \$3,000 was to be used for drainage work at the intersection of Farm Court and Maple Avenue. Mrs. Foster does not believe that the second course of pavement was ever installed.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to withdraw their original motion and instead table the matter. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary