



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 SPECIAL MEETING

Monday – March 10, 2014
7:00 p.m.
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 were Comptroller Robert Kozlowski and Assistant Comptroller Brad Heering.

First Selectman Knickerbocker called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget Deliberation

100	Selectmen	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$229,219
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$229,219

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 100 – Selectmen at **\$229,219**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. It was pointed out that the increase in the account is not a salary increase but rather the elimination of the charge off to the Economic Development account, and the addition of half of the salary for the Economic Development Director.

110	Treasurer	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$7,300
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$7,300

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 110 – Treasurer at **\$7,300**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

120	Finance	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$390,761
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$390,761

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First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 120 – Finance at **\$390,761**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

130 Town Clerk	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$219,978
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$215,620

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 130 – Town Clerk at \$219,978. First Selectman Knickerbocker amended the motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to reduce Account 130-101 Town Clerk Salary by \$4,358. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. It was pointed out that the Board of Selectmen does not set the salary for the Town Clerk; salaries for elected officials are set by the Board of Finance. First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend funding Account 130 – Town Clerk at **\$215,620**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

140 Assessor	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$203,388
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$203,388

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 140 – Assessor at **\$203,388**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

150 Tax Collector	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$192,905
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$192,905

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 150 – Tax Collector at **\$192,905**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

160 Professional Services	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$237,680
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$212,680

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 160 – Professional Services at **\$212,680** by reducing 160-352 Legal Services by \$25,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

170 Probate Office	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$4,611
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$4,611

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First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 170 – Probate Office at **\$4,611**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

180	Building Inspection	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$213,111
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$213,111

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 180 – Building Inspection at **\$213,111**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

190	Data Processing	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$272,507
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$272,507

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 190 – Data Processing at **\$272,507**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

200	Social Services	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$63,597
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$35,000

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 200 – Social Services at **\$35,000** which reduces 200-101 Social Services Director salary by \$28,597 as she will be working part-time hours. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

210	Insurance	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$1,135,914
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$1,135,914

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 210 – Insurance at **\$1,135,914**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

220	Fleet Maintenance	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$359,096
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$359,096

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 220 – Fleet Maintenance at **\$359,096**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

230	Public Works	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$316,423
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$312,173

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First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 230 – Public Works at \$316,423.

Selectman Szatkowski amended the motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to reduce Account 230-120 Intern by \$3,250. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Selectman Straiton further amended the motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to reduce 230 – 301 Dues and Education by \$1,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Vote on new amount of **\$312,173** – Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

240 Highway Department	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$1,275,693
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$1,272,093

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 240 – Highway Department at \$1,272,693.

First Selectman Knickerbocker amended the motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to increase 240-404 Road Construction by \$100,000. Voting in favor of the motion: First Selectman Knickerbocker. Voting against the motion: Selectman Straiton and Selectman Szatkowski. Motion fails.

Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to reduce 240-308 Clothing Allowance by \$3,600. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Vote on new amount of **\$1,272,093** – Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

250 Planning & Zoning	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$222,458
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$222,458

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 250 – Planning & Zoning at \$222,458. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

260 Building Maintenance	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$698,413
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$682,113

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 260 – Building Maintenance at \$698,413

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First Selectman Knickerbocker amended the motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to reduce 260 – 207 Maintenance & Repairs by \$16,300 (this represents a general reduction to the account).

Vote on the new bottom line of **\$682,113** – Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

270	Tree Warden	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$99,400
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$99,400

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 270 – Tree Warden at **\$99,400**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

290	Emergency Mgmt.	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$27,250
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$27,250

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 290 – Emergency Management at **\$27,250**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

300	Fire Marshal	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$86,047
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$86,047

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 300 – Fire Marshal at **\$86,047**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

310	Bethel Fire Dept.	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$183,250
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$177,750

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 310 – Bethel Fire Department at **\$177,250** which removes the Chiefs stipend of \$5,000 and \$500 general reduction to 310-301 to fund at \$18,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Selectman Szatkowski expressed concern of starting a precedent by funding a stipend for the chief – concerned with the inevitability of the cost for a paid fire department. Selectmen agreed to look into what other towns do for a stipend and would consider phasing a stipend in – in the next fiscal year.

320	Stony Hill Fire Dept.	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$134,750
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$134,750

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First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 320 – Stony Hill Fire Department at **\$134,750**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

330 Registrar of Voters	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$102,336
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$102,336

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 330 – Registrar of Voters at **\$102,336**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

340 Boards & Commissions	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$113,350
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$113,350

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 340 – Boards & Commissions at **\$113,350**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

350 Health Department	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$284,436
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$284,436

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 350 – Health Department at **\$284,436**. Voting in favor of the motion: First Selectman Knickerbocker and Selectman Straiton. Voting against the motion. Selectman Szatkowski. Motion passed. It had been discussed to remove \$5,000 from the contracted services for the replacement vehicle and reimburse staff for mileage but since town insurance would not pay for damages if a personal vehicle was used, it was withdrawn.

360 Police Department	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$4,004,487
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$3,974,487

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 360 – Police Department at **\$3,974,487** – (this removes one vehicle and related equipment).

Selectman Szatkowski amended the motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to reduce 360-403 by \$60,000 (two vehicles and related equipment). Voting in favor of the motion: Selectman Szatkowski. Voting against the motion. First Selectman Knickerbocker and Selectman Straiton. Motion failed.

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First Selectman Knickerbocker amended the motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to reduce 360-403 Capital Equipment by \$30,000 (one vehicle and related equipment).

Vote on the original motion of **\$3,974,487** – Voting in favor of the motion: First Selectman Knickerbocker and Selectman Straiton. Voting against the motion. Selectman Szatkowski. Motion passed.

380 Parks & Recreation	Fiscal Year 2014-2015	\$947,074*
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$937,774

** \$947,074 is the correct amount of the budget request, not \$941,524 as shown in the budget book.*

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 380 – Parks & Recreation at \$947,074

Selectman Straiton amended the motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to reduce 380 – 206 Maintenance & Supplies by \$4,500 to fund at \$76,080 and to reduce 380 – 315 Park Maintenance & Repairs by \$4,800 to fund at \$20,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Vote on new bottom line of **\$937,774** – Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

390 Employee Benefits	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$6,466,106
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$6,402,108

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 390 – Employee Benefits at **\$6,402,108** (removes funding for 390-121 OPEB in the amount of \$64,000). Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

400 Non Govt. Agencies	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$33,443
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$19,616

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 400 – Non Government Agency Subsidies at **\$19,616** (provides funding 400-333 WECHAR at \$500, 400-334 Mental Health Center at \$2,046, 400-335 Women’s Center at \$3,000, 400-336 Ability Beyond Disability at \$4,000, 400-360 Hospice at \$2,500, 400-362 Veterans Holding at \$2,500, 400-366 Bethel Combat Veterans at \$2,500, 400-372 New Opportunities at \$1,070, 400-375 Family & Children’s Aid at \$1,500) Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

405 Intra Govt. Subsidies	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$454,968
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$434,968

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Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Knickerbocker, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 405-Intra Government Agency Subsidies at \$434,968 – this reduces 405-349 Visiting Nurse Association by \$20,000, 405-366 Paramedic Intercept by \$40,000 and creates a new line item for the Transfer Station to fund at \$40,000. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

410	Utilities, Chgs. & Servs.	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$2,448,295
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$2,441,295

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 410 – Utilities, Charges & Services at **\$2,441,295** (this reduces 410-321 Utilities by \$7,000 to fund at \$1,990,000). Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

420	Misc. Chgs. & Transfers	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$625,596
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$625,596

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 420 – Miscellaneous Charges and Transfers at **\$625,596**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

430	Senior Center	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$146,725
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$146,725

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account – 430 Senior Center at **\$146,725**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

435	Library	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$869,218
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$841,000

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 435 – Library at **\$841,000** (provides for a general reduction to the bottom line of \$28,218). Voting against the motion. First Selectman Knickerbocker. Voting in favor of the motion: Selectman Straiton and Selectman Szatkowski. Motion passed.

440	Debt Service	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$3,846,768
		Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$3,846,768

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First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 440 – Debt Service at **\$3,846,768**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

450 Board of Education	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$42,129,368
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$42,129,368

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 450 – Board of Education at **\$42,129,368**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

460 BOE – Maintenance	Fiscal Year 2014-2015 request	\$549,212
	Board of Selectmen recommendation	\$500,000

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to recommend to the Board of Finance, funding Account 460 – Board of Education Maintenance at **\$500,000** (provides for a general reduction of \$49,212). Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recommend to the Board of Finance a recommended town and education Fiscal Year 2014-2015 budget of **\$69,285,971**. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to recess the meeting to Thursday, March 13, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Knickerbocker reconvened the Special Meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 13, 2014.

After considerable discussion, First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to fund recommend to the Board of Finance, funding **\$3,097,670** for the following capital items:

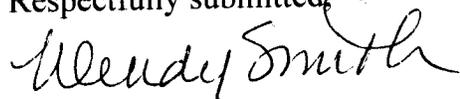
DEPARTMENT	ITEM	2014-2015
ASSESSOR	2017 REVALUATION (ESTIMATED COST \$250,000)	50,000
P&Z	UPDATE/REFORMAT SUBDIVISION REGS& WETLAND REGS	15,000
FLEET MAINT.	FLEET MAINTENANCE TRUCK-CAB AND CHASSIS	45,000
HIGHWAY	ROAD CONSTRUCTION	1,842,500
HIGHWAY	BACKHOE / LOADER REPLACES 1985	93,000
HIGHWAY	FUNNEL PLOWS (2)	15,000
BOE	ROUTES TO ATHLETIC FIELDS, DUGOUTS BLEACHERS ETC.	35,225

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BOE	MIDDLE SCHOOL REPAIR & REPAINT AUDITORIUM CEILING	30,000
BOE	MIDDLE SCHOOL CEILING TILES	10,000
BOE	BERRY EXPAND UPPER PARKING LOT & CONNECTING SIDEWALK	30,000
BLDG. MAINT.	MC GYM - STUDY	50,000
BLDG. MAINT.	REPLACE TRUCK BL-55	27,145
BETHEL FIRE	REPLACE ENGINE 5	650,000
SH FIRE	WATER MAIN TIE IN FOR STONY HILL FIREHOUSE	30,000
SH FIRE	REPLACE GARAGE DOORS	25,000
LIBRARY	EPOXY FLOORS IN HVAC ROOMS	30,000
LIBRARY	RENOVATE/RESTORE SEELEY HOUSE SHUTTERS	4,800
LIBRARY	PAINTING EXTERIOR SEELEY HOUSE	19,000
PARKS & REC.	MECKAUER PARK GARAGES	21,000
PARKS & REC.	FORD 2002 REPLACEMENT (CHEVY SILVERADO 1500)	40,000
PARKS & REC.	TRACTOR	35,000
TOTAL		3,097,670

As there was no further business on today's agenda, Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary