



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, October 7, 2014

7:30 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 was Town Counsel Martin Lawlor

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance: First Selectman Knickerbocker called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: None that was not already on tonight’s agenda.

Minutes of September 2, 2014 Public Hearing: Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of September 2, 2014 Regular Meeting: Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of September 23, 2014 Special Meeting: Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

First Selectman Report - Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to tonight’s agenda for discussion, *Ad-Hoc Transfer Station Committee* – only three names have been received so far, committee purpose will be to look at the transfer station operations. First Selectman Knickerbocker has asked the Finance Department to look at several scenarios, overhead costs are very high. *30-year*

Fire Apparatus Study – all agreed that during the budgeting process, funds need to be set aside for future purchases and **Public Works – Storm Drains** – Selectman Szatkowski expressed concern with the approval process and impact of storm water on the well fields with the Bethel Crossing development project. First Selectman Knickerbocker will follow up with the land use agencies. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

New Business

1.) Consideration of request from Parks & Recreation – change of use for Meckauer Park - designation of area for dog park

Eileen Earle, Director of Parks and Recreation, along with several scouts from Girl Scout Troop 50711 were present. The scouts have been actively fundraising to collect funds necessary for establishing a dog park and have already collected almost \$5,000 towards the estimated costs (fence, etc.). It is their belief that other civic organizations and interested parties will contribute to the upkeep and maintenance. Mrs. Earle noted that the existing swing sets will be removed; there will be two areas, one for large dogs and one for small dogs. A set of rules has been established and will include wording that the park is not open during times that the rest of Meckauer Park is not open due to snow.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the change of use for a portion of Meckauer Park, designating the lower playground area as the **Bethel Bark Park**, and refer the project to the Planning & Zoning Commission under the provisions of Connecticut General Statute 8-24 for their comments, and to the Health Department for review. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

2.) Consideration of recommendation to the Board of Finance – Police Station Project

First Selectman Knickerbocker noted that a Public Information Session on the proposed Police Station Project is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15th at 7:00 p.m. in the Bethel High School Auditorium. The Public Site & Building Committee, along with the consultants from Jacunski Humes and Hawley Construction will present the project.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve and recommend an appropriation, not to exceed Fourteen Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$14,100,000) for the Police Station Project to the Board of Finance.

Selectmen agreed that the voters should be provided the opportunity to decide on the Police Station Project.

3.) Consideration of Milone & MacBroom contract – Economic Development Commission

First Selectman Knickerbocker explained that the contract includes evaluating environmental conditions of the area, development of conceptual plans and preparation of a return of investment analysis. Cost is \$19,500 and will be paid from Economic Development Commission funds.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to authorize the First Selectman to sign the contract with Milone & MacBroom for professional services in connection with the expansion project in the Clarke Business Park. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

4.) Consideration of recommendation from the Energy Conservation Commission - Ameresco contract

Discussion took place regarding the contract. Town Counsel Martin Lawlor has not received the final contract for review. Energy Conservation recommends that the revised project as outlined be the final scope of work to be completed by Ameresco.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table the contract pending review by Town Counsel Martin Lawlor. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

5.) Consideration of Tax Collector's request for Tax Refund Authorization

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the Tax Collector's request, dated October 7, 2014 and authorize Tax Refunds in the amount of \$7,135.71. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

6.) Consideration of establishing a Special Town Meeting date, subject to Board of Finance approval – Eureka Lake Water Storage Tank

After discussion of the legislative process for consideration of the Eureka Lake Water Storage Tank, First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table establishing the Special Town Meeting date until the next

meeting. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. At a previous meeting the Board of Selectmen has approved sending the recommendation for funding to the Board of Finance

7.) Consideration of establishing a Special Town Meeting date, subject to Board of Finance approval – land purchase – 68A Maple Avenue

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to table establishing a Special Town Meeting date until the next meeting. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. At a previous meeting the Board of Selectmen has approved sending the recommendation for funding to the Board of Finance

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary