

**Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
10 Maple Avenue
Beacon Falls, CT 06403**



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monthly Meeting
October 5, 2015
REVISED MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)**

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

First Selectman Chris Bielik called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Members Present: First Selectman Chris Bielik, Selectman Peter Betkoski, and Selectman Dominick Sorrentino

Others present: Mary Ann Holloway, Tax Collector; Mike Krenesky, Town Treasurer; Adam Burkitt and Bill Jordan, Jordan Energy; Luke Marshall, Citizens News; and 2 members of the public.

2. Comments from the Public

Greg Campbell, 29 Terese Road, was present at tonight's meeting to again ask the Board for documentation/statutes/law/ordinance showing that he must pay his neighbor for the sewer line whatever cost he wants. C. Bielik indicated that he contacted the town attorney, Atty. Stanek, and the Chairman of the WPCA to specifically address this matter. They have been unable to meet and discuss this situation as of this time. G. Campbell referred to the meeting minutes indicating that the situation was noted as an emergency situation and asked if they were going to present it as part of it. He noted that it was repeated several times and implies part of the situation and C. Bielik noted that it is a fact. G. Campbell asked if it is relevant and P. Betkoski indicated that it is because Valley Health was involved. The septic system had failed and Valley Health wanted them to fix it. G. Campbell referred to the question of last month by P. Betkoski asking the cost of what the neighbor was requesting. G. Campbell indicated that they have not conversed on the cost yet and wanted to know if it is relevant. P. Betkoski indicated that it is and wanted to know what the neighbor is asking. P. Betkoski noted that if there is price gouging, then the Board of Selectmen would step in.

G. Campbell asked if he has to negotiate with the neighbor and the neighbor sets the price, then how is it not whatever the price the neighbor wants G. Campbell to pay. G. Campbell noted that the minutes did not show that the First Selectman has correspondence from the State of CT Dept. of Environmental Protection which says that two homeowners cannot share a private line. If G. Campbell ever wants to connect to the line, the town would have to accept the line as a town line in order for G. Campbell to connect.

C. Bielik asked three times if there were any public comment and there were none at this time.

C. Bielik asked to modify the agenda for tonight's meeting to accommodate the parties present. Agenda Item 18a, Old Business – Z-REC Solar Project, will become Agenda 3 and Agenda Item 19a, New Business – Tax Collector Back Tax Collection Policy, will become Agenda 4.

Motion to modify tonight's agenda to accommodate the parties present:
Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

3. Old Business

a. Z-REC Solar Project – Update by Jordan Energy

Bill Jordan and Adam Burkitt were present tonight to update the Selectmen on the application.

Bill Jordan indicated that the town of Beacon Falls won the Z-REC award and came to us on July 2, 2015. This means that for 15 years, a certain amount of money will be given by Eversource that is contracted and not going to change. Cost saving can now be offered to the town for power. The number of acres needed per megawatt is 5 acres according to B, Jordan.

The steps of the process are as follows: 1 – initial presentation, which was done in February 2015; 2 – presentation in March 2015 where authorization was given to submit; 3 – on July 2, 2015, notification was received that we were awarded with the price that was submitted and then entered into a contract with Eversource for 15 years; and 4 – the next step in doing a site visit with potential construction firms.

C. Bielik noted that there is no impact to where the proposed upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant. All of the available land that may be necessary for the upgrades is completely unimpeded on the solar project.

B. Jordan indicated that there are three proposals scenarios. They are offering a saving of an estimated \$850,000 over 20 years to the town of Beacon Falls; a saving of an estimated \$1,359,000 over 25 years; and a saving of an estimated \$2,127,000 over 30 years.

Some of the great economic opportunities for Beacon Falls are 1 – no upfront costs; 2 – ongoing savings over 20-30 years Purchase of Power Agreement; and 3 – using the sun’s energy and reducing the carbon footprint.

D. Sorrentino asked what happens at the end of the program. A. Burkitt indicated that the town will have the option to retain the solar and no ongoing fuel costs for a \$1.00 buy-out or the decommission clause where they would come in and restore the site prior to the solar panels being there.

C. Bielik indicated that there may be a special meeting in October 2015 and wanted to know if it will negatively impact if we wait until the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen in November 2015. B. Jordan noted that time is of the essence.

4. New Business

a. Tax Collector Back Tax Collection Policy – Discussion

Mary Ann Holloway was present tonight to present her request to have a policy in place regarding the back tax collection. She indicated that she came up with some criteria and would like any suggestions that the Selectmen may have. The policy would be printed in the Citizens News at least three times and she would like the print to be on the larger size as well as sent to the people on the back tax collection list. Those people would include where the taxes are in arrears more than two years and not on a monthly payment plan.

5. Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

The three members reviewed the minutes from the one meeting held in September 14, 2015.

Motion to accept the minutes from the meeting held on September 14, 2015 as submitted for tonight’s meeting: Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

There is again a required correction to the Special Town meeting minutes held on July 6, 2015. Doug Gillette indicated that the wording must be corrected again and the resolution must be included in the minutes in order to market the band. This statement will make the minutes technically correct – “In the absence of objection, the reading of the full text of the resolution into the minutes was waived, copies of

the resolution having been made available to those in attendance” and noted “See Attachment A”. A copy of the resolution must be attached to the minutes.

Motion to revise the minutes from the Special Town Meeting held on July 6, 2015 with the full copy of the resolution inserted as noted above: **Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.**

6. Resident Trooper/Police Report

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Resident Trooper/State Police for tonight’s meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

7. Wastewater Treatment Plant Report

There was no Wastewater Treatment Plant Report submitted for tonight’s meeting.

8. Report of Public Works

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Public Works for tonight’s meeting: **Betkoski/Sorrentino; discussion included a thank you for the aid from Bethany; all ayes.**

C. Bielik indicated that he would like to reopen Agenda Item 2, Comments from the Public to accommodate the public.

9. Comments from the Public

Charlie Edwards, 30 Lorraine Drive, was present to inform the Selectmen of his plan for the property he purchased from C. Piwonski on Pent Road. He knows that there is an issue with the corner having no site line. He is thinking about cutting back the bank. Cal Brennan will be living there, bringing his horses there. The plan is to eventually bring the property down to the second field and make it a larger, flat field. He would be removing material so he will attend an Inland Wetlands meeting. He is thinking about cutting the trees on the bank and having the telephone pole moved across the street so he could bring the bank back and widen the street. D. Sorrentino asked if he could confirm the road and the drawings because the road may not be aligned. C. Edwards will have the Town Engineer confirm everything on the road.

10. Report of the Fire Marshal

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Fire Marshall for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Sorrentino**; *discussion noted that Pioneer Gas has had several meeting regarding purchasing property on Haviland Drive*; **all ayes.**

11. Report of the Finance Manager

The Finance Manager was not present at tonight's meeting.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Finance Manager for tonight's meeting and submit it to the Board of Finance for their next meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski**; *no discussion*; **all ayes.**

12. Report of the Tax Collector

The Tax Collector Report was not submitted for tonight's meeting.

13. Report of the Town Treasurer

The Town Treasurer was present at tonight's meeting.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Town Treasurer for tonight's meeting and submit it to the Board of Finance for their next meeting: **Betkoski/Sorrentino**; *no discussion*; **all ayes.**

14. Report of the Town Clerk

Motions to accept the monthly report and yearly report as submitted by the Town Clerk for tonight's meeting and submit it to the Board of Finance for their next meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski**; *no discussion*; **all ayes.**

15. Report of the Library

Sue Dowdell was not present at tonight's meeting.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Library for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Sorrentino**; *no discussion*; **all ayes.**

16. Report of the Fire Department

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Fire Department for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Sorrentino**; discussion noted the great job done by Past Chief M. Pratt and the entire department for the CT Firefighters Convention that was cohosted with Seymour. It was a successful event and a reminder that on Wednesday, October 7th at 6:00 P.M., the Fire House will be having an open house kicking off Fire Prevention Week; **all ayes.**

17. Any Other Reports

a. Report of the Custodian

Motion to approve the Custodian reports for the months of August and September 2015 as submitted for tonight's meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski**; discussion noted that the light over the front door of town hall needs to be repaired – light is out; **all ayes.**

b. Report of the Town Nurse

Motion to approve the Town Nurse Quarterly report as submitted for tonight's meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski**; no discussion; **all ayes.**

c. Report of the Animal Control Officer

There was no report from the Animal Control Officer submitted for tonight's meeting.

18. Correspondence

1. An invoice from the clerk in the amount of \$72.50 was submitted for the meeting held on September 14, 2015.

Motion to approve and pay the invoice from the clerk in the amount of \$72.50 as submitted: **Betkoski/Sorrentino**; no discussion; **all ayes.**

2. A letter dated 10/02/2015 was received from the State of CT Citing Counsel regarding the petition of ruling on the fuel cell project to hold a Public Hearing at the Fire House on November 5, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.

3. A letter from Bonnie Chevarella was received regarding her interest in the vacant position on the Conservation Commission.

4. A letter from Region 16 was received regarding the new contracts. The Boards of Selectmen and Finance are invited to attend the meetings on October 13th, October 29th, and November 9th.

5. A letter from the State of CT was received that Patrolman Toby Geiger started his new position with the town of Beacon Falls today.

19. Old Business

a. Fuel Cell Project – Update

C. Bielik noted that this was covered under Correspondence.

b. Burton Road – Hot in Place Reclaiming Contract Award

C. Bielik noted that bids opened on 08/11/2015 and only one was received. Nafis & Young reviewed and certified that the bid was mathematically corrected. They recommended that the award goes to Highway Rehabilitation Corp. in the amount of \$182,760.00.

Motion to award Highway Rehabilitation Corp. the contract for Burton Road – Hot in Place Reclaiming Contract – for the total amount of \$182,760.00:
Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.

c. Lenny Lane Two, Oxford - Update

C. Bielik noted that there was nothing new and any action on Jenny Lane Two is postponed to another date.

d. Highland Avenue Ext. STEAP Grant Project – Update

C. Bielik noted that there is no update and the town is waiting on the DOT and OPM authorization.

e. Murtha Industrial Park Project/Consultant - Update

C. Bielik spoke with Ollie Carpp, who met with Harold Murtha on the Murtha Industrial Park project. They are making some progress with the plans.

f. Old Mini Bus Disposal – Discussion

The Selectmen decided to act as the broker and sell the old mini bus on their own.

Motion to sell the old mini bus with the use of a broker: **Betkoski/Sorrentino**; *no discussion*; **all ayes.**

20. New Business

a. Resolution – “That the Board of Selectmen authorize the establishment of a Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Account. The purpose of this account is to receive payoffs from prior participants in the Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Program, for the exclusive use for future awards under this program, and may not be used for any other town business. This resolution, by reference, incorporates any and all language at which this account is opened.

Motion to approve the resolution as stated above: **Sorrentino/Betkoski**; *no discussion*; **all ayes.**

b. Parking on Century Avenue

C. Bielik indicated that the parking on Century Avenue for Mass for people with disabilities has been discussed. There will be more information needed to see if there could be 4 parking spaces be assigned for this specific use, to paint lines, get signs.

21. Appointments

a. Conservation Commission

Motion to appoint Bonnie Chevarella to the open position on the Conservation Commission: **Sorrentino/Betkoski**; *no discussion*; **all ayes.**

22. Budget Transfer Requests

There were no new budget transfer requests presented for tonight’s meeting.

23. Comments from the Public

Mike Krenesky, 22 Maple Avenue, asked what was Pioneer Gas's plan for the property and C. Bielik indicated that it was for distribution. M. Krenesky then asked about the grant to build the office at the Senior Center and C Bielik indicated that the drywall was up and close to completion. C. Bielik indicated that it was not a grant but LoCIP money that was received for the office. M. Krenesky then noted that the DOT has the authority for making one-way streets for specific times and for certain events, not the town. C. Bielik indicated that he will look into this.

C. Bielik asked three times if there were any further comments from the public and there were none at this time.

24. Executive Session – If Needed

There was no Executive Session at tonight's Board of Selectmen meeting.

25. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, C. Bielik asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Motion to adjourn tonight's Board of Selectmen meeting at 9:31 P.M.:
Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Board of Selectmen