

Beacon Falls Board of Finance  
10 Maple Avenue  
Beacon Falls, CT 06403



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF FINANCE**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
**September 26, 2018**  
**Minutes**  
**(Subject to Revision)**

**1. Call to Order/ Pledge of Alliance**

Marc Bronn called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

Board Members Present: Chairman Marc Bronn, Vice Chairman Joe Rodorigo, Tom Pratt, Steven Leeper, Jim Carroll

Absent: Brian Ploss

Others Present: First Selectmen Chris Bielik, Selectmen Mike Krenesky, Selectmen Peter Betkoski

Public: DIBRA LLC

Citizens News

Joe Rodorigo left at 7:25 PM

**2. Public Comment**

Joe Rodorigo 42 Bonna St: I've been involved with the Town for about 16 years, the last 4 ½ with the BOF, during that time I have been involved with a variety of things, from IT to insurance to many things to list, most of those have nothing to do with the BOF whether or not that is a miss understanding of the public or this board (BOF) I don't really know but when I'm involved with Waste Water it's not me as Vice Chairmen of the BOF, it's me as a person involved with the Town of Beacon Falls, and I have been doing this for a long time. And I have been involved in carrying the ball for a very long time, and I am tired of carrying the ball, so I am going to put the ball down for a little while and it's time for someone else to take the lead, I don't know why it offends people, people of the public and the boards, for me using my time and my resources, apparently it does and I am ok with that for most of it, but when it's been cut the way it's been cut for the last month it needs to stop so good luck.

Mike Kerensky 22 Maple Ave: I am going to address Item #9 Town of Beacon Falls voted not to support this application and the citizens have declined the application, as such I don't understand how this application is on your Agenda again, I have reviewed the application and there is nothing different in the application. The only thing that has changed is the name of the person submitting the application. I don't understand why we would bring this to vote since there is nothing in it to help the town of Beacon Falls.

Chris Bielik: 119 Rice Ln. EXT: In answer to Selectmen Kerensky questions, I would like to refer him to the email that was sent to him and the Chairmen was included as well, explaining why it was back on the agenda tonight. We have an EDC who receive the applications under the ordinance we have in place, it's not up to elective offices to disallow applications from going forward. We have an ordinance and it's not arbitrarily before it even gets to the board for it to be dismissed before it gets heard, and Selectmen Kerensky was made aware of that in the email that was sent to him.

MK: as a point of order, I stood up as a taxpayer of Beacon Falls and not as Selectmen for the town, I have an opinion and I am allowed to voice my opinion.

MB: Called three time if there were any other comments.

### **3. Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meetings:**

**Motion to approve the minutes from last month's meetings 08/14/2018.**  
**Pratt/Leeper; all ayes.**  
**Rodorigo: Abstained**

JR: during those minutes there was an extensive conversation by this board that involved myself and my involvement, I would like the board to understand that during that time that our former Finance Manager worked for us I reported to Mr. Bronn and First Selectmen Bielik which are the two appropriate people to report to. I sat down with Tom on two different occasions with the acknowledgment of First Selectmen Bielik, I reported back to Mr. Bronn and First Selectmen Bielik on my findings, and the decision to not extend his employment was made a week earlier, so why this was even a topic of conversation at that meeting baffles me. But I reported to the two people I needed to, I don't need to report back to the rest of the board.

#### **Correspondence/Payment of Bills**

a. **Board of Finance Clerk's Invoice-**

MB: Two Invoices one from Joann for \$75.00 for 08/14/2018 and one from Kerry for \$35.00 on 09/11/2018.

**Motion to pay clerk bills submitted; Rodorigo/Leeper; no discussion; all ayes.**

**Request by JR to move the meeting item # 9 new businesses B to the top of the agenda; Rodorigo/Leeper: no discussion.**

b. **Other Invoices** – None

c. **Other Correspondence** –

MB: Letter from BHC for equipment they would like to purchase.

MB: Notice on the CCM annual meeting is at Foxwoods if anyone is interested.

CB: CCM is very worthwhile going to I go to them all the time, the different department has sent people, if anyone from the BOF wants to go let me know, the cost is very nominal, if anyone from the BOF wants to go please let me know and I'll get the registration done.

**4. New Business: Media center committee:**

MK: we have a very brief meeting and the question to the BOF what is the overall expectation should a survey be done for funding for future for the building. We are planning to visit Oxford Library and Torrington Library; the committee is interested in looking at other areas of Beacon Falls. With all the other repairs that need to be done, is it the right time to spend a lot of money, would a vehicle be to renovate the Town Hall, we are still running in circles, What if we do a survey what is going to throw you over the top to put money into the budget.

MB: Something like this the town Selectmen needs to be on board, and then go ahead.

MK: we will put it on our next BOS agenda.

MB: we as the BOF we don't make policy.

JC: You talk about wastewater treatment, will we be able to bond for a new library if we have wastewater treatment. What's our bonding limit?

CB: I don't think we have in the finance manual, we have a bonding limit, we have to go to the people and see what they are willing to spend.

**5. Resubmission of the Tax incentive Dibra LLC.**

MD: The BOF approved it in the spring, BOS approved it and then it went to the public and it was declined. The application has a new manager in charge now only difference on the application, and the Frist Selectmen asked to put it on the agenda again. We need to look at the application whether to approve or decline it.

TP: This is the same application other than the managers name being changed on the application, considering what the voters say, it seems to be the same application, it's almost like an appealing process, which we don't have, I have concerns it will just mushroom into other legal actions and I'm not comfortable with making a decision.

CB: There is no provision in the steps along the way for the application along the way, the EDC accepts the application and then she makes sure it's all filled out correctly and then forwards it onto you the BOF. There is no way a lower lever person in the chain can make the decision whether to forward it or reject it.

TP: I understand that, to me, it's just the same application that the voters voted down.

MK: Point of reference Chairmen, is this an open discussion for everyone in the room.

MB: No I asked the First Selectmen for his input.

CB: The First Selectmen is an Ex Officio Member of every board and commission, therefore I am perfectly entitled to take part in this active meeting, and you well know that.

JR: Frist it's a BOF, not a BOS meeting, this application is identical to the one the taxpayers shot down, the taxpayers are the legislator for the Town of Beacon Falls, and this has been asked and answered. But if you want a motion I will make a motion.

JC: Any time periods where someone can resubmit the application?

JR: currently there is not, and we need to change the ordinance.

MB: The only thing that changed was the manager.

JR: I will make a motion

DIBRA LLC Manager: I understand the people of Beacon Falls have final say. The only concern on the decline of the application, if the BOF, as well as the BOS, approved the applications, don't you think that they know what's best for the Town of Beacon Falls is? I can have a bunch of people to come in and tell the people to vote no. That is the reason we applied again to see what happens the second time, I think we have the right to do that, like Chris said I don't think there is anything that says we can't apply again, we have been in Beacon Falls since 1996, growing business, and the whole purpose is to attract commercial growth.

MB: We agree, the taxpayer said no. It's their money; there is nothing we can do about it. If you said the LLC had changed or was sold, then yes, but just changing the manager's name, no.

DIBRA LLC: Can it go through again?

CB: I agree with what Joe said earlier, there are things we have learned in its current forms, one of the things we missed business into a rental income that is not currently covered but it should be in it. It's an evolving process, but right now when the application comes in and maybe just thinking hypothetically, if the business was sold to a different name, or if a change has been made to the building, size or scoop of it, maybe it could have been resubmitted as it is it can't go forward.

JR: Joe Rodorigo, **motion to deny the application submitted by DIBRA LLC with prejudice as it pertains to the address on North Main St. Rodorigo/Leeper; no discussion; all ayes.**

MB: Motion denied.

## **6. Reports**

### **a. Ambulance Service Report –**

TP: The numbers speak for themselves, Still waiting to sit down with the EMS Director and the Fire Chief kind of renew payroll, because the growth of the funds are not there, there is only so much money in the account, and we need to protect payroll and that's what it's there for. And to have money to get through the year.

### **b. Town Treasurer's Report; No Questions**

### **c. Town Clerks Report; No Questions**

### **d. Tax Collector's Report-**

MB: I can't open her reports, neither can James Carrol.

CB: If I can get her to send it to Cindy, and then scan it and get it out that way.

## **7. Finance Manager's Report**

### **a. Report:**

MB: Erin did a great job on the report, and we are doing interviews next week for the new Finance Manager.

CB: I can't remember, it's either Tuesday or Thursday.

JC: Did we get a decent response?

CB: Yes we did.

## **8. First Selectman's Report**

### **a. Finance Manager Replacement:**

CB working with HR, there are 3 applicants, target Tuesday for 6:30 PM, interview.

MB: We will interview them and then do a 2<sup>nd</sup> interview?

CB: The last time we were comfortable with the first interviews we didn't feel we needed a 2<sup>nd</sup> interview.

b. **Proposed Budget Transfer** –NONE.

CB: Looking ahead, notional idea tornado clean up and we were able to do 95% of immediate safety concerns, within the scope of the money we asked for, we ended up not need the \$19,999.00 and we talked about sending that back into contingency.

MB: I rather defer the letter from the BHC until next month I thought someone was going to be here to talk about it.

CB: Close to getting the property for the O&G property, and having trouble with the recorded deeds and language, and working with the attorney to resolve that issue soon.

MB: So hopefully by November meeting?

CB: We will be having a quick meeting after the BOF meeting, we had some drainage repairs on Burton Rd. we found the length of corrosion was worse than we thought so we have to open it up again for another section and during the special meeting tonight after the BOF to accept the bid on the contract.

MB: What is the price of this contract?

CB: about \$15,000.00, so there is money left over in the Burton Rd bonding to use.

TP: There were bids done on it?

CB: yes we have 5 bids that come in.

c. **Update on Other Issues** - None

9. **Old Business** – Bronn; None

10. **Public Comments** –

MK: 22 Maple Ave, as we approach the budget process we have talked about the Frist Selectmen's salary for the next budget cycle what we have to do to have that done, I think we need to have that option.

MB: Selectmen increase will be in November and it will have to be prorated.

CB: CCM has the data for us to review.

MB: It will be discussed in due course.

MB: Asked three times for Public comments.

11. **Executive Session** (If needed) – None was needed tonight.

12. **Adjournment**;

**Motion to adjourn at 7:40.M. Carroll/Pratt; no discussion; all ayes.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Joann Smith Overby  
Clerk Board of Finance

DRAFT