

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



BEACON FALLS BOARD OF FINANCE
Monthly Meeting
January 8, 2019

Minutes

(Subject to Revision)

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

Board Members Present: Marc Bronn, Tom Pratt, Larry Hutvagner, Kyle Brennan
Absent: Steven Leeper, Jim Carroll

Others Present: Erin Schwartz, Finance Department,
Selectmen Chris Bielik, Selectmen Mike Krenesky, Selectmen Peter Betkoski.

Marc Bronn called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

2. **Election of Officers:**

Marc asked if anyone would like to take over the BOF Chairmen position, two board members were absent so deferring it until next month's meeting in February 2019

3. **Public Comment:**

Chairman Marc Bronn asked three times if there were any members of the public present to make a comment at this time.

Mike Kerensky 22 Maple Ave: We went into the challenge over the solar panels a few years back and concern that information didn't get spread around to enough people, we're about to enter into an agreement with O&G, I would like the BOF to put in any input they can prior to it going to a public hearing.

4. **Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting:**

Motion to accept the minutes of the meeting held in November 2018:
Pratt/Hutvagner: no discussion; all ayes.

5. **Correspondence/Payment of Bills:**

a. Board of Finance Clerk's Invoice,
Motion to approve and pay the clerk \$67.00 for the invoice as submitted for the BOF meeting September 26, 2018, Hutvagner/Pratt; no discussion; all ayes.

b. **Other Invoices:** - NONE

c. **Other Correspondence-**

MB: Letter from Maryann to Michael Morelli town received payment for the judgment lean for 1 South Main St in the amount of \$4,500.00 for court cost, Blight ordinance. We received the money under blight.

CB: Our Zoning Enforcement employee has been doing a great job of getting the job done. The fines kick in when they don't respond to us.

MB: Law offices in Shelton, recorded documents to the town of BF instead of Naugatuck, and they would like to get their money back. We will give this to the Town Clerk so he can refund the money.

6. **Reports:**

a. **Ambulance Service Report-**

Pratt; 12/2018 the balance in the account \$68,814.30, once all the checks clear we will figure out what the town is owed.

CB: Do we have issues with Medicare payments? TP: Only with AMR we lose money. The people are paying their bills. I think the process is better now.

b. **Town Treasurer's Report-**

BOF reviewed the reports, no discussions.

c. **Town Clerk's Report-**

BOF reviewed the reports, no discussion.

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

BOF reviewed the reports, no discussion.

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

a. **Report**

ES: Explained largest budget issues the police part-time patrol line item.

CB: It stems from Caroline O'Bar retiring. And using part-time covering for her.

LH: Is there money in the line item for full time we can transfer to part-time.

ES: She is retired but had days owed, vacation time to her for payment. You can only do 2 transfers per year. The town has to vote on anything over \$20,000.00.

TP: Will we have a solid figure by next month?

KB: Is there a timeline for hiring someone?

CB: We are currently looking for someone now.

ES: Meeting with the FEMA manager, weekly. Very time-consuming thing. I have everything I need from fire department, all the logs, Kyle got them to me. The volunteer hours in FEMA dollars \$13,000.00, emergency protective measures comes in about \$23,000.00. Submitted to get the insurance deductible back. And will be working on the debris next. They want the Latitude and Longitude for each tree cut down.

Tom Broesler will be coming back for end of year work on Thursday's. Nothing is done for next year budget. I would like to know your timeline would be?

MB: Send a notice out in February and meeting by mid-March.

ES: Grants we received two grants from Kathrine Matthies, for the library and the other for the Fire House for Radios in the amount of \$12,000.00.

CB: Aquarian dug up Railroad Ave and they will be responsible during the winter months, until the springtime for any patches during the winter. We will receive \$35,000.00 from them for curb to curb paving and put the road out to bid. So far no set figures for the cost of paving Railroad Ave.

TP: Patching during the winter, Aquarian is still responsible even though they are giving us \$35,000.00?

CB: Yes they will take care of the patching during the winter months and still give us the \$35,000.00 for the curb to curb paving.

b. Schedule Date for the Audit presentation

LH: Can we ask them to do it at our February BOF meeting?

MB: Erin will ask them to do it during the February BOF meeting.

8. First Selectman's Report:

a. Finance Manager Replacement

CB:HR is holding some candidates, and we are extending the period for a week or so.

b. Proposed Budget Transfer

Motion to approve the transfer, for \$4,033.00 from Contingency Fund Balance line # 10.90.83.1170 into Fire Dept. Insurance. Line # 10.90.13.1256 for \$4,033.00: Hutvagner /Pratt;LH: Does the insurance consultant? The amount seems high? MB: Yes every year we get the recommendation.All ayes

Motion to approve the transfer From Line Item 45.90.90.2197 Non-Recurring Debris Removal, in the amount of \$19,999.00 to Line Item 10.90.83.1170 Contingency, in the amount of \$19,999.00: Hutvagner/Pratt: no discussion; All ayes.

Motion to approve the transfer From Line Item 10.90.83.1170 Contingency, in the amount of \$1,487.00 to Line Item 10.90.37.1410 Property/Casualty Ins, in the amount of \$1,487.00: Hutvagner/Pratt;no discussion; all ayes

Motion to approve the transfer contingent on the BOS approving it at their meeting January 14, 2019, From Line Item 10.90.44.1471 Yearly Mandatory Equip. Maintenance Inspection, in the amount of \$13,500.00 to Line Item 10.90.44.1472 Vehicle Repairs in the amount of \$13,500.00: Hutvagner/Pratt;no discussion; all ayes

Motion to approve the transfer contingent on the BOS approving it at their meeting January 14, 2019, From Line Item 10.90.29.1173 Certification, in the amount of \$1,000.00 to Line Item 10.90.29.1345 Election Expenses in the amount of \$1,000.00 : Pratt/Brennan;

CB: This is for equipment they need.

LH Do we expect any more referendums between now and June?

ES: No we do not. This Governors' election was very expensive, recount they used almost all of their line item; all ayes

Motion to approve the transfer contingent on the BOS approving it at their meeting January 14, 2019, From Line Item Undesignated fund balance, in the amount of \$4,896.00 to Line Item Non-Rec Cap New WWTP Vehicle in the amount of \$ 4,896.00: Hutvagner/Pratt ;

CB, this is for the Wastewater treatment Plant new vehicle, it's a used one from Shakers

Pratt/ Hutvagner; no discussion; all ayes

Motion to approve the transfer contingent on the BOS approving it at their meeting January 14, 2019 From Line Item Contingency, in the amount of \$1,000.00 to Line Item 10.90.79.1943 Senior Ctr Building Maintenance in the amount of \$1,000.00: Pratt/Brennan;*LH: We make these transfers, we hold vendors invoices on some item items and we pay them and the budget is over. Is there a policy that we hold these? ES: I don't hold them for months.*

CB: Larry has anyone given you the policy procedures? If not it's on the Towns Website. No department is supposed to incur the cost that would exceed their lineitem;all ayes

- c. **Update on Other Issues**- CB: O&G issues: we will discuss if the town wants to move forward with the agreement, or the alternative to doing that. We buy it for \$1.00 we hold it for 15 years, option for another 5 years. At the end of that period, they have the option of buying it back for \$1.00 or us keeping it. They have looked at the property there is nothing of a material value to O&G. But by then the solar panels will be gone. Milen's farm \$380,000.00 has been brought to us as an option, it has 9 acres.

MK: One of the concerns by public works is the current size they have the property on is not large enough. We need to talk about building the town garage to house it, 9 acres perhaps become the new town garage. The current one you can't expand it today.

Discussion continues

TP: Vehicle maintains for the sewer treatment, who maintains the vehicle at the sewage treatment plant. And the value of having him actually working.

CB: The public work mechanic does light maintains, and it helps with the line items.

PB: I would ask any of your guys go to public works and look at our fleets.

MK: Wolf Ave property, two years ago I had a salvage guy ask for pieces and parts from the house, and I'm going to let him take what he needs. Like the light fixtures, and doors. And where do the funds go? General funds. About \$3,000.00.

TP: as long as he doesn't weaken the structure of the building.

MB: Anyone ever thinks about selling the house?

CB: personally I don't think it a cost effect directions to go.

KB: My brother believes there is some State statute that it could be burned down now?

MK: They may be some new regulation coming up.

TP: Property insured?

ES: The property is insured not the building.

9. **Old Business:** NONE

10. **New Business:** NONE

11. **Public Comments:**

Mario Trebka, 149 Main St, Seymour, Debra LLC; this is the third time for tax abatement, all the information will be the same. The first time the board approved it and the 2nd time it was denied. Hoping that you vote to approve it and forward it to the BOS. A conversation between my attorney and the BF attorney the requirements listed on the tax incentive forms this board does not have the authority to deny the application it must be approved and forwarded to the BOS.

MB: What does our attorney say?

CB: Our attorney doesn't descend to this.

MB: Then why have them come to us if we can't approve or deny it. We approved it and sent it to the BOS, they approved it and the Town people denied it not us. I am not going against the taxpayer's vote. There is a problem with the ordinance that needs to be fixed.

CB: Yes the ordinance needs to be amended.

Chairman Marc Bronn asked three times if there were any members of the public present to make a comment at this time.

12. Executive Session (If needed)

13. Adjournment: Bronn/Brennan, no discussion; all ayes. 8:20 P.M.

The next Board of Finance meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2018, starting at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joann Smith Overby
Clerk, Board of Finance

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