

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



**Q BEACON FALLS BOARD OF FINANCE
Special Monthly Meeting
March 21, 2023, MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)**

1. **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance:** J. Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: T. Pratt, S. Leeper, J. Carroll, W. Hopkinson, D. Fennell, K. Brennan via TEAMS (in person 7:15 PM)

Members Absent: None.

2. Public Present: First Selectman G. Smith, Selectman M. Krenesky, Selectman P. Betkoski, Finance Manager N. Nau via TEAMS
3. **Comments from the Public:** None.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** TP made a motion to approve the 2/14/2023 Meeting minutes, as presented. WH seconded the motion. All ayes.
5. **Correspondence:** None.
6. **Reporting:**
 - a. Tax Collector Report – No comments or concerns.
 - b. Treasurers Report – No comments or concerns.
 - c. Town Clerk Report – No comments.
 - d. Region 16 Report – No questions or concerns.
 - e. Ambulance Report – No questions or concerns.
7. **First Selectman's Report:** First Selectman G. Smith advised:
 - a. Budget Transfers: BOS approved several transfers at their meeting on 3/13/23 and they added a transfer into the Blight line on 3/21/23. The budget does not have funding to deal with the Lopus Road situation and therefore, we are transferring monies into Blight for those expenses.
 - b. Capital Projects: E. Schwarz reported on behalf of Finance. Fire Dept boiler is complete. The POCD was awarded to SLR who were low bidder at \$62,000 and the PO has been issued for the first portion of \$24,000, per the FY23 Budget. The UTVs are on order with the Fire Dept. The Cutter, Spreaders & Rams project with the AFG grant is also moving forward. The Finance Dept will be applying to LOCIP for the Senior Center projects, now that the 2023 funds were allocated on March 1st. Several projects are on hold until the spring; Volvo loader repainting, Police Carport. The playscape expansion at Pent Road has been installed.
 - c. Burton Road: G. Smith noted that Dayton Construction is online and on track. There were some change orders with the wall and an easement and tree work that were needed. The net change is \$30,000 to the project budget. Dayton is working faster than anticipated and the project is way ahead of schedule. They have a deadline of October 31st to finish, but he hopes they will be done during the summer months.
 - d. Patricia, Dolly, Coventry: B&W is almost done with the drainage work, and they have encountered some issues with rock and movement of catch basins. The change order is in the neighborhood of \$50,000 to \$70,000. We have 8 catch basins which they were unable to use, which we can use on other jobs. They will net out the changes and then B&W will come back to pave when the plants reopen. W. Hopkinson asked about sewer connections for these streets

and G. Smith explained that it would not have been economical to add sewers to these roads. The sewer line extension would have been bonded and then paid back through placing liens on the homes and assessing the cost of the sewers among to each house on the streets. For Rimmon Hill the homeowners are paying for their sewer extension with yearly sewer assessment bills over 30 years. This made sense for Rimmon because the sewer impacted a lot of homes. The cost for Patricia, Dolly, Coventry would have been a lien of \$70,000 per house on the sewer line. There were also wetlands involved which would have complicated a sewer installation.

- e. Beacon Valley Road: DeCarlo and Doll are the engineers for this project and we are close to being able to move forward with the LOTCIP project and getting final approvals. There has been a right of way nightmare over there, with light poles which need to be moved. There was a tax foreclosure and an issue with DEEP's approval of the basins. We finally have one of the last right of ways and G. Smith hopes to see this underway in the next 60 days.
 - f. Beacon Valley Bridge – The Town has awarded the contract for the Bridge to NJR and this work will start in the next 30 – 60 days.
 - g. WWTP Update: SLR is fine tuning the digester project and the electrical upgrade is moving forward. Up to now, the focus has been the digester project.
 - h. T. Pratt asked if before the Town comes up with the project, is there a round table discussion on the project with all the impacted department chairs, so that everyone in the room has input into the projects. M. Krensky would recommend this type of discussion for the upcoming Church Street. G. Smith agreed that a formal round table is good idea, to put everyone together in the room and allow people ownership in their fields, so the engineers can hear the concerns as well.
 - i. A round table would have been useful for the Main Street Connectivity project where the sidewalks are potentially impacting parking, sewer lines, fire, utilities, etc. Utilities need to be a part of the conversation as with Beacon Valley – CT Water is located there and they should be apprised of the plan, for water lines in the area.
8. **Finance Manager's Report**: The Board received the Finance Office report for their review. There were no questions or concerns at this time.
9. **Finance Policy Manual**: No changes presented at this time.

10. Old Business:

- a. Opioid Revenue: The town has begun receiving revenue from the Opioid litigation. Expenses to date include legal work and Narcan purchases. As more monies arrive, the Town will need to develop a plan for spending these funds. Finance will book the revenue as grant revenue and expenses in the grant fund. G. Smith noted that Beacon Falls and Prospect will team up to provide education and programming for students at Region 16. EMS Narcan purchases will continue to be funded. The Police have been asked to weigh in with ideas on expending these funds and the Town may provide monetary support to outside agencies which service Beacon Falls residents, all in the name of drug prevention education, awareness and treatment.
- b. Master Fee Schedule – On hold. Ordinance committee is following this up.

11. New Business:

- a. Budget Transfers:



TOWN OF BEACON FALLS

FY23
For 3/21/23 Meetings

03/21/2023

FY23 TRANSFERS - REVISED

#	TRANSFER FROM:			TRANSFER TO:			Explanation	
	Amount	Fund	Description	Line	Description	Amount		
1	\$ (10,000.00)	00.00.03.1170	Contingency	00.00.03.1220	Signs	\$ 10,000.00	For expenses related to Lopis Road Eviction	3/21/23 BOS Special Meeting
2	\$ 10,000.00	00.00.44.1013	Fire Marshal Vehicle	00.00.44.1000	UTVs, Trailer, Skid Pad	\$ 0,000.00	Dealer fees on UTV missed on original transfer	3/13/23 Regular BOS Meeting
3	\$ (10,000.00)	00.00.03.1170	Contingency	00.00.44.1470	Fire - Vehicle Fuel	\$ 10,000.00	Line is currently overbudget for FY23	3/13/23 Regular BOS Meeting
4	\$ (3,000.00)	00.00.44.1400	Training	00.00.44.1472	Fire Vehicle Repairs	\$ 3,000.00	Truck 6 leaf springs repairs	3/13/23 Regular BOS Meeting
5	\$ (3,000.00)	00.00.44.1400	New Turnout Gear	00.00.44.1473	Fire Vehicle Repairs	\$ 3,000.00	Truck 6 leaf springs repairs	3/13/23 Regular BOS Meeting
	\$ (32,000.00)					\$ 32,000.00		

WH made a motion to approve the transfers totaling \$32,000, as presented. S. Leeper seconded the motion. All ayes.

J. Carroll extended this thanks to K. Brennan for chairing the recent meetings, while he was away.

12. Adjournment: W. Hopkinson made a motion to adjourn at 7:23 PM. S. Leeper seconded the motion. All ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erin A. Schwarz

Finance Office