



# Beacon Falls Board of Finance

October 23, 2019 Minutes (Subject to Revision)

**November 3, 2019**

Mr. Leonard Greene

Town Clerk, Town of Beacon Falls  
10 Maple Avenue  
Beacon Falls, CT 06403

Dear Mr. Greene:

The **Beacon Falls Board of Finance, The Board of Selectmen, with Department heads**, on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at 7:00PM will hold a meeting/workshop session in the Town Hall Assembly room.

Board Members Present: Tom Pratt (TP), Marc Bronn (MB), Larry Hutvagner (LH), Steve Leeper (SL), Kyle Brennan (KB)

Board of Selectmen Members: Chris Bielik (CB), Mike Krenesky (MK), absent Pete Betkoski

Departments Represented: Finance Department-Natasha Nau(NN), Finance Manager, Erin Schwarz,(ES) Finance Assistant, Beacon Hose Co- Brian DeGeorge (BD) Fire Chief, Jamie Weid(Jamie W). John Weid (JW)., Public Works-Rob Pruzinsky(RP), Jamie Gracy (JG), Police Department-Eddie Rodriguez (ER) Lieutenant, Wastewater Treatment Plant-Tom Carey (TC).

Others present: Joe Rodorigo (JR), Shawn Styfco (SS), Kevin McDuffie (KM), Andreas, Citizen News.

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Tom Pratt called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 7:05 pm.

Tom P.: First of all, thank you for all coming, we were all brought together to put a ten year plan and discuss having a 5 year plan so that it's in good form for the taxpayers, so that we all know what the mil rate will stay at. Nothing is written in concrete; your presentations will help us formulate a budget. We have a lot of items on here to review. I thought we could start with the Finance Manager to go over her presentation. But before we do that, please introduce yourselves.

Introductions were said around the room, the Board of Finance Members, Board of Selectmen and the Departments, Rob Pruzinsky, Jamie Gracy, Tom Carey, Anthony, Eddie Rodriquez, John Weid, Jamie Weid, Erin Schwarz, Natasha Nau, others present: Kevin McDuffie, Shawn Styfco, Joe Rodorigo, Andreas from the Citizen News.

2. Public Comment- any public comment, asked three times, no public comment.

3. Finance Manager's Review after talking to the Town's Financial Advisor, what may and/or may not be done, concerning bonding and financing the next 5 to 10 years.

Natasha (NN): While we have all separate agenda items tonight, I think we all know they are intertwined. I can't make a presentation with bonds or bonds without talking to the departments for all the demands, needs, anticipated issues down the road. So that we can try to plan the best we can.

The agenda items, 3, 5 and 8 million, noting that we have one bond that we will complete spending, we will still be paying that off for quite some time. So, the anticipation is trying to see with our current debt, what we can take on, with all the roads, needs, bridges, infrastructure, equipment, apparatus, and mill rate increase if that would be part of the discussion.

One of the biggest things that we will talk about tonight, and we have a representative here, is the wastewater treatment plant, that has been the topic of discussion. How we are going to do it? If the plan is to supplement by grants or if it will be part bond or part operating.

It was interesting to see the presentation from the Financial Advisor. Chris B and Natasha attended that meeting. At that meeting, the Financial Advisor mentioned the current rating, which a lot of things determine the rating, whether it is management decisions, current policies and a number of other things. A concern that was discussed was a rating drop. The Financial Advisor assured us that with our current debt scenario, whether we add the 3, 5 or 8 million scenario would not drop the current rating. There are ways to mitigate the amount that we add to the debt service fund, the amount we contributed to our debt fund this year was \$55,000, which affects the premium for the rest of the year.

See attached financial report to discuss these agenda items further.

- a) Debt Service as of Oct. 1, 2019-Existing debt, debt service budget line item currently, we are at \$966,000, any new debt will increase that contribution, thereby, we have to figure out how to pay for that.
- b) Debt Service June 30, 2019
- c) Projected Debt Services June 2024 if bonding 3 million
- d) Projected Debt Services June 2024 if bonding 5 million

The attached Finance report is further discussed. Natasha notes that any new debt will help us. By turning to page 9, you will see different scenarios. The existing 2014 bond is spent, and the existing 2016 bond, there is the 184,000 leftover currently.

NN: What does this mean in the short term? The annual changes over the years, we get a little in 2030, jumps to 293,000, all existing debt service.

Flip to page 10, First Scenario.

We asked the financial advisor to make adjustments, so what he did was laid out two columns: 4mil, 8 mil that does not mean that it is 12, it is 2 (4 mils) rolled into 8.

CB: It is split that way because there is a requirement, or it is advisable. They want you to realistically allocate and execute what you plan on using. They don't want you borrowing money to use at interest rates and making money on borrowed money that is the reason the necessity to split this up that way.

NN: Note is the interest rate is 2.5%, please make it known that this is actually a little bit high for what they need; it is closer to 2.2%. We did look at a 15 year, he pushed it out to 20 years by his recommendation, we can show different scenarios if you'd like. The first 4-5 years, there isn't any change; a mil is 465,000 or 474,000, if you are trying to estimate what this band would do to us. We don't want to see an increase for 474,000 in year 1 that would not be palpable.

There are a couple jumps that the amounts would increase, in the years 2024 and 2026.

Joe R: Borrowing too much money in too short of a time.

e) Projected Debt Services June 2024 if bonding 8 million

NN: The scenarios behind 8 mil are there for you to look at. I would like to note, a comparison chart is there for you, bond vs band, it is significant more expensive to bond. If we were to do that, we would have to be committed to do that. The financial advisor suggested the band instead of the bond, even though they make more money on a bond.

CB: Does anyone know the difference between the band and the bond? A bond anticipatory note, in anticipation form of a band, while it is active, you pay interest only payments on the amount that you are borrowing. The interest payments are only good for the life of the band. They issue the band to get cash up front, execute the project, once you have the long-term idea of what the ultimate bond would be, you would issue a bond to pay off the band.

LH: About a 1/3 is 25,000.

NN: 50,000 vs 25,000, roughly double. These fees could increase before we apply.

Note the recommendation from the financial advisor, not necessary naming the projects, as much as we can. Unexpected increases arise and want to be able to reallocate as we need to. This would give us flexibility if we are going after the USDA grant, we can modify the plan as needed. Rob and I have overseen the projects that came under budget, if we do get a grant to supplement, then we will essentially use that funds, for curbs or sidewalks to enhance, at the end of the day, we will be able to do these resolutions without going through the town meetings to go through that process.

TP: I just wanted to go through the debt services and where the financial advisor felt we were at this time. I wanted each department to see how much of a financial impact this will affect the taxpayers. We will get into the 10-year plan later on.

#### 4. Wastewater Treatment Plants Suggested Plans for the next 3 years by Tom Carey

NN: Tom and I have been meeting regarding this and how the project has changed over the years since we started considering this. The scenario is put in there based on the consultant; the useful life of a plant is far longer than the life of a road. See attached-band presentation, (Section on Wastewater Memo), cover sheet explaining the difference.

A lot of changes to the plan, the bond presentation discussed is phase 1: 5.1 mil, phase 2: 9 mil, USDA is a 40-year arrangement and we would use that to supplement the project.

TP: Tom C. to make the presentation as far as wastewater treatment

Tom C highlighted some projects for the three-year plan.

a. The Locip project is about to happen real soon. The building is set for painting.

b. SCADA project: While working with Natasha, we will get together, what we need to come up with went with the highest bid, but don't expect to use that one.

These bids came in 3 years ago; need to look at these again.

c. Roof: wastewater treatment- old bids, throwing these out, replaced diffusers, but piping, take off the capital plan now, won't know until the design of the upgrade,

d. 2022: the frame of the truck, is not used, don't know how well the vehicle runs, small crane taken care of the job

e. 2022 or 2023, - don't have a capital plan for these years, but the garage door, other than that it is all about the upgrade.

It was discussed among the Board members and Tom Carey on whether parts were on site and was ready to go to complete a current project. It was discussed that parts were delayed, and now waiting on scheduling from the contractor. It was also mentioned that Nafis and Young put together the purchase order, however the town would need to facilitate as a contractor and now waiting on the contractor to start the project they were hired to do.

#### WWTP Phase 1.

CB: On 5 mil, there is anticipation that we could see 1 mil from the USDA.

MB: Is this the big priority in BF, the wastewater treatment plant?

CB: Yes, it has been talked about for 10 years. We have done small items from an operational side to be additive to strategically to improve day to day operations over the past 6-7 years, while keeping the cost down and not spending money that would be a waste of money. All of the things, we have done, is to lower the OM cost.

LH: Tom C, in your sewer project, the three-year maintenance plan, and 5 million project, over the next 2-3 or 3-5 years?

TC: Yes, probably.

TP: The first phase will take how long? 2-3 yrs.?

CB: I would say 2-3 years; we looked at this internally, with the original plan with the task orders, laid out, some challenges. WPCA is looking at a change with billing process. Currently, OM costs are done avelorum, everyone pays, it is on our budget. There is talk to transitioning to user fees, to bring the hook up, as to determine, looked at to be more efficient, narrow that down. We went back to the contractor and said this is what we are trying to accomplish, based on the knowledge to get there, went to Dave and Anthony, is there any way to bring this down? If we don't do electrical upgrades, which we can't avoid, what are we going to add to that, to be productive? Bottom line is that 5.1 mil phase 1 that is as narrow as we can get to.

TP: What is the time frame, are there any engineering fees with the 5 mil, phase 1 that is not included?

Anthony: No.

Joe R: In phase 1 at 5.2 million, if you don't commit, to phase 1, then there is no phase 2. We could potentially get 45% reimbursement from USDA. You will not get the money if you don't commit to the phase 2. We should never put in a user fee if we don't have 75% connected.

CB: Currently, best case scenario is at 50% of the residents that are hooked up to sewer. But that is worst case scenario because the numbers won't be there for votes.

JR: I'm glad you are having this meeting because it is the bigger picture. That total project in 2-4 years, the 8 million is no roads get done for 8 years. You are not getting USDA unless you commit to phase 2.

LH: I thought this project was 14 million.

JR: It is 14 million, but 45% will be paid back by USDA.

MB: You got a 15 million project for 8 million.

JR: At 8 million, you are maxed out, that is already 12.5% of the operating budget, of the, 900,000 debt service. As things fall off, the way it was planned 3.3 million last year, would have been banded for 3 consecutive years, interest only payments, then in the 4<sup>th</sup> year, you would bond the totality 3.3million and 3-4 mil to a band, which would keep the impact of the mil rate flat.

When we talked about 3.3. last year, but the tornado happened, so that didn't happen, 70K per P and I, 4 million to spend, 1.5 million, plus half million, doesn't get to you phase 1, until 5 years, after, no roads, just doing phase 1, keep that in perspective, borrowing money is cheap. Six years ago, we ran a band for 8 years, shouldn't band for 8 years.

CB: We inherited the band then. We ended up paying principal payments, eliminated so that it didn't happen again. By definition a band, is a short-term instrument.

TP: On this proposal, Anthony, how solid are the numbers? in this proposal?

Anthony: 5.2 million dollars for phases 1, solid, we looked at the numbers in September, adjusted on rates we have seen, metal industry and tariffs.

TP: There are contractors available to go ahead with this?

Anthony: Correct.

TP: Any questions on proposal?

MB: What if we don't do anything?

Anthony: Your plant is on capacity. I don't recommend on new connections; you have to do this eventually. I don't recommend waiting.

MB: Moratorium to the plan? Or to hook ups?

Anthony: Or charge a fee to the new hook ups?

JR: We should be doing this. In order for 16 units, should have already been contributed to the hook up, donations to the plant.

TP: On the books, if on Oakwood.

CB: We are charging sewer hookup fees?

JR: The reality if anything would go through.

CB: On top of Oakwood estates, the hypothetical development, it is outside the sewer treatment plant designated area, according to our own conservation and development. It has been the towns' position for the last 4 years, since that property was sold at tax auction, when people had been floating ideas about it. It is going to have to do septic.

TC: Is that the one they discussed going through Chatfield?

JC: The latest presentation at inlands and wetlands, the plan shows septic system and they aren't going through Chatfield.

SL: Your capacity includes the Edwards development?

TK: It isn't going to help, it is getting too tight.

MB: Any new influx of users, will affect the plant operations.

JR: If somebody came to you with 20-30 development, you'd have to charge a fee towards the plant upgrade.

LH: Board of Finance meeting and Board of Selectmen, my question for the engineer, so he is proposing 14 million.

Discussion ensued between Joe Rodorigo and Larry Hutvagner. Roberts Rules: It is a workshop vs. meeting. Tom P confirmed that it is a workshop meeting.

MB: If we keep moratorium on sewer hook ups, we can get by as we are, without spending 15 mil, on the plant?

MK: Sounds like we are kicking the can down the road.

TK: There are three people on the plant, when we go home, it is outdated,

Anthony: Your operating budget will increase to fix the bandaids. Your plant is outdated, by 1960's, there is major equipment that is going to start failing.

LH: The engineer says we have to spend 14 million, phase 1 5.2 mil, phase 2, 9 mil, but have to commit to the whole thing to get 4 million from USDA, and if we don't do this now, we are going to be spending. We are at capacity, a big-ticket item for the paper would put in, that we can't do any more sewer hook ups without upgrading the plant.

KB: what is defining the commitment time frame?

Anthony: There is an engineering report and environmental report. Apply to USDA, funding commitment, to the phase 1, but we are going to do phase 2 at some point. But at some point, they may come back and say Kansas did not spend all the allocations, there is an extra 6 million. They try to go get it for you.

KB: There is no definitive.

Anthony: We just did two projects, where the town of Orange Mass they got 16 million funding with a 6 million grant, 2.8%, town of Deerfield, 2 phase project, their upgrade is 19 mil, 3.7 million from USDA. They are paying 1 million of their own.

NN: What is Seymour's project?

Anthony: Population is too big for Seymour to be eligible for USDA grants.

MB: The USDA is not guaranteed? Correct?

Anthony: I have not seen a project get zero, but it is not guaranteed, but 20-35% and the highest 75%.

CB: That is why 45% is the middle of the road. This workshop is not about decision making.

Anthony: These numbers are based on a conventional bid, a design and build; the town would not be operating as the general contractor so you would have a contractor.

MB: And your firm will be there to pay and approve applications for the drawings?

Anthony: Pay applications, shop drawings, approve applications.

TP: What would the impact be on the operating plant, as phase 1 is beginning?

Anthony: The plan would be to build the clarifiers, take the old systems offline and put the new ones online.

TC: Have you seen the old designs? This is built on what we have with the solar panels.

TP: Tanks to get functioning. How about the electrical?

Anthony: Energy systems is going to be higher, bring in the 480-volt, back feed the transformers, as you upgrade systems.

LH: Are there any energy or low loans information from Eversource for this upgrade?

Anthony: Not a complete electrical upgrade, during this phase, but the next phases when we do the electrical. Some of the energy grants associated with the equipment when the huge electrical load.

JR: It will reduce your operating budget.

Tom Pratt thanked Anthony for coming as Anthony exited the meeting.

#### 5. Public Works Suggested Plan for the next 3 years, less road topic by Rob Pruzinsky.

Rob Pruzinsky highlights some projects that Public Works is looking at; a street sweeper, a curbing tailgate conveyor that hooks on to the back of the truck, and some repairs to the building, sides are rotting out, roof is needed, gutters and maybe a generator.

Tom P inquires about buying equipment and really using it to not waste money. Tom wanted to know how much curbing is done now. Rob mentions that they should be doing more curbing but agreed with



Tom that labor hours can be challenging so they do what they can. Rob said doing the curbing with conveyor than they could get more curbing feet done than they do with a hand and wheelbarrow.

RP: As for the equipment, trying to space out purchases to every 5 years, but the last two trucks were purchased within one year of each other, so not sure with the new computers of the trucks how long they will last. No one knows how long the trucks will last, they may not last 15-20 years.

TP: Is the new truck ready for winter?

RP: Yes, sitting in garage ready to go.

Building:

RP: The building, the building inspector and I discussed that we have a couple more years for the roof, the sides of the building that are rotting out, there are no gutters on the sides of the building.

TP: Did we ever go on the lower end of the panel?

RP: Nothing was done for that; they don't make the paneling; it would cheaper to buy a whole new building for the cost to repair that. The electrical; all old equipment, we do not have a backup generator for that building. We use a smaller generator that trips the pump.

Generator:

TP: Did you get a price for generator?

RP: About \$30,000 to put one in the ground, currently use a 200-300 propane tanks, but suggested a 1,000 tank. We have Pioneer now.

TP: Completely installed upgrade. It may need to put that in the front of the building.

RP: Our transfer station permits are up 2022 for renewal, but we do not know what the requirements would be, railings are failing, and we are supposed to have those all around.

CB: The reality is that they could but there is no inspector staff.

TP: How much are the permits when we reapply?

RP: About 10,000 for the renewal for a 10-year permit.

ES: Two years away, will have to renew.

Roads:

RP: Roads, based on trying to complete the Beacon valley Road, in the process of getting a grant but that is about 4,000 feet of it.

CB: The Steep grant, is all set, money is in hand.

TP: The bid should be set up and should be signed and sealed by February.

RP: We need the bid for the whole job.

LH: Tom P, shouldn't we have the bid by the end of this year, so we are the first to start.

CB: It will be awarded before that.

NN: The piece that you are waiting on is drainage.

RP: 500,000 for 4000 sq. foot, we need the total cost for the whole road.

NN: We assumed \$504,000; we anticipate \$650,000

CB: We have \$684,000 for this, plus we have the non-recurring cap.

ES: Yes, we have the 100,000 in that fund.

CB: We have about \$750,000 to finish the road.

TP: Rob and NN, who is going to write the bid?

NN: The engineer should be in charge of the survey. The survey work has concluded. We are going to have a total cost for the roads soon and as far as drainage, the cost will be known by winter.

TP: Before you know it, it will be winter. This is a lot of money. We need to have the project set in stone.

It needs to be contracted. We need to know if the amount is going to be \$650,000 and need to know by December. We shouldn't wait until February or March. This is a project that just didn't come up, we've known about this.

LH: Tom P, Who is the person in charge at the town level that is going to make sure that we have bids and specs for the drainage, paving, and curbing on the road so that the project can go out to bid by January 1<sup>st</sup>? Who is that person? Mike and Chris: Who you going to tell to do this? The money has been in place since September.

Discussion between Mike Krenesky and Chris Bielik on who should be responsible for this. Mike mentioned that it was the First Selectman. Tom P mentioned that there is a time to delegate this. Chris said he was not responsible for this but that there is a process and the Finance office, and the engineer were working together. Marc asked who was managing this? Natasha noted that she keeps reaching out on a weekly basis.

LH: Chris may be more on the top of this. Mike and Natasha are on top of this. The ping is not answering it by November 10<sup>th</sup>. It would be nice by the end of the month. Because then Rob doesn't know what to do.

Joe R mentioned that the money was originally bonded for different roads, then the money was transferred this year for Beacon Valley Road. Who is in charge of the engineer? The Board of Selectmen are looking for Nafis and Young to work on this.

TP: The Board of Finance is asking that the Board of Selectmen and the Finance dept. sit down and put a plan together for the next meeting.

Chris B mentioned that he suggested that the engineer be at this workshop. Tom P mentioned that he suggested them to not be there. Also, noted that the project needs to be scheduled so that we can move forward. Natasha noted that rates all competitive, closed we have 8 respondents.

TP: Anything else Rob? Any improvements, before asphalt plant closes?

RP: We have 100,000 left, fix the bad spots in the roads, we can put that towards maintenance, we aren't getting on a list this year for paving.

TK: Solar panels, figure out some way to do something for the mud

RP: what is under the roads,

Most of the roads, need paving, have drainage paving issue

LH: Any sewer lines need to be replaced?

TP: For road paving, utilities, storm drains, everyone should work together, not against each other to figure this out. We have software, but we have to people in place.

TK: I am new to town, but it's going to be a lot of camera work.

TP: internships, come in to camera, without going into Union

RP: It's equipment, you can't have anybody come and do that.

TP: We don't have the camera?

NN: It is a push camera. I did talk to Naugatuck, who is purchasing one, but would be willing to share at potential intervals.

RP: Any road work, need to figure out what needs to be done before that. You can do core samples, some roads are too thin, you need to redo.



NN: Street scan, it's a base, adding all the linear charges that you don't have the capability to include in the square yard, there is overlays, definitely it is a time-consuming task.

RP: Storm drainage biggest problem, we don't have that documented in what is in the ground?

MK: Back in the transfer station upgrades, you said there are potential challenges we have to be concerned about? Are their monies put aside for that? Such as upgrades for Leaf, bulky waste disposal?

RP: It's only for the transfer station itself with the ramps.

MB: How many years do you need to do all the roads?

RP: How much money do we have? Biggest issue is what is under the roads. What is involved with the engineer designs?

NN: Need to know about the bridge.

TP: Who owns the bridge?

RP: It is right in the middle,

NN: The most recent discussion, the local bridge project, Naugatuck, joint venture, project management it,

JG: Naugatuck backed out because they want to do other roads. The bridge pushed to the side, delayed, COD,

NN: It is a program that we have not taken advantage.

JG: That is coming up for the last 4 years.

#### 6. Fire and EMS Suggested Plan for the next 3 years by Chief Brian DeGeorge

EMS replacement vehicle- 25-year span, which is coming up next year.

Air bottles- This item was mentioned by Brian that the line item needs to increase every year to catch up.

Jamie W. mentioned that in order to catch up, they need to purchase outright at \$22,000 in 2020-2021 and add to them every two years to replace them, they are good for 10 years. We are down to 4. But we will save money in the long run.

BD: Unfortunately, 2021-2022-annual ambulance replacement, put off the ambulance, the new one is in spec phase.

TP: If we appropriated the money like we did July 1. What makes it take so long with the production line? I would like to know. How come it takes so long?

BD: It came down HBAC, the company is locked on there, other than that, more time.

TP: Is one breaking down? The one that is being replaced, is it breaking down?

BD: E6- beyond its capacity, need to replace.

E7- bad build, but it is time to replace.

CB: E7 is the one we bought the Chasi and put the old body back on.

BD: We were out of service like 3 weeks, if we hold onto this longer than we need.

Jamie W: With the new one, September or October back up on vehicles, Ford Chasi,

TP: Two pieces of apparatus: engine and a tanker.

BD: There is a reason more apparent now, to combine this, but when we replaced E2, we combined the engine and tanker together, now the pumper is still in great shape, but it is 1989, when it goes out of service, then we realize we are low in equipment. Kind of frowning on the combining the trucks because as we need to replace, it is now two items.

NN: Overall, when we try to replace, it is one big package.

LH: Over 3 years, looking at 3 million, need fire trucks, it is a necessity

BD: I don't know what the best scenario is, we keep pushing it off, but eventually we need to get this done.

TP: We caught up with police cars; they are all going to need to be replaced at the same time. What would happen if you don't have another tanker for the next two years?

BD: A couple scenarios' if you did the pumper, and kept truck now but losing class A status as a pumper,

TP: How much areas are hydrants in town? 80%?

BD: Honestly, Lopus area and Rimmon, Pond Spring village, the hydrants have low pressure.

LH: hydrants- why isn't there any pressure?

BD: I think we should meet with Aquarion but if they aren't getting 700 minimum out of the hydrants, not worth it

NN: We talked about meeting with Aquarion.

JW: More sticker shock, 2020-2021, there are two scenarios in the packet, lose 900,000 by choosing one.

NN: We could go for a truck in AFG.

LH: Brian, On the fire hydrants, whom have you talked about this?

BD: I don't think we ever addressed it formally?

LH: Lets complain to the state?

BD: We can get Aquarion to flow test the hydrants.

TP: Maybe we can request this. We can get Aquarion to flow test this.

BD: The only thing about waiting is that the fire trucks go up 3% every year, but sooner or later, that has to stop. It is the same truck but that is pretty much it.

TP: Building wise:

BD: Garage doors are about 15-20 years old, don't have any known issues.

TP: Generator for senior center and fire station.

BD: That generator is about 30 years old. Need a generator, price was from last year,

JW: All the quotes are from last year.

TP: Has the generator failed you?

BD: The generator we replaced radiator.

NN: Repairs are not cheap, lost money.

TP: For the generator, if we replace the controls, will it work for the generator?

BD: That is for the generator. Our biggest dollars are truck replacement. It took a long time to replace that truck, it is coming up, pumper, our first line truck is a 99, add another 5 years, we will be up at 850,000. We used to have 5-year plan, where a line item was \$60,000 line item that grew for three or 4 years, and then that would be your down payment and then have 6 years to pay this.

JR: how they did that, neglected roads and sewer treatment plants, the only concern is that for the Board of Finance, every 5 years, the prior administration. The only concern I have this meeting, if we want to kill property values, then this is the way to go. Five-year capital plans are better, be prepared, for this packet, we are somewhere between 30 million in 5 years.

TP: Joe we understand that, that is why we are having this meeting. 3-year plan with the 5-year projection.

JR: be prepared to 70000 is 2.mil, almost 5 mils,

TP: Things are not, it is a 3-year plan,

NN: I don't think that is what we are trying to say.

LH: Summarizing what Brian said, hoses turn out gear, all in the operating budget, none of that is capital. They aren't cheap.

7. Police Suggested Plan for the next 3 years by Lt Eddie Rodriguez

ER: My biggest expense is the roof for the police station? Rob got an estimate a couple years ago. We got new doors and new windows, painted ourselves, gutters are done. If I have \$35,000. At some point we have to replace garage doors.

CB: We can do with LOCIP money.

TP: Generator?

ER: No, we go to the senior center or fire house, no generator

ER: Radios are 10 years old; we need to get new ones, we have three that are updated, the others are too old to repair.

ER: Portable trailer.

ER: Tasers: We have 6, 2 are brand new, 4 are old, don't make any more.

TP: Who owns the taser guns? Are they unserviceable?

ER: At some point won't repair them.

TP: Wouldn't want one to fail?

ER: Looking at 5 years replacement for tasers. In 2023, maybe replacing the black SUV. They are in great shape, keep up with maintenance.

NN: Do we have to replace the guns?

ER: We carry 45 millimeters, the new specs are 9, but they will give us a buy back. We can save money on the ammunition.

MB: Who owns the guns?

CB: We got the long guns.

ER: We got the AR15's, they are in great shape. Brian Blakeman is our armory guy.

Town of BF's owns the guns.

ER: Tires- state bid, TOCE brother, bring down to Brian, and we put them on there.

ES: Private duty fund balance can be used towards that.

8. Open discussion concerning public utilities: water, sewers expansion, replacement
9. Open discussion concerning and how best in selecting roads for resurfacing

TP: Not for tonight, but need to think about roads, look at street scan, won't be able to do all the roads, but try to save a road before we lose it.

RP: We can do about 4 roads with the 100,000.

NN: Rob and I were talking about the FiberMatch process. We can determine the roads that can be done by priority.

TP: Which roads would you recommend for that application?

RP: Crack sealing: We did Old Sawmill, Edwards, Rice Lane, Terese Lorraine. Be nice to keep that group up there. Even Hockanum Glen, with the square yardage, we are over \$100,000.

TP: We have to determine which area we can do.

RP: Crack sealing, every year, going to require crack sealing.

TP: That is something we can't do on our end. I asked because that is why we subcontract the work.

TP: The one road area, I think we can get some engineering costs is Patricia Terrace, I don't know how much that will cost for the engineer to get out there and look at the roads for sewers.

CB: We looked at this about a year ago, the cost is prohibited, to get the sewers up there.

TP: People need to address to the streets, there are 9 homes, this is projected cost between the homes, example 1.5 million divided by the 9 homes.

JR: Based on the \$75,000 per house, the town could do a lien to their house, to get that done.

MB: Not worth it.

TP: The roads surfacing, when we attack up here, drainage, sewers, water, does Aquarion get involved? Wolfe Ave is pretty bad.

JR: Those roads need to be paved too; roads are bad.

TP: Need to qualify what we are going to do, drainage, sewer, and paving, Wolfe Ave, what the plan is,

CB: That is why we have the plan in place.

LH: The residents up on Rimmon, do we dig up the roads? Think about high pressure gas, water up on Rimmon.

TP: Let Aquarion run their preliminary survey, we need to get the costs, and someone will have to pay for it.

CB: Aquarion is in the process of putting something together, there is no good answer to putting water up there.

RP: Want all piping done first, get those utilities then you have to make the adjustments.

LH: If we are going to pave roads, then we need to look at natural gas, and drainage. The roads are in such poor shape where the sewers sunk in.

KB: If we go ask for money for the bond or band, tangibly, we don't include Rimmon or address this, then you are not going to get the votes for any of this, we need to have a plan to include the water and/or gas. I don't know what the answer is.

TP: If we pave the roads, and then will have to tear up the roads to do the utilities, drainage, water, or gas.

CB: The extras may not be in the cards.

JR: If you do all of that, 4-million-dollar threshold that does not affect your taxes. If you spend that, you would not fix Rimmon Hill with that threshold. There are 175 votes, and that has been the problem, when we bring it to bond, or in band. We need to do bite size items. Don't say you are going to do Rimmon Hill, you are going to have to say going to do 2 million dollars of roads. People neglected the town, not going to fix it in 4 years.

#### 10. 10-year Cap Review, including discussion, suggestions and approvals

TP: Before we close: the region 16, the town of Beacon Falls, has 784 students in TBF, as of September 1, Region was charging 16,651, per student, divide 784 into the 3 mil, 5,905.82, TBF is paying 11,550 to go to the school system. Then last year put in \$60,000 for special needs, last year the student cost \$80,000, a few years ago, two special need students; one cost the region 105, 125K, regionalization, mutual aid, and resident trooper, but in the school system, we the tax payers, are paying the bill, my point is when we think about construction, there are new homes going up, chances are sooner we could be having 24 children in the development coming to the school system. We are losing when we are building residents, but we are never going to have more industry. There is very little area for factories, to speak of, not a lot of growth. We all have to think dollars and cents. When we award a bid, that should be solid cost, never issue a po without knowing the full cost. We are homeowners, own vehicles, we know what it is going to cost us when we have word done. We need to hone in on how we spend in the town's

departments, want to upgrade wastewater treatment 5.2 million, debt service the last thing we want to do is chase the people out of the towns. How much are we paying town employees? The cost of the employee is costing us, not picking on anybody. We need to maintain our buildings, consolidate three buildings. Radio communication- use one supplier? Would we get a better deal? Telephone service: why doesn't have one supplier? We need to take a hard look at where we are going. I'm sure don't want to pay 1 mil in taxes or 50 mil, but it doesn't matter for election, we need to work with Board of Finance, Board of Selectmen, bring the department heads in, it's your budget, you need to buy in to it. Under Larry's recommendation, eliminate budget transfer items, but within your budgeted department. There are pros and cons.

LH: previous job, just went out borrowed, bonded for the 2 years, financial advisor and lawyer charges for fees, 8, 5, 2, at 15 million.

TP: Now, I will tell you right now, I won't approve taking all that money at once to borrow.

Discussion between Joe and Larry ensued about workshop and it being a meeting, the Board wrapped it up.

NN: We are going to have to plan ahead for next meeting

TP: Wolfe house

MK: Wolfe house turn over to Finance

NN: We cannot RFP, ourselves, need to asbestos design, full disclosure not allowed too. Groundwork laid out, unfortunately, point out the fire dept, any disturbance, non-fryable, need to check it, pcb testing back in the day, it is to burn it down, not demo it, or burn it.

BD: Light heartedly, said not doing crowd control if you burn it.

11. Public Comments

JR,: Thank you all and I look forward to the next meeting.

12. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen portion of this.**

MK/CB

**Motion to adjourn 9:14pm by the Board of Finance.**

KB/SL

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Moffat

Meeting Clerk, Board of Finance