



BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMAN AND BOARD OF FINANCE
57 North Main St. Beacon Falls, CT 06403
Joint Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2023
(Subject to Revision)

Members Present:

Gerard Smith (**GS**), Peter Betkoski (**PB**), Michael Krenesky (**MK**), Wendy Hopkinson (**WH**), Tom Pratt (**TP**), Kyle Brennan (**KB**), Dalton Fennell (**DF**), and Stephen Leeper (**SL**), Jim Carroll (**JC**)

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Rob Pruzinsky, Public Works Foreman (**RP**), Gerry Mays, Public Works Asst. Foreman (**GM**), Jay Piccirillo, Police Corporal (**JP**) via TEAMS, Natasha Nau, Finance Manager (**NN**) via TEAMS, Erin Schwarz, Finance Administrator (**ES**), and Lauren Fennell, BOS Clerk (**LF**)

1. Call to Order:

GS called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- a. **BOS** motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the 3/7/23 meeting. **MK/PB**. All ayes.
- b. **BOF** motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the 3/7/23 meeting. **DF/TP**. All ayes.

3. Public Input – Webform Submission:

None

4. Department Budget Review:

- a. Public Works: **ES** reviewed PW items. **SL** questioned the snow removal material left. **RP** gave an update on the increase due to inflation. **RP** guessed that the cost would be \$90/ton. Road maintenance was discussed. **WH** questioned if the roads were the priority for the year versus the capital. **DF** mentioned possibly using 10k for salt procurement. 12k for salt and 19k for roads were discussed. Sweeper amounts were discussed. **SL** mentioned skipping some sweeping. **RP** mentioned the need for them for MS4 purposes. **WH** reviewed the amount of the used sweeper with **RP** and **GM**. **RP** mentioned the police duty that comes with tree removal. **TP** questioned the tree work schedule. **RP** mentioned that the trees are a complex issue due to the location of the trees in question. **TP** questioned if the monies requested would be enough to cover the expense of it. **MK** mentioned the slues ways of Mathies Park. There are quite a few pathways that have tree fall and impacted leaves. **KB** questioned what comes out of the highway material fund. **RP** gave a general overview. The street sweeper was discussed further. Questions arose on whether a newer machine would be better than a used one. **JC** asked what their top priorities would be. **RP** said that the plow truck and building would be top priorities. **GM** reviewed the current vehicles being maintained by the department. A 5-year schedule of newer trucks would help the department from needing to do significant repairs. The trucks in, are snow plow ready, and the number in question covers everything but the blade of the plow. **KB** questioned the state of the track at Pent Road rec center. **TP** questioned the best method of maintenance of the cracks in the track. **RP** to look into the cheapest and most efficient method of maintenance.
- b. Police: **JP** gave an update on the quotes for the carport. The current amount for the project is \$46,000. **JP** proposed repurposing the funds for the carport and using them for the proposed generator. **WH** asked to review the resident state trooper budget. **ES** mentioned that this item would be going down to 165k. **KB** mentioned that some of that money could go toward the generator. **JP** requested that some be used for vehicle fuel. **ES** reviewed the funds being used in the general funds and private duty. **ES** will be investigating what can be found through consortium. Propane discussion opened.



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5. Open Budget Discussion: Revenue, Expenditures, Non-Recurring Capital Projects:
 - a. Expenditure: **ES** reviewed the lines that would be potentially decreasing. Wages were discussed. **TP** questioned what the town pays to employees furthering their position through certification. **GS** reviewed that. **KB** reviewed the land use department. All union requests will not be discussed due to upcoming contract negotiations. Registrars are not in discussion for raises due to it being an election year. Other ROV requests were discussed. An early voter's line was briefly discussed. **ES** to reach out to state registrars for guidance on how to budget for early voting. EDC was discussed. **KB** mentioned the idea of moving the operating proposal of a consultant to a capital project to give the EDC an opportunity to prove that the consultant would be able to bring funds in. EMS was tabled. **ES** reviewed the current debt fund and what will offset it. O&G data center was briefly discussed.
 - b. Meeting Schedule: A special meeting for March 28th will be set for Waste Water and Fire to attend in the Senior Center at 7:00 PM.
6. Adjournment:
 - a. Motion to adjourn the BOS meeting at 9:19 PM made by **PB**, seconded by **MK**, All ayes.
 - b. Motion to adjourn the BOF meeting at 9:19 PM made by **WH**, seconded by **DF**. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren A. Fennell
Clerk, Board of Selectmen