

**TOWN OF BEACON FALLS  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MONTHLY MEETING  
C/O TOWN HALL 10 MAPLE AVE.  
BEACON FALLS, CT. 06403  
October 7, 2019 (Subject to Revision)**

October 11, 2019

Town Clerk Leonard C. Greene  
c/o Town Hall 10 Maple Avenue  
Beacon Falls, CT 06403

Dear Mr. Greene:

Please be advised that the **Town of Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen** has scheduled its **Regular Monthly Meeting** for **Monday, October 7, 2019**. The Meeting will begin at **7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Assembly Room, 10 Maple Ave., Beacon Falls, CT.**

**Members Present: Chris Bielik (CB), Mike Krenesky (MK), and Pete Betkoski (PB)**

**Others Present: Elio Gugliotti, Citizens News; Brian O'Connell, Boy Scout, MaryEllen Fernandes (MF), Stacey Betkoski (SB), and Kevin McDuffie (KM)**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag- First Selectman Chris Bielik called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Eagle Scout Project Recognition – Brian O'Connell  
First Selectmen Bielik introduced Brian O'Connell, a Troop 104 Boy Scout in Beacon Falls. Brian just completed his Eagle Scout Project at the Riverbend Park. Brian came up with an idea to create a lifesaving station on shore that has a lifesaving ring that somebody from the shore can throw to the person in water in distress. The project came out beautifully and we will wait for the date of the Eagle court of honor. On behalf of Beacon Falls; the Board of Selectmen would like to congratulate you, Brian.  
Brian O'Connell said: Thank you for the support throughout the entire thing.  
Mr. Bielik noted that as everybody knows, the Eagle Project is not just about an individual, it is about forming a team, demonstrating leadership, getting funding,

and pulling it all together. Mr. Bielik also mentioned that the equivalent to the Eagle Scout for Girl Scouts is the Gold Star. Then referred back to the Eagle Scout award and how it is a testament to Brian and the other young men in town to continue. It was also mentioned that Don Ferretti from Troop 104 Boy Scouts said due to low enrollment that Troop 104 was going to disestablish. Mr. Bielik has had the privilege to be the point person to attend all the Eagle Projects. The Boy Scouts will continue on as there are Prospect, Naugatuck, and area towns that still have troops. It is sad for us that the legacy is coming to end but there are other troops that the Scouts can continue in.

Pete Betkoski asked Brian how long did it take?

Brian: It took me from May until the end of September to complete. I have paper work that I need to finalize to submit to the state.

Mike Krenesky said; When I was Cub Master of 104, I had a kid that missed the deadline. Don't forget to follow through with the state paperwork.

Mr. Bielik noted that Congratulations to the parents as well.

Mr. O'Connell said Thank you, He is continuing with Prospect Troop as well.

3. Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings  
9/9 Monthly meeting and Special Town meeting 9/23

**Motion to approve the minutes as presented.**

MK/PB all ayes

4. Comments from the Public - Limit to Three (3) Minutes

MaryEllen Fernandes, 5 Sharon Dr: What is going on at the access off of Rimmon Hill and McGeever's property? It's really bad.

CB: I promised to get an update by Rob tomorrow, I had asked for an update, I apologize I was expecting to get one before this meeting.

Mary Ellen: This has been months.

CB: I had thought this was already taken care of but I will follow up with Public Works.

PB: Is there a pile of brush on there now?

Mary Ellen: Not only for my own reason, the stumps are now part of the landscape, this has been going on for over a year. There is everything. Somebody claimed that he told Rob that it was from the storm and it was placed on the town property. We have to go on his property at least 20-25 foot access that should be cleared.

CB: I promise to get you message personally on the status of this in a couple of days and what will be done about it.

Any public comments, any public comment, any public comment, seeing as there are none, moving on to the rest of the agenda.

5. Resident Trooper/Police Report – The resident trooper did not submit a report, he is currently operating without Joan, therefore no report this month. There will be two next month.

6. Wastewater Treatment Plant Report

**Motion to approve report as presented.**

MK/PB, all ayes

7. Report of Public Works

**Motion to approve report as presented.**

PB/MK, all ayes

CB: As a discussion item, Middle of the Bullet list, Landcaster Drive had a fiberseal done to it, it was a new process, it was one of the new technologies that was mentioned to us when we were going through street scan. Because of the condition of Lancaster drive in relatively in good shape, we tried this technique on, from own personal observation now that it is all set. I will say it is fabulous, fiber mat, and fog sealing,

Chip sealing- flip up, but eventually settles down

Fiber mat process is an overlay in place, stabilizes and settles down. I

encourage anyone to take a look at it. For 78,000 that is going to take 5-8 more years to buy some time, stretching our road repair budget. I am very encouraged to see it.

MK: We haven't gone through a winter, so afterwards we can decide.

CB: I concur, talk to us in April to see how it went.

No further discussion, all ayes

8. Report of the Fire Marshall

**Motion to accept report as presented.**

MK/PB, all ayes

9. Report of the Finance Manager

CB: Bullet number 2 at the top of report they are very happy about that

**Motion to approve the Finance report as presented and forward for review to the Board of Finance.**

PB/MK, all ayes

10. Report of the Tax Collector

**Motion to accept as presented and forward for review to the Board of Finance.**

MK/PB, all ayes

11. Report of the Town Treasurer

**Motion to accept as presented and forward for review to the Board of Finance.**

PB/MK, all ayes

CB: As a discussion item we had a Liberty bank meeting today and invited Larry

Hutvagner to attend with Finance staff along with the Treasurer. The meeting went very well and Larry was able to get some questions answered.

No additional comments, all ayes

12. Report of the Town Clerk

**Motion to accept as presented and forward for review to the Board of Finance.**

MK/PB, all ayes

13. Report from Economic Development

**Motion to accept as presented and forward for review to the Board of Finance.**

PB/MK, all ayes

MK: Do we know what is going on for October 17<sup>th</sup>?

CB: Yes, the agenda will have on October 17<sup>th</sup>, Chairman P&Z, planning and zoning regulations. There will be an opportunity to listen to the proposal and have the public hear on this. Then there will be a planning and zoning meeting to have a discussion to change the amendment to the planning and zoning regulations. A special meeting has not been scheduled yet.

14. Report of the Library

**Motion to accept as presented.**

MK/PB, all ayes

CB: As discussion Item about notary services, Kerry McAndrew has expressed the interest to also being a notary as back up support. There was a day when the two back up notary's were not available, so she is interested. I'm all in favor, she is going to start the process. Anybody that is on the municipal staff, we do not charge anyone who comes to the town for the notary services.

Also noted, Stacey is present. Is there anything we should know about the Library Trustees.

SB: We need Library Trustees, we are losing Randi Bellemare.

CB: One of the concerns is that we have representation from all parties on the Boards, so we will be looking for some candidates. We will make sure the Chairman hears about it.

15. Report of the Fire Department

**Motion to accept as presented.**

PB/MK, all ayes

CB: Fire prevention starting this week, the date has been changed this year to this Friday October 11<sup>th</sup>. Also there are two more events on Sunday October 13<sup>th</sup>, Cornhole Tournament, and October 20<sup>th</sup>, annual Octoberfest.

16. Any other Reports

- a. Report of the Custodian

**Motion to approve as presented.**

MK/PB, all ayes

- b. Report of the Town Nurse - (Quarterly)

**Motion to approve as presented.**

PB/MK, all ayes

- c. Report of the Animal Control Officer-none provided, next month

- d. Community Media Center Building Committee (Previous Meeting Minutes)

NONE - Mtg Canc.

- e. Park Trails Report –

MK: Recognize his work that he has done and the signage on the trails, and setting up a walk through

CB: Alan will attend a Health of a Forest forum that he has volunteered to attend.

**Motion to approve as presented.**

PB/MK, all ayes

#### 17. Reading of Correspondence

Tax Refunds- overpayments

CB: Need attachment, there are 36 separate refunds ranging from 1.00 to 650, the total \$6280.80

**Motion to approve as presented.**

PB/MK, all ayes

Invoices-

9/9 and 9/23 invoices from the clerk on 9/9 and 9/23

**Motion to accept and pay as presented.**

PB/MK, all ayes

Finance Department- correspondence

Update on Police Private Duty for write off consideration, it was discussed at the Board of Finance; they have already taken their action, pending our action. It was proposed to write off the debt.

**Motion to make the recommendation to write off this bad debt as presented.**

PB/MK, all ayes

Letter of resignation on September 18, 2019, was submitted from Helen Mis to step down from the Deputy position; I would like to acknowledge that Helen has served for 52.5 years. Words cannot express the thanks from the town, our congratulations to Helen for all those years that she had served.

**Motion to accept with deep regret.**

PB/CB, one abstention

Letter of correspondence: Anonymous letter from Oakwood Drive- specific to a

particular action, quads are going up and down the road speeding by the cars, one of the boys live on 8 Oakwood Drive.

CB: I immediately took action and contacted the Resident Trooper, the activity was most pronounced around 2:30-5. Members of the Beacon Falls Police paid a visit to 8 Oakwood Dr. To my knowledge, the situation has been defused, but if the residents see something say something, call 911 to log the report.

Letter of resignation October 1<sup>st</sup>, Beth Nelson Part time assistant town clerk, October 15<sup>th</sup> will be her last day.

CB: We certainly wish nothing but the best, she will be sorely missed. I understand she has an opportunity for her to be closer to be home.

#### 18. Old Business

##### a. Town Sesquicentennial Celebration – Update

MK: We had a kick off meeting this past Thursday, and it was attended by some. We had a good discussion, next meeting is November 13<sup>th</sup> to determine what committees will be put in place. The funds are being raised and being used at the School house when we get it to be moved. The intent is for the bricks is for the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration. The Historical Society has sold 9-10 bricks. We are hoping to sell more bricks and getting the word out. I will get a flyer to the Superintendent, and he will get the word out to the parents.

##### b. Term Limits for Members of Planning and Zoning – Update Planning and Zoning –

KM: Jim Galligan is a wealth of knowledge for the other towns in regards to term limits. Term limits, you are on the board for as long as you want to be, but then new people begin as soon as the terms expire, but then they need to take a while, but once you are on, exit doesn't show up, wait three years,

CB: only way for p&z prior to the expiration of their term, if they fail their requirement to attend. There is no provision to take action.

CB: Unless you can convince the people to voluntarily submit a resignation letter.

KM: If you are going to change the ordinance?

CB: Here is what would be helpful for the Board of Selectmen, since this deals with p&z, add to your agenda and discuss with the members the term limits. Find out what the members would recommend.

KM: I believe if Inland and Wetlands, they have a policy, that they have in their ordinances no more than 3 meetings, then the person leaves

CB: Maybe we can look at it across the board for all boards and commissions to have same policies for the term limits, but would need to start with the Planning and Zoning. Maybe we make it comprehensive to

all commissions. Some towns have elected officials for the Boards but there is zero consistency across the board.

KM: There are yearly annual meeting, which we attended, from Nafyson and Young, we have attended. It is made available to all members but Nafyson and Young has offered to come on a Saturday morning.

PB: Who keeps track of the attendance to the seminars?

MF: They are volunteers

MK: There is no state over sight, purely how we set up an ordinance?

PB: Are we going to come up with this?

KM: Another person that might be able to help is Steve Burn.

c. Rimmon Hill Water Issue – Update-

CB: I did speak to George Logan at Aquarian, and he recommended I speak to Carlos.

KM: I did speak to George Logan in regards to Rimmon Hill, Oakwood, Blackberry, and Timber Ridge, there is a water volume issue.

CB: Dan Lawrence and I are coordinating a meeting, what responsibility between Aquarian and the town, to coordinate the construction effort. It will be a long process, it will be optional to opt in or opt out. There will be an assessment to defray the costs but there is more to follow because we need to research this. I hope the residents understand that this won't be able to happen quickly but will be comprehensive about this.

MK: Conversations with the residents from the side streets on the Rimmon Hill, need to include them but there are some residents that do not want us to go near their well.

CB: That is what we needed to talk to Aquarian about the opportunities and what the options for the residents would be with the opt in and opt out. I was actually looking at google maps, and looked to see what was happening in Seymour.

MK: Back to the Rimmon house, waiting on survey

CB: We had gone through Nafyson and Young, there are challenges to get to the title search, the mapping, doesn't call out the parcel. I will send out an email as soon as I hear back from them.

MK: We still have an outstanding item about the codification. : Lenny and I had a discussion this morning, contract we have, it is due in May, they charge us extra. We need to move on this before we get more charges.

MK: It's been brought to my attention that the NEJ, the trucks are still going into NEJ and not shutting their engines. I have been told that there is a state ordinance that says no more than three minutes for idling. What do we need to do with this?

CB: There has been an email that I assumed that both of you were on about this. I reached out to the residents across from NEJ, where a meeting was supposed to occur. Last year the fence was put in place, that was when the trucks were parking and leaving their engines on. As far as we knew the situation was solved now that the fence was put in place. Assuming the construction had corrected this issue. Since it hasn't been corrected, my instruction is to call 911, noise ordinance is enforced by the 911.

MF: 911 is for emergencies.

CB: The recommendation from our police force was to call 911. After hours, from our own police force, when this is causing the problem, the issue is the truck drivers are the independent from NEJ, issue enough citations, better behavior. That is the approach we are looking to accomplish.

KM: Do they have the signs on the property that says no idling?

CB: Would you broach the subject with them?

KM: Nutmeg Bakery supply if you pull in, all trucks should be shut off, no idling. But as one of the Board members, get their own personal attorney, The towns hands are tied, we have the industrial park. Should they be idling, if there are sign saying no idling. If they are past Dr. Day's then the residents shouldn't hear them. But if the trucks are not off, then they would be in violation. There are too many independent drivers, should park further down the parking, the truck has to idle, in the middle of winter.

MK: Is there an intent to change the property where the residents across from NEJ, up to Dr. Day, it's a proposal: its called a transition zone, the residents will stay, and is inclusive to Dr. Day?

KM: Yes and No, it is called a transitional zone before the residents, but beyond the residents they would stay the same. The proposal is to have a buffer. Residents will stay the same.

PB: Is that spot zoning?

KM: No, leave the residents, but Mr. Pruzinsky, that is light industrial, it will be proposed that it is transitional zoning, so trying to have a buffer zone.

MK: There was discussion I heard of a convenience store where the school house is but that was a long time ago.

## 19. New Business

### a. Appointments

- i. Land Use/Open Space - Joseph Fitzpatrick - Term Expired  
11/08/16

### b. Reappointments – November:

- Pat Hinman, exp. 11.21.19

- Cal Brennan, exp. -11.21.19 – Resignation not filled,

Doug Bousquet replaced Cal Brennan, ready for appointment- need letter to the Board of Selectmen

Dominic Stardone- unaffiliated, open spot,

KM: He sent me an email and I will forward to the Board of Selectmen

CB: We try to get the party that the person who leaves to fill the position.

PB: It is part of the ordinance?

CB: From the public perception, we try to fill the positions from a party standpoint. Please get a hold of Doug Bousquet, his spot will be ready for reappointment.

- Bob Sharkey, exp. 11.21.19-

Inland/Wetland - Walter Opuszynski, exp. 11.4.19

PB: No term limit for Inland and Wetlands

NW CT Public Safety Communications - Jeremy Rodorigo, exp. 11.8.19

Land Use - Marla Scirpo, exp. 11.4.19

Tree Warden - Rob Pruzinsky, exp.11.8.19

CB: They need a letter if they want to be reappointed.

c. 2020 Meeting Schedule – Discussion and action

CB: The proposal for the meeting schedule is the second monday of the month, but there are some months with the holidays that we typically change the date.

d. November meeting date – Discussion and action

MK: What is going on with our November meeting date?

CB: Historically, the November meeting was after the Election Day. Do we keep as scheduled November 4<sup>th</sup>, business as usual. Is it the best use of the time on the calendar? Never had it before the election,

PB: Always the purpose, transition to the next,

CB: Do we have it on November 11<sup>th</sup> or do we look for a different date?

MK: If I have a preference, I would say to move it off the 4<sup>th</sup>.

CB: Between now and the November 4<sup>th</sup>, date will be determined.

e. Review of prior Selectman meeting minutes relative to Registrars, their duties and compensation –no further action required

20. Budget Transfer Requests (if needed) -none

21. Executive Session (if needed) -none

22. Comments from the Public - Limit to Three (3) Minutes

MaryEllen Fernandes, 5 Sharon Drive: With respect to the comments to the

secretary, as a notary, once the town pays for the notary, you can't control what she does with that. I don't believe she has met her 90 days, I think she should pay for it, and after 90 days can get reimbursed.

MK: What is the timeline to become a notary?

MF: You submit a booklet, and after a week should have it done.

CB: I think that is fair to review.

23. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn at 8:27pm.**

PB/MK, all ayes

Respectfully  
submitted,

*Angela Moffat*

*Meeting Clerk, Board of Selectmen*