

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



BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monthly Meeting
May 11, 2020
MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)

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

Selectman Gerard Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Members Present: Gerard Smith (GS), Mike Krenesky (MK), Chris Bielik (CB)

Others Present: Citizens News, Matt Testani, Gary Komarowsky, Mary Ellen Fernandes

2. **Read & Approval Minutes from Previous Meetings**

Minutes from BOS Public Hearing held on 4.13.2020

Motion made to approve the minutes as presented – CB/MK, all ayes

Minutes from BOS Monthly Meeting held on 4.13.2020

Motion made to approve the minutes as presented – MK/CB, all ayes

Minutes from BOS/BOF Workshop held on 4.21.2020

Motion made to approve the minutes as presented – CB/MK, all ayes; CB had one correction, KB should be CB in adjournment motion.

Minutes from BOS/BOF Workshop held on 5.6.2020

Motion made to approve the minutes as presented – MK/CB, all ayes

3. **Comments from the Public**

No public comment was submitted for this meeting.

4. **Resident Trooper/Police Report**

Motion to approve Resident Trooper Report for April as presented – MK/CB, all ayes

5. **Wastewater Treatment Plant Report**

Motion to approve Wastewater Treatment Plant report as presented – CB/MK, all ayes

6. **Report of Public Works**

Motion to approve Public Works report as presented – CB/MK, all ayes

GS – please note under transfers re: storm drains on Beacon Valley; most of the pipe is metal and we jetted about 8 pipes and they were all clogged and failed. Unable to camera them. Transfer is to cover cost overage that incurred.

7. **Report of the Fire Marshal**

Motion to approve March & April report for the Fire Marshall as presented – MK/CB, all ayes

8. **Report of the Finance Manager**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – MK/CB, all ayes
9. **Report of the Tax Collector**
Motion to approve January, February, and March and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – CB/MK, all ayes
10. **Report of the Town Treasurer**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – MK/CB, all ayes
11. **Report of the Town Clerk**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – CB/MK, all ayes
12. **Report from Economic Development**
No report provided.
13. **Report of the Library**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – MK/CB, all ayes
GS – They are doing a great job with virtual meetings, drop boxes etc.
14. **Report of the Fire Department**
Motion to approve Fire Department report as presented – CB/MK, all ayes
MK – this looks normal given the pandemic. CB except for training which is expected.
15. **Any other reports**
 - a. **Report of the Custodian**
Motion to approve the report as presented – MK/CB, all ayes
CB – have we considered bringing in a professional company for a deep cleaning? What would the difference be from what we are doing now? GS – I did give it some thought for when we have public coming in but right now Pete has been sanitizing everything. We have been implementing changes for when we do reopen. We installed plexiglass where we could, certain offices will remain locked, tape on the floor to show distance and making the building one way. We will continue to investigate other items as we move forward. GS – may be good to get some quotes to know what we are looking at via daily/weekly cleaning. CB- we should reach out to NVHD or Seymour to see who they used or recommend.
 - b. **Report of the Town Nurse – (Quarterly) - none**
 - c. **Report of the Animal Control Officer**
Motion to approve the report as presented – MK/CB, all ayes
 - d. **Community Media Center Building Committee (Previous Meeting Minutes) – NONE**
GS – why do we still have this on agenda. MK- committee still exists and Doug Bousquet is the acting Chair.
 - e. **Park Trails Report**
Motion to approve the report as presented – CB/MK, all ayes
GS – Al has been doing a great job and continues to work with Park & Rec.
16. **Reading of Correspondence & Payment of Invoices**
 - Marla will be stepping down as Park & Rec clerk. She has named Angela Moffat as her replacement. Motion made to accept Marla's resignation with regret – CB/MK, all ayes
 - Thank you letter from Deloris Gandarellis celebrating her 100th birthday
 - Thank you from Fire Department in attending virtual Installation of Officer's ceremony.

17. Old Business

a. Town Sesquicentennial Celebration – Update

MK – have not spoken with Pete Betkoski in about two weeks. My intention to put together a zoom meeting.

b. Beacon Valley Road– Update

GS – getting closed to obtaining proposal of cost. At a standstill until we get the bonding approved at a town meeting. Hopeful to have more answers next month.

c. Ordinance Proposals – Update

GS – still in progress and Kerry and I will resume once we are back to the office.

d. Wolfe Avenue House – Update

GS – still waiting on documents from Eagle. We reached out to see why we have not received it and they are not working with full staff due to COVID-19.

e. COVID-19 – Update

GS approved expenses for employees to work remote. We have begun to prepare Town Hall for reopening, whenever that may be. We were able to get plexiglass from a company in town and Public Works were able to install them, where applicable. Working on getting sanitation available for public when they come into Town Hall, employees have sanitizer on their desk. Implementing 6ft spacing, making the building one way for foot traffic, etc.

18. New Business

a. Appointments & Reappointments - none

b. Motion to approve Tax refunds in the amount of \$1,096.26; CB/MK, all ayes

c. Petty Cash Policy – GS I want to have everyone read through this and let us move it under old business for additional discussion and action at our next meeting.

d. FY2020-2021 Budget – GS entertain motion that the BOS should adopt the proposed 2020-2021 Town Operating Budget in the amount of \$7,497,950 and the 2020-2021 Non-Recurring Capital Projects Schedule in the amount of \$362,702 for a total amount of \$7,860,652. An education budget of \$14,773,550 and a total Operating & Education budget of \$22,271,500 for a total with capital projects of \$22,634,202.

MK/CB, all ayes

CB, for purpose of discussion, I spoke with Kathy Grace mentioned doing a vote like the Town of Vernon did via a drive up vote versus a traditional town meeting. GS, I think that most Budgets are following the Governor's Executive Order for doing it how we are, and the Board of Finance agrees.

CB, I am in favor of most of the budget, and have some reservations but I could not help but notice the article in the paper about Beacon Falls going back to paying for a Full Time Resident Trooper, and now Prospect will team up with Bethany with Part Time Trooper. I think our agreement with Part Time could have worked if we wanted it to, obviously there was an expense involved and understand the tradeoffs, but I wanted to just voice my concern. This concern is not preventing me from passing the budget tonight. MK – I find it interesting that Prospect is joining Bethany, but Prospect is set up differently and whether they will see a negative impact like we have seen is unknown.

e. CMED Radio Grant – GS Jeremy Rodorigo got a call from Region 5 Coordinator stating that currently we are not as efficient as we could be to talk to the State via radio. This grant will allow us to do that. It is 100% grant up to \$10,000. They will approve anything over that cost so long as it goes with the system. Total cost for equipment to implement is \$11,112.90. We would not spend it until we get the authorization to fund. **GS entertain a motion for Beacon Falls to pursue CMED Radio Grant for the total of \$11,112.90. MK/CB, all ayes.**

19. Budget Transfer Requests – Transfers total \$13,732.50. The most noticeable, is \$4,460 to Region 16, that we were previously short from the State. CB, it is a very small amount and we can cover it, but I am disappointed that when our ECS from the State came back short, that Region 16 cannot find \$4,460 in their own budget. GS, we must choose battles, but I agree with you. MK, I agree, it is not worth the battle. Entertain a motion to forward transfers in the amount of \$13,732.50 to the BOF for their approval. **MK/CB, all ayes.**

20. Executive Session (if needed)
none needed

21. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn at 7:44 P.M.
CB/MK, all ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry McAndrew
First Selectman's Office Administrator/Clerk