

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



BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monthly Meeting
July 13, 2020
MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)

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

Selectman Gerard Smith called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

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

Others Present: 7 members of the public

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

Minutes from BOS Monthly Meeting held on 6.8.2020

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

Minutes from BOS Special Meeting held on 6.11.2020

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

CB- correction for page 2 at the bottom paragraph, should say "CB raised point of order".

3. **Comments from the Public**

None

GS just to clarify, comments from the public can be sent in up until the day after the meeting by noon. Any comments submitted prior to the meeting will be addressed at the meeting that night. Any comments submitted after the meeting will be addressed at the next meeting.

4. **Resident Trooper/Police Report**

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

5. **Wastewater Treatment Plant Report**

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

GS – Emergency calls and alarms higher due to a pipe/main line that runs through two houses on Hockanum Glen and when the line does not have a lot of flow through it, the smell rises, especially in the hot days. Once the lines get flushed and cleared out, the smell goes away. They must replace the manhole covers which broke down due to the gases in the line. The replacements covers are plastic and they have ordered them.

6. **Report of Public Works**

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

7. **Report of the Fire Marshal**

Motion to approve both the May & June reports 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 – CB/MK, all ayes
9. **Report of the Tax Collector**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – MK/CB, all ayes
CB – need to make sure we are getting the information we are used to seeing. Will the new Tax Collector will be at the BOF meeting tomorrow? GS – that is correct.
10. **Report of the Town Treasurer**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – CB/MK, all ayes
11. **Report of the Town Clerk**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – MK/CB, 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 did run into a snag with public using the computers, therefore we have suspended that service for now. They are still doing curbside pick-up. There was some confusion that the Library was providing bags directly to United Day School. That was not the case. The UDS brings children on scavenger hunt walk to the library. For the record, the Library was not providing bags to UDS, a private institution, they were bringing children to the library to pick up activity packs.
14. **Report of the Fire Department**
No report provided.
15. **Any other reports**
 - a. **Report of the Custodian**
Motion to approve the report as presented – MK/CB, all ayes
 - b. **Report of the Town Nurse – (Quarterly)**
Motion to approve both the 1st & 2nd quarter report as presented – MK/CB, all ayes
GS – for discussion, we suspended her home visits for all parties concerned. CB – there are exceptions and she tries to limit to one house visit a day. Is that still happening. GS – It is on a case by case basis with extreme caution and proper PPE. I do not have a record of how many she did.
 - c. **Report of the Animal Control Officer**
Motion to approve the March, April, May & June reports as presented – MK/CB, all ayes
GS- Received March, April, May, and June reports with additional detail. The bears have been very activity and there have been numerous sightings over the last couple months.
MK – for discussion, I do not understand why we can not have the details on the front side of sheet. The ACO stated it is for the State Reporting. There was a comment at one point that the front is for dogs only. All the details should be on the front page, not just information pertaining to dogs. CB all the criteria points implicitly to a dog versus any other animal control calls. MK I would like to see what the instructions are from the State in filling out this form. CB perhaps we can invite the ACO to the next meeting.

CB about getting more detail, if we look at May report it says that there are two animal bite reports, yet there is no address. Those should be on the front. If you look at the June report, the one listed in detail was my house. We made a report of a roaming dog and for the record, the ACO's response time was excellent and was extremely professional.

d. Community Media Center Building Committee (Previous Meeting Minutes) – NONE

e. Park Trails Report

Motion to approve both reports as presented – CB/MK, all ayes

GS – two-part report. Steve Moffat, Public Works – Parks, who works closely with Captain Al, has included a report. MK for the record, the large sign for Matthies will be installed tomorrow.

16. Reading of Correspondence & Payment of Invoices

- a. Letter of retirement dated June 15, 2020 from Linda Beckwith.
- b. Letter from Jeffery Burkitt, resigning from Energy Board.
- c. Letter from Sue Keating/Garden Club thanking us for our assistance with the center median and to let us know that the mulch was donated.
- d. **Motion to add Bulky Waste Dates to agenda as item 18, g. – MK/CB, all ayes**
- e. Letter from Fire Chief to retrofit Rescue 4 to handle more gear. Does not include time frame or amount they would have to spend, but it is details of intent. We will get more details in the future.
- f. Thank you letter from Maureen & Dave Scott for the flowers & sympathies in the untimely death of their daughter.
- g. Thank you letter from John Setaro – Scholarship recipient.

17. Old Business

- a. **Town Sesquicentennial Celebration – Update;** MK-we had a meeting and I submitted minutes to the Board. We do not have many of the details regarding the Celebration but on December 30th we are going to have a kickoff for the program. At this point we are working on that event and will try to meet monthly via Zoom. GS - the point of the fundraising will help raise funds and bring awareness to the celebration. MK - I believe there is a total of \$3,000 allocated so far. The brick fundraiser by the Historical Society was going to be used for the Rimmon School House relocation project and then what was left over, was going to the Celebration. The brick company is still not working due to the pandemic. GS – place Rimmon Hill School Relocation project on the agenda for next month's agenda for further discussion.
- b. **Beacon Valley Road– Update** GS- we are moving forward. Beacon Valley Road and the Bridge will be two separate projects. We cannot combine STEAP money and LOCIP money. From the condo's east is LOCIP application. From the condo's west will be STEAP application and Bond funds. Due to COVID delays, construction will begin around Summer of 2021.
- c. **Wolfe Avenue House – Update** GS- We received the bids and are working through the best option. There is still more research that needs to be done.
- d. **COVID-19 – Update** GS – Finance just closed out all the FEMA items from the tornado and we are making updates to submit for the COVID-19 reimbursement relief. The minibus is back up and running for single occupancy trips only. Town Hall is open for public by appointment only. CB - my mother lives in Milford and their City Hall is operating the same way. We are doing the same as what other municipalities are and it is for everyone's safety. GS – I am glad you brought up Milford, our surrounding towns have implemented similar restrictions to ours. No one is wide open where you can just walk in. I just hope everyone can have patience with us while we figure it out. The State has indefinitely postponed phase 3 reopening.

18. New Business

a. **Appointments & Reappointments –**

- **Regional Water Authority – motion made to appoint Peter Betkoski – CB/MK, all ayes**
- **CT Water – would like a town representative who receives CT Water, we are actively searching for someone to serve.**
- **Emergency Management Director & Assistant Emergency Management Director – Motion made to appoint Jeremy Rodorigo as EMD, MK/CB, all ayes**

Motion made to appoint Brian DeGeorge as Assistant EMD, CB/MK, all ayes

CB – if memory services, we have an EMD team, which they were a part of, so it makes sense to move them up. In the future, we should look into putting another member from PD into that group.

- ### b. **Town Meeting –**
- GS – we got approval where we could move forward. We spoke with Bond Council that we needed approval from Health Department to move forward. NVHD stated that we need to follow social distance guidelines and wear masks we can have the meeting.

Motion made to move forward with Town Meeting for July 22, 2020, at Beacon Hose Company # 1, at 7:00PM, \$5M resolution for costs associated with Stormwater/Sanitary Sewer Improvements, Road Construction & \$1M appropriation for Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades and Various Town Budget Transfers, MK/CB, all ayes

CB – for discussion, are we prepared to handle a large crowd in that venue? I am concerned the crowd may overwhelm our ability to maintain social distancing. GS – I will speak with the Health Department to find out what an appropriate number would be. If we exceed that, then we will cancel the meeting and reschedule. I do not want to put it off much longer because today we can move forward, tomorrow we may not be able too. There will not be any chairs etc. so it will be easier to maintain distance. MK – would outside be an option? GS – we can keep the doors open at the FD however, posting the meeting for an outside venue opens us up to weather concerns. Having the doors open at the FD allows us to extend the building.

- ### c. **Tax Refunds –**
- Motion made to accept the refunds in the amount of \$484.23 and sent to BOF for their review and approval – CB/MK, all ayes.
- ### d. **BOE Monthly Report –**
- GS this is just the payment schedule. We still did not get the report. Clerk to follow up with Tony DiLeone to obtain report.
- ### e. **New Information Technology Vendor –**
- GS the transition has been going well. MK – last week the air conditioning in the server closet stopped working. Novus and I made the decision to purchase new air conditioner and that was installed. Within 20 minutes the temperature dropped by 6 degrees. Recommendation was made that we cut a hole in the door at the bottom to assist with air flow/circulation. Novus will be removing some equipment that will no longer be needed over the next few weeks which should assist with the temperature. They have already done a walk-thru and will be scheduling another in the future. Discussions have taken place regarding the email system and other outstanding projects that will be completed over the next few months.
- ### f. **Appropriation from Undesignated Fund Balance to Non-Recurring Capital Projects -**
- GS – this is to move the money to pay Supreme, an invoice from the tornado. This would be a budget transfer for FY 19-20
- Motion is to appropriate from undesignated fund balance \$58,339 to Non-Recurring Capital Projects for the 5-15 Storm Supreme Industries Invoice and to forward to BOF, - CB/MK, all ayes**

- g. **Bulky Waste Dates – Entertain a motion to set Bulky Waste Schedule for August, September, October of 2020, and April, May, June of 2021 as follows; CB/MK, all ayes**

- August 29, 2020
- September 26, 2020
- October 31, 2020
- April 24, 2021
- May 22, 2021
- June 26, 2021

19. Budget Transfer Requests – Motion made to accept & forward to BOF, CB/MK, all ayes

20. Executive Session

Motion made to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel at 7:52PM, MK/CB, all ayes

Board returned from Executive Session at 8:02PM

CB made motion to add agenda items 20a & 20b. 20a – Salary for EMD – Discussion & Action and 20b – Salary increase for Office Administrator – Discussion & Action, MK second, all ayes

- a. Salary for EMD – Discussion & Action – motion made to pay new EMD an annual salary of \$6,000 per year, MK/CB, all ayes**
- b. Salary increase for Office Administrator – Discussion & Action – motion made to increase hourly rate of pay for Office Administrator to \$26.37 per hour, MK/CB, all ayes**

21. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:06 P.M.

CB/MK, all ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry McAndrew

First Selectman's Office Administrator/Clerk