

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



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monthly Meeting
June 14, 2021
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: ACO, 1 member of the public

GS – everyone observed a moment of silence for Past Chief Ted Smith.

2. Read & Approval Minutes from Previous Meetings

Motion made to approve Minutes from BOS Monthly Meeting held on 05.10.2021, the BOS/BOF Special Joint Meeting held on 5.19.2021 & the Town Meeting Minutes held on 6.2.2021, CB/MK, all ayes.

3. Budget Transfers – GS – Transfers that were in the package total \$10,422.04. There was an addition for some tree work on Beacon Valley Road and that was to transfer money from Open Space that they are not using in Lantern Ridge to move it over to Tree Work. Only \$4,400 is coming out of Conservation. Total transfers equal \$20,578.04. **Motion made to approve transfers in the amount of \$20,578.04 and forward to the BOF, MK/CB, all ayes.**

4. Comments from the Public

none

5. Resident Trooper/Police Report

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

6. Wastewater Treatment Plant Report.

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

7. Report of Public Works

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

GS – they have finished Stoddard. They are doing work on Back Rimmon and getting ready on Fairfield. They are doing a lot of catch basins. I believe most of them are done, so they have been busy. We did hear from Fairfield, and we will be paving that on our own. We were going to have Aquarian do it, but they gave us \$55,000 towards that, so we will be paving up to the Tiverton subdivision, including the entire road, not including the Cul-de-sac. If Tiverton ever gets complete, then we will go straight through and reclaim the wings of the Cul-de-sac. The Cul-de-sac will be open so that school's busses and fire apparatus can turn around. So, if anyone questions why the strip of asphalt goes to Tiverton and ends, it is because we are anticipating Tiverton to finish and then the Cul-de-sac will be at the end.

8. **Report of the Fire Marshal**
Motion to approve the report for the Fire Marshal as presented – CB/MK, all ayes.
 GS – a lot of blasting going on.
9. **Report of the Finance Manager**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – CB/MK, all ayes.
10. **Report of the Tax Collector**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – MK/CB, all ayes.
11. **Report of the Town Treasurer**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – CB/MK, all ayes.
12. **Report of the Town Clerk**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – CB/MK, all ayes.
13. **Report from Economic Development** - No report provided.
14. **Report of the Library**
Motion to approve and forward to BOF for discussion at monthly meeting – CB/MK, all ayes.
15. **Report of the Fire Department**
Motion made to approve the Fire Department report as presented – MK/CB, all ayes.
 CB – 25 EMS Mutual Aids in Naugatuck. MK – I think there were 3 this morning. GS – Naugatuck is upset about this as well. I guess this is a problem with that Organization. I have made my displeasure very known and explained that we can not have our emergency systems out of town. We could draft a letter on behalf of the BOS to have an answer as to the excessive amount of mutual aid calls to Naugatuck, I would be ok with that. Maybe even requesting confirmation at the Board level, I look for a motion to send a letter to Beacon Hose EMS questioning the excessive amount of mutual aid calls to Naugatuck. **CB - made a motion to request the EMS Director to attend the July BOS meeting to give us an update and statistics of calls in town, mutual aid etc. for comparison purposes and how it is impacting our personnel, MK seconded, all ayes.**
16. **Any other reports**
 - a. **Report of the Custodian** – no report provided
 - b. **Report of the Town Nurse – (Quarterly)**
 - c. **Report of the Animal Control Officer** – GS – our ACO is here. GS – our challenges and questions that we have had is that when we look at the State Form it does not seem complete. ACO – that state form is for impounded animals. That is why the State form is always empty. GS – so that is only for the impounded animals? ACO – right. I have been doing that for 21 years. CB – the explanation sheet that you are providing, that is a summary of the number on the front? ACO – It is roaming dogs, barking dogs etc. CB – those do not require info for the State because they are not impounded. ACO – you get the white form because you are the Town Officer. You get a copy; the Town Clerk gets a copy and so does the Treasurer. GS – so roaming dogs, those are just when residents call in? ACO – yes. MK – one thing it does not tell us is if we have repeat offenders. ACO – that is hard to tell because sometimes the animal is back with their owner. MK – So, when you list these streets, it does not necessarily mean you found the animal that is just where the complaint was received. ACO – correct, just the complaint. MK – I think that was our confusion with the State form as to why they were not on the form. GS – so when you get to the street, is there a way to enforce it, because we do have an ordinance for roaming dogs. ACO – usually I give a State of CT infraction because we do not have a panel in town. GS – what does that result in? ACO – I believe it is a \$95.00 fee for roaming. GS – can you include those in your report going forward? ACO – yes. **Motion made by MK to accept the report as presented, CB seconded, all ayes.**
 - d. **Park Trails Report** – ACO – regarding the infractions for fishing license, does he have any? GS – he does check licenses. He is not issuing infractions. If he catches you

fishing without a license, he will ask you to get one. ACO – so he has no authority to issue infractions. GS – no, he does not have any enforcement authority unless he calls DEEP. ACO – DEEP will be here more frequently because there have been issues of people fishing at River Bend without a license. GS – he is primarily at Matthies and Toby's.

GS – just a note and to Pat's point, Al had been reporting to me but now he will directly reporting to the Resident Trooper for any issues that he may have. MK – just a question when I am reading this, regarding checking for compliance, he states he is conducting things at Pent Road. What is he doing specifically at Pent Road related to compliance? GS – I am going to go out on a limb that that should say, patrolling the parks and checking for compliance, maybe patrolling, and making sure gates are open. CB – it may be a security check too. MK – thank you, it did not make sense to me at first. Does the job description list the areas that he goes too, because I do know he goes to Open Space, but I think Conservation has asked him too? I am not sure if his authority extends up there. GS – I will follow up with him regarding Lantern Ridge and Riverbend. **Motion made by MK to accept the report as presented, CB seconded, all ayes.**

- e. **BOE Report – Motion to approve and forward to the BOF for discussion at the monthly meeting – MK/CB,** for discussion - noticing that based on the fact that we are 11/12th of the year done, their overall budget expenditure was about 5-7% less than what you expect, that indicates to me the likelihood of a possible budget surplus at the end of the year. Can we have the BOF liaise with Region 16 to get a projection to see if they are expecting a surplus and a ballpark of what we could expect. GS – that would be a good conversation for tomorrow's meeting. **All ayes.**

17. Reading of Correspondence & Payment of Invoices

- a. GS – Thank you card from Christensen family for flowers.
GS – Thank you card for Selectman Krenesky for attending Eagle Scout Court of Honor.
GS - P&Z Commission making us aware that they have requested that one of the members be adopted to the IWWC so they will appoint someone there.
GS – Letter of Resignation from Tom Bunosso of P&Z Commission. **Motion to accept resignation with regret, MK/CB, all ayes.**
GS – Letter from David D'Amico letter of interest in joining WPCA.

18. Old Business

- a. **Town Sesquicentennial Celebration Update** MK – we are two weeks away from the Celebration. The event is fully funded, and we keep adding several new vendors selling items at the event. We are attempting to bring in vendors from Beacon Falls. We are in a good place and placing the last order for the banner we need. Our dignitaries are all in line and the food is scheduled. There will be free pizza, hot dogs, ice cream, cannoli's etc. GS – this will all be set up in the Fire Department parking lot? MK – there will be nothing in the street and it will be wrapped around the back and sides of the building. I assume we will have people parking in the median. GS – police is all in place? MK – I have to confirm everything with Joe, but he is aware of it. We are not closing Main Street for this. GS – and security for the dignitaries? Are they coming with their own? MK – yes, and the Lt. Governor usually has State Police with her. I do not have the details on their security. GS – we should probably talk to Bert about that. MK -we are going to open at 1pm and the formalities may go until 1:45p and then we will open the food trucks etc. GS – who is MCing the event. MK – after the formal program, Kyle Brennan will be handling that. Fred Simpson will be doing an abbreviated show on the history of Beacon Falls. GS – is Rivers Edge doing anything? MK – I have not spoken to Joe. CB – we do not have an adult beverage vendor, correct? MK – correct. GS – I think it would be

best to not have alcohol. CB – then Joe may want to open. MK – there will be several different kinds of booths. We are just hoping for a great sunny day!

- b. **Ordinance Committee** – GS – they have been away since we were focusing on the Budget. They should be reconvening soon.
- c. **COVID-19** – GS – COVID-19 has taken a backseat to everything. We have no updates to report. We will leave it on the agenda for now and review again next month.
- d. **Burton Road Update** – GS – LOTCIP has the application, and they are going through it. DOT is doing what they are doing to all applications, and I talked to Bob, and he is having the same problem. DOT is questioning all the parts of the application and they wanted information on the wall that is falling so Paul has provided that and we are waiting on feedback. It is in review and Paul is still confident that this work will begin late summer/early fall. CB – that is the double edge sword with LOTCIP, it requires the CT DOT to be involved. GS – since COVID, the reason that they put LOTCIP together is that it was not supposed to be with DOT at all. The way it worked prior to COVID was that the Town Engineers submitted the plans to the COG Engineers, the COG Engineers would review it and send to DOT, DOT would like at it, sign and send back. Since COVID, the applications go to the COG, COG reviews them, sends them to DOT and they are coming back with all these questions. This is not just happening in Beacon Falls. It is every town who submits applications. CB – that is how it used to be, and it is unfortunate.
- e. **Rimmon School House Land Surveying** – GS – I see they marked up the road heavily. MK – they redid the CBYD information because when they mowed, the flags were gone. This time, to your point, the orange paint is all over the road. So, I am not sure what that means but now, Jessie has completed the survey piece and I will reach out to him. The only piece he is the Title Search needs to be done on the property. The search needs to be done so that the State can convey the land to the Town. There is something Jessie puts into the survey documentation that is tied back to the title search. That may hold us up from getting the paperwork. We are another step closer, and we can see the space where we can physically put the building with all the flags there. I am not confident we can get it moved this calendar year.
- f. **Sidewalk Ordinance Review** – GS – I forwarded this to Attorney Studer, and he was on vacation, he will be getting us some information soon. I will follow up with him, so we have it for next meeting.

19. New Business

- a. **Appointments & Reappointments**
 - **Brownfields Commission** – Still vacant.
 - **EDC** – still vacant. CB – I will check with Jack.
 - **WPCA – Motion made to appoint David D'Amico to the WPCA to finish out the remaining term of Charlie Edwards, MK/CB, all ayes.**
- b. **No Thru Truck Signage** – GS – we did put up some bigger signs and on it states No Thru Truck Traffic Per Board of Selectmen. They are installed but covered up until we had this meeting. **I entertain a motion to put up the No Thru Truck Signs to stem the traffic that is going through Pond Springs/Lopus Road area CB/MK, all ayes.**
- c. **Cook Lane STEAP Agreement** - GS – this is on here because we had a date that we had to sign it and get it back because we were approved for \$126,000 for drainage on Cook Lane so this is for us to formally acknowledge that we accepted the STEAP agreement.
- d. **Police Private Duty Rates for 2022** - GS – it is \$108 and \$133. **I entertain a motion to adopt the Town of Beacon Falls Police Union Contract Private Duty Police Rate Calculation as presented in appendage A at \$108 for week day private duty and \$133 for weekend/holiday private**

duty and forward to the BOF for approval at their monthly meeting, MK/CB, just for clarification that is a \$3.00 per hour increase in both of those rates, all ayes.

- e. **Senior Center – GS –** It has come to my attention that we have a slight problem. As we forge the relationship with the YMCA insurance became a very big conversation. We had to make sure we were covered and there are programs that will be happening. When the question came up as to what exactly our Senior Program is, turns out, that the Beacon Falls Seniors are not actually an organization. The where formed in 1982 and there were some updates, but the last updates were in 1985 and then nothing happened. The State dissolved them in 2019. There is no Beacon Falls Senior Organization, which poses the problem that anything that happens there currently is not under the Town's insurance. I am waiting for the Attorney's legal opinion. Once we appoint a Senior Director or Commissioner, anything that they put together, would fall under our insurance. Once we appoint that person, we can move the Senior Center forward and breath new life into it now that COVID is over.
- f. **Tax Refunds – GS – entertain a motion to approve the refunds in the amount of \$1,950.78 CB/MK, all ayes.**

20. **Executive Session** – None

21. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 7:59 P.M. CB/MK, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry McAndrew
First Selectman's Office Administrator/Clerk