



Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2022
C/O Town Clerk
10 Maple Avenue Beacon Falls, CT 06403
(Subject to Revision)

Members Present:

G. Smith (GS), P. Betkoski (PB), M. Krenesky (MK)

Members Absent:

None

Others Present: 3 Members of the public.

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

GS called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Read and Approved Minutes from Previous Meeting:**

Motion to accept the 11/14/22, meeting minutes as presented made by **PB**, seconded by **MK**. All ayes.

Motion to accept the Public Hearing/Town Meeting minutes from 11/29/22. **PB/GS**. 2 Ayes and 1 abstention.

3. **Budget Transfer Requests:** GS reviewed the budget transfers. **MK** made a motion to approve the budget transfers as presented and forward them to the Board of Finance for review. **PB** seconded the motion. All ayes.

<u>TRANSFER FROM:</u>			<u>TRANSFER TO:</u>			
<u>Amount</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Explanation</u>
\$ (19,999.00)	10.90.67.1765	Equipment Maintenance	10.90.67.1760	WWTP - Plant Operations	\$ 19,999.00	Plant Operations line was cut and with inflationary costs it is already in the red. WWTP would like flexibility to move funds from Equipment Replacement to cover plant operating costs.
\$ (848.00)	10.90.44.1121	Fire Dept - Electricity	10.90.44.1500	Service Award Program	\$ 848.00	Unbudgeted administrative fees from provider
\$ (20,847.00)					\$ 20,847.00	

4. **Comments From the Public:**

a. **M. Carrol – Burton Rd.** – Inquired about fair housing portion of the Plan for Conservation of Development. Is it state mandated? **GS** responded, “Yes, it is a necessary section in the Plan for conservation and development.”

5. **Report of the Resident Trooper/Police:** **PB** made a motion to approve the report, as presented. **MK** seconded the motion. All ayes

6. **Report of the Wastewater Treatment Plant:** **MK** made a motion to approve the report as presented. **PB** seconded the motion. All ayes. Clerk to ask WPCA clerk to provide report for her board.

7. **Report of Public Works:** None

8. **Report of the Fire Marshal:** **MK** made motion to approve the report as presented. **PB** seconded the motion. All ayes.

9. **Report of the Finance Manager:** **MK** made a motion to approve the report, as presented and forward it to the Board of Finance for review at their regular monthly meeting. **PB** seconded the motion. All ayes.

10. **Report of the Tax Collector:** **PB** made motion to approve the report as presented and forward to the Board of Finance for review at their regular monthly meeting. **MK** seconded the motion. All ayes.

11. **Report of the Town Treasurer:** **MK** made a motion to approve the report, as presented and forward it to the Board of Finance for review at their regular monthly meeting. **PB** seconded the motion. All ayes.
Melbourne Trust was discussed if there was anything from the tax collector should be able to add to bills.



Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2022
C/O Town Clerk
10 Maple Avenue Beacon Falls, CT 06403
(Subject to Revision)

12. **Report of the Town Clerk:** **MK** made a motion to approve the report as presented and forward it to the Board of Finance for review at their regular monthly Meeting. **PB** seconded the motion. All ayes.
13. **Report from Economic Development:** Motion to approve the report as presented made by **PB**, seconded by **MK**. All ayes.
14. **Report of the Library:** **MK** made a motion to approve the report as presented. **PB** seconded the motion. All ayes.
15. **Report of the Fire Department:** **PB** made motion to approve the report as presented. **MK** seconded the motion. All ayes. **GS** took the time to thank EMS and Fire for their dedication to our residents in their time of need.
16. **Other Departmental Reports:**
 - a. **Report of the Custodian:** None
 - b. **Report of the Animal Control Officer:** None
 - c. **Report of the BOE:** **MK** made motion to approve the report as presented. **PB** seconded. All ayes.
 - d. **Quarterly Report of the Town Nurse:** N/A
17. **Reading of Correspondence & Payment of Bills:**
 - a. **GS** read from a letter received from Victor Lembo expressing interest in joining the Economic Development Commission.
 - b. **GS** read from a letter received from Robert Mut expressing interest in joining the Planning & Zoning Commission.
 - c. **GS** read correspondence from the Service Award Committee.
 - d. **GS** read from thank you letter from American Legion for the help on Veterans Day.
 - e. **GS** read from thank you letter from the Adomaia family for flowers received at family funeral.
18. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Burton Road — LOTCIP Project L006-0002 Burton Road Reconstruction and Retaining Wall Replacement:** **GS** reviewed the most steps of the bid. Currently waiting on COI. Task order was read. Motion to accept task 1 of the 22-3 Rehabilitation of Burton Road made by **PB**, seconded by **MK**. All ayes.
 - b. **O&G Data Center:** **GS** spoke with Corvo, still working with DECD on drafting legal documents.
 - c. **Haynes Development:** Money is still being pursued for the project.
 - d. **Service Award Proposal:** **GS** reviewed the proposal. Motion to move forward with the proposal as presented made by **PB**, seconded by **MK**. All ayes. Exhibit A.
19. **New Business:**
 - a. **Appointments and Reappointments:**
 - I. **EDC Appointment:** Motion to appoint Victor Lembo to the Economic Development Commission made by **PB**, seconded by **MK**. All ayes.
 - II. **Planning & Zoning Appointment:** Motion to appoint Robert Mut to the Planning & Zoning Commission pending party balance of the board made by **MK**, seconded by **PB**. All ayes.
 - III. **Housing Officer Appointment:** Motion to appoint Gerard Smith as the Housing Officer made by **MK**, seconded by **PB**. All ayes.
 - b. **Resolution – 123 Beacon Valley Road:** **GS** gave brief update on drainage easement Exhibit B. Motion to approve resolutions 123 and 145 made by **MK**, seconded by **PB**. All ayes.
 - c. **Resolution – 145 Beacon Valley Road:** Exhibit C.
 - d. **CT DECD Community Investment Fund (CIF) – Certified Resolution:** Motion to approve the signing of the CIF resolution made by **MK**, seconded by **PB**. All ayes.



Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2022
C/O Town Clerk
10 Maple Avenue Beacon Falls, CT 06403
(Subject to Revision)

- e. FY24 Budget Workshop Calendar: Motion to approve the draft FY2024 budget workshop calendar as presented to forward to the BOF at their monthly meeting made by **PB**. Seconded by **MK**. All ayes.
 - f. Tax Refunds: Motion to approve tax refunds totaling \$1,762.89 as presented made by **MK**, seconded by **PB**. All ayes.
20. Executive Session: None needed
21. Adjournment: **PB** made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectman meeting at 7:29 PM. **MK** seconded the motion. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren A. Fennell
Clerk, Board of Selectmen



Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2022
C/O Town Clerk
10 Maple Avenue Beacon Falls, CT 06403
(Subject to Revision)

Exhibit A.



TOWN OF BEACON FALLS
FIRE AND EMS SERVICE AWARD COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
C/O TOWN CLERK
10 MAPLE AVE.
BEACON FALLS, CT. 06403
(Subject to revision)

Members Present: J. Weid (JW), D. Bousquet (DB), P. Brennan (PB), J. Wrenn (JDW)

Members Absent: M. Krenesky (MK) and J. Carrol (JC)

Other Members Present: None

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance:

DB called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and led the assembled in the pledge of allegiance.

2. Proposal Review – Discussion & Action:

DB gave brief update on the change in proposal recommendation. Board reviewed material from JW. .03 difference would be incurred in the mill rate should option 1 be adopted.

Motion to present option 1 to the BOS at the December meeting made by PB seconded by JW. All ayes

3. Adjournment:

Motion made to adjourn at 7:10 PM – PB/JW, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren A. Fennell
Clerk, Service Award Committee



Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2022
C/O Town Clerk
10 Maple Avenue Beacon Falls, CT 06403
(Subject to Revision)

October 25, 2022

Dear Members of the Service Award Committee,

In 2020, the State of Connecticut passed an amendment to the Volunteer Firefighter and EMS Personnel Tax Relief Act, doubling the maximum benefit from \$1,000 per year per individual to \$2,000. The current tax abatement program has not increased since its inception in the 1990s. While this is not mandatory, due to the increased inflation and cost of living, approving this increase would help to provide maximum relief to those individuals who volunteer their time and skills to serve the town. In the program year ending in 2022, 37 volunteers qualified for the service award and tax abatement benefit, 15 of those volunteers have over ten years of service but are maxed out at the current plan ceiling of 10 years, \$1,000. I am proposing the financial increase of the tax abatement program in one of two ways. The first would be to double the program from \$100 per year to \$200 per year, keeping the maximum of 10 years; however, the financial maximum would be \$2,000 as opposed to the current \$1,000. Using the figures from the most recent year, the total amount of funding would increase from \$23,500 to \$47,000. The second proposal would be to increase the maximum number of years of the program from 10 to 20, keeping the \$100 per year increment. Using the same figures, the increase in funding would change from \$23,500 to \$32,500. This would also increase the maximum permanent relief benefit from \$1,000 to \$2,000, reached after 20 or more years of service and given after age 65. As the Tax Abatement Program is a town ordinance, the change would need to be voted on by the Board of Selectmen and then taken to a town meeting for approval.

Sincerely,

Jamie Weid



Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2022
C/O Town Clerk
10 Maple Avenue Beacon Falls, CT 06403
(Subject to Revision)

Exhibit B.

**Resolution to Acquire Drainage Easement
(123 Beacon Valley Road)**

The Town of Beacon Falls, Connecticut (the "Town") shall acquire, by purchase, by eminent domain, or otherwise, a stormwater drainage easement across that certain piece or parcel of real property situated in the Town known as 123 Beacon Valley Road (the "Premises").

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut Gen. Statutes Section 7-148(c)(3) the Town has the power and authority to acquire real property, or an interest therein, by purchase or by condemnation, for the purposes of the Town or for any public use or purpose; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut Gen. Statutes Section 7-148(c)(6)(B) and (C) the Town has the power and authority (i) to lay out, construct, reconstruct, maintain, repair, control and operate public highways within the Town, and (ii) to layout, construct, reconstruct, repair, maintain and operate drainage systems, including for the drainage of surface water from a public highway; and

WHEREAS, the Town is in the process of reconstructing a certain portion of Beacon Valley Road, a public highway within the Town, and has designed multiple structures for the drainage of stormwater from said highway; and

WHEREAS, the construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair of a public highway and the drainage of surface water from said highway are important municipal and public purposes and are necessary for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the reconstruction of said public highway, the Town seeks to acquire a permanent easement 20 feet in width and consisting of 1,160 square feet, more or less, for the drainage of surface water from Beacon Valley Road on, over, under and across the Premises (the "Drainage Easement"); and

WHEREAS, the appraised fair market value of the Drainage Easement is \$600; and

WHEREAS, to date, the Town has been unsuccessful in its attempts to purchase the Drainage Easement from the owner of the Premises.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town immediately acquire the Drainage Easement for the municipal and public purposes described above, and if the owner of the Premises shall continue to refuse, fail or neglect to convey the Drainage Easement to the Town for its appraised fair market value, then the Town shall proceed to acquire the Drainage Easement by eminent domain in the manner provided by Connecticut Gen. Statutes Section 48-12.

{01685095.DOCX Ver. 1}



Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2022
C/O Town Clerk
10 Maple Avenue Beacon Falls, CT 06403
(Subject to Revision)

Exhibit C.

**Resolution to Acquire Drainage Easement
(145 Beacon Valley Road)**

The Town of Beacon Falls, Connecticut (the "Town") shall acquire, by purchase, by eminent domain, or otherwise, a stormwater drainage easement across that certain piece or parcel of real property situated in the Town known as 145 Beacon Valley Road (the "Premises").

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut Gen. Statutes Section 7-148(c)(3) the Town has the power and authority to acquire real property, or an interest therein, by purchase or by condemnation, for the purposes of the Town or for any public use or purpose; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut Gen. Statutes Section 7-148(c)(6)(B) and (C) the Town has the power and authority (i) to lay out, construct, reconstruct, maintain, repair, control and operate public highways within the Town, and (ii) to layout, construct, reconstruct, repair, maintain and operate drainage systems, including for the drainage of surface water from a public highway; and

WHEREAS, the Town is in the process of reconstructing a certain portion of Beacon Valley Road, a public highway within the Town, and has designed multiple structures for the drainage of stormwater from said highway; and

WHEREAS, the construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair of a public highway and the drainage of surface water from said highway are important municipal and public purposes and are necessary for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the reconstruction of said public highway, the Town seeks to acquire a permanent easement 20 feet in width and consisting of 514 square feet, more or less, for the drainage of surface water from Beacon Valley Road on, over, under and across the Premises (the "Drainage Easement"); and

WHEREAS, the appraised fair market value of the Drainage Easement is \$220; and

WHEREAS, to date, the Town has been unsuccessful in its attempts to purchase the Drainage Easement from the owner of the Premises.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town immediately acquire the Drainage Easement for the municipal and public purposes described above, and if the owner of the Premises shall continue to refuse, fail or neglect to convey the Drainage Easement to the Town for its appraised fair market value, then the Town shall proceed to acquire the Drainage Easement by eminent domain in the manner provided by Connecticut Gen. Statutes Section 48-12.

{01685326.DOCX Ver. 1}