



Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2023
C/O Town Clerk
10 Maple Avenue Beacon Falls, CT 06403
(Subject to Revision)

Members Present:

Gerard Smith (GS), Peter Betkoski (PB), and Michael Krenesky (MK).

Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

3 members of the public, Aquarion – Director of Community Relations, George Logan (GL), and one member of the media.

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.

A moment of silence was taken in remembrance of those who lost their lives on 9/11/01.

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

Motion to accept the 8/14/23 and the 8/23/23 Special Meeting MK/PB. All ayes.

3. **Budget Transfers:**

GS reviewed the transfers as presented. Motion to approve the budget transfers as presented and forward them to the BOF at its regular meeting. PB/MK. All ayes. See Exhibit A.

4. **Comments From the Public:**

None

5. **Report of the Resident Trooper/Police:** PB motioned to approve the report as presented.

PB seconded the motion—all ayes. MK mentioned that enforcement has been up.

6. **Report of the Wastewater Treatment Plant:** MK motioned to approve the report as presented. PB seconded the motion—all ayes.

7. **Report of Public Works:** PB motioned to approve the report as presented. MK seconded the motion—all ayes. Toby's pond was maintained recently. PB mentioned a request for brush removal over at Beacon Valley.

8. **Report of the Fire Marshal:** None

9. **Report of the Fire Department:** None

10. **Report of the Finance Manager:** MK motioned to approve and forward the presented report to the Board of Finance for review at their regular monthly meeting. PB seconded the motion—all ayes.

11. **Report of the Town Clerk:** MK motioned 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. GS noted that the conveyance was up.

12. **Report of the Tax Collector:** MK motioned 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 of the Town Treasurer:** MK motioned to approve the presented report and forward it to the Board of Finance for review at their monthly meeting. PB seconded – all ayes.

14. **Report of the Library:** None

15. **Report of the Custodian:** Not accepted.

16. **Report from Economic Development:** MK motioned to approve the report as presented. PB seconded the motion—all ayes.

17. **Other Departmental Reports:**

a. **Report of the Animal Control Officer:** None

b. **Report of the BOE:** MK motioned to approve the report as presented and forward it to the finance board for their monthly meeting. PB seconded—all ayes. MK mentioned that he has been monitoring enrollment and noted that he has not seen the growth that was projected. MK questioned what the long-term plan is for the region if the number of enrollments keeps dropping.

c. **Quarterly Report of the Town Nurse:** N/A



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18. **Reading of Correspondence & Payment of Bills:**

- a. **GS** read correspondence from Board of Finance Member Wendy Hopkinson, tendering her resignation from the Board of Finance. A **motion** was made to accept the resignation with regret. **PB/MK**. All ayes.
- b. **GS** read correspondence from Allen Cardeu expressing interest in serving on the BOF.
- c. **GS** read correspondence from Lauren Hill expressing interest in additional crosswalks on Highland.

19. **Old Business:**

- a. **Burton Road — LOTCIP Project L006-0002 Burton Road Reconstruction and Retaining Wall Replacement:** **GS** mentioned that the landscaping is the next step in the project. Contract projects that will be completed in November of this year.
- b. **O&G Data Center:** The data center project is on official hold. To be removed from the agenda.
- c. **Haynes Development:** **GS** gave a brief update.
- d. **Speed Enforcement:** **GS** mentioned that a letter outlining possible ways to mitigate speeding is expected from the NVCOG. **GS** mentioned that a crosswalk should be added to 3 locations on Highland Avenue.

Motion to add a crosswalk on North Circle and South Circle. Made by **PB/MK**. All ayes. See Exhibit B.

- e. **STEAP Church St. Grant Agreement/NOGA:** **Motion** to approve the resolution for state project 0006-0127 for the rehabilitation of Church St. with the STEAP grant in the amount of \$500,000. **MK/PB**. All ayes.

20. **New Business:**

a. **Appointments and Reappointments:**

- I. **Planning & Zoning Appointment:** Motion to appoint Steven Orloski to the Planning & Zoning Commission made by **MK**. Seconded by **PB**. All ayes.

II. **Board of Finance:** 1 vacancy

- b. **Highland Ave.:** Discussed under Item 19. D.
- c. **Aquarion Presentation:** George Logan (Director of Community Relations for Aquarion Water Company) gave a brief 2023 Value of Water presentation. See Exhibit C.
- d. **CT State Library Construction Grant:** Tabled
- e. **Resolution of the Ambulance:** The Board of Selectmen notes that these two vehicle purchases were previously approved by the Beacon Falls registered voters via the passage of the FY24 budget at the Town Meeting that occurred on May 11, 2023. These resolutions, therefore, ratify that Town vote and enable the Town to enter into the financing agreement (which was voted on by the Board of Finance at their special August 16, 2023, meeting). **Motion** to approve and sign the resolution as presented made by **MK**. Seconded by **PB**. All ayes.
- f. **Resolution of PWD Truck:** The Board of Selectmen notes that these two vehicle purchases were previously approved by the Beacon Falls registered voters via the passage of the FY24 budget at the Town Meeting that occurred on May 11, 2023. These resolutions, therefore, ratify that Town vote and enable the Town to enter into the financing agreement (which was voted on by the Board of Finance at their special August 16, 2023, meeting). **Motion** to approve and sign the resolution as presented made by **MK**. Seconded by **PB**. All ayes.
- g. **Tax Refunds:** **PB motioned** to approve the tax refunds totaling \$5,149.68 and forward them to the BOF at their monthly meeting. **MK** seconded – all ayes.

21. **Executive Session:** None

22. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 7:59 PM. **PB/MK** – all ayes.



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Respectfully submitted,

Lauren A. Fennell
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

Exhibit A:

TOWN OF BEACON FALLS

FY2024

TRANSFERS FOR 9/11 BOS & 9/12/23 BOF MEETINGS

09/11/2023

FY2023-2024 BUDGET

TRANSFER FROM:

TRANSFER TO:

Amount	Line	Description	Line	Description	Amount	Explanation
\$ (996.00)	10 90 59 1788	Parks - Grounds Maintenance	10 90 59 1789	Courts Maintenance	\$ 996.00	Quote to repair cracks on basketball court.
1						
2 \$ (848.00)	10 90 44 1471	Mandatory Vehicle & Equipment Man	10 90 44 1500	Service Award Program	\$ 848.00	Increase to admin fees on LCSAP
\$ (1,844.00)					\$ 1,844.00	

TOWN OF BEACON FALLS

TRANSFERS FOR 9/11 BOS & 9/12/23 BOF MEETINGS

09/11/2023

FY2022-2023 BUDGET

TRANSFER FROM:

TRANSFER TO:

Amount	Line	Description	Line	Description	Amount	Explanation
1 \$ (6,305.00)	10 90 33 1270	Legal Fees	10 90 33 1290	Engineering & Consultants	\$ 6,305.00	
					\$ 6,305.00	



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Exhibit B:



Exhibit C:



2023 Value of Water Presentation

Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen, September 11, 2023

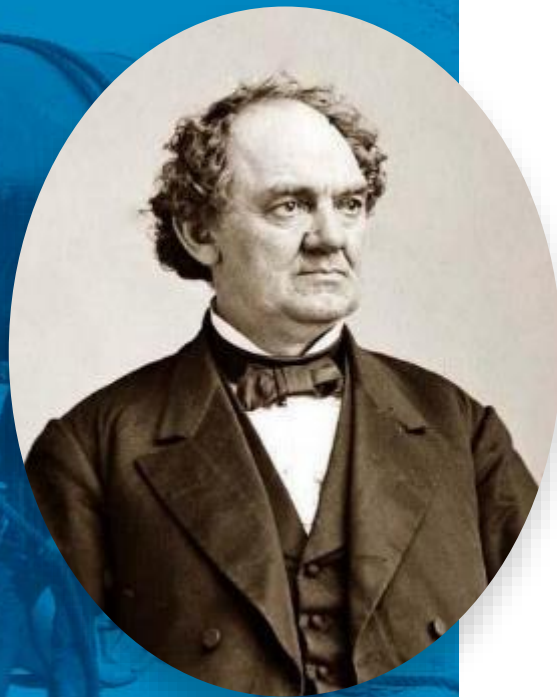
George S. Logan, Director of Community Relations



AGENDA

- About Aquarion
- Conservation Program
- Beacon Falls Distribution System
- Capital Improvements

ABOUT AQUARION



P.T. Barnum
elected second
company
president in 1877

We are the largest investor-owned water utility in New England and are among the seven largest in the United States

- Based in Bridgeport, Connecticut, we've been in the public water supply business since 1857 (originally the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company)
- Experienced steady growth throughout the 20th century in Connecticut
- Expanded into Massachusetts and New Hampshire in 2002
- Integrated over 84 water systems into its operations since 2011
- Acquired by Eversource Energy in 2017

AQUARION AT A GLANCE*

**Serving 86 systems in 72 cities and towns
across New England**

AWC – CT

- **Connections** – 217,000
- **Rate Base** – \$1B
- **Revenues** – \$200.2M
- 59 Cities & Towns

AWC – NH & Abenaki

- **Connections** – 11,000
- **Rate Base** – \$41M
- **Revenues** – \$7.5M
- 8 Towns

AWC – MA

- **Connections** – 9,000
- **Rate Base** – \$24M
- **Revenues** – \$4.9M
- 5 Towns

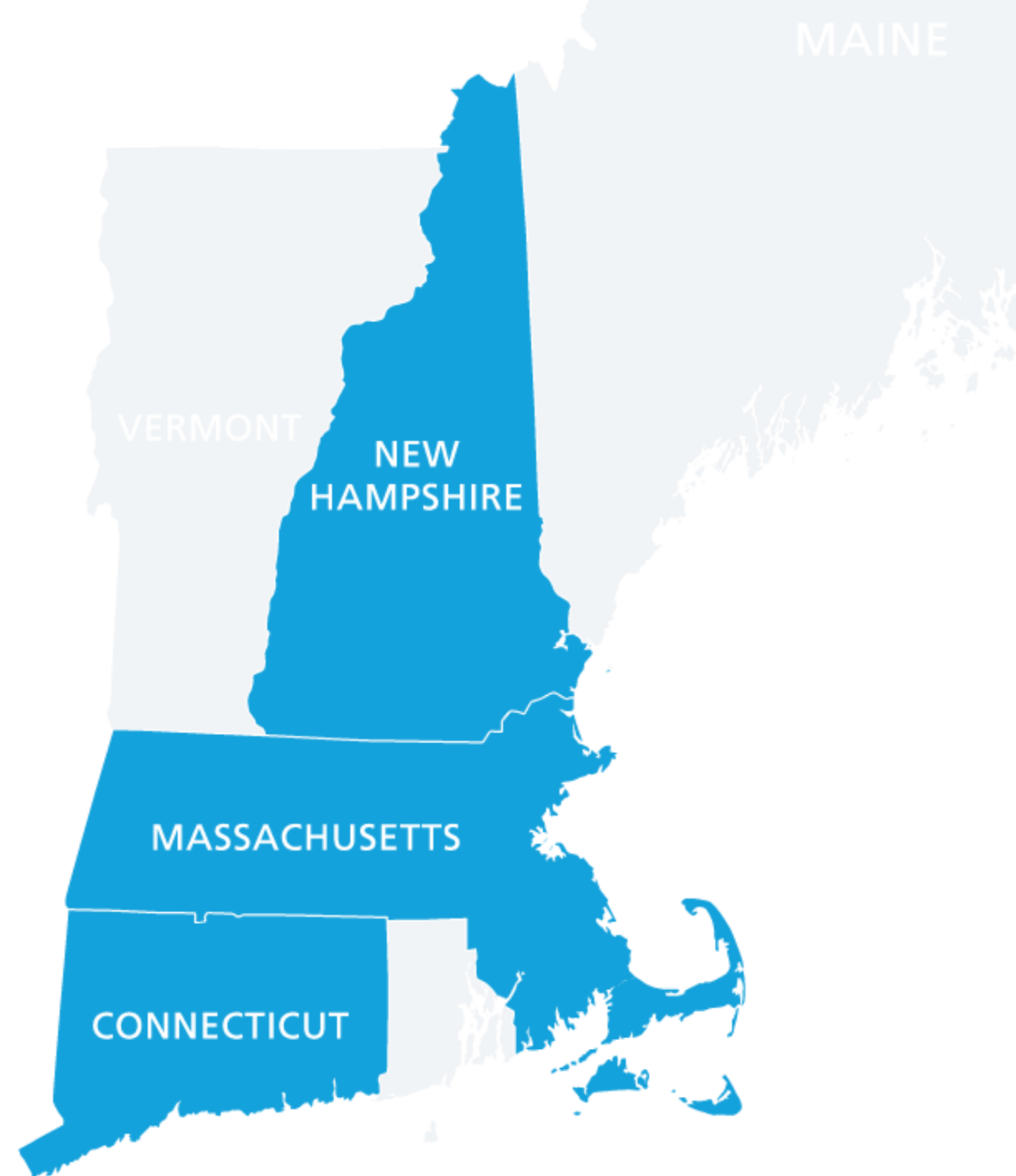
ALL SYSTEMS

- **Connections** – 237,000
- **Rate Base** – \$1.066B
- **Revenues** – \$212.6M
- 72 Cities & Towns

*Statistics as of December 31, 2022

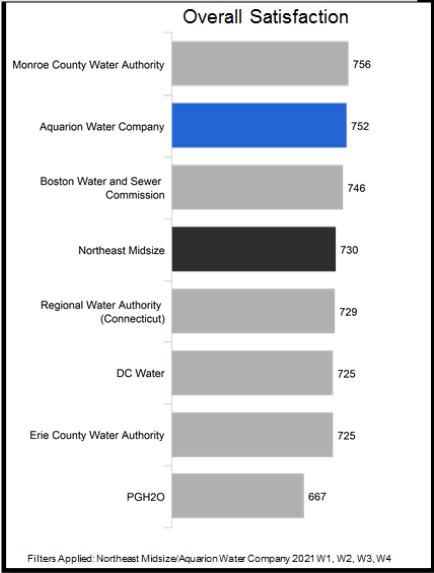
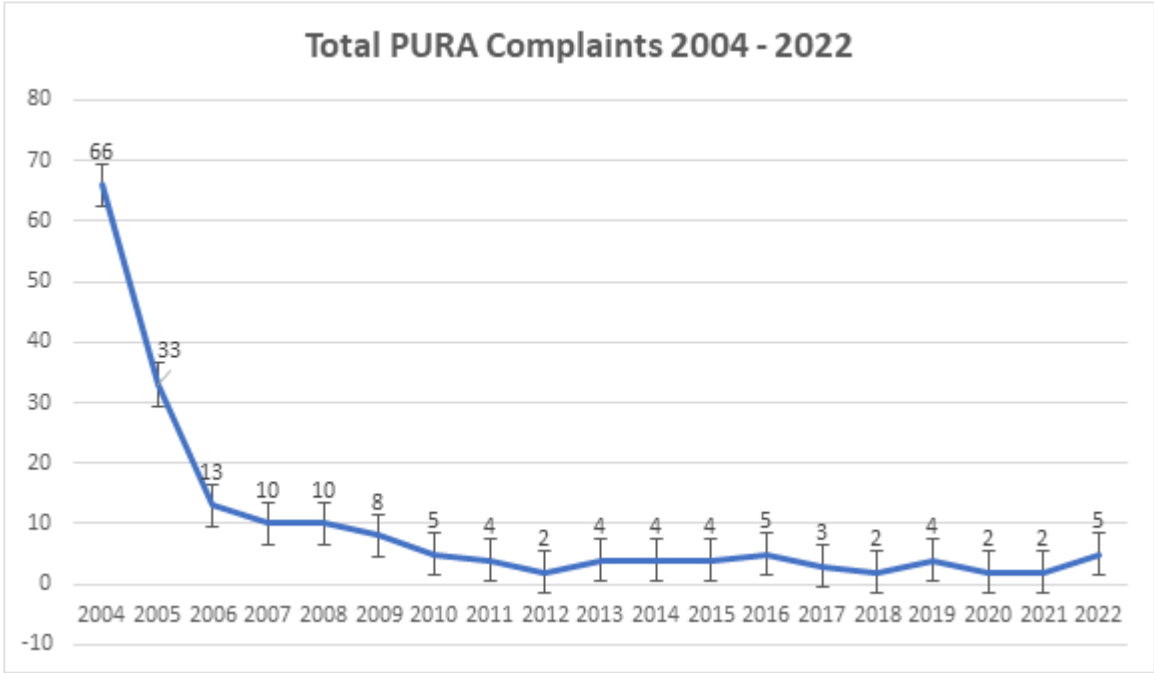


Stewards of the Environment™



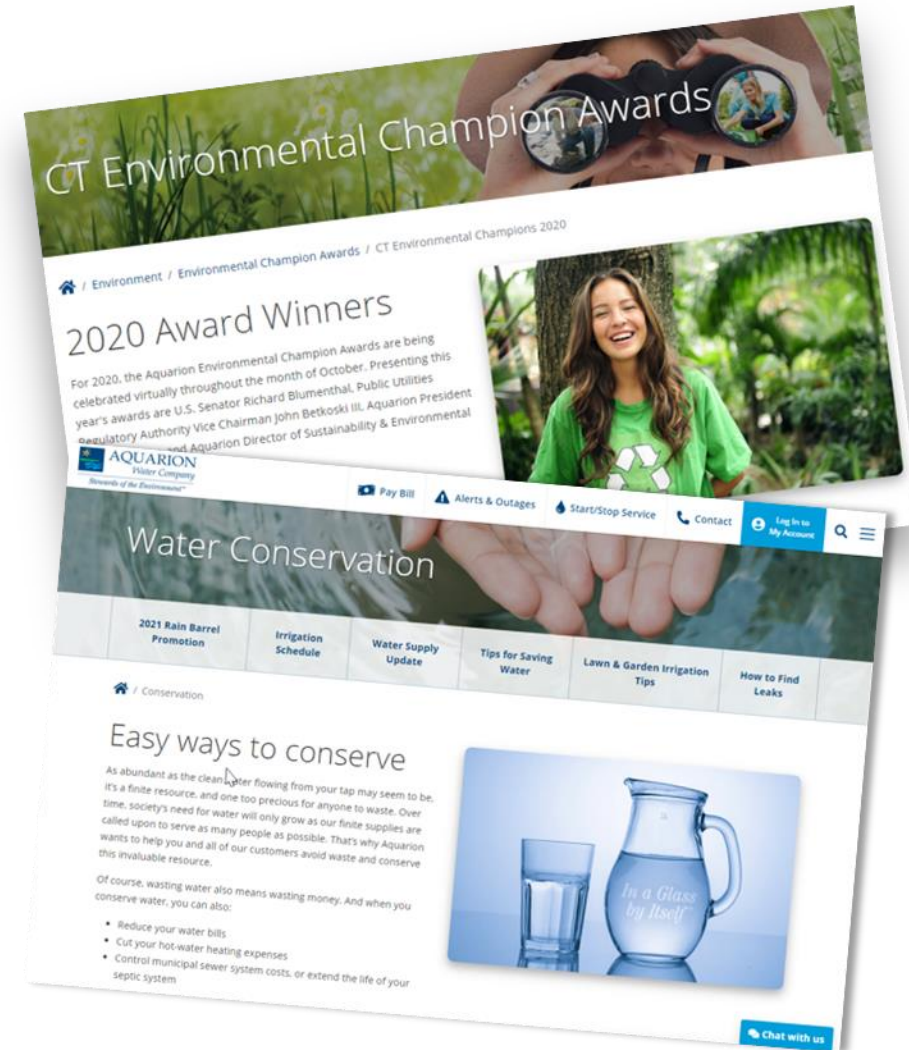
Customer Satisfaction

- Customer service is a top priority
- Latest survey: 95% of Aquarion customers satisfied or extremely satisfied
- Strong J.D. Power results
- Historically, among the lowest number of complaints for regulated utilities



Environmental Champion

- Stewards of the Environment
- 2022 Water Quality Compliance for Legacy Systems
 - Goal: Zero Violations
 - Results: Zero Violations
- 100% Environmental Compliance in 2022
- Carbon neutral by 2030
- Comprehensive conservation program used to manage supplies when needed



Motivated and Efficient Workforce

- **Top Employer:** Aquarion selected as one of the top places to work in Connecticut (6 times)
- **Community Involvement:** Over one-third of employees volunteer in over 140 organizations



What Aquarion brings to the table

New England based

- Roots and headquarters in CT for more than 165 years

Customers benefit, great service


- Industry leading customer service
- Proven ability to manage rates and work with CT PURA

Deep Technical Bench to Solve Engineering, Operational, and Regulatory Hurdles

- 340 employees
- 100% environmental compliance in 2022
- Zero health-based water quality violations in 2022 for legacy Aquarion systems

Experienced Buyer and Integrator

- Flexible and Creative
- Acquired and integrated 84 systems in 26 separate transactions since 2011



YOU CAN'T
FIGHT A FIRE IF
THERE'S NO
WATER IN THE
TANK



AQUARION & CONSERVATION

Decoupling

Streamflow regulation

Capital investment

Climate change

Drought of 2016



CONSUMPTION ANALYSIS

Demand is going slowly but steadily down
November through March in all communities

Demand is going up April through October with
some communities having dramatic "peaking
factors" in the summer months

Aquarion's customer base is 90+% residential

Majority of customers are efficient (use less than
the national average per person, per day)

Minority of customers are using excessive amounts
of water in the summer months



Smarter Watering Begins With You

Mandatory, Maximum Twice-Weekly
Sprinkler Irrigation Schedule



AQUARION
Water Company

Stewards of the Environment™

© 2004 Blackwell Publishing Ltd, *Journal of Internal Medicine* 255: 111–118





*CONFIDENTIAL WATER DISTRIBUTION MAP – NOT INCLUDED

Beacon Falls Water Distribution System



Latest Major Infrastructure Work

- **Feldspar Ave, 1350 ft, 24 services, 1 fire**
 - **Avenue B, 600 ft, 10 services, 1 fire**
 - **Avenue E, 925 ft, 14 service, 1 fire**
 - **Avenue C, 660 ft, 7 services**
 - **Avenue East Ext., 425 ft, 4 services**
-



**We never know the
worth of water 'til the
well is dry.**
