



Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2024
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: N/A

Others Present: Registrar of voters Kathy Grace (**KG**), State Senator Jorge Cabrera (**JC**), Corporal Jason Piccirillo (**JP**), 13 members of the public and 1 media member.

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

GS called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance

MK motioned to add to the agenda, as the first item, a presentation to honor Katherine G Grace on her retirement from Selectman Peter Betkoski. **PB** Seconded. All ayes.

PB (Presenting to **KG**) With mixed emotions tonight, Kathy, I'm excited for your retirement but I'm also sad because you're a dear friend but on behalf of the selectmen and the Town of Beacon Falls we want to acknowledge your 39 years as the Registrar of Voters, we hope you enjoy your retirement, and we want to thank you and give you best wishes. **PB** Presents plaque to **KG** from Board of Selectmen and Town of Beacon Falls.

GS to **KG** I want to say, as the First Selectman, I've had the pleasure of working with you for many years and you really took care of the registrar of voters you kept everything in line and kept the election smooth without any problem, it's been a pleasure to work with you for so many years.

MK Gerry and Peter have really said everything at this point, but it has been a pleasure working with you, I have a message from Jess (Republican ROV) that she's sorry she couldn't be here tonight, unfortunately she had another event she had to attend. But again, congratulations and best of luck.

PB We have one more, State Senator Jorge Cabrera would like to say a few things...

JC presents **KG** with a plaque and recites what it says.

KG It has been an honor to serve the town, but it was time. I would also like to assure the town that you have excellent registrars in town, Jess who is the Republican ROV and Shawn Northrup who is taking my place – they are both excellent and work well together which is always important in that office, so you guys are going to be taken good care of. I thank you all very much for everything and for coming out. **PB** Thank you for coming.

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

Motion to accept the 01/08/2024 Regular Meeting Minutes **PB/MK**. All ayes.

3. **Budget Transfers:**

GS reviewed the transfers as presented. Motion to approve the budget transfers as presented and forward them to the Board of Finance at its regular meeting. **MK/PB**. All ayes.

4. **Comments From the Public:** No comments.

5. **Report of the Resident Trooper/Police:** **MK** motioned to approve the report as presented. **PB** seconded the motion—all ayes.



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6. **Report of the Wastewater Treatment Plant:** **PB** motioned to approve the report as presented. **MK** seconded the motion—all ayes.
7. **Report of Public Works:** **MK** motioned to approve the report as presented. **PB** seconded the motion – all ayes.
8. **Report of the Fire Department:** No Report.
9. **Report of the Fire Marshal:** **MK** motioned to approve the January report as presented. **PB** seconded – all ayes.
10. **Report of the Finance Manager:** **PB** motioned to approve the report as presented and forward it to the BOF for their monthly meeting. **MK** seconded – 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.
12. **Report of the Tax Collector:** **PB** motioned to approve the report as presented and forward it to the Board of Finance for review at their regular monthly meeting. **MK** seconded the motion—all ayes.
13. **Report of the Town Treasurer:** Motion to accept report. **MK/PB** All Ayes.
14. **Report of the Library:** **PB** motioned to approve the January reports as presented. **MK** seconded – all ayes.
15. **Report of the Custodian:** **MK** Motioned to accept the report. **PB** Seconded. All ayes.
16. **Other Departmental Reports:**
 - a. **Report from Economic Development:** **PB** Does anyone know what is going on with the market. **JP** I believe they are looking to open a pizza place. **GS** Good to hear. **MK** Motioned to accept the report. **PB** Seconded. All ayes.
 - b. **Report of the Animal Control Officer:** **GS** We are still working with Woodbridge, we heard the animal control officer retired. **JP** There is someone now named Jess, I will send you her information. **GS** We just do need to get a report – animal control they do an excellent job we just need paperwork. Their level of service is really good.
 - c. **Report of the BOE:** **PB** Motioned to accept the report. **MK** Seconded. All ayes.
 - d. **Quarterly Report of the Town Nurse:** No Report
17. **Reading of Correspondence & Payment of Bills:** None
18. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Burton Road — LOTCIP Project L006-0002 Burton Road Reconstruction and Retaining Wall Replacement:** **GS** When we conducted the final inspection Karen (admin for the COG – our rep for DOT) said everything is fine, we put up the fence – they suggested we paint the back of the wall, in order to do that they need to get a truck to get behind there, that's why we didn't paint it originally, so when we got a price it was like \$50,000. Just for full disclosure that is the last thing on the Burton Road Project. **MK** Eversource was here, and they did some pole work, but we have poles and wires – do we have a schedule? **GS** I don't think those are Eversource poles, I think they're SNET and Frontier.
 - b. **Haynes Development:** **GS** No movement.
 - c. **Traffic Authority:** **MK** motioned to move New Business D (Parking) and E (Stop Sign) to Old Business C. **GS** (to Corporal Piccirillo/JP) We met with Father Joy



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and the decision was made, we will put no parking signs on the West Side of Lower Maple from Century to Burton just on that curve so there's no parking on that side of the road. Just make sure what we need to do – do we need to go to DOT to put up signs? Now next is a recommendation from you so you (JP) can go on with the stop sign. **JP** I'm sure have all traveled down Burton Road, so if you're coming west from here down to Main Street, with the wall they built the crosswalk pad is tucked behind so when you're coming down Burton Road towards Wolfe you can't see if anyone is standing waiting for the crosswalk until you're at the intersection so if a child is waiting to cross after school you can't see them until you're at the intersection which is too late. If you are coming out of Wolfe onto Burton Road you can't see past that wall up the hill towards the town hall. I suggest we put a stop sign just going down the hill towards Main Street at the corner of Burton and Wolfe so the traffic can stop for pedestrians to cross. **GS** I know Michael you mentioned you had concerns too. **MK** Yes – those lights that are on the poles, so many cars just blow through that intersection and don't slow down at all. **JP** Those signs are not enforceable. **MK** Those lights, in my opinion, are not effective because they're so small. **JP** I don't think we have any signage that says pedestrian walk. I would like to get it figured out now before it gets warmer out too. We also created door hanger warnings for the snow so if someone does not shovel, we have a case number for them, and they will get fined. In accordance with the Town Ordinance we had to give them a written warning, we didn't have a way to facilitate that because our warnings are all vehicular warnings so we created the door hanger to put on people's property if they don't shovel and if they don't rectify the situation they'll be fined and if they don't clean it up and the town garage has to they have to pay the cost of cleanup. **MK** Motioned to have Corporal coordinate with public works to add stop signs on Maple and Burton and make sure they are DOT compliant. **PB** Seconded. All ayes.

- d. Beacon Valley Road - LOTCIP Project L006-0001: **GS** We received dates and traffic patterns, CL&P is done, Comcast is coming out, the project is well on its way.

19. **New Business:**

- a. Appointments and Reappointments:
I. Planning & Zoning: 1 Vacancy
- b. Motion to Approve Revised Ambulance Resolution: *Remove from the agenda.*
- c. Tax Refunds: **MK** motioned to approve the January tax refunds totaling \$1,683.46 and forward them to the BOF at their monthly meeting. **PB** seconded – all ayes.
- d. Parking – Maple Ave: Spoke about under 18c (Traffic Authority)
- e. Stop Sign – Wolfe Ave: Spoke about under 18c (Traffic Authority)
- f. Ordinance for Scholarship Fund: **MK** I have some questions on the language, I know the intent of this just says scholarship. **GS** We have to get



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clarification from the attorney. This will be a part of some other ordinances anyway, so we'll send it back to clarify and make sure it's okay with two different verbiages. I think it should say financial assistance.

g. Fire Marshall Discussion: **GS** Let's table this until next month.

h. Bike Night: **GS** Servants of Christ would like us to approve their schedule for Bike Night – I think we need to have Corporal Piccirillo speak with the Fire Marshall regarding the parking lot capacity to make sure they can get the firetrucks in and out if/when needed.

i. DEEP EV Grant Resolution: **MK** Motioned to approve the DEEP EV Grant Resolution for Purchase and Installation of Two Dual-Port Level 2 Chargers at Beacon Falls Commuter Parking Lot at 105/107 North Main Street (Project #202209808). **PB** Seconded. All ayes.

j. POCD Update: **MK** Motioned to add POCD Update under new business as Item J. **PB** Seconded. All ayes. **GS** Molly supplied an update on their progress on the POCD. Do you have any questions? **PB/MK** No.

20. Executive Session: Not needed.

21. Adjournment: **PB** made a Motion to adjourn at 8:02 PM. **MK** seconded. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Pastor
Clerk, Board of Selectmen