

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



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Special Meeting
June 11, 2020
MINUTES - REVISED
(Subject to Revision)**

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

Selectman Gerard Smith called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

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

Others Present: 6 members of the public

2. Public Comment

GS read public comment submitted via email from Dino Verrelli, 33 Kaleas Way regarding trash outside of the New Harvest Restaurant. GS will send to ZEO for follow up and action.

3. Budget Transfers

GS - Reviewed at BOF meeting. Entertain a motion to approve the transfers as presented.
CB/MK, all ayes

4. Board/Commission Clerk

GS we now use in house town employees instead of third parties for Board/Commission clerking. We have updated and distributed an updated list of duties to those employees who have assumed the responsibility of clerking. This will give us more efficiency and greater accuracy in the future. I entertain a motion to accept the ability to have town employees to complete clerking to maintain consistency for Boards/Commissions. **MK/CB for discussion.** CB – my impression is the third-party clerks have already been terminated. We have a history of using town residents as clerks. They do not make much and would not be making as much as a town employee would be. This is a kneejerk reaction due to FOI complaint. I have spoke with the Chairman involved and the Board Clerk posted items in question on time and the fault was the responsibility of a town employee. I do not know what problem we are solving by burdening our town employees with clerking. You will be taking away time for the job we hired them for, so they can clerk meetings. This in my opinion is creating a solution to a problem that does not exist and the FOI complaint is a poor reason for this response.

GS – what you said is incorrect. I spoke to the Board Chair, Kevin McDuffie and if you spoke to me, I would have forwarded you to the attorney who we had to hire to defend that complaint which we spent \$1,500 for him to tell us the case was defenseless. This has all been run through McInnis. The money budgeted for the clerks is going to be a flat rate. We have had clerks bill us as low at \$40.00 and as high as more than \$300.00. It will be \$80.00 flat fee for the meeting and working within their 35 hours, no overtime. CB – now they will

be doing less work for their hired job, to complete clerking duties. GS – Yes, as a Selectman you should have called me and we could have had this conversation and I would have provided you the attorney's information so that we did not have to have this discussion here tonight. GS this discussion has ran its course. CB – point of order. GS - Point of Order is that I move the question. All those in favor of the Board/Commission Clerk please say aye, MK, aye/CB, nay

5. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 6:16 P.M.

MK/GS, all ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry McAndrew

First Selectman's Office Administrator/Clerk