

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



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Special Meeting
December 24, 2020
MINUTES - REVISED
(Subject to Revision)**

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

Selectman Gerard Smith called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M.

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

Others Present: 8 members of public

2. Burton Road

GS – on Monday, after cleaning off the snow, we noticed the road had shifted significantly. When I looked at it, I was extremely concerned. I had Jim Galligan send me all the documentation he had, and I had Milone & MacBroom look at the road. They felt that it was in the best interest in the town to consult a Structural Engineer. I received their report and will read it in its entirety (attached to minutes).

GS - Just an FYI, I was concerned looking at the road and the warmer weather caused the frost heaves to separate the road even more than when this letter was written.

GS – the rush to close the road was due to the impending rainstorm. The extra water coming down would have cause more damaged and would compromise the bank even further. There is a fair amount of traffic that comes up Burton, so this was not a light decision. There were plans that the Board of Selectmen had put together back in 12/2018 applying for Main Street Connectivity Fund and we will review other funding sources for repair. **I entertain a motion to close Burton Road from Main St. to Wolfe Avenue until further notice, CB/MK. MK for discussion – I raised a red flag on this back in 2016, that this was a condition in this road that we needed to address. I thought it was more immediate than what was decided. I believe at this stage this was the only thing we could have done. I this we need to clarify in the motion that it is closed to vehicular and pedestrian in addition to any other modes of transportation. CB I will amend that motion to read Burton Road will be closed from Main St. to Wolfe Ave. to all modes of transportation including pedestrian traffic, seconded by MK, all ayes.**

GS – we did get a sign from the State, but the solar battery power was not charged. We did contact the mill to let them know that they could access the parking lots. I have prepared a Code Red call and it will be posted on the website. Unfortunately, we do not know when the road will be reopened. There may be a significant cost to repair the road. This will be at least through the winter and hopefully we can get something started in the spring. CB – if there is an opportunity to get this project done faster and we do not want to hold it up due to funding we can relocate the bond funds from other road projects that we could divert to this project. GS – Bond council did say we could, however, I would like to see if we can get disaster funding because it is a problem. As a last resort we could, but

it would be at the sacrifice of other roads that we already informed and committed to the public. If we do that, we will have to go back to residence for their input. MK – in a conversation with one of my neighbors, there is already some concern regarding increased speeders in the hill neighborhoods. I would like to suggest increased patrol and traffic monitoring in the hill section. GS – I will contact the resident trooper and let him know to step up patrol. MK – are the barriers up? GS – yes, they are putting them in place now.

3. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 12:15PM CB/MK, all ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry McAndrew
First Selectman's Office Administrator/Clerk