



**TOWN OF BEACON FALLS
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday May 11, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson of the Board, W. Hopkinson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Board Members B. Ploss, A. Choi, R. Doiron, L. Krepinevich. G. Smith arrived at 7:40

Also present were Selectmen S. Cable and D.Sorrentino. M. Krenesky arrived at 7:45

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board of Finance reviewed the minutes and made the following motions.

April 13, 2010 - Regular Board Of Finance Monthly Meeting and Joint Budget Workshop

R. Doiron motioned to approve the Regular Board of Finance Minutes and the Joint Budget Workshop Minutes. L. Krepinevich 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

April 20, 2010 - Public Hearing Meeting Minutes and Joint Budget Workshop

R. Doiron motioned to approve the Public Hearing Minutes and the Joint Budget Workshop Minutes. L. Krepinevich 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

TREASURERS REPORT

None.

TAX COLLECTORS REPORT

The Board of Finance reviewed the Tax Collectors report and noted that we are still collecting old taxes which is good.

B. Ploss motioned to accept the Tax Collectors Report. A. Choi 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

TOWN CLERKS REPORT

Discussion: B. Ploss asked for an update on the Clerk's Report status. S. Cable explained that it was supposed to be done by this meeting but she does not have any official documentation showing that it has been done. She noted that M. Gomes had some personal issues and does not know if he had a chance to get to the bank to sign the papers. Without M. Gomes present, they could not make an assumption of whether or not this has been done.

FINANCE MANAGERS REPORT - TRANSFERS

S. Cable noted that the Board of Selectmen reviewed the transfers and the only concern they had was the Engineering requested transfer of \$19,800. She noted that before the money is allocated it should be looked into because they are not sure if the changes were made for the monies that were supposed to go to the bridge. The Board of Selectmen recommended that the Board of Finance approve all the transfers with the exception of the \$19,800 until it is researched.

W. Hopkinson noted that we are already over-budget for the Fire Department physicals. M. Pratt noted that it is related to the new recruits as well as the fact that \$5,000 was taken out of the line item for some of last year's physicals.

W. Hopkinson asked that the Fire Department make sure that all the bills for physicals and everything else be forwarded to the Town Hall for payment as soon as they come in so they are paid in the correct year. She noted that she is not sure if last year's physicals were taken out of this year's budget as a result of not processing the invoices in a timely manner or not but would like to re-iterate that all invoices should be forwarded for payment as soon as possible.

S. Cable noted that she has sent memo's to all Department Heads that all invoices should be accounted for and brought to the Town Hall by June 10, 2010 for payment in the fiscal year.

A. Choi motioned to accept the transfers excluding the \$19,800 to line item 10-33-1290 Engineering until it is further researched. L. Krepinevich 2nd the motion. All voted aye with the exception of G. Smith who abstained as he missed the beginning of the conversation.

K. WILSON'S INVOICE

R. Doiron motioned to accept K. Wilson's invoice. A. Choi 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

Beacon Hose Audit

S. Cable noted that she would like J. Rodrigo to review the revenue recovery report from the ambulance and then she will make her comments.

J. Rodrigo explained in summary (letter attached) the ambulance revenue recovery. He noted that the fees that were received were \$86,632.00 after expenses. The contractual agreement between the Town and the Ambulance is an 80/20 split which would result in \$69,305.60 to the Town of Beacon Falls. J. Rodrigo requested that the money that is given to the town be used for capital improvements that need to be made at the Fire Station. He reviewed his requests which are all stated in the attached letter.

Mobile EKG Transmitting - a new system in cooperation with our sponsored hospital Waterbury Hospital and St. Mary's hospital; it is the technology needed in order to transmit EKG data to the cardiac lab in both hospitals which would thereby reduce the activation time in the cardiac cath. lab. This would allow the Cardiologist to read the data remotely.

Replacement door tracks - the door tracks are 40 years old and close to disrepair

Sewer Pipes and Replacement Sewer Trap - Currently the fire house gets sewer backups frequently which is also a health hazard (it has been going on for years and needs to be addressed)

Degrease and seal Fire House Floor - The floors take in oil from the trucks and they would like to seal it in order to correct it.

W. Hopkinson interjected that she thought she saw some of these items in the budget. J. Rodrigo responded by saying that if this money can be used for some of these items they could cut the line items in the proposed budget.

W. Hopkinson also explained that this money from ambulance revenue is already earmarked for emergency services and is included in the budget. J. Rodrigo noted that he was aware of this and that the budget has also not passed so while numbers are being reconfigured he wanted the Board of Finance to be aware of his Department requests.

W. Hopkinson questioned the request for 20 pagers at \$500 each. J. Rodrigo explained that they are currently running on simulcast (running on both high and low band) this

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system is from 1963 and served us very well but it is being phased out. All the new pagers are on low band with the old pagers getting harder and more expensive to fix, they need to phase into the new system. He noted that while they do not need all 20 at once, they do have new members coming in now that cannot get a radio or have any way of knowing there is a call. They are relying on their text messages to get a call and sometimes it takes up to 10 minutes to receive the text message. It was noted that 20 will not suffice in the long run. They will eventually need 60. J. Rodrigo said that they had spent a lot of time pricing pagers and does feel that \$500 is a lot of money for a pager but the price is related to a technical quality pager. It was determined that so far, the Fire Department or Ambulance Department has not missed any calls due to their antiquated system.

S. Cable commented that when the Fire Chief had presented this to the Board of Selectmen on 5/10, he had said that they were going to use their 20% of the share for other things and it was not going to go to any of the above items. S. Cable noted that regarding the transmitting units (pagers), she had received a letter from the previous Fire Chief requesting transfer of pagers and S. Cable will talk with M. Gomes to see what can be taken out of this year's budget. S. Cable noted that the Board of Selectman felt that this is a crucial time for budget items and they were unable to make any recommendations based on this letter therefore she brought the letter to the Board of Finance and suggested that it be tabled for now.

L. Krepinevich asked how cell phones would work in emergency situations. J. Rodrigo explained that they use cell phone for text messages but you get very little information from the cell phones. Location of the call and the original nature of the call is all that is received on the text message.

J. Rodrigo responded to S. Cables comment on what the Fire Department will use their 20% share for. They are planning on re-doing the conference room in the Fire House which will involve the floor, walls, ceiling, etc. He noted that this is town property and while it will be improving the comfort for the Fire Fighters it is still going back into the town.

S. Cable noted that the Chief had said it was going to be used for scholarships and things of that nature. J. Rodrigo responded that it will be used for that too. S. Cable noted that were are in a hard financial time and is wondering if we will be able to even give the scholarships and she noted that putting the money back into the Fire House is another way to use the money. She noted that she knows it's used for the good of the Fire House. J. Rodrigo noted that they sell raffle tickets, have golf tournaments, carnival and things like that to raise funds for scholarships and S. Cable noted that the town donates the Police which is something they may have to give up doing. She noted that we are in a high pressure situation right now and noted that the Volunteerism is wonderful however they do have to take their time in decision making.

W. Hopkinson thanked J. Rodrigo for his input.

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**NEW BUSINESS
APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR**

It was noted that the Board of Finance researched new Auditors last year and it is time to appoint one.

G. Smith motioned to appoint M. Michael A. Zemaitis as the Town Of Beacon Falls new auditor. L. Krepinevich 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

ADJOURNMENT

R. Doiron motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 P.M. G. Smith 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Lauren Classey
Clerk for the Board of Finance**

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