

**TOWN OF BEACON FALLS  
BOARD OF FINANCE  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
MINUTES  
MOTIONS ONLY  
(draft copy-subject to revision)  
TUESDAY, May 10, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Finance meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M.

Present: C. Bielik, W. Hopkinson, R. Doiron, B. Ploss, J. Dowdell and L. Krepinevich

Also Present: 1st Selectman S. Cable, Selectmen D. Sorrentino and M. Krenesky and approximately 15 residents

**R. Doiron motioned to postpone the meeting until the budget workshop meeting ended. W. Hopkinson 2nd the motion. All voted aye.**

**W. Hopkinson motioned to bring the BOF meeting back to order at 8:35 P.M. R. Doiron 2nd the motion. All voted aye.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**R. Doiron motioned to accept the minutes of 4/12 BOF regular meeting minutes. B. Ploss 2nd the motion. All voted aye.**

**R. Doiron motioned to accept the minutes of 4/12 Budget Workshop. B. Ploss 2nd the motion. All voted aye.**

**W. Hopkinson motioned to accept the minute of the Public Hearing of 4/12. J. Dowdell 2nd the motion. L. Krepinevich abstained. All others voted aye.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

S. Dowdell, 32 Wolfe Ave., discussed lease payment plans that she noted some school systems do. She asked if the town uses lease payment plans. It was noted that the town generally shops around and gets the best price they could get including from the state list if appropriate. M. Gomes noted that some are through banks, some are through credit companies. S. Dowdell suggested that maybe the town should look into sending things out to banks for bids.

L. Krepinevich, 134 Essex Court - wanted to notify all that he has scheduled a meeting for May 16th to meet with Selectmen and the Beacon Falls road crew to discuss their concerns with the Benedetti repaving system. He noted that he has also scheduled for May 17th a presentation about the equipment with a 5 minute DVD. He will hopefully answer anyone's questions regarding the equipment. If he is unable to answer any questions, he will forward them to the Benedetti company so they can answer the questions. He noted that Benedetti will be coming to Beacon Falls on May 23 - 25 in order to meet with the town road crew and give a presentation regarding outstanding questions. He noted that he secured the Fire House for an Informational Public Hearing on May 24th to review the Benedetti equipment. L. Krepinevich asked that the meeting on Tuesday the 24th be posted as a Joint Meeting hosted by the BOS/BOS for informational purposes and that it will begin at 7:00. It was noted that S. Cable will have K. Wilson take care of posting this agenda. D. Sorrentino and L. Krepinevich will be meeting with the Road Crew on the Monday the 16th. On Tuesday 17th, L. Krepinevich will be holding an informational meeting for anyone who wants to pose questions or get education regarding this equipment.

It was noted that at the last meeting, the agenda would note that it's a discussion of the direction the town would like to go. L. Krepinevich noted that his hopes are that with all these meetings, people will have plenty of information and all their questions should be answered. He noted that he hopes at the end of the meetings, the boards could come to a decision to set up a vote for the equipment to see if they wish to go forward with it or not.

J. Dowdell noted that he is concerned about going to the public asking them to approve a piece of equipment for 1.57 million after noting that the budget has still not passed.

The discussion continued with R. Valano, 116 Rice Lane Ext., wondering why other bigger towns are not using this machine. She also asked what is to happen when the crew of Benedetti is no longer with us next year. How are the employees going to continue especially if some of the trained employees leave the town. L. Krepinevich noted that if it were to ever come to that, they have plenty of people to come down and re-train.

R. Valano noted that there are a lot of deals right now and wonders if this is the right decision for now.

L. Krepinevich explained that the Benedetti Company has committed to work with the road crew to repave 5 miles of road. L. Krepinevich noted that the cost to repave 1 mile of road is \$220,000 x 5 miles will have almost already paid for the machine.

L. Krepinevich noted that the reason to go forward with this is precisely because the bond package was voted down.

C. Bielik explained that the roads are definitely in need of repair and it's been a while since they have been tended to.

It was noted that with the four informational meetings coming up, this subject can be continued at those meeting and that the BOF regular meeting should continue at this point.

L. Krepinevich noted that this machine will pay for itself in 3 years.

C. Bielik thanked L. Krepinevich for all his work and efforts on this project and he looks forward to getting the word out regarding this equipment. He asked all that were present to also help in spreading the word regarding all these upcoming meetings.

## **TREASURERS REPORT**

**None.**

S. Cable noted that the Treasurer has sent a letter noting that she will not be able to finish her term noting that the Democratic Town Committee Chair should be looking for a replacement.

## **TAX COLLECTORS REPORT**

**W. Hopkinson motioned to accept the Treasures Report. B. Ploss 2nd the motion. All voted aye.**

## **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

**None.**

M. Gomes ask W. Hopkinson what it was that she wanted added to this report. W. Hopkinson noted that she will go back in her notes.

## **FINANCE MANAGERS REPORT**

**R. Doiron motioned to accept the Finance Manager Report. W. Hopkinson 2nd the motion. All voted aye.**

## **CLERKS INVOICE**

**W. Hopkinson motioned to accept the Clerks Invoice. R. Doiron 2nd the motion. All voted aye.**

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

S. Cable discussed the Streetscape noting that it's costing a little less than a million dollars. She noted that the BOS have already picked the company which was the lowest - she noted that the town has to come up with a 20% match, \$205,000 over the next year. She noted that this has been a project 9 years in the making noting that it's a project that has been supported from the beginning. She noted that she and M. Gomes have gone through the budget and they paid the first \$1,000 with HUD money (instead of using it for Matthies Park they used it for this). S. Cable noted that unfortunately in their discussions regarding where the \$205,000 was to come from there was some miscommunication. She noted that they thought they could use \$103,000 from the CRRRA money which is on the balance sheet. She noted that this was money that was just put aside on the balance sheet in case they wanted to use it for any property development or land acquisition. S. Cable noted that they can still do the project without the addendum being about \$65,000 short.

S. Cable noted that she called Main Street Development as she thought they had \$20,000 more in that but they don't think they have it still. She noted that this money had to be shared with other towns, i.e., Ansonia's Housing Authority.

S. Cable noted that the project is on hold for several reasons. S. Cable noted that M. Krenesky suggested that if we have \$205,000 that perhaps we should pay off some of the existing leases. S. Cable noted that whatever is done with that money has to come from a recommendation from this group. She noted that if they give the money back there are still some costs associated to pay for some of the engineering. She again noted that it is a 9 year project and the state has been good at securing \$820,480 for us and have been holding it for a very long time.

She asked the BOF to think about this noting that if they do not go with this projects then 9 years of development this will have gone afar. She also noted that economic development will be effected (noting these are her personal feelings). She noted that Mario has bought Ray Shea's building and the whole strip to develop it. She noted that we would like people to come and use those.

She asked everyone to keep in mind that if they give this money back, there will be no more money and that this will affect us getting grants in the future.

She asked that this subject be discussed at the meeting next week. She noted they are in a dilemma and don't know what's going to be left in the budget and there are strict ways to use this money. She thought maybe they should borrow the money from different accounts then go to a referendum but noted that this would be taking a chance.

S. Cable noted that a final decision should be made by the end of this month.

S. Cable noted that she could even have a representative come and explain how the grant money works. C. Bielik noted that it would be helpful for him to have a representative explain that.

The discussion continued regarding the rules and regulations regarding grant money.

S. Cable also noted that she found the letter the BOF sent on January 16th re the new hire at the Fire House. She noted that going forward she will have people at the meetings to talk to them directly rather than on the phone.

M. Krenesky noted that he is looking for an accounting of what monies are left from all the unanticipated revenues, i.e., the \$95,000 from Region 16. M. Gomes explained they used it for transfers such as the sewer line break. M. Krenesky asked if there was any monies left in that - it was noted that \$93,000 was used. M. Gomes will have details at Tuesdays meeting. M. Gomes explained that they need to make sure that we generate some surplus this year in that those are the kinds of things that will impact the bond rating.

M. Gomes noted that they should try to make the revenues as conservative as possible so they do not have these large shortfalls. A lengthy discussion continued.

## **TRANSFERS**

A lengthy discussion continued regarding transfers in that there are a lot of them and they would like to know the status of contingency. It was noted that the Region 16 surplus was put in contingency. M. Gomes will have details at Tuesdays meeting.

S. Cable asked that they transfer a bit more so the Transfer Station can be open in June.

As a general consensus, the board decided to table transfers for further discussion at next Tuesday's meeting. C. Bielik asked for a copy to be forwarded to him so he can forward it to the rest of the Board.

**R. Doiron motioned to postpone the transfers until the meeting scheduled for 5/17/11. L. Krepinevich 2nd the motion. All voted aye.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Discussed during the budget workshop. S. Cable noted that after the budget gets passed, they should think about the roads, etc.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

C. Bielik reviewed the paperwork that was in the BOF mail slot - reports from Tax Collector on a breakdown of taxes collected.

Legal notice for BOS meeting on 4/27

Letter from R. Durenzal re flow summary of 4/7

Budget summary notice for 4/27

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**R. Doiron motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 P.M. L. Krepinevich 2nd the motion. All voted aye.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Classey  
Clerk for the Board of Finance