



BEACON FALLS BOARD OF FINANCE

Monthly Meeting  
January 09, 2018  
Minutes  
(Subject to Revision)

1. **Call to Order/ Pledge of Alliance**

Board Members Present: Marc Bronn, Joe Rodorigo, Steven Leeper, Tom Pratt, Jim Carroll, Brian Ploss, came in at 7:10PM

Others Present: Erin Schwartz, Finance Department, Tom Broesler, Finance Manager. Selectmen Chris Bielik, John Brennan, Howie Leeper, Kyle Brennan, other firemen, David Rybinski, Citizen news.

Marc Bronn called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

2. **Public Comment:**

Chairman Marc Bronn asked three times if there were any members of the public present to make a comment at this time;

Paul Brennan; 15 Highland Ave. We put a truck out to bid many months ago sent it out a second time, sat down with the BOS and Past BOF Chairman did what we were told to do, got price back, they sent a letter out to the venders asking off to hold the prices to December 15, 2017 which they did. In the mean time we got an outside person who has been building fire trucks for 50 years owns his own company for his professional opinion. Two of them don't meet the spec and one does.

If we don't act on it soon we might as well kiss it goodbye

Bronn: two of the trucks don't meet to specs. One does but we are going to miss the price they held for us.

Rodorigo: we have a meeting on the January 17,2018, to see what the consultant will be showing the BOF.

Bielik; we haven't gotten any updates till it's finished.

Brennan: If you wait any longer you going to lose the price, you've already made money on the funds that are in the bank. I have way too much time into this truck.

Bielik; we have not received the report yet, I have not seen anything yet from our consultant based on any recommendation. And it will be the BOS that will take action based on the recommendation the outside consultant gives us.

Rodorigo; I got a text message from your Chief saying we have a meeting on the 01/17/2018. We hired a consultant for a reason. It's not for this Board to act on.

Bronn: on the 17<sup>th</sup> there's a meeting with the consultant can provide the results, if he decided truck B is the one, can we pull the trigger that night?

Rodorigo; some of you guys are invited on the 01/17/2018 meeting.

Bronn: Based on your consultant only one truck is good, does A&B go back out to bid.

Bielik: No, the others do not go back out to bid. The soonest we can make it happen will be the 17<sup>th</sup> so we could theoretically vote for it that night.

Tom Broesler, 17 Lorrain D, Beacon Falls,  
Last year on the entire fund invested by the town we made \$12,000.00.

Rodorigo: And that's on 3 million dollars.

David Rybinski, 7 Quail Hollow Court, the low bidder was never contacted even dating back to last August that all the vendors would be called and told how the town would receive the bid process.

### **3. Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting:**

Motion to accept the minutes from the meeting held on December 12, 2017:

T.Pratt/S.Leeper; no discussion; all ayes,

### **4. Correspondence/Payment of Bills:**

a. Board of Finance Clerk's Invoice,

Motion to approve and pay the clerk \$72.50 for the invoice as submitted for the BOF meeting December 12, 2017 Rodorigo/Pratt; no discussion; all ayes.

b. **Other Invoices:** - NONE

c. **Other Correspondence-** None

### **5. Reports:**

a. **Ambulance Service Report-**

Pratt; we have not received anything from our billing service, but in our account is \$32,859.90, now \$130,000.00 on the books owed.

Rodorigo; This is not a concern to the BOF for the ambulance billing, In early October we go through our suspense list that is older than collectible for the BOF, of this \$130,000.00 do you relieve or suspense any of this debit?

Pratt: They are looking to bring it down and suspend it.

Bronn; Do you have a meeting on this?

Pratt: No the office handles it.

- a. **Town Treasurer's Report**-collected 11 million in six months, 9 million in the bank.
  - b. **Town Clerk's Report**- No discussions on this
  - c. **Tax Collector's Report**- No discussion on this.  
Bielik; on the Tax Collectors report, she's already on target.
  - d. **Liaison Update**- Bronn: going to give new Liaison later in the meeting.
6. **Finance Manager's Report**:Tom: going to do some manual work, and software. Meeting on the 1/24/2018 at 6:30 audit presentation report.  
Also have bids on 4 different companies for the software we want.  
Carroll; has it been sent to the State yet.  
Rodorigo; No we have a one month suspension.  
Bronn; which software do you like best?  
Tom; Aqua fund, they all pretty much function like Quick books.
- A. **Update on bonded projects**-  
Bronn: There are no projects open right now, everything is complete?  
Schwartz; There are retainers left on the roads, the fire truck.  
Rodorigo: The roads have been closed out except for the retainer, do we have a letter saying the road projects are complete. And we only have the retainer left.  
Tom; we do not have an official letter saying we are completed.  
Bielik; I'm not sure if they will give a letter until the retainer is complete.
- B. **Update on Capitol non-recurring roads balance**-  
Schwarz; Went over what was paid out of this. And the balance left after is \$278,000.00.
- C. **Update on time clocks**-  
Tom; they are getting there, only the VPN is not working right.  
Rodorigo: I talked with our IT this AM, the only place is the garage based on the VPN issue.  
Schwartz; We are all trying to get into the system all at the same time on Monday morning we need to stagger it and it work on it.  
Bronn; Have we paid the time clock company?  
Tom; Yes in full, it's a conflict with Comcast.  
Bronn; is it fixable he ask Brian Ploss  
Ploss; Comcast is playing game by not providing the level they should give us. JR:  
Rodorigo: Can you buy a bigger band?  
Bronn; It's like a pipe, bigger the pipe more data can flow through?  
Rodorigo; let's ask about data?

Ploss; It could just be the two side not connecting well but the connection is not as stable as it should be.

Bronn; Call our IT guy and ask him about purchasing a bigger band with.

D. **Capitol Plan-**

Bronn; I like the new software Erin, and how it looks in paper.

Rodorigo; the idea is to have it laid out so people see what's being cut.

E. **Update on BOE budget impact-** Nothing new to report.

F. **Update of Finance software** – talked about it

G. **Update on Audit-** talked about it

H.

7. **First Selectman's Report:**

a. **Proposed Budget Transfer-**

**3 Transfers tonight:**

Bielik; when we budget for Meals on Wheel we under budgeted because we had excess usage, and we used it more than we budget it for. This will close us out for the year.

From Line Item 10.90.83.1170, contingency, in the amount of \$159.00 to Line Item 10.90.63.1723, meal on wheels, in the amount of \$159.00;  
Ploss/Rodorigo; no discussion ; all ayes

Bielik; senior center transfer \$400.00 from supplies/ senior actives \$400.00 their annual NYE bus trip was a success, so they want to transfer \$400.00 from supplies to cover it.

From Line Item 10.90.79.1220, supplies, in the amount of \$400.00 to line item 10.90.79.1681 senior actives in the amount of \$400.00; Carroll/ Rodorigo; no discussion; all ayes.

Bielik; New library drop box in the corner of the parking lot, the old one was not able to be repaired, buying a new one it cost \$4,000.00-\$5,000.00. Library directory found a box from Portland that they had ordered from the scratch and dent and put it on Craig's list \$2,601.00 and won it. Unplanned expense by the library so they are requesting to transfer from contingency \$2601.00 for the new box library supplies. This purchase does not expended the amount of money in that line. They want to replenish the line item.

Bronn; so she doesn't want to spend the money.

From Line Item 10.90.83.1170, contingency, in the amount of \$2,601.00 to Line Item 10.90.69.1170, Library Department Supplies, in the amount of \$2,601.00;Ploss/Rodorigo; All ayes

Bielik: Update on the EDC; we had a meeting to with a rep from Haynes, they are interested with the town of Seymour we are trying to get a DOT federal grant for the long planned RT 42 RT 67 connector project. If that route get done, they are 4 add on's. COGG was a big supporter on it, Blumenthal, Murphy and DeLauro . There are only two DOT request this year, we have a better chance to get this funding. If it goes through Haynes would be interested in developing a lot of property along this line. There a residential, industrial, commercial, Seymour could may want to relocate the train station, the Federal government is very interested for mass transit. Haynes came in a first look, only a preliminary look, they are motivated, we are motivated, and Seymour is very motivated.

Bronn; Who going to give easements?

Bielik: That's the next meeting to jointly how this would work together.

Bronn: There is no cost to us?

Bielik; No there is no cost to us, no dollars from Beacon Falls, or Seymour. All federal dollars. Probably a 5-10 year long range. And Sadie Colcord has been very help full.

Bielik; EDC, we had a meeting today about a possible tax incentive program, about bringing new business into town. It will be ready for the BOS in February, the next step will be to get a town meeting and have the town vote to enact it.

Rodorigo; still looking to expand our permits?

Bronn; anything on the fuel cell?

Bielik; Nothing to report on it. Hoping to have an update in February on this.

**b. Update on O&G property**- No advancements since the last meeting.

**c. Update and plan on Police coverage**

Bielik; the scheduling part of it a challenge. We hired a part time officer, he's been in training and just started working on his own.

**d. Update on HR Firm**-

Bronn; did they do any job description for the Tax collector and Town Clerk.

Bielik; Not yet. Both our State Senator and State Rep were given the outcome of our Vote for this.

Bronn; Will they not vote on it?

Rodorigo; It has a 100% success rate on this.

Bronn; we put the HR firm in the budget, but we had ala cart do we know what that total is yet?

Bielik; we haven't gotten all the numbers from the list yet.

Rodorigo; If you look at what we have budgeted and look at the Ala cart we should have enough to pay for all of it.

Bielik; any town official who would like to attend the Sexual harassment session, everyone can come who is has a town position with the town.

e. **Update on Other Issues**- None

f. **EDC Update**-

Bielik: We meet with Sadie, who is the onsite person for EDC, she did a presentation she identifying the properties and the availabilities, we have her working on tax incentive programs, expansion of current business in Beacon Falls and how that would work. Gone through a variety of different languages from other towns, we are going to create our own document. And then I will show you the document, and then it goes to a vote for the tax payers to approve if it's a good or bad idea. Once it's approved, she moves into the marking phase, why it's an idea to do business in Beacon Falls, this is what we offer. Here are our properties and plans that are available. EDC is moving forward.

g. **Update on making Town Clerk and Tax collector paid positions**-

Rodorigo; I really think it will be a cost saving for the town of Beacon Falls.

**8. Budget Discussion:**

Bielik; I think it's reasonable for the reports in by February 2, 2018, we will put that memo out to everyone.

Rodorigo; we ask for them to hand them in and we look at them without the departments first.

Bronn; Health insurance expire, it goes with our policy date: 7/01/2018

Rodorigo; I'm meeting with Jim Carroll, Tom Brosling, Erin Schwartz, make those financial adjusted on paper and show what is lock in, what is fixed, what is open, with color combinations contracting pricing, these are things that are optional so the public can understand it.

Bielik; we should get the figures by March for the health insurance.

Tomorrow is our quarterly budget meeting, Rachel Merit, from USI she will be giving us the update on our workman comp funds.

**9. Old Business:**None at this time.

**10. Action Items:**NONE

**11. New Business:**

Bronn; Liaison Assignments, I would like to reassign them.

BOE; Jim Carroll  
Waste Water: Joe Rodorigo  
Fire department: Marc Bronn  
Public Works: Steven Leeper  
Office; Brian Ploss  
Police: Tom Pratt

**12. Public Comments:**

Dave Rybinski 7 Quail Hollow Court,  
Is there any other cost for the Library drop box to get it here?  
Schwarz; No public's works picked it up.

Thomas Pratt 125 Bethany Rd  
The million dollar question was over the piece of equipment if the price goes up as some indicates are. Is there money in the budget if it increases?  
John Brennan: Talking about \$30,000.00 and \$50,000.00 increase.  
Bronn; It is a benefit for the town of Beacon Falls to get this done right away.

**13. Adjournment: Ploss/Leeper, no discussion; all ayes. 8:03 P.M.**

**The next Board of Finance meeting will be held on Tuesday February 13, 2018 starting at 7:00P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Joann Smith Overby  
Clerk, Board of Finance

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