

TOWN OF BEACON FALLS BOARD OF FINANCE
10 MAPLE AVENUE
BEACON FALLS, CT
06403

Minutes Subject to
Revision May 23,2019

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

May 28, 2019

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF BEACON FALLS-BOARD
OF FINANCE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
MAY 23, 2019

The Beacon Falls Board of Finance will hold a Public Hearing of the Electors and Citizens of the Town of Beacon Falls, Connecticut on Wednesday, May 23, 2019 beginning at 7:00 P.M. at Laurel Ledge Elementary School Auditorium, 30 Highland Avenue, Beacon Falls, CT to hear and discuss the following:

1. Municipal Budget for the Town of Beacon Falls, Connecticut for Fiscal Year 2019/2020

Copies of the proposed 2019/2020 Municipal Budget are available for inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk. Town Hall, 10 Maple Avenue, Beacon Falls, CT.

Board Members Present: Tom Pratt (TP), Kyle Brennan (KB), Marc Bronn (MB), Larry Hutvagner (LH), Jim Carroll, (JC)

Board of Selectman: Chris Bielik, (CB) Mike Krenesky (MB),

Other Members Present: Erin Schwartz (ES), Natasha Nau (NN),

Public:

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Tom Pratt calls the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 7:01pm.

Chairman Tom Pratt speaks: Good Evening, we will have a presentation of a powerpoint but I thought I'd take a few minutes as the Chairman, bring everyone up to speed, when we got together there were 9 of us, the two Boards, Board of Finance and Board of Selectman and the Finance Department, introduce the Board Members, and the Selectmen.

Topics: raises discussed, Selectman Krenesky brought up on how it should have been years ago, incorporated in the budget, during one of our workshops, which we had 6 of them, how it should have been part of the budget years ago, but was never incorporated within the budget, Board of Finance confirmed with the town clerk, the only people could incorporate the raises is the Board of Finance, after discussion with the Board of Finance, who came up with the information for the raises that were given out, and through the CMM and the Finance Manager, who is Natasha Nau. We did that homework in that area.

Fire Marshall-there were some concerns about the increases, basically the Fire Marshall was wearing three hats, Fire Marshall, Lieutenant police, and homeland security, three hats, two years ago, the town looked at risks from each department, this past year, our insurance company also did risk assessments as well, it was determined that the Fire Marshall was going to leave, brought in Fire Marshall and a Deputy Fire Marshall, every town has to have a Fire Marshall and a Deputy Fire Marshall when the Fire Marshall is not there.

Roads: tax payers in the community, we don't want to pay more than we have to, roads just like every municipality, our roads need repair, under the Finance Dept, contracted Street Scan, to review all surfaces of the roads, prior to that, Public Works had a list also of road repairs, that was incorporated the roads with the Public Works, within the budget Skokrat had road collapse, allocated funds and bonded funds, coming from Seymour all the way to 42 will be done, over on railroad ave, working with the water company, money working on allocating, with water company paying half, Beacon Valley road, many people who have traveled on it, transferred from grant from the state to cover that road, the other road we are looking to come back to the town, looking at 3 million bond or a band, for a plan to put together our waste water treatment, the plan was put together well over a year ago, the plant is old, things were taken off line in stead of service repair, under the new supervisor, starting to rebuild, had hired the engineer would like us to 10 mil rebuild, but we as Board members do not want to see that at this time, we are going to work on band or bond, projecting Rimmon hill townline of Seymour through 42, put a 10

year plan together to project the roads repair, trying to keep the taxes down as best we can but without putting money aside years past, we are hurting now,

Big expense, an ambulance needs to be replaced probably past its life expectancy by two years, it is starting to cost us more money, purchase \$250,000,

These are just some of the highlights of the budget, turn over the presentation to Natasha Nau.

NN: There are documents online and hard copy this evening, proposed budget 2020, 7.1 million, 366,809 capital projects, does not include the school budget this year, but the total includes the school budget, revenue = expenditures, covers other expenditures, ECS 3.9 million, total 22 million is the town and school budget combined, the state legislature changes are coming, these revenues are estimates at the time, the budget for state should be approved by mid-june, might have changes, some of the highlights, are motor vehicle will be separated in line the property taxes.

Prior year collections are in a decline, as we collect more, the back taxes decrease, therefore, the interest is decreased, building permit revenue was increasing during the seasonal time, 10-15 K steadily each year, not getting one of the grants 24K not receiving it grant

Inspection revenue from the Fire Marshall

LOCIP grant putting it used to be in general fund, now put into grants fund, putting building maintenance, private duty, build out to vendor, bank interest rates are up, adjusted to more money market accounts, ECS funding decreased slightly,

Expenditures:

Salaries: percentage increases, out of our control Pension MERS, 2-4% accommodate, not necessarily expecting, medical increase modest 8%, some orgs are seeing 15%, workman's comp will be evaluated, resident state trooper, leases, emergency, telephone monitoring, negotiated or renegotiated best for the tax payers, recycling crisis, nationwide, up to 80%, waste water sewer mandated services increased, more demand and Stem Librarian to increase their hours, as Tom Pratt, 140% road maintenance, adding additional money try to begin to address the road issues,

Capital projects 366,809, continuations computers, phone system upgrades, townwide benefit depts., computers 6-7 years old, repurpose them, moving toward cloud base, fire department- two ambulances, transport, grant, ambulance 5 year lease pursuing, broken down in the last 4 weeks, tablets NBT, equivalent for the police, fire department jaws of life extrication, police department set to get body cameras, good for accountability, good

for the individual on scene, public works annual guard rail replacements, set aside, roads same concept, snow plow, scag mower replacement

SBA grant match: 112,000 not reflected, trying to get other sources of revenue to smooth that cost out, LOCIP provided by the state, sewer fund that goes toward that maintenance, going towards 366,809.

Tom Pratt: Thank you, Natasha, nice to have the power point presentation, prior to opening up the comments give your name address 5 min to presentation, any one

Public Comment:

S. Styfco 71 Lasky Rd, with your public comments this evening, are you entertaining questions?

TP: We are here, to hear what the public has to say.

S. Styfco:

Three public comments:

First Selectman at 55,000 puts in a lot of time, according to minutes 60 hours a week, increasing the selectman raises, I don't understand why they selectman are being paid, 1,500 off, 1st selectmen doing the work, a lot more towns that do not pay the other selectman. Give the money to the First Selectman because he is actually doing the work. Stipend for Admin Assistant, the police clerk was not paid more than less, do not understand why we have to pay a stipend to the admin. Assistant. Resident Trooper program- contract has not been signed, what is going to have to be done if state doesn't go with it, are we stuck with another 100,000 bill?

Tom Pratt: Thank you, I will answer one of these comments, state of Ct documentation and as well as Bethany, change in selectman, will come in effect July 1st, all documented already.

Public Comment:, any other public comment, public comment, public comment, we will close the meeting, the Board of Selectmen will now have their special meeting.

Motion to adjourn: 7.25pm

LH/JC, all ayes,

Respectfully Submitted,
Angel Moffat
Meeting Clerk