

Town of BEACON FALLS
Connecticut

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

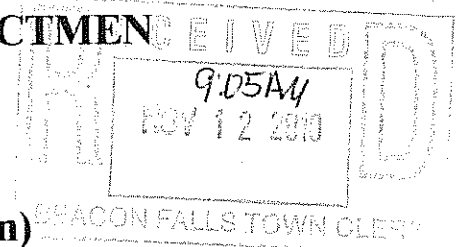
BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Regular Monthly Meeting

NOVEMBER 8, 2010

MINUTES

(Draft Copy-Subject to Revision)



First Selectman S. Cable called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:30 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: First Selectman S. Cable, Selectman D. Sorrentino; M. Krenesky arrived at 7:45

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: A. Daigle, D. Daigle, B. Ploss

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

A. Daigle commented on an article he read in the newspaper regarding the Lewis House. He noted that he is concerned because there was a lot of very good people that served on that committee. He wanted to know where the Board was going with this house because it is now considered historical and he would like to know who charged the selectmen to do this. S. Cable noted that the town Historian (M. Krenesky) was pursuing this aspect. She explained that the Selectmen voted (based on the attorney's advice) to support the findings of the committee. She noted that S. Cable and D. Sorrentino voted to support the findings and M. Krenesky voted against it. Planning and Zoning also reviewed the committee's findings and supported them as well. She noted that they do not have to have another town meeting, they can take the house down without another town meeting. In the interim, they did meet with the people from the state asking them that since the house is historical can we still take it down and the state answered that yes, they can still take the house down. S. Cable noted that they did promise the people when the property was purchased, that they will have an informational meeting when they had all the facts (they received a market analysis with the house and without the house). They also received prices on taking the house down so they are now looking to put a building committee together to look at a making it into a community/library center.

A. Daigle noted that at one of the meetings M. Krenesky did say that if the house ever made the historical list that people would buy the house for \$600,000 and A. Daigle suggested then to sell it for \$500,000 if the town could get that kind of money. A. Daigle would like someone to pursue that since it did make the historical list, can it be sold for that kind of money.

S. Cable noted that the plan now is to formalize a committee and a presentation and go forward with what we are doing. This will not be a voting meeting just an informational meeting.

D. Sorrentino motioned that if when M. Krenesky arrived that he would like to review anything already covered in the meeting, they will review it with him. S. Cable 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

B. Ploss had three concerns: 1. Status of the "strip mine" operation, 2. Status of the Wolfe Ave. project, 3. Issues regarding the noise ordinance - he noted that he worked very hard on getting this ordinance passed and it's not being enforced.

S. Cable explained to B. Ploss that she has a cease and desist order that had to go out from our town's attorney. Eight items were named in the cease and desist. She noted that even with the cease and desist, they still have to wait a 30 day period for it to be enforced while it is appealed. The cease and desist was based on hauling.

S. Cable asked him if he has seen anyone up there. B. Ploss noted that there was a ton of hauling last week and for whatever reason it was quiet today and he noted this comment will be a generous comment in that a couple of truckers finally moved over to the right side of the road. He noted that as of last week, what he refers to as "incidents" have settled down in the last week but noted that they are all still driving way too fast. No one is driving the speed limit and there are lot of kids up there. He does not think they will be able to stop for the kids. He noted that the traffic is going over 40 mph. He noted that 2 pick-up trucks in particular came so close to him while he was walking his dog that he almost had to dive off the road. S. Cable informed B. P loss that they are not the only voice any longer. She noted that people from the association are getting upset as well. It was suggested that B. Ploss start getting license plate numbers. D. Sorrentino asked if we have asked for day sheets yet.

B. Ploss wanted to make it clear that there are lots of children up where he lives and he is very concerned that a child is going to get hit and at that point it will be too late. S. Cable noted that the police are supposed to be ticketing and she will ask for the amount of tickets from that area. B. Ploss noted that he has not yet seen police in the area. B. Ploss also noted that his comments regarding speed are related to the trucks as well as the public and he again stated that he is very concerned that there will be a fatality.

D. Sorrentino gave B. Ploss a list of the 8 cease and desist orders.

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S. Cable addressed B. Ploss 2nd question regarding Wolfe Ave. She noted that she is hoping to formalize a committee by next month and also to set up an informational meeting.

B. Ploss asked about the noise ordinance and noted that problem is not related to the noise as it is hard to measure but it is related to when they make the noise, i.e., early in the morning, after hours and on holidays, etc. S. Cable noted that the ordinances went to the office of Policy and Management and the office of Environmental Protection was supposed to approve the noise ordinance. S. Cable noted that she asked the office of Policy and they said we were OK. She noted that they will follow up on this. She also noted that as far as she is concerned, police have to enforce any ordinance we have in place.

M. Krenesky arrived at 7:45 and comments from the public were briefly reviewed with him.

B. Ploss asked if he should start submitting something in writing and S. Cable asked him to give her a week to look into this issue.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Minutes – BOS Special meeting October 4, 2010** - The BOS reviewed the minutes page by page. Page 2 S. Cable commented on the request from M. Dowdell, K. Dahn and K. Larocque noted that a letter has gone out to these folks notifying them that there is an insurance risk therefore they cannot be granted use of the house.
Page 11 has the spelling of Neubizer incorrect. S. Cable will get the correct spelling.
Page 12 has E. Schwarz name spelled incorrectly (spelled correctly here).

D. Sorrento motioned to accept the minutes with the spelling corrections. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

2. **Minutes - BOF/BOS/BOE October 6, 2010**

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept the minutes from the BOF/BOS and BOE meeting from October 6, 2010. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

3. **Minutes - BOS Town Meeting October 12, 2010**

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept the minutes of the BOS Town Meeting of October 12, 2010. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

4. **BOF/BOS Special Meeting Preparation for Public Informational Meeting** -
D. Sorrentino pointed out that the meeting should have been named

"Informational Meeting" rather than public hearing. It was clarified that it was not a Public Hearing.

M. Krenesky motioned to accept the minutes of the Joint Meeting with the correction made to it being called an Informational Meeting. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

APPROVE BILLS ON SELECTMEN'S ORDER REGISTER

None.

RESIDENT TROOPER AND CONSTABLES REPORT

S. Cable read the Resident Troopers report for the month of October noting that there were 275 calls for service during the month.

M. Krenesky motioned to accept the Police Report. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT – PUBLIC WORKS

S. Cable noted that they had an informative meeting with the Public Works Department. It was noted that they received quotes for the sugar shack doors and the work will be done after the fields close.

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept the Public Works Report. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

It was noted that E. Bea went to a CT Transportation Institute of the University of CT and received a *certificate of defensive driving*.

S. Cable noted that she has a tentative Public Works schedule for the month of November. There will be a leaf pick up on public roads, they will be preparing winter equipment; the report was read.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT REPORT

S. Cable noted that the gentlemen attended a daylong conference at Mt. Ridge.

D. Sorrentino made motion to accept Wastewater Treatment Plant report as presented, M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

S. Cable noted that there were 73 call for the month of October. The report was reviewed. It was noted that 7 calls were made to the high school.

M. Krenesky motioned to accept the Fire Marshal's Report. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

PARK AND RECREATION ACTIVITY REPORT

None.

REPORT OF FINANCE MANAGER

M. Krenesky noted that there seems to be a lot of outstanding payables and he had thought that they were closed out. S. Cable noted that she can't answer that question. It will be brought up at the Board of Finance meeting.

M. Krenesky motioned to accept the Finance Manager's Report with the question regarding the outstanding payables. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Reports from September and October were reviewed. D. Sorrentino noted that we received a delinquent list (M. Krenesky noted that he had put in that request 5 or 6 weeks ago). M. Krenesky noted that there are some large outstanding motor vehicle taxes. He wondered of the people even knew they owed taxes from so long ago. He thinks this should be reviewed.

M. Krenesky motioned to accept September and October's Tax Collectors Report. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

It was noted that it should be looked into as to when this list was purged last and when the last update was sent to Motor Vehicles. It was noted that with the new system, this should be easy.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

M. Krenesky motioned to accept the Treasurers Report as presented. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

None. But it was noted that his information is covered (what the Board of Finance is looking for) in the Financial Manager's Report. It was also noted that the Board of Selectmen likes to see this information as well.

REPORT FROM THE LIBRARY

It was noted that the Library report seems to be a month behind.

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept September's Library Report. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

None.

REPORT OF THE CUSTODIAN

None.

REPORT OF THE TOWN NURSE

None.

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept the Fire Department's Report. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. S. Cable read a letter that was written to Mr. & Mrs. Dowdell telling them that an anonymous donor had made a donation in their name for the restoration of the Tracey Lewis House. S. Cable noted that they know of no such organization nor do they have a record of any donation and nor do they condone this. D. Sorrentino asked if any money has been received and the answer was no.
2. S. Cable read a letter from A. Daigle noting that he would like to be on the Tracy Lewis Committee.

3. A letter from M. Jurzynski noting overpaid taxes was read.

D. Sorrentino motioned to refund \$384 in overpaid taxes. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

4. A letter of Anita Goerig requesting to be an alternate member of the POCD committee rather than a regular member was read.

5. A newsletter from the Beacon Falls Historical Society was received. In it they note it was voted to send a letter of disapproval to the Board of Selectmen on the decision to tear down the Tracy Lewis House.

6. A letter from Steven Ruhl asking to be considered as Municipal Historian for the Town of Beacon Falls was read..

7. A letter from Chief M. Pratt was read asking for a letter of intent to purchase 2 vehicles for the Fire House (named in bond package).

S. Cable noted that they are not in a position to give a letter of intent because the bond package has not been finalized or gone before a town vote nor has a date been made to do so. This request will be passed on to the Board of Finance.

8. A letter from Jeremy Rodrigo requesting his interest in an appointment to serve on the Towns Economic Development Committee was read.

S. Cable wanted the record to reflect that Marc Bronn has resigned from the EDC and there is an opening.

9. S. Cable noted that she received a letter that the application for OPM Municipal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant has been approved for \$40,230. This is for the Annex at the Fire House.

10. A letter from Brian Miller noting the information that they will need to complete the grant process for Riverbend Park was read. The Board also received a note from D. Betkoski asking if the BOS assigned board oversight for this project so that it can keep moving forward.

M. Krenesky asked if we received \$100,000 for this a year ago and noted that we may have \$200,000 for this project.

11. A letter from the Laput family thanking the Board of Selectmen for the excellent service they receive from S. Mis, the Town Nurse was read.

12. S. Cable noted an article she clipped out of the newspaper noting that the Tracy Lewis House has now been approved to be placed on the State Register of Historical Places.

13. A letter from Carter & Civitello (Attorney at Law) regarding the state Fire School was read. The letter notes that they cannot be certain that the decision is incontestable but would be time consuming and generate legal fees.

14. A Letter from the Valley Council of Governments noting that they will pay for the completed Weston and Sampson Phase I report for Railroad Ave. was read.

15. A Letter from the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism was read noting that the Tracy Lewis House will be considered for nomination to the State Register of Historic Places.

16. A letter from Chief Pratt was read noted that they had an emergency replacement of stretchers noting that he would like to make one payment for these stretchers in lieu of financing.

S. Cable noted that this will be referred to the Board of Finance.

17. A letter from Brian Fitzpatrick informing the Board of Selectmen of his plans to retire after almost 38 years of service was read.

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept Brian Fitzpatrick's letter of retirement with lots of gratitude, regret, congratulations and best of luck for the future. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

18. A letter from the Parks and Rec was read noting that they would like to receive a monthly report from the Finance Department detailing the balance of the Parks and Rec checking account and requested a calendar of activities be put on the town's website.

D. Sorrentino updated the Board on the progress of the website. He met with B. Bucifero

19. A letter from the Town of Oxford regarding the fatal accident of Matthew Mihalcik was read noting that they are extending their sympathies and they are continuing their efforts for signalization on this major roadway.

20. A letter from Robert and Constance Sexton was read noting that they are interested in purchasing the parcel of land next to them that is owned by the state. S. Cable will pass this on to the state.

21. A letter from the American Legion asking of the flags could be lowered to half mast following the death of a resident veteran of the town. It was noted that lowering the flag could only be approved by the Governor or President.

22. A letter from the American Legion invited all to attend a Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11 at Matthies Park Veterans Memorial at 11:00 a.m. was read.

23. A letter of thanks for participation in the Valley Goes Pink during the week of October 17 - 23.

A discussion took place regarding widening roads near Pines Bridge Road. M. Krenesky asked S. Cable how she would like to see his comments regarding the document she asked them to comment on. S. Cable noted that she did send out a memo to them but will look further into it. She did say it is all about getting grant money. M. Krenesky noted that they will need to understand what number 3 means. S. Cable will look into this.

S. Cable noted that they will be sending a note to the people that we will be cutting around their bushes where trees are hanging over the road if they do not do it.

OLD BUSINESS

S. Cable noted to B. Ploss that the reason Mr. Galligan was on his property is because they were trying to come up with a design for the corner. The map was shown to B. Ploss and he noted that it did not indicate specifics. S. Cable noted that she will get more specifics.

B. Ploss said that his offer is still on the table that they can still have that corner and put up fences. He noted to S. Cable that she knows this was agreed upon. S. Cable noted that Beacon Falls did not agree to put up a fence for him and we do not have any recourse to go back to them now. She noted that we do not know who the new owners are going to be. B. Ploss asked if he should be contemplating talking to an attorney. M. Krenesky noted that they cannot advise him to do that and that they need to get more information on their side as to what they are actually talking about moving. That information is what needs to be on this document. It was noted that the Board of Selectmen are as frustrated as B. Ploss is.

M. Krenesky noted that he is still working on the phone system audit. He still needs to get back to the Fire Chief and the Town Clerk. Hoping by next month we will know where we are going with this.

S. Cable also noted to D. Sorrentino that by next month we can hopefully have information on the web page.

S. Cable discussed the CRRA document. She noted that the engineer recommended Tier 1. She noted that she will get copies of the contract for M. Krenesky and D. Sorrentino to review it.

S. Cable discussed EDC telling us to upgrade the guard rails at commerce park. M. Krenesky asked if this was something the Street Department could do or is it something that will be contracted out. M. Krenesky is asking if we need to get more direction from EDC.

S. Cable noted that she has a list of people who have volunteered to be on the Building Committee for Wolfe Ave. She noted that she would like the Selectmen to meet this month to review the committee and the information that has been gathered. M. Krenesky noted that John Yandell who is the grandson of Tracy Lewis is coming to town on November 20th to see his grandfather's house. M. Krenesky is setting that up noting that there will be no fan fare, etc.

S. Cable noted that she would like all to feel comfortable with the information they have on the property and then pick the committee in December. The date of the meeting will be set after this Wednesday when M. Krenesky will know his schedule better.

Bond Issue: S. Cable asked what the Selectmen thought of the Informational Meeting. M. Krenesky commented that he heard from a couple of people that were very positive and that we were going forward with a 10 million dollar bond package. M. Krenesky noted that is not what he took from the meeting noting that there were a number of questions specifically someone asking for details about the roads. This man's questions may have been resolved based on M. Krenesky and L. Damico's comments on the roads condition. M. Krenesky noted that it was our intent to present everything and then get feedback from the public and then go forward with a bond package and also go forward with another public hearing. He suggests that the items be broken down to be voted on so that the things we definitely need do not get voted down because they are lumped together.

D. Sorrentino noted that everyone who was there either spoke or was at least given the opportunity to speak and now it is up the Selectmen as to what they want to do with it. He noted that he is all for presenting it to the public also as item by item (ala carte). He noted that the most important item is the street, 2nd being the sewers. He noted that we could probably squeak by with the equipment.

M. Krenesky noted that he drove all the streets on the list including others. He noted without a doubt, Patricia Terrace is the worst street with Highland Ave. coming in second. Dolly Dr., Wolfe Ave. and Maple are next in line.

S. Cable noted that she thinks we should go to referendum and she thinks the items should be voted on separately and she does not think we need another Public Hearing but we could have all come to a Board of Selectmen meeting and hold a longer meeting.

It was noted that they are looking forward to hearing what the Board of Finance will recommend.

NEW BUSINESS

The Fire School was discussed. It was noted that it sounds like it's a done deal. The property has been purchased, etc. It was noted that we should be monitor this situation aggressively.

We will be going out to bid for the Street Scape.

The Bridge has to be completed by the end of November.

M. Krenesky noted that there is an issue with walk lights in that there is not a walk light to cross over the bridge entrance on Main Street. There are not any cross walks either.

APPOINTMENTS

M. Krenesky motioned to appoint Steve Ruhl as the new Town Historian. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

M. Krenesky noted that the term for the Historian is up on December 1st.

The terms for D. Chatterton, C. Vitale and J. Fitzpatrick are all up. D. Chatterton would like to continue as would J. Fitzpatrick but C. Vitale cannot continue due to not being allowed to do 10 consecutive years.

M. Krenesky motioned to re-appoint D. Chatterton and J. Fitzpatrick to Planning and Zoning. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

Both J. Fitzpatrick and D. Chatterton will be re-appointed from 11/8/2010 to 11/18/2012

S. Cable noted that she spoke with E. Groth and E. Groth does not feel that he is knowledgeable enough about the zoning laws at this point however he will consider the position and will get back to S. Cable.

M. Krenesky motioned to extend C. Vitale position on Planning and Zoning until 12/31/2010. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

S. Cable asked that if anyone knows anyone who may be interested in serving on Planning and Zoning, please have them contact us.

S. Cable noted that they should accept M. Bronn's resignation for EDC with regret.

M. Krenesky motioned to accept M. Bronn's resignation with regret from the Economic Development Committee. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

D. Sorrentino motioned to appoint Jeremy Rodrigo to fill M. Bronn's term until May 1, 2012. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

It was noted that there is also an opening on Inlands Wetlands and Conservation.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

B. Ploss would like his emails to be filed with correspondence. S. Cable said that she will do that.

With no other business, **D. Sorrentino made motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 P.M. 2nd by M. Krenesky. All aye.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Classey

Lauren Classey

Clerk for the Board of Selectmen, Regular Monthly Meeting - November 2010

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