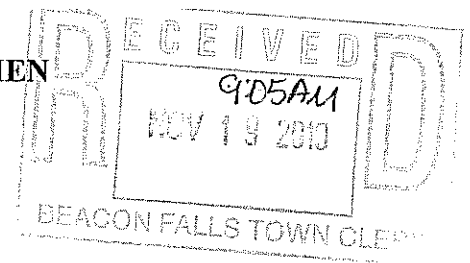


**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SPECIAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 17, 2010  
MINUTES  
(Draft Copy – Subject to Revision)**



First Selectman S. Cable called the Special Meeting of the Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen to order at 2:18 P. M.

**PRESENT:** Selectman D. Sorrentino, Selectman M. Krenesky, Finance Director M. Gomes and Joseph Rodorigo, representing the Park & Recreation Commission.

S. Cable noted the purpose for this meeting is to discuss the proposed bond package before its presentation to the public.

S. Cable noted some of the items and costs to be included in the bond package:

- Road Projects - \$ 4,715,000
- Sewer Plant Upgrades ; \$ 1,000,000
- Fuel Tank Removal - \$ 125,000
- Scuba Gear (air packs) - \$230,000 (grant for \$135,000 has been awarded toward this purchase)

Discussion on the Matthies Park # 1 and # 2 proposals.

- J. Rodorigo noted that an informational public hearing held on the proposals indicated via a straw vote that residents are in favor of the TPA plan, which includes a full-maintenance package ( \$500,000) and the advancement of the parking lot, bathrooms and the central garage area (\$380,000). A total of \$900,000 would be bonded to accomplish the two (2) major problems. Maintenance project would include the settling ponds, water retention areas, bridge for example, and the better access at the entranceway to the park would be addressed. S. Cable noted the Board of Finance had some concerns about the project, noting that the Town does not to spend all of this money just to make the park look nice, adding the Town has to act in a fiscally responsible manner, while at the same time ensure the safety and health of its residents.
- J. Rodorigo noted approximately \$20,000 per year should be added to the maintenance budget line item. He noted this maintenance would not require an additional person to take care of what is there already, adding there would be nothing new added to Matthies Park at this time. He did note that if more trails were to be added, then maintenance costs would increase.
- S. Cable noted there might be some grant funds available with regard to the island house at Matthies Park, with J. Rodorigo noting there are monies from the Federal Government Preservation Fund as well as Highway Transportation funding. He noted the average grant award is \$10,000 and pointed out that you need access to the island house for any historic preservation funding.
- Discussion of the boat house and the holding tank. Suggestion to possibly replace roof with wood rather than concrete and to cut up the existing holding tank and use the pump house for storage.

**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
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- With access to water and sewer at Woodland High School right near Matthies Park, Town would not have to dig up a well or put in a septic system in order to put in new bathrooms. S. Cable noted Town owns the property and was never paid an easement to put in sewer and water lines so she believes the Town can tap into those lines.

-  
Discussion of issue at Johnson Street where there is a problem with water is dumping into the sewer line rather than into the storm drain. This problem will be taken care of. No cost for the project has been given at this point.

**M. Krenesky made motion to include the Matthies Park project at a cost of \$900,000 in improvements in the bond package, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Sorrentino. All aye.**

M. Gomes noted he will have to submit proper descriptions of each item in the bond package and gave brief summary what has to happen with the bond package. He noted once the Board of Selectmen approves the resolutions then the Board of Finance has to vote on the resolutions, then a date for a Town Meeting or Town-wide Referendum.

M. Krenesky asked what other ways there might be to come up with monies needed for the various projects other than bonding or raising taxes. It was noted the Board of Finance seems to prefer a lease/purchase for the ladder truck, pumper truck, ambulance and payloader. M. Krenesky noted his calculations indicate it is cheaper to go with a bond package than a lease/purchase plan. M. Gomes noted over the course of twenty (20) years, the average interest rate is 4%, using today's Grant List.

M Gomes noted the tax mill increase for this proposed bond package is .80 mills. He said *this is not increased every year*. S. Cable added people are very concerned about spending extra monies, adding they are aware of upcoming school costs. She added that no one can predict the future and you have to move forward.

Discussion of the road projects. M. Krenesky noted all streets will have to be named in the bond package resolutions. Total cost for road repairs is \$5,115,000 which includes the \$400,000 in STEAP grants and State funding.

**M. Krenesky made motion to include the \$5,115,000 for road repairs and related infrastructure repairs in the bond package which includes the \$400,000 received in STEAP and State funding, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Sorrentino. All aye.**

**M. Krenesky made motion to include the Sewer Plant Upgrades at a cost of \$1,000,000 in the bond package, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Sorrentino. All aye.**

**M. Krenesky made motion to include the Fuel Tanks Removal at a cost of \$125,000 in the bond package, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Sorrentino. All aye.**

NOV 19 2010

**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
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Discussion of the Public Works payloader, with S. Cable asking if the \$150,000 cost has an impact on the entire bond package total. M. Krenesky said it makes sense to give the taxpayers the opportunity to vote on this.

**M. Krenesky made motion to add the Ladder Truck at a cost of \$900,000, the Pumper Truck at a cost of \$300,000, the Public Works Pay Loader at a cost of \$150,000 and a new ambulance at a cost of \$185,000 to the bond package, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Sorrentino. All aye.**

**M. Krenesky made motion to include the SCBA's at a cost of \$230,000, with \$135,000 secured via grant funds, into the bond package, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Sorrentino. All aye.**

S. Cable asked if the final resolutions are given to the Board of Selectmen for its December 13, 2010 meeting, could they be then presented to the Board of Finance for its December 14, 2010 meeting.

S. Cable noted an Informational Meeting has already been held with regard to the bond package, and felt there should be a Town-wide Referendum on the bond package. She asked if there is enough time to hold the referendum in early January, possibly January 4, 2011. Town Meeting could be scheduled for January 3, 2010 and then adjourned to the referendum for Tuesday, January 4, 2011.

M. Gomes presented time limits for process of scheduling Town Meeting or referendum, making sure to get Legal Notices published in proper timeframe. Goal date is to publish Legal Notice is December 22, 2010.

Board noted the Board of Finance has not been in favor of the entire bond package.

M. Krenesky suggesting explaining to the public the mill increase for the entire bond package would increase by **.80** mills and would not go accordingly up every year.

M. Gomes noted there are certain areas that would involve the Planning & Zoning Commission, adding the P&Z could get the documents even after the resolutions have been approved.

M. Gomes said it is important to know when you want to borrow the money, adding it makes a difference when you get the money because it affects which budget year to include the mill increase. He said it takes about sixty (60) days to do a bond issue, adding the bond would probably be sold in either March or April 2011.

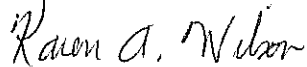
S. Cable wants to include the purchase of a new police vehicle in the upcoming Town Meeting to begin at 7:00 P.M. on December 13, 2010 before the Board of Selectmen's

**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
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Regular Monthly Meeting. Estimated cost of vehicle is \$27,000, with the first payment of \$6,000 to come from Contingency with rest of payments to come from a three (3) year lease/purchase agreement. M. Gomes will get paperwork prepared for the 12/13/10 meeting.

With no further business, **S. Cable made motion to adjourn the Special Meeting at 3:23 P.M. 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Sorrentino. All aye.**

Respectfully submitted,



Karen A. Wilson

Clerk for the Board of Selectmen, Special Meeting November 17, 2010

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NOV 19 2010