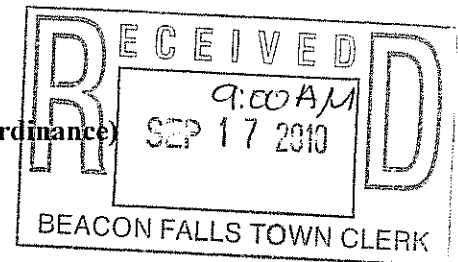


**TOWN OF BEACON FALLS
PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN LANDS MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE (New Ordinance)
SEPTEMBER 13, 2010
MINUTES**



First Selectman Susan Cable called the Public Hearing to order at 7:03 P.M. with the Pledge to the Flag. Public Hearing was held at the Beacon Falls Town Hall Assembly Room.

ALSO PRESENT: Selectman D. Sorrentino, Selectman M. Krenesky and several residents.

S. Cable noted that the purpose of this Public Hearing is to hear and discuss a proposed new Town Lands Management Ordinance and asked for any comments or questions.

1. D. Betkoski, Chairman of the Conservation Commission noted the Conservation Commission had reviewed the Ordinance along with Attorney Byrne and forwarded the ordinances which had addressed their concerns to the Board of Selectmen for its review and action. She noted the Commission had gone through three (3) revisions to get the Ordinance ready for presentation.
2. R. Minnick asked for clarification, feeling that the Ordinance seems geared to the Conservation Commission, adding the Park & Recreation Commission should also be included. He referred to Section 7- Responsibility and Liability, noting the original intent was the Town would designate who is responsible and felt the Park & Recreation Commission should not be excluded. He also felt that Section 4- Town Land Management could be more general to include more than just the Conservation Commission. M. Krenesky also agreed that every Land Use Board should be included. Discussion also if this should current Town Parks, including Matthies Park. He noted there is a connection to the Park & Recreation with this Ordinance and that their interests should be protected as well. D. Betkoski again noted this Ordinance was prepared to present to the Board of Selectmen in order to determine uses of open space and asked if Toby's Pond was ready for public use. She asked if the Selectmen wanted more verbiage, i.e. entering a property at your own risk. It was noted that Planning & Zoning did not comment on this proposed Ordinance.
3. R. Minnick felt Ordinance could be tweaked a little more, with S. Cable adding this could be done before it is ready to present at a Town Meeting
4. S. Cable felt it is important to have guidance and protection for open space. She also referred to letter from Attorney Byrne with regard to incorporating R. Minnick's suggestions into the Ordinance- item 7.
5. B. Ploss agreed that Park & Recreation should certainly be considered, especially when you are discussing trails.
6. D. Betkoski felt it is important to look at the resources of the properties and to provide information as to the best uses, adding it is crucial not to disrupt any precious resources.

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M. Krenesky suggested that at tonight's Meeting on September 13, 201, the Board of Selectmen set the Town Meeting to vote on this Ordinance. D. Sorrentino said he felt comfortable with this Ordinance, with S. Cable adding changes could be made and then presented at that Town Meeting.

Public Hearing ended at 7:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Wilson

Karen A. Wilson

Clerk for the Board of Selectmen – Public Hearing – September 13, 2010

SEP 17 2010