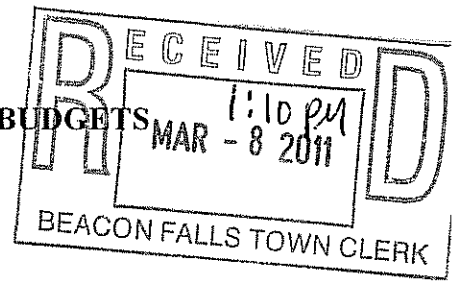


**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING
PUBLIC WORKS, TREATMENT PLANT PROPOSED BUDGETS
MARCH 7, 2011
MINUTES
(Draft Copy – Subject to Revision)**



First Selectman S. Cable called the Special Meeting of the Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen to order at 1:40 P.M.

PRESENT: First Selectman S. Cable, Selectman D. Sorrentino, Selectman M. Krenesky, E. Bea (Public Works) and W. Opuszynski (Treatment Plant – 2:30 P.M.)

ABSENT: None.

Board of Selectmen discussed 2011/2012 Public Works Proposed Budget (page 12 of proposed budget)

Street Sweeping

- Increases due to potential union salary increases.
- E. Bea noted all the roads and all parks are being done
- S. Cable asked if there would be a cost savings to rent a sweeper, do you really need an extra truck to follow the sweeper, and number of men needed. Options to look into include renting a sweeper with our men doing the work, renting from another Town with their person. E. Bea noted the truck follows sweeper to pick up extra debris to take back to the yard, road conditions also play a role in this. E. will check into cost savings if any

Snow Removal

- E. Bea noted cost of materials has gone up.
- S. Cable noted predictions indicate at least three (3) years of large amounts of snow fall ahead.
- Board agreed to leave budget at **\$60,000**.

Vehicle Maintenance

- E. Bea noted he is out of money now in this line item.
- Board reviewed his estimates for work needed to be done at this time; totaling \$8500. Two (2) trucks need new tires, (410 Backhoe and John Deer 444)
- Brief discussion on diesel fuel and if monies would be saved having a diesel tank for use by Public Works. E. Bea noted park fuel also comes from this line item.

S. Cable noted that with this tight economy and union raises to consider, there will definitely be lay-offs and that E. Bea should keep this fact in mind that some of his employees might be facing a lay-off.

- E. Bea noted Public Works is running a lot of equipment.
- There are still almost four (4) months in this fiscal year.

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State Mandated Storm Drains

- E. Bea noted Town pays for water testing, noting Nafis & Young does the testing. S. Cable said she would get exact total costs of this.

Sewer Maintenance.

- E. Bea noted cost is approximately \$1,000 per day for the sewer line flushing and he thinks it is better to flush the lines three (3) times per year because of the different things in the lines (i.e. grease)
- Board agreed that any emergency repairs, other than ordinary expenses should come from the Contingency Fund not from regular budget line items. Possibility of increasing Contingency Fund monies. Example of an emergency might be a clog occurring on a weekend which has to be taken care of. E. Bea noted it is standard operating procedure to charge a minimum of four (4) hours to come to do the job.
- M. Krenesky noted that when anything unanticipated comes up, the Board of Selectmen will deal with it at the time.
- E. Bea noted cost has remained the same for sewer line flushing.
- **\$12,000** requested, with \$2,000 coming from Tree Work Line Item

Tree Work

- Tree budget of \$10,000 will stay the same with \$2,000 going to Sewer Maintenance

Guard Rail/Line Painting

- E. Bea noted Town did not buy a line painting machine to do the roads. Lines are painted once a year in whole Town – cost of \$11,000. Discussion on importance of line painting and number of people who actually complain about this. The most important seems to be the line painting of the school crosswalks.
- Guardrail cost is approximately \$29.00 per square foot, which does not include the anchors.

Catch Basin Cleaning

- E. Bea noted there are problems with some and noted more will be needed with addition of new roads in Town.
- It was noted that even with new catch basins, with the amount of snow and rain we have gotten, we will still have the same problems.
- Line item will stay the same at \$10,000.

Chip Sealing Programs

- E. Bea noted if chip sealing will not help if the road is damaged but it will help a faulty road to last a little longer.
- E. Bea noted crack sealing should be done first before chip sealing.
- Chip sealing of Lancaster Drive (almost 1 mile) cost was \$32,000.
- S. Cable asked why asphalt and other materials comes from chip sealing rather than from highway materials. S. Cable suggested keeping chip sealing in a separate line item like highway materials.

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- E. Bea noted highway materials is a catch all for many things, including pot hole repairs.
- Board agreed to go with \$35,000 in chip sealing program to possibly either Cook Lane or Rimmon Road.

Town Garage

- Board is ok with these budget line item submissions.

Special Projects (refer to page 16 of preliminary proposed budget)

- Correction: Should be replacement of PW Truck 2.
- E. Bea explained a new plow is needed to push the snow higher and further back than what can currently be done; noting the large amounts of snow caused build-up of snow into more of the roadway because it could not be pushed up higher. This new plow would help with this. E. Bea noted his plow would not be successful in this Town Hall area and where houses are located to the road, but would work very in other areas.
- S. Cable asked if Public Works could go without the new pay loader this year and hold off until next year, with E. Bea noting this would mean you would make two (2) vehicle purchases next year.(the new pay loader and a new park truck) S., Cable said there is no money and we have to work with what we have and make it work. D. Sorrentino asked if some of older equipment could be refurbished, with E. Bea noting some of the equipment is 21 years and putting a lot of money into that machine will not give you any more for the equipment.
- Board reviewed Equipment Replacement Plan prepared by E. Bea (attached)
- Brief discussion on a spare plow, with E. Bea noting he would like to have a spare if there is a problem with current equipment, adding that if something breaks down early in the winter months or late at night, it is better to have that spare.
- In response to M. Krenesky's question, E. Bea noted he likes to get at least fifteen (15) years to a vehicle and that at ten (10) years things do start to break and wear down. S. Cable asked if it might be possible to purchase a 'gently used pay loader'. E. Bea noted he would like to purchase the new pay loader in 2011/2012 as the older the machine gets, the more maintenance it requires.

E. Bea left meeting at 2:35 P.M., with W. Opuszynski, Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor joining the meeting to discuss his budget.

Discussion with W. Opuszynski about his proposed budget.

MAR 18 2011

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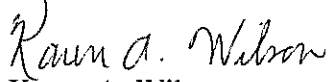
- W. Opuszynski noted electricity costs have gone up, adding the ultra-violet takes more electricity.
- W. Opuszynski noted the Railroad Avenue Pump Station has the best security system in place. His concern is with the Treatment Plant because it encompasses a larger area and is harder to keep secure. He noted that an alarm system would note high waters, pump failures, etc. He would like to see a system that incorporates fire protection and security.
- W. Opuszynski would also like to add a cell phone backup based on the telephone line at all locations, so if a phone goes down there would still be phone service. He cited fact if there were to be a lightening strike, the Treatment Plant could be left dead silent and plant would be down. He added there would be cost savings to insurance if fire protection and security are addressed and implemented. He added Town would be more in compliance with DEP requirements.
- W. Opuszynski noted this plant is forty (40) years old and it does have some problems.
- S. Cable noted money might be saved with personnel costs because potentially two (2) new employees will be hired, hopefully at a lower rate.
- W. Opuszynski added Treatment Plant is down one (1) man and the two (2) remaining employees are on call 24/7.
- S. Cable noted the Town is \$30,000 short in the clarifier bid, and suggested talking to the Board of Finance where to take those funds from. She noted this bid has not yet been awarded because of the shortage. It was noted \$60,000 has been put aside from the current 2010/2011 budget for the clarifier and the \$30,000 to come from the 2011/2012 budget. Discussion on whether to take the \$30,000 from the Wastewater Treatment Fund account.
- S. Cable asked if E. Bowen had further discussed his plans for retirement, with W. Opuszynski adding no firm date has been set. He noted that E. Bowen is an excellent worker, very knowledgeable and reliable. He also holds a Class II license.
- W. Opuszynski noted a person's distance from Town is also important in hiring someone.
- Discussion on a fourth person to work at Treatment Plant, someone like 'an operator in training' who might get a job and work toward getting necessary credentials, a person who would be more involved with plant maintenance. W. Opuszynski added any person still has to take the State tests which are given in January and July. He also noted that an individual has to have certain criteria.

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With no other business, M. Krenesky made motion to adjourn the Special Meeting at 2:55 P.M. 2nd by D. Sorrentino. All aye.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen A. Wilson

Clerk for the Board of Selectmen

MAR 8 2011

EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PLAN

EQUIPMENT	CONDITION	MAJOR REPAIRS	REPLACE
2006 PICKUP - P/S	8	TURBO	2015*
2006 DUMP -P/S	7	NONE	2016*
2006 DUMP -P/S	7	NONE	2016*
1997 DUMP -P/S	8	Paint, body work	2016
2000 DUMP -P/S	7	NEW TURBO	2015
2001 DUMP -P/S	7	NONE	2016
1995 BACKHOE	7	Reverser	2016
1990 LOADER	4	FACTORY, PAINT SERVICE	2011
1989 BRUSH TRACTOR	5	NEW GLASS	AS NEEDED
1992 CHIPPER	8	NONE	AS NEEDED
1985 ROLLER	7	NONE	AS NEEDED
1996 SEWER MACHINE	8	NONE	AS NEEDED
1992 HYDRO SPRAYER	5	NONE	AS NEEDED
1992 PLATE COMPACTOR	7	NONE	AS NEEDED
1997 GRASS MOWER	4	NONE	AS NEEDED
2011 PRESSURE WASHER	10	NONE	AS NEEDED
SPARE PLOW	N/A	N/A	2011
CURB MACHINE	Broke-repaired-2009	ENGINE, AUGER/MISC	AS NEEDED
1999 DUMP -P/S	3	PAINT, BODY WORK, BRAKES NEW COMPUTOR <i>for with the truck</i>	2011
2009 Dump P/S	10	NONE	2020

*Plow/Sander

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