



Town of BEACON FALLS
Connecticut

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

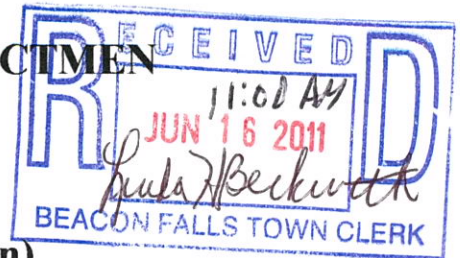
BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Regular Monthly Meeting

June 13, 2011

MINUTES

(Draft Copy-Subject to Revision)



S. Cable called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: First Selectman S. Cable, Selectmen D. Sorrentino and M. Krenesky.

Also present: approximately 30 town residents

PUBLIC COMMENT:

B. Dionne, President of the Beacon Falls Senior Center was representing the seniors and questioning the name of the Beacon Falls Senior Center. She noted that they received a document from the Historical Society referring to the Senior Center as Senior Center/Community Center also noting that they received a piece of mail addressed to Historical Society care of Beacon Falls Senior Center. She asked if anything has been changed and if so it needs to be discussed.

S. Cable responded by saying that nothing has changed. The Senior Center still has scheduling power but the center can be used for other meetings and such as long as it is not being used by the seniors as seniors have first priority. S. Cable will speak with the Historical Society to clear things up and she apologized to the seniors for the confusion.

B. Dionne noted that the seniors are very proud of their center and appreciate the clarification.

B. Dionne also mentioned that the Senior Center inspection was good as far as cleanliness.

B. Dionne also asked if they could get the bus back for Friday Summer trips. S. Cable will talk to M. Gomes regarding the possibility of funds for Friday bus trips in July. It was noted that the seniors do chip in for gas and the trips are on a first come first serve basis. S. Cable will also check with Karen to see how the grant was written and how the bus could be used. She will put together a letter on this.

S. Cable noted that there are lists of things that need to be tended to at the Senior Center as a result of the parade and it is up to the town to take care of these issues.

M. Pratt Beacon Falls Fire Chief explained that they need \$25,850 to fix some items on the truck (Hurst Tool Failed). He explained it is their only portable unit and he asked if the BOS could look for funding. It was noted that they can get mutual aid for coverage if they need it and also that they have not yet looked for a grant.

M. Pratt also noted that the ambulance needs some repairs at a cost of \$2,400 and that the ambulance is now 13 years old.

MINUTES

M. Krenesky motioned to accept the minutes from May 9th with the date change. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept the Joint BOF/BOS minutes from May 10th. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept the minutes of May 17th. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

BILLS

There were no bills to discuss.

PUBLIC WORKS

S. Cable asked if there were any comments on the report. D. Sorrentino thinks it should be different and should be in a form. He suggested that it include the date, the project name, approximate cost, completion date and which line item it is supposed to come out of. S. Cable asked him to type up the form and they can then use it.

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

S. Cable noted that she is concerned that during the last storm, E. Bea could not be reached and some didn't have emergency numbers. It was noted that the first person M. Pratt was able to reach was J. Gracie. M. Pratt noted that they go down the list of seniority. M. Krenesky suggested that they have a meeting with emergency personnel to review the plan as this last storm was not handled well. S. Cable noted that they have plans in place.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

S. Cable noted that the new hire has started and seems to be doing well. Applications are closed for E. Bowens and they will interview next week.

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

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT

None

The line item of Parks and rec should be removed from the agenda.

M. Krenesky motioned to have the line item "parks and rec" removed from the BOS monthly agenda. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

FINANCE MANAGERS REPORT

M. Krenesky noted that the taxes from the State Property Fire School tax pilot have not yet been paid and asked that this issue be looked into.

TAX COLLECTORS REPORT

D. Sorrentino reiterated that he has requested information on how many people have been called regarding their back taxes and how much has been collected.

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept the Tax Collectors report. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

It was noted that the tax bills are going out a little late.

S. Cable also noted that the Town Treasurer will keep her position until the next election if the town works with her.

TREASURERS REPORT

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

TOWN CLERKS REPORT

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept April's report. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

LIBRARY REPORT

M. Krenesky questioned if the union would have a problem with the fact the Friends showed up to clean up the library premises. He wanted to know if they town is required to notify the union. S. Cable answered that technically yes but the way this document was worded was that the Friends showed up to fix up and decorate.

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

FIRE REPORT

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

CUSTODIAN REPORT

D. Sorrentino still questioned what the custodian was doing to fill up the extra 8 hours of work that is no longer being taken up by the fire house. D. Sorrentino would like to discuss this in Executive Session.

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

ANIMAL CONTROL

S. Cable noted that she will ask the Animal Control Officer how often he is sending in reports because it seems like it's every three months like the nurse's report.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. S. Cable read a letter from the Library regarding maternity leave coverage

M. Krenesky motioned to discuss the Library Position in Executive Session. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

2. A letter from the EDC re website was received

3. A letter from L. Classey regarding Board Clerk Invoices was received. S. Cable noted that she will schedule a workshop to address the clerk's pay

M. Krenesky noted that he appreciates that L. Classey stepped up to the plate to address this issue in that he was the Selectmen who questioned the amount of the invoices.

4. A letter was received from Navis and Young

5. B. Chellis sent a letter of resignation from the Conservation Commission. S. Cable read the letter.

M. Krenesky motioned to accept B. Chellis resignation with great regret and thanks. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

6. A letter from the Fire Marshal regarding his vacation was received.
7. A note on the tax amnesty was received
8. A letter from the Tax Assessor was received explaining that they town will need an ordinance change to keep the rebate at \$500 – the existing ordinance is .05% and they are currently in violation – this will be addressed
9. A letter from D. Malloy regarding the Fire School was read.

E. Groth noted that nothing in D. Malloy's letter addressed the damage to the tax base as a result of the Fire School.
10. A letter from Chatfield regarding hiring retired officers was received. It was noted that if the town has positions, it would be OK to hire these officers. At this time there are no openings.
11. A Hawk fundraiser will be held at the Fire House on August 6th.
12. A letter from Officer Gallo regarding his status change was received.

OLD BUSINESS

S. Cable discussed the Benedetti machine and noted that it was voted against. She pointed out that L. Krepinevich put his heart and sole into researching this equipment and trying to save the town money. She noted that there is a grant available if towns will share the equipment so she is currently pursuing Naugatuck, Prospect and Wolcott.

S. Cable noted that she asked Benedetti to come and make a presentation to other towns again noting that L. Krepinevich went above and beyond to help the town out and save money. She noted that this was not a dead issue just noting that they will now go in a different direction.

S. Cable noted that there is a CCM meeting on June 16th and asked if anyone could attend. None of the Selectmen are available to attend.

Ordinances

S. Cable noted they are taking out the Service Award and they do need a Public Hearing. She is tentatively scheduling the Public Hearing for July 6th at 7:00 – it will be on ordinances

S. Cable spent time clarifying the Streetscape Project. She noted that it started in 2005 and that the town has been doing it piece by piece and that the project is part of the revitalization plan. She noted that there is a lot of misconception out there and also noted that it is not just Sue Cable doing the spending. All decisions are made by the BOS and BOF, 9 people have votes on the spending.

S. Cable noted that she would like to have a Bagels and Cable on July 9th at the Pavilion. She would like this hosted by all three Selectmen. It can be a question and answer session or just sit outside have some coffee and talk. M. Krenesky suggested that they put the pictures from P. Byrnes on display. All thought that was a good idea. It will be an informational meeting.

S. Cable talked more about the Streetscape and where the money will be coming from noting that 80% of the project is from the Federal Government and she has been working with someone who has been able to hold the grant until Beacon Falls has come up with the balance. She noted that they can use money from the CRRA, sale of the Grange, HUD money and they also received some money for O & G re a gift agreement. S. Cable read a letter from them.

S. Cable will send the letter to P&Z and Wetlands.

S. Cable discussed the Union Concessions noting that no raises have been put in for union members and starting July 1 they will manage furlough days. She noted that they are still negotiating with the unions but have already saved money on insurance. They are now negotiating how long the contracts will be.

S. Cable thanked M. Krenesky for all the work he did on the new phone system and the website.

S. Cable noted that she will set up a meeting to go over the policy for clerks pay, building inspector, zoning officers and 30 hour per week police.

S. Cable noted that they will be getting a pedestrian crossing light for the bridge but the state will pay for it.

TRANSFERS

A transfer from Parks and rec to fix and enclosed the netting on the ball field was received.

D. Sorrentino motioned to send the transfer to the BOF for their approval. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

APPOINTMENTS

M. Krenesky motioned to accept J. Woodward's resignation with regret. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

D. Sorrentino motioned to appoint R. Bradley to the EDC. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

M. Krenesky motioned to accept K. Schultz resignation. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

S. Cable recommended that A. Daigle take K. Shultz place on the Community Media Center and D. Pokras be A. Daigle's back-up.

S. Cable motioned to appoint A. Daigle to take K. Shultz place on the Community Media Center and add D. Pokras as an alternate. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. D. Sorrentino and S. Cable voted aye. M. Krenesky voted nay.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

S. Dowdell, 32 Wolfe Ave. asked that when S. Cable is going through the agenda at the meetings that she explain which topic she is talking about as when she jumps around, it's hard to follow.

S. Dowdell asked if S. Cable needed to appoint the clerk for the Community Media Center Commission. S. Cable answered no.

E. Groth expressed his concern over the Fire School and how after a few years, the school itself will begin to look unsightly. He noted his concern that it will be difficult to bring in new businesses with the Fire School and that some businesses may decide to leave and that they already are in arrears with their taxes to the town. He noted that D. Malloy's letter did not address any of this.

S. Dowdell asked the status of the land swap. At this point, nothing is being done with this.

It was noted that the Library will still have a direct phone line.

The website was discussed and it was noted that the Town Clerk has the information to upload but has not done so yet. The website should be complete by mid July.

M. Krenesky motioned to go into Executive Session. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

The Selectmen went into Executive Session at 9:08 P.M.

The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 9:34 P.M.

M. Krenesky motioned to hire on a temporary basis K. Van Epps to be the temporary replacement during maternity leave at the Library. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

M. Krenesky motioned to split the money from the sale of the Grange based on the need appropriately between the Streetscape and the Community Media Center. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

Discussion: The Streetscape will take priority over the Community Media Center.

D. Sorrentino motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 P.M. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Classey