

Town of BEACON FALLS
Connecticut

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

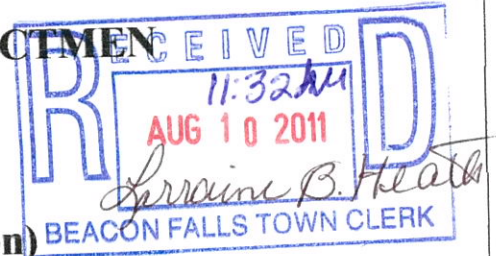
BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Regular Monthly Meeting

August 9, 2011

MINUTES

(Draft Copy-Subject to Revision)



S. Cable called the regular monthly 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 23 town residents

S. Cable announced that the Assistant Librarian had her twin boys Grady and Logan and wished her the best.

S. Cable acknowledged E. Bowen and B. McCasland's retirement and presented them with a certificate. She also promoted B. McCasland to Sergeant.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

Approval of Minutes

M. Krenesky motioned to accept the minutes of June 22nd. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept the minutes also from June 22nd. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

M. Krenesky motioned to accept the minutes from the July 11th Regular Meeting with the correction spelling Ben's last name with a C not a K. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

D. Sorrentino motioned to accept the minutes of July 6th. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

M. Krenesky questioned the purchase order system noting that the Fire Department informed him of purchase orders that were presented with quotes. While the quotes were rejected, the bills were inadvertently paid even though they were just purchase orders. He's concerned that maybe everyone doesn't understand the purchase order system. S. Cable noted that the payable clerk will be present at the BOF meeting on Tuesday to review the process.

RESIDENT TROOPERS REPORT

S. Cable read the report

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

PUBLIC WORKS

D. Sorrentino explained that he had a conversation with the Public Works Director. He noted that he went over the report with him and explained the items that were not understood. He noted the Public Works Director will try and get the information for the next report.

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

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

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

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT

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

FINANCE MANAGERS REPORT

D. Sorrentino motioned to pass the Financial Managers Report on to the BOF for their approval. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

TAX COLLECTORS REPORT

None.

S. Cable noted that she did receive verbal information regarding tax collections and payments have been put in and arrangements are being made for people who owe back taxes.

TREASURERS REPORT

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

ANIMAL CONTROL

S. Cable read the Animal Control report for May, June and July.

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

LIBRARY REPORT

None.

FIRE REPORT

None.

CUSTODIAN REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter from the F. D. was received thanking the town for their support during the carnival.
2. A letter from the F.D. re medical coverage for employees was read. Jeremy Rodrigo explained the situation noting that when the employees were hired, it was clear and understood that there would be no medical coverage however at this point, it might be nice to research the possibility of getting them medical coverage as they would not want to lose any of their employees. J. Rodrigo explained that after research they found a company that would offer only 1 type of insurance and that it would be fair to have the employees be responsible for 40% of the cost. He noted that the payment of the benefit would have to come off of the ambulance income before net thereby the net to the town would be less. The cost would be about \$8,800. J. Rodrigo was asking the BOS their thoughts on this and what direction they wanted to go in noting that there are mixed thoughts in the Fire Department as well. He explained that there could be a possibility that monies from the ambulance income would not be able to cover this cost (at this time that is not the case but could be) and if that should ever happen then the F.D. would have

to get rid of non essentials and this would be considered a non essential. M. Krenesky noted that his thoughts on this issue are also mixed. S. Cable noted that their contract is due soon and that would be the time to discuss this issue.

3. A letter from DeBishop re the Lewis House was read
4. A letter from D. Malloy re Fire School was read
5. A request for projects for the Eagle Scouts was received
6. J. Ahern and L. Heath sent a letter re extra hours and coverage – S. Cable read the letter and also commented that it is not exactly what S. Cable said, noting that she said they will have a discussion regarding comp time.
7. An email re Tax Department was received and the issue was addressed.
8. A letter from Chatfield Farms was read
9. There were lots of comments received regarding the website. M. Krenesky noted that the website went live and it is still being worked on. A comment section has been added and the comments have been going directly to his email address. M. Krenesky read all the comments. M. Krenesky noted that there is a subscription service that you can sign up for. He also noted that there will be 3 or 4 people who will be trained on how to load content. He noted that someone from the Town Clerk's office should be brought in. A letter will be sent to the Town Clerk notifying them that the site is there and working and information should be uploaded. It was noted that Joan and Karen will be taking a class on how to use the website.

OLD BUSINESS

S. Cable noted that she has a meeting with the Union re furlough days Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. She noted that a complaint was filed to the Department of Labor and they will try to work out a resolution.

Land Use – S. Cable will verify the information and make sure that this is the wording they want.

Streetscape – it was noted that they need to do a resolution that goes with the original bid.

M. Krenesky motioned to approve the resolution. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

S. Cable noted that 3 EMS people are going to an expo in Las Vegas and that the town is paying only for the expo and not the travel or lodging.

It was noted that the BOS has not yet come up with a policy on clerks. D. Sorrentino would like to leave it as it is noting that there is a law that governs that the Board is to review the invoices and use the money in their budget as they see fit. S. Cable will send a letter to this effect.

M. Krenesky noted that it is very strange that as the BOS they cannot question a bill. It was noted that he can question it but it is up to the board to review it.

D. Sorrentino suggested they hire a land use clerk that is responsible for land use and has some office hours in town. M. Krenesky noted that it's worth exploring.

It was noted that the BOS will not set a policy on clerks and that the Boards can give a raise whenever they want as long as it is in their budget.

The memo that will be sent to the boards will note that the BOF should be notified of any changes the boards make regarding clerk's pay.

It was noted that the town has applied for a grant from Home Land Security for the Jaws of Life.

A letter from the Zoning Enforcement Officer addressed to P&Z was received.

NEW BUSINESS

S. Cable noted that the air conditioning is not working properly. It will cost \$7,200 to fix it. M. Krenesky noted that this should become part of next year's budget as there is no money in this year's budget.

BOS put together a committee to review the positions of Town Clerk and Tax Collector. Drafts are available in town all for review if anyone is interested in reading them.

M. Krenesky noted that the ordinance committee should include 9-189 and 189a as a reference that identifies that you can make these positions appointed positions.

It was noted that the Tax Department should try and locate people that have moved out of town that owe taxes.

Nitrogen and phosphorous was discussed and there will be a meeting with the WCPA tomorrow. A discussion continued on this subject.

The road improvement plan was discussed. S. Cable noted that they badly need to deal with the infrastructure of the town. She noted that she met with the Office of Policy and Management regarding Blackberry Hill and noted that she thinks this should go back to a referendum. The referendum should include the Town Clerk and the Tax Collector. S. Cable noted that people seemed to be more opposed to the Benedetti machine than they were the road improvements. A discussion continued noting that the document was confusing and that 10 million dollars was for a 10 year period and it was authorization only. Money will be borrowed only if it's needed.

M. Krenesky motioned that we pass the resolution (road related and sanitary sewer main) and take it to the Board of Finance. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

It was noted that they are still looking for money for the Streetscape project and that contingency should not be used.

S. Cable noted under new business that there will be a memorial service at the gazebo at St. Michael's church on 9/11/2011 memorializing the victims and the 10 year anniversary.

APPOINTMENTS

M. Krenesky motioned to approve the appointment of R. Kunz to the Conservation Commission. D. Sorrentino 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

TRANSFERS

S. Cable suggested that these transfers be presented to the BOF.

It was noted that the transfers are all over the place.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brior Stack-Sweeney, 105 Beacon Valley Road shared her idea of trying to find a grant that would pay for herself and a nutritionist to go t the Senior Center 2 times per week and Educate on nutritional meals. She wanted to know where the BOS stood on this idea. S. Cable suggested she be careful regarding grants as to matching funds because they do not have any funds to match.

S. Dowdell asked the role of the Animal Officer. It was noted that the Animal Officer does not take care of raccoons.

S. Dowdell asked about the ambulance contract and how they were able to hire personnel without approval. It was note that this was in their contract. She noted that she has concerns about additional amounts being deducted from the town's portion of the ambulance revenue for medical benefits for fire personnel.

S. Dowdell asked about the calendar on the website. A discussion continued noting that once Joan is trained, she can do it. M. Krenesky also noted that the website will need a webmaster.

D. Sorrentino motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. M. Krenesky 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Classey
Clerk for the Board of Selectmen