

**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SPECIAL MONTHLY MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10 2012  
MINUTES  
(Draft, Subject to Approval)**

First Selectman Gerard F. Smith called the Monthly Meeting of the Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen to order at 7:30 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** First Selectman Gerard Smith, Selectman David D'Amico and Selectman Christopher Bielik.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Treasurer, Michael Krenesky, Susan Dowdell, Mary Ellen Fernandes, Mary Ann Holloway, R. Bradley, G. Komarewsky, H. Mis, K. Grace, E. Grace, D. Daigle. S. Cable and R. Minnick came later during the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. 11/05/2012 – BOS Special Meeting. Correction noted: page 4, correct spelling is Ursula **Henry**. **D. D'Amico made motion to approve the Minutes with the above correction noted, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Bielik. All aye.**

**C. Bielik made motion to add the CCM Drug Program under Old Business on the Agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.**

**REPORTS**

1. Report of the Resident Trooper. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the report as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.**
2. Report of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. **D. D'Amico made motion to accept report as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Bielik. All aye.** G. Smith new lights are being installed and might be completed at this time. State Code is requiring shades to be put on over the lights.
3. Report of the Fire Marshal. **D. D'Amico made motion to accept the report as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Bielik. All aye.** It was noted there had been a fuel spill near Gabe's on Main Street which had all been contained.
4. Report of the Finance Manager. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the report as presented and forward it to the Board of Finance for its review, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.** Discussion on the overrun in Town Clerk's budget line item. G. Smith will ask Finance Manager about it.
5. Report of the Tax Collector. November report was presented and reviewed. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the report and forward it to the Board of Finance for its review, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.**
6. Report of the Treasurer. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the report as presented and submit to the Board of Finance for its review, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D.**

- D'Amico. All aye.** M. Krenesky discussed the Police Department's Sunshine Fund, which is owned by the Police Department, as it does not come under any Town account. M. Krenesky also discussed the Flag Fund, which has been officially started by the Lions Club. This will be included in the Town's reports. The fund will be maintained by the American Legion to replace American Flags. M. Krenesky also noted there appears a typo with regard to amount of funds needed for the upcoming bans.
7. Report of the Town Clerk. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the report as presented and submit it to the Board of Finance for its review, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.**
  8. Report of the Library. November report was submitted. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the report as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.** S. Dowdell noted there had been another furnace problem today (12/10/12). K. Wilson made call for its repair. G. Smith suggested that Town Hall Custodian P. Colon be put in charge as contact person for problems that occur at the Town Hall and Senior Center. G. Smith would also like to him do regular maintenance on the buildings. Any problems with heating, air-conditioning and elevator should be noted to P. Colon who will then make the appropriate phone calls.
  9. Report of the Custodian. Report for November was submitted. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the report as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.**
  10. Report of the Fire Department. The November report was submitted. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the report as submitted, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.**

#### **READING OF CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Letter from Assistant Tax Collector to pay tax refunds totaling \$952.47. **C. Bielik made motion to pay the Tax Refunds, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.**
2. Letter from Seymour 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman George Temple thanking for cooperation given to help restore power to Seymour and Oxford.
3. Letter from William Giglio resigning from the Zoning Board of Appeals, effective 11/8/12. Letter will be sent to him thanking him for his service to that Board. Mr. Giglio had earlier been appointed to serve on the Planning & Zoning Commission and had to resign from his position on the Zoning Board of Appeals.
4. Letter from E. Bea with regard to Town residents owning private property with overgrown brush and hanging trees. The Town's 10' right of way was noted. If a tree is on private property it is the responsibility of the property owner. Question asked if this is about manpower or equipment. D. D'Amico added there are times when there is not enough manpower. G. Smith added he was confused with this letter, with D. D'Amico saying he would speak to E. Bea about this. G. Smith noted there is brush growing into the curb on Lancaster Drive, Havilland Drive and Hockanum Drive. These are separate issues and Town should to be able to take care of this with the current public works staff and take care of the problem before it got any worse.
5. G. Smith noted State has closed the entrance to Cold Spring Road. He noted that even though this was a part of the original Greenway Plan, the State still has issues with the road, citing safety issues on and near the railroad tracks. This

- closure cuts off entrance to the area for hikers, fishermen and other sports activities. Money seems to be the underlying issue here, in that the DOT and DEEP want to keep the area closed by locking of the gate. C. Bielik suggested that Senator J. Crisco and newly elected State Representative T. Conroy be kept in the loop with what has been going on with this and send T. Conroy copies any correspondence on this issue. The State says there is a trespassing issue. R. Bradley asked the question how much money has ever been spent to maintain that road.
6. Correspondence from E. Bea with regard to snow removal policies.
  7. Since the Town's intent to call in Chatfield Farm's bond, there has been some activity in the area. A local contractor has been hired to do some of the necessary work.
  8. Letter from resident asking to be re-appointed to serve on the Planning & Zoning Commission.
  9. Michael Opuszynski sent a letter requesting to be appointed to the Conservation Commission. It was noted there currently no openings on that Commission. Letter will be sent to him.
  10. G. Smith noted the Planning & Zoning Regulations need to be updated. Attorney S. Byrne gave an estimate ranging from \$3500 to \$6000. This will be presented to the Board of Finance at its 12/11/12 Monthly Meeting.
  11. Thank you received from C. Bielik.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Board agreed to table the C-Pace item until its January meeting.
2. G. Smith said he would review suggestions presented by S. Dowdell with regard to Library coverage and wants to see some side by side comparisons. He noted he would schedule a Special Meeting to further discuss this along with an item relating to Town Planning Consultant Brian Miller.
3. CCM Drug Prescription Program. G. Smith noted that since he is not a Pharmacist, he spoke to Beacon Falls Pharmacy owner R. Bradley to see if this program would have any impact on his business, with R. Bradley adding he did not think it would, so G. Smith agreed to offer this program to Town residents who had no drug prescription plan. R. Bradley noted that as he learned more about the program and its implementation, that this program could negatively affect the Beacon Falls Pharmacy. This puts him as well as the Board of Selectmen in a 'Catch 22' situation. Even if the Town would take away the program, residents would still have an opportunity to look for other like alternatives. R. Bradley said in a nutshell that he can either fill a prescription at a loss or lose a customer. It is a no win situation. He noted he has no hard feelings about this program being presented to taxpayers, but he was not totally aware of exactly how the program worked. G. Smith asked the reporter who was present at the meeting to make sure to report the facts to the public.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. **C. Bielik made motion to adopt a Resolution of Endorsement (2 proposals): The Regional GIS Data Development and WebGIS Enhancement and the Regional Economic Strategic Plan, referenced in Section 5 of Public Act 11-61 (An Act Concerning Responsible Growth) (see attached), 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.** Clerk will have Town Clerk sign and seal the documents to send back to the CNVCOG.
2. Registrar of Voters. G. Smith noted there is a discrepancy between bills submitted for payment to Marion Zollo for her services as Deputy Registrar for the Presidential Election and to Mildred Kevit for her services as Moderator for that same election, with one Registrar saying to pay the bill and the other Registrar saying not to pay the bill.

K. Grace noted that M. Kevit served as Moderator for the election and M. Zollo was asked to step in for her when she got ill that day.

H. Mis felt the Deputy Registrar should have stayed in the Town Hall Registrar's Office when she filled in, which is the requirement, adding she was the sole person in that office for that entire day and had a difficult time trying to take care of everything all by herself. K. Grace felt the Deputy Registrar was more needed at the polls than at the office.

H. Mis also noted Conferences where the Deputy should not have been paid because the deputy should only get paid for attending the Conference 'in the absence of the Registrar'. K. Grace said there is a difference between 'may' and 'required'. C. Bielik said he felt that rather than being penny wise and pound foolish, that he would like to see a fully trained assistant person to be there if we need them, and felt that both persons should be paid. G. Smith added that to be fair, if one person was paid, then the other persons should be paid as well, as this would be the right and fair thing to do.

C. Bielik also noted that during his military career he would never speak to just one person if another person was involved in the conversation and suggested that G. Smith follow this as well.

K. Grace noted that H. Mis was correct in that fewer people worked at the polls than the last election, adding that she had requested an additional two (2) people to work at the Presidential Election, but that H. Mis was against this and had spoken to G. Smith who had agreed with H. Mis.

G. Smith agreed there has been a communication problem between the two Registrars for a long time. He hears about this all of the time and he feels these two people need to work together.

When discussion ended, **C. Bielik made motion to pay both bills for M. Zollo and M. Kevit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. D'Amico. All aye.** Bills will be submitted to Finance Clerk for payment.

H. Mis felt this was very unfair to her and that the Selectmen should hear about and know all aspects of the issues between both Registrars.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

No appointments at this time. C. Bielik noted there is a vacancy on the Planning & Zoning Commission and he **made motion to appoint Kevin McDuffie to serve again on the Planning & Zoning Commission. There was no 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. Motion did not pass.**

## **BUDGET TRANSFER REQUESTS**

No budget transfer requests at this time.

## **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

1. M.A. Holloway, Dolly Drive, had questions on the prescription plan and asked what kind of checking was done on this program. G. Smith noted this is a free plan for the public which has been underwritten by CCM. He added he felt it sounded too good to be true so he checked with Beacon Falls Pharmacy owner R. Bradley who said he had no objections to the plan. He also noted that perhaps the right questions were not asked.
2. S. Dowdell, 32 Wolfe Avenue, asked about travel reimbursement for library personnel in their professional development. This will be discussed at the Board of Finance meeting. She also asked if any decision had been made with regard to hours the Town Hall would be open on Christmas Eve. G. Smith noted that both on Christmas Eve day and on New Year's Eve day, that Town Hall and other departments would close at 12:00 noon. Memo will be sent to all employees about this, with a press release also going out. She also will email G. Smith as to some suggestions with regard to library coverage.
3. M.E. Fernandes, North Circle, felt it was disrespectful to Patricia Hinman, a volunteer for many years, who sent in a letter which G. Smith had earlier read, asking to be re-appointed to the Planning & Zoning Commission, adding we have a Board of Selectmen who can make appointments to the various Boards and Commissions
4. M. Krenesky, confirmed that the Town Hall has some heating problems, and that it is his recommendation that an overhaul of the heating and air-conditioning be done and possibly include this project's costs in the upcoming 2013/2014 budget.

With no further business, **D. D'Amico made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 P.M. 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Bielik. All aye.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen A. Wilson

Clerk for the Board of Selectmen – Regular Monthly Meeting 12/10/2012.