

**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2013
MINUTES
(Draft, Subject to Approval)**

First Selectman Gerard F. Smith called the Monthly Meeting of the Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen to order at 8:30 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Approximately forty (40) members of Beacon Hose Company No. 1, Helen Mis, Christina Brough and S. Dowdell.

First Selectman G. Smith thanked the Volunteer Beacon Hose Company No. 1 for its work at the structure fire on Sunday, September 8, 2013 which was followed by applause from those in attendance.

D. D'Amico made motion to include the Beacon Hose Company No. 1 request for a ladder truck under Old Business, 2nd by C. Bielik. All aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. 08/12/13 – Board of Selectmen Regular Monthly Meeting. **D. D'Amico made motion to approve the Minutes with correction, 2nd by C. Bielik. All aye.**
2. 08/15/13 – Special Board of Selectmen Meeting- **C. Bielik made motion to approve the Minutes as presented, 2nd by D. D'Amico. All aye.**
3. 08/2013 – Special Board of Selectmen Meeting. **D. D'Amico made motion to approve the Minutes as presented, 2nd by C. Bielik. All aye.**
4. 09/03/13 – Public Hearing – Wastewater Treatment Plant. D. D'Amico made motion to approve the Minutes as presented, 2nd by C. Bielik. All aye.
5. 09/03/13 – Town Meeting – Bond Resolutions. Corrections noted: # 7 change to Town instead of our, # 11, change to Robert Spear, Line 12, change to Tom O'Connell. **C. Bielik made motion to approve the Minutes as corrected, 2nd by D. D'Amico. All aye.**

REPORTS

1. Report of the Resident Trooper. **D. D'Amico made motion to accept the report as presented, 2nd by C. Bielik. All aye.**
2. Report of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. **D. D'Amico made motion to accept the Report as presented, 2nd by C. Bielik. All aye.**
3. Report of the Fire Marshal. No report submitted.

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, 2nd by D. D' Amico. All aye.**
5. Report of the Tax Collector. No report submitted.
6. Report of the Treasurer. No report submitted.
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, 2nd by D. D'Amico. All aye.**
8. Report of the Library. **D. D'Amico made motion to accept the report as presented, 2nd by D. C. Bielik. All aye.**
9. Report of the Custodian. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the report as presented, 2nd by D. D'Amico. All ye.**
10. Report of the Fire Department. **D. D'Amico made motion to accept the report as presented, 2nd by C. Bielik. All aye.**

CORRESPONDENCE

1. G. Smith noted he had documentation with regard to the demolition of the property located at 144 Blackberry Hill from the Building Inspector and Fire Marshal.
2. Invitation received from Beacon Hose Company No. 1 to attend its Family Day on September, 29, 2013 from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
3. G. Smith noted Job Opening for Public Works Foreman had been posted in house for ten (10) days and published in the Republican American.
4. G. Smith noted he has gotten some complaints with regard to Meeting Minutes not being posted on the Town's website, adding this is done as a courtesy for residents. The Town is in FOI compliance, with all Agendas and Minutes available in hard copy in the Town Clerk's Office.
5. Correspondence received from S. Posick.
6. Letter of resignation received from Mary Ann Kempa resigning as Clerk for the Land Use Committee. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the resignation with regret, 2nd by D. D'Amico. All aye.**
7. Letter of resignation received from Mary Ann Kempa resigning as Clerk for the Inland Wetlands Commission. **C. Bielik made motion to accept the resignation with regret. All aye.** G. Smith added a search is going on for a clerk for those positions.
8. Letter of complaint from resident Betty Beecher, Dolly Drive with regard to the Building Official who would not sign off on a permit. G. Smith noted E. Rodriguez is looking into this.
9. Copy of a Cease & Desist issued to a Synder Drive resident.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Town Hall Renovations. G. Smith would like to have an engineer do a study on exactly what needs to be done at the Town Hall and possibility of breaking down the project into smaller sections. He noted the Town does have LOCIP funds to

utilize. Projects include the parking lot and replacing the Town Hall furnace. C. Bielik asked if alternative energy sources have been looked at, with G. Smith noting this would be looked into. C. Bielik mentioned solar power and use of propane which would be more energy efficient and cheaper. G. Smith noted these items would be addressed in the proposed study.

2. Ordinances. Board agreed to table the proposed Ordinance with regard to Building Permit fees for now as there are additional Ordinances to be considered.
3. Audible Crosswalk on Main Street. G. Smith noted a petition had been presented and signed by twenty-four (24) residents and two (2) businesses. The petition noted that the beeping is a huge intrusion for neighboring residents. G. Smith noted that disabled persons have the right for such a device to be used, but will check with NYCON to see if there might be some alternative such as a tactile device. E. Rodriguez suggested contacting ADA about their specific requirements from a safety standpoint, as question was raised if Town would be liable if someone did get injured trying to cross the street. K. Novak asked if this could be put on some type of timer. W. McCasland suggested making sure that Beacon Mill residents are notified about this. G. Smith suggested keeping this item under Old Business for the October meeting.
4. G. Smith noted that prior to Sunday's fire, he had some questions about the need for a ladder truck but he personally witnessed that our Fire Department volunteers were in harms way because Town did not have a ladder truck, that he has done a complete 180 and will do all he can to move forward with this purchase. He noted that two (2) of our volunteers had been injured and it could have been much worse. He felt Town should purchase the ladder truck as quickly as possible before waiting to hear if the Town has been awarded any grant funds. He also noted the resolution would most likely have to be changed but that he would be checking on this to get the proper wording for another Town Meeting to be held on this item only. D. D'Amico made motion to move forward to purchase the ladder truck, 2nd by C. Bielik for purpose of discussion. C. Bielik agreed that this is a very emotional thing but do we need to check all possibilities for funding for this purchase and that Town should still consider applying for grant funds. Vote on motion was all aye. Fire Chief Michael Pratt said the Town can still apply for FEMA funding, but suggested not spending \$3,000 for a grant writer to do this, as David Rybinski has done many FEMA grant applications and that he could help out.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **C. Bielik made motion to adopt the following Resolution: RESOLVED: That Gerard F. Smith, First Selectman, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this Municipality, a Contract with the Connecticut State Library for an Historic Documents Grant, 2nd by D. D'Amico. All aye.**
2. Mario Trepca drainage. M. Trepca would like to move the Town drainage from Johnson Street to the road with his intent being to move the pipe to a different angle (Town property). G. Smith noted he had received one (1) proposal to do the

work for \$9600 and suggestion was made to split the cost between the Town and M. Trepca. D. D'Amico felt this would set a precedent for future projects. C. Bielik asked if the Planning & Zoning Commission has any historical data with regard to this, adding he would like to see more research done because he is not ready to make a decision on this at this time. Board agreed to table this and discuss again at the October BOS meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

No Appointments made at this time.

C. Bielik made motion to go to the Public Comment section of the meeting before going into Executive Session, 2nd by D. D'Amico. All aye.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Susan Dowdell, 32 Wolfe Avenue, noted that people have been going door to door with regard to asking residents about their current electric company. It was noted that no one has permission to do this and that if anyone comes their door about this, to call the Police. G. Smith noted he has not signed any Hawkers and Peddlers permits as per the Town Ordinance.
2. Paul Brennan, noted he already told the same solicitors he would contact the Police.
3. Kurt Novak, Munson Road, made comment with regard to an easement for a sewer.
4. Brian DeGeorge, former Fire Chief asked if a NO vote at the new Town Meeting to purchase the ladder truck passed, would it change the previous Town Meeting vote outcome.
5. T. O'Connell, Laurie Lane, asked if brush could be taken to the Public Works garage on a day rather than Fridays. G. Smith suggested he contact Jamie Gracy on this, adding there hasn't been as much debris left at the location since this Friday only for brush drop-off was initiated.

C. Bielik made motion to go into Executive Session at 9:05 P.M to discuss Personnel, 2nd by D. D'Amico. All aye.

Motion made and seconded to go out of Executive Session at 9:18 P.M. All aye.

With no further business, D. D'Amico made motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 P.M. 2nd by C. Bielik. All aye.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen A. Wilson

Clerk for the Board of Selectmen – Regular Monthly Meeting- September 9, 2013

