

Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
10 Maple Avenue
Beacon Falls, CT 06403



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monthly Meeting
September 8, 2014
MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)**

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

First Selectman Chris Bielik called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Members Present: First Selectman Chris Bielik, Selectman Peter Betkoski, and Selectman Dominick Sorrentino

Others present: Sue Dowdell, Director of Library; Luke Marshall from Citizens News; Atty. Stanek; and 1 member of the public.

2. Comments from the Public

a. Recognition of Beacon Hose Company No. 1 EMT's

This function was performed at the Beacon Hose Company at 7:00 P.M. this evening. There was a life-saving event that happened August 29th where a 2-year old fell into a swimming pool. The EMT's responded to the call within 3 minutes, helped to resuscitate the child, and transported to Waterbury Hospital. The child is doing fine and this was a small compensation to what they did.

C. Bielik asked three times if there were any comments from the public and there were none.

C. Bielik indicated that he would like to move an item on tonight's agenda: under Line Item 20, Executive Session, which should be listed as "a" to Line Item 2b. This is to discuss legal matters.

Motion to move Line Item 20a, Executive Session, to Line Item 2b:
Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

The people in attendance and the Clerk left the Assembly Room at 7:33 P.M. in order for the Board of Selectmen to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

The Board of Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 7:55 P.M. and invited the people in attendance and the clerk back into the Assembly Room.

3. Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings

The three members reviewed the three minutes from the regular month meeting on August 11, 2014; Special Town Meeting on August 14, 2014; and Special Town Meeting on August 25, 2014. The total numbers of minutes are three and will be voted on separately.

Motion to accept the minutes from the regular monthly meeting on August 11, 2014: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

Motion to accept the minutes from the Special Town meeting on August 14, 2014: **Betkoski/Bielik; no discussion; 2 ayes and 1 abstention** (D. Sorrentino abstained since he was absent from the meeting).

Motion to accept the minutes from the Special Town meeting on August 25, 2014: **Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.**

4. Resident Trooper/Police Report

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Resident Trooper/Police Report for tonight's meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

5. Wastewater Treatment Plant Report

P. Betkoski asked about the building that was approved to be built a while ago. C. Bielik indicated that he has asked about it but they don't seem to be worried about it deteriorating. D. Sorrentino mentioned that Dave Keating should take a look at it.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Wastewater Treatment Plant for tonight's meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

6. Report of Public Works

C. Bielik noted that the streetscape lights repairs are done and they are working now. Also noted was a good bulky waste at the end of August, with the next one set for September 27th.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Public Works for tonight's meeting: Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

7. Report of the Fire Marshal

C. Bielik noted that there was a good preliminary walk-through about 10 days prior to the start of school, with a final walk-through the Thursday before school starting, and the first day of school.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Fire Marshall for tonight's meeting: Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.

8. Report of the Finance Manager

C. Bielik indicated that there are four different runs of the report. There are ones from the old system and the new system. There is one through the end of the fiscal year, end of June. There is one from the old system through August, which is incorrectly date 09/08/2014. Payroll has not made the transition yet and causing the problem.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Finance Manager for tonight's meeting and submit it to the Board of Finance for their next meeting: Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.

9. Report of the Tax Collector

C. Bielik noted that \$7.8 million in present-year revenue on the Grand List expected budget of \$15.6 million. There was a little more collected in August, making it \$8.1 million for the fiscal year already.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Tax Collector for tonight's meeting and submit it to the Board of Finance for their next meeting: Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.

10. Report of the Town Treasurer

Mike Krenesky was not present at tonight's meeting but provided a snapshot of the bank accounts and runoffs.

Motions to accept the report submitted by the Town Treasurer for tonight's meeting and submit it to the Board of Finance for their next meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

11. Report of the Town Clerk

Motions to accept the report submitted by the Town Clerk for tonight's meeting and submit it to the Board of Finance for their next meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

12. Report of the Library

Sue Dowdell is present at tonight's meeting if the Selectmen have any questions regarding the Library Report.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Library for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.**

13. Report of the Fire Department

C. Bielik noted that the ambulance received the 1st place trophy at the Bridgewater Parade for Best Appearing Ambulance.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Fire Department for tonight's meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

14. Any Other Reports

a. Report of the Custodian

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Custodian for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.**

b. Report of the Town Nurse

There was no report submitted for tonight's meeting since it is a quarterly report and the next report is due for September 30, 2014.

15. Reading of Correspondence

1) For informational purpose only for any member of the Board of Selectmen that may be interested, a copy of the Regional 16 Board of Education meeting schedule was received. It is for Wednesday, September 10th, at 7:00P.M. at Woodland Regional High School. Item F was noted of importance – the easement at Woodland Regional High School.

2) A notification from the Tax Collector was received, listing the standard monthly tax rebates for people who were overcharged. It was noted that there was an error on Page 2, Loria Grewcock, in the amount of \$68.18. The Tax Collector advised that this needs to be removed at the time and will be looked into this rebate.

The Board of Selectmen went through the list as proved and C. Bielik indicated that he would entertain a motion to approve the rebates.

Motion to approve the rebates in the amount of \$2,302.03 and pay accordingly:
Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.

3) A letter from John Bratt of 4 Dogwood Lane was received as well as a copy of newspaper from the New Haven Register. It was in regards to Derby and Ansonia looking into solar energy for municipal use that tie into a state project for accessing brownfield properties and converting them into useable ones.

C. Bielik spoke with Theresa Conroy earlier in the day and has attention from her. She is going to looking into this for us.

4) An email from Wendy Olivera dated August 29th was received. She will be stepping down as Co-Chair of 2Com. If anyone is interested, Jennifer DeWitt or Wendy Olivera can be emailed.

Motion to accept the resignation from Wendy Olivera with deep regret:
Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.

5) On August 27, 2014 a letter from Sam Posick was received. He asked if the receipts for the P & Z public notice from the Waterbury Republican were found. C. Bielik indicated if, what he is referring to, it was determined that that were older than what the State requires us to keep.

6) A letter from CCM was received indicating that there will be a homeowner's mortgage assistance event on Thursday, October 9, 2014, at the Conference Center at CoCo Key, from 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. The event is designed to help homeowners having difficulties with their mortgages and work one-on-one with their lenders to find solutions to their situation. C. Bielik noted that this was passed along to the webmaster to be put a link on the town website.

7) An email from Susan Talbot, the CEO of the Naugatuck YMCA, was received indicating that, on October 18th, they are looking to have an event similar to the Amazing Race. Different teams from different organizations are being asked to participate in multiple different tasks. Some will be physical and some will be mental. C. Bielik noted that he will be passing this along to the Boy Scouts and Beacon Hose Company 1.

8) There were three invoices from the Board of Selectmen's clerk totaling \$153.75 that were submitted. One dated 08/11/2014 for \$72.50; one dated 08/14/2014 for \$38.75; and one dated 08/25/2014 for \$42.50.

Motion to approve the invoices as submitted and pay the clerk:
Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.

16. Old Business

a. Audible Cross Walk – Main Street

The Board is not ready to move forward on this yet. It is an unbudgeted request and they need to complete the 2013-2014 Budget Transfers. It will remain on the agenda until that time to see what funds are available.

b. Toby's Pond – Pavilion – Richard Minnick

There is nothing new to report per Rich Minnick. He has everything that he needs.

c. Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade – Discussion

C. Bielik indicated that he has had a series of conversations over the last couple of weeks with Dave Pricket, with Walter Opuszynski, and with the members of the Water Pollution Control Authority. Everyone is in mutual agreement that scheduling a town informational meeting to discuss the plan forward is needed. After looking at a calendar, it was determined that Tuesday, September 30, 2014, at 7:00 P.M., at Woodland Regional High School, may be the date and place for this informational meeting.

17. New Business

a. Library Fund Transfer – Discussion

C. Bielik thanked Sue Dowdell and Ken Priestly for their patience tonight. The three Selectmen had a discussion regarding the status of funds that are held by the library and managed by the Library Board of Trustees. The revenues are from fees, donations, and other revenues collected by the library. This is a situation similar to the EMS program.

C. Bielik introduced Ken Priestly, the Chairman of the Library Board of Trustees. K. Priestly indicated that some of the funds were put into the Friends of Library through a transfer. The Board sets the policies, are in charge of the library, and responsible for what's going on at the library. His recommendation is if they decide to change, he would like to see anything that comes out of that be approved by the Board. C. Bielik summarized that as the funds have collected over time in the past and reached a certain threshold, to a certain level, the Library Board has transferred some of that money to the Friends of the Library but never been any co-mingling since they are for non-profit. The treasure of the Friends of the Library set up a separate account for the money transferred from the Library Board of Trustees. Sue Dowdell indicated that they were holding it in trust.

C. Bielik indicated that the Friends of the Library took the money that they were holding in a trust account and transferred it back to the Library Board of Trustees, and the question is if the Board of Trustees turn the money over to the Town of Beacon Falls as revenue that's been collected, where is the best place for the money to go to. S. Dowdell mentioned that the initial \$2,500 that was transferred over in June 2007 was from leftover money donations from the children's room and from a computer fund.

C. Bielik noted that the funds are generated by the library, for library-related functions, and have been used in the past to go back into the library to continue to support their operations. The Board of Finance is looking for an oversight as they are with EMS. A discussion with the Board of Finance may be something that could be added to the agenda for discussion at their next meeting. S. Dowdell noted her concern about having enough funds for operating expenses and that the auditor of their books is the town auditor.

b. Resolution Approving Lease/Purchase Agreement between PACCAR Financial Corporation and the Town of Beacon Falls

He indicated that this was recommended by the town attorney. This is for the new public works vehicle and was part of the budget. From a historical point perspective, when the attorney was reviewing the documents, he suggested that we adopt a resolution that clearly states that there will be future obligations required in the upcoming budget years to complete the terms of the agreement. C. Bielik read the resolution to the members of the Board of Selectmen and to the public. He indicated that he will entertain a motion to approve the resolution.

Motion to approve the resolution for Approving State and Municipal Master Lease/Purchase Agreement between PACCAR Financial Corp. and the Town of Beacon Falls: **Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.**

18. Appointments

a. Appointment of Animal Control Officer

This position is an appointed position that runs for two years. Patrick Dion's term expired in August 2014. C. Bielik indicated that he will entertain a motion to appoint Patrick Dion for another term as Animal Control Officer.

Motion to appoint Patrick Dion as Animal Control Officer an additional two-year term: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

b. Appointment of Veterans Service Contact Person

This is a new position that the State advised the town back in July of needing to be filled. Bruce Carlson, Commander of American Legion Post 25, volunteered his services as Veterans Service Contact Person. C. Bielik indicated that he will entertain a motion for this.

Motion to appoint Bruce Carlson as the Veterans Service Contact Person: **Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.**

19. Budget Transfer Requests

There were no Budget Transfer Requests made at tonight's meeting.

20. Comments from the Public

Sue Dowdell, 32 Wolfe Avenue, asked about the signs on the median. P. Betkoski indicated that he spoke with EDC about removing them. C. Bielik indicated that there are some that are legally posted which he approved. The ones that are there and should not be, will be taken care of.

S. Dowdell next asked about the Board of Education's minutes not being posted on the town website. C. Bielik indicated that there is no reason why they can't be and will coordinate with the Board of Education to get them posted.

S. Dowdell next asked about the recycling bins for town halls. The library does use the other side when possible, but would like to have ones available in town hall. C. Bielik indicated that he will check with the custodian about this.

Mike Krenesky, 22 Maple Avenue, asked about the signs and C. Bielik indicated that this was already discussed. He suggested that there may be a place for signs to be posted in a specific area.

C. Bielik asked three times if there were any further comments from the public. There were no further comments by the public.

21. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, C. Bielik asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Motion to adjourn tonight's Board of Selectmen meeting at 8:54 P.M.:
Sorrentino/Betkoski no discussion; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Board of Selectmen