

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



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monthly Meeting
April 13, 2015
REVISED MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)**

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

First Selectman Chris Bielik called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

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

Others present: Sue Dowdell, Director of the Library; Fire Chief Jim Trzaski; Jim Galligan, Town Engineer; Charlie Piwonski, Robert Rich; and Luke Marshall, Citizens News.

2. Comments from the Public

Sue Dowdell, Director of the Library, informed the Board that a survey has been sent out regarding The Library Board of Trustees Long Range Planning. They are looking for input from the residents of Beacon Falls on how they would like the direction that the library should take in the upcoming 5 years. She asked that everyone do the survey and share it with others.

C. Bielik asked three times if there were any more public comment and there were none at this time.

3. Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

The three members reviewed the minutes from the three meetings held in March 2015 – regular meeting on March 9th, and special meetings on March 16th, March 25th.

Motion to accept the three meeting minutes held in February 2015 as submitted for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.**

Motion to rearrange the agenda so that Agenda Items 16a-f becomes Agenda Item 4a-f and Agenda Items 17a-c becomes Agenda Item 5a-c, moving the rest of the agenda items down accordingly: Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

4. Old Business

a. Robert Rich – A Space Center Self Storage – Request for Fee Waiver

C. Bielik informed the Board that he has asked the Zoning clerk to research back in the records to see if anything could be found regarding what, if any, fees were paid by Robert Rich. The clerk was unable to find anything in regards to this request of previous payments by R. Rich in the development phase. C. Bielik noted that this information is needed in order to make a reasonable judgement on R. Rich's request.

D. Sorrentino asked R. Rich about his discussion at the Inland Wetlands meeting. R. Rich indicated that IWWC granted approval of the project and charged the minimum fee. Planning & Zoning is in full agreement to reapprove the project based on his understanding. The site is developed to the point where the footings are ready to be dug.

R. Rich mentioned that the fees have gone up in the past years and something needs to be done to help businesses. Regulations are changing and taxes have quadrupled since he started his business. With the additional space if built, the taxes are going to be doubled if not more. R. Rich indicated that he paid the fees, which were about \$500.00 but cannot find any records of the payment. R. Rich had paid the application fees when he applied for his project but never applied for an extension and now the application has expired. R. Rich reminded the Board that he does donate storage units to the police department for free of charge, as well as help the community.

Jim Galligan, the Town Engineer, is present at tonight's meeting and C. Bielik asked if this request has been typical. J. Galligan indicated that there have been some exceptions and used Wyndham Homes as an example. There have never been refunds. R. Rich mentioned the DEEP realizing the economic problems and building projects placed on hold. There is a structure that the DEEP has for extending Wetland permits. R. Rich noted that he was granted several extensions in Seymour.

D. Sorrentino indicated that he would like to ask the members of Planning & Zoning polled as to their opinion on this matter. C. Bielik asked to have this decision deferred until the next scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting on May 11, 2015, in order to poll the P&Z members and get their opinions. C. Bielik thanked R. Rich for his patience and for what he does for the town.

b. Audible Cross Walk – South Main Street/Burton Road

C. Bielik indicated that he has spoken with the company regarding the audible cross walk system. There are the last of the hardware that are about 2 weeks out for delivery as indicated on his 03/31/2015 conversation with the company. It should start by the end of the month.

c. Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Municipal Budget – Update

The Board of Finance has finalized the budget document that will go to a Public Hearing which has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 22, 2015, at Woodland Regional High School starting at 7:00 P.M.

d. Nutmeg Network – Update

C. Bielik indicated that someone from FiberTech spoke with Seth Reitcher in regarding to the fiber optics that are needed for the Nutmeg Network. They are looking at a date of June 30, 2015 to be done with the project.

e. Beacon Heights Landfill – Discussion

P. Betkoski and Jim Galligan had attended a meeting with a gentleman at the Coalition. It was discussed about receiving a larger share regarding the leachate runoffs from the landfill. The coalition is looking for the town for assistance in getting the next renewal of the permit. Currently, the town receives \$5.00 per 1,000 gallons for runoffs which was set back in 1996.

f. General Fund Transfer Resolution

C. Bielik indicated that there will be a Town Meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2015, starting at 6:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Assembly Room to vote on the General Fund Transfer Resolution

C. Bielik indicated that he would entertain a motion to add Charlie Piwonski to the agenda as Agenda Item 4g.

Motion to add Charlie Piwonski to tonight's agenda as Agenda Item 4g:
Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

g. Pent Road Property Owned by Charlie Piwonski – Update

C. Piwonski was present at tonight's meeting to get an update as to his proposal to the Board of Selectmen on purchasing his property held on Pent Road. C. Bielik asked if he could defer the decision until the next Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled to be held on May 11, 2015 in order to get a better handle as to where the town is after the budget season.

5. New Business

a. Winter Brothers Trash/Recycling – Presentation

The representative was unable to attend the meeting tonight to give the presentation. C. Bielik noted that the town is looking into adapt a program where the trash collection would go from one drive/worker to only one driver and an automated truck. It is an opportunity for savings for the town.

b. Burton Road Presentation (was amended from Town Hall Parking Lot – Presentation)

Jim Galligan, the Town Engineer, presented a plan for the repaving of Burton Road. He explained the process of the reclaiming the existing pavement as well as using heat in place reclaiming.

J. Galligan indicated that he took a view of Burton Road from Google Map and used this for his presentation. He outlined the process of reclaiming the present asphalt, reclaiming the existing road. His proposal of mechanically reclaiming the road starts from Quail Hollow to the corner of Rice Lane, and then down Burton Road to Munson Road/Rt.42. The reason he indicated for mechanically reclaiming is the significant deterioration of the road condition in that area. The reclaiming process is grinding up the asphalt, mixing it with the material underneath it, and creating a new road base. When the repaving is done, a surface coat of asphalt is put over the full length of the reclaimed area. As part of that process, all the catch basin tops are replaced and new drainage may be needed. Some of the tops of the catch basins are 30-40 years old. Between Main Street and Quail Hollow, the asphalt is fairly significant. The proposal is for heat in place reclaiming in this area. It is a process that is about 20 years old. The road is basically heated until the asphalt is soft, then it is scoured with rakes, and an emulsion is added. The benefit is that the asphalt stays there and only a finished coat of asphalt at about 1 ½" is needed instead of 4".

An underdrain would be put in to cut off the water from bleeding out onto the street. At the intersection of Rice Lane and Burton Road, there is no drainage and will propose drainage. There are 42 catch basins on this stretch of Burton Road. J. Galligan noted that road will be straightened out to have it consistent widths in its different zones. J. Galligan distributed the estimated costs to the Board.

c. Vote on Resolution of Endorsement and Authorization

C. Bielik read the resolution to the Board and indicated that he would entertain a motion to approve the resolution.

Motion to approve the Resolution of Endorsement and Authorization as presented at tonight's meeting: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

d. Revision to Town Ordinance regarding Biannual Elections for the Town Treasurer (added to the agenda by C. Bielik)

C. Bielik indicated that the Town Treasurer found an error in the statement of the ordinance regarding Biannual Elections for the Town Treasurer. The correction should be stated as Section 7-80 and not Section 7-180.

Motion to accept the change to the Ordinance to have it state Section 7-80: **Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.**

6. Resident Trooper/Police Report

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

7. Wastewater Treatment Plant Report

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

8. Report of Public Works

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

9. Report of the Fire Marshal

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Fire Marshall for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Sorrentino**; discussion was by C. Bielik indicating that Laurel Ledge is on track to be finished for the beginning of the school year 2015-2016; **all ayes.**

10. Report of the Finance Manager

The Finance Manager was not present at tonight's meeting.

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: **Sorrentino/Betkoski**; no discussion; **all ayes.**

11. Report of the Tax Collector

The Tax Collector was not present at tonight's meeting.

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.**

12. Report of the Town Treasurer

The Town Treasurer was not present at tonight's meeting.

Motion 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.**

13. 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: **Betkoski/Sorrentino**; no discussion; **all ayes.**

14. Report of the Library

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

S. Dowdell indicated that she spoke with State Rep. Theresa Conroy regarding the proposed cuts that Governor Mallory is recommending. There will be a significant impact on residents not being able to use their library card at other libraries. The federal government gives the state of CT funds to support the Connect Card system and the federal government could reduce or take away those funds. Doug Burke has volunteered for about 7 years and is moving so they will be affected by this greatly.

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

15. Report of the Fire Department

Chief Trzaski was present at tonight's meeting if the Selectmen have any questions regarding the Fire Department Report.

Chief Trzaski noted that Beacon Falls will be hosting the State's Firefighters Convention and Parade on September 20, 2015.

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

16. 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

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

17. Reading of Correspondence

1. A email from Steve Ruhl, the Parks & Rec Director, was received regarding the opening day of baseball. The fields may not be ready to be played on and may be only able to have the ceremony.

2. A letter from the Mayor of South Windsor was received indicating that the town has inherited a Poet Laureate and recommended the town of Beacon Falls to look into appointed one for our town.

3. A letter from Sergio Felix was received regarding the noise ordinances and asked for the Board to review those noise ordinances. S. Felix would like the differences spelled out between the state and the town ordinances.

4. A letter from Bill Mis, the Lions Club President, requesting the use of town property for the Duck Race and for the Kayak and Canoe Race Riverfest to be held on Saturday, May 9, 2015. C. Bielik asked for a motion to approve this request.

Motion to approve the use of town property for the Lions Club's Duck Race and Riverfest on Saturday, May 9th: **Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.**

5. Two letters from Brooke Johnson and from Morgan Johnson of 48 Terese Road requesting the inquiry of having seat belts put in the buses that transport students within Region School District 16. C. Bielik already responded indicating that the Board of Selectmen does not control anything that deals with Region 16 and forwarded their letters to Mike Yamin, Superintendent of Region 16.

6. An email from Diane Betkoski, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, was received indicating the resignation of Jeff Keane due to the inability of giving the Commission the time and concern it deserves. C. Bielik asked for a motion to accept the resignation of Jeff Keane with deep regret.

Motion to accept the resignation of Jeff Keane from the Conservation Commission with deep regret: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

7. A letter from Aquarion was received regarding the deadline of May 6th for their nomination of Environmental Champion Awards. C. Bielik indicated that he has posted this on Twitter and Facebook pages.

8. A request for Wendy Olivera at United Day was received regarding the lemonade stand in the parking lot in front of the firehouse on July 31, 2015 from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Their donations are given to the Senior Center. C. Bielik asked for a motion to approve this request.

Motion to approve the use of the parking at the fire house for the United Day lemonade stand on July 31, 2015 and all fees waived: **Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

9. An email from Troop I Commander Lt. Schirillo was received regarding the change in command as of Wednesday, April 15, 2015, to Lt. Kelly Kraynak.

10. A packet from Sam Posick was received regarding the disposal of papers within the town of Beacon Falls.

11. C. Bielik asked for a motion to approve the invoice received from the Board of Selectmen's clerk in the amount of \$91.25.

Motion to approve the invoice from the Board of Selectmen's clerk in the amount of \$91.25: Sorrentino/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

18. Appointments

There were no appointments made at tonight's meeting.

19. Budget Transfer Requests

A budget transfer request from Beacon Falls Library in regards to the budget line item for part time employees has been overextended with the resignation of Sheri Garcia and the additional hours by the part time staff. The full time budget line item is under with S. Garcia's maternity leave and resignation. A \$2,000 request from the budget line item from full time employees to the part time employees is requested to cover the hours of the part time staff.

Motion to request a budget transfer request in the amount of \$2,000.00 from Line Item 10-90-69-1010, Wages - Full Time to Line Item 10-90-69-1019, Wages - Part Time: Betkoski/Sorrentino; no discussion; all ayes.

20. Comments from the Public

Sue Dowdell, 32 Wolfe Avenue, forgot to include in her report of the Library that they have been working with the new webmaster.

Also, she would like to note and commend all the work that Officer Obar has been doing for the town and for the families in need by getting donations and helping the families.

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

21. Executive Session – If Needed

The Board of Selectmen entered into Executive Session at 9:05 PM and came out of Executive Session at 9:09 PM.

a. Personnel

22. 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 9:09 P.M.:
Sorrentino/Betkoski; *no discussion*; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

DRAFT