

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



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Special Town Meeting
April 16, 2015
MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)**

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

First Selectman Chris Bielik called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

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

Others Present: 13 members of the public at the start and 2 members of the public arrived after Method of Voting was completed

2. Purpose for the Town Meeting

To Discuss and vote on the following three Special Town Meeting Resolutions:

1.) That the total sum of \$500,000.00 be transferred from the General Fund Surplus to the following accounts to be administered under the supervision of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Engineer for road repairs and infrastructure improvements needed to various roads within the Town of Beacon Falls.

2.) That up to the sum of \$100,000.00 be transferred from the General Fund Surplus to be administered under the supervision of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Engineer for drainage repairs and repaving at the Town Hall Parking Lot.

3.) That that the sum of \$250,000.00 be transferred from the General Fund Surplus to the Waste Water Treatment Plant Contingency Fund for the purpose of adding to the Waste Water Treatment Plant Contingency Fund to increase the level of financial security for the operation of the Plant.

3. **Clerk Reads Call**

C. Bielik asked for the temporary clerk to read the call. Marla Scirpo, clerk for the Board of Selectmen, read the legal notice for the Town of Beacon Falls for the Special Town Meeting as posted in the newspaper.

Motion to accept call: **Brian Ploss/Joe Dowdell; no discussion; 13 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.** Chris Bielik, Peter Betkoski, Dominick Sorrentino, and Marla Scirpo acted as the counters for the voting process by show of hands.

4. **Nomination of Permanent Clerk for Town Meeting**

C. Bielik asked for a nomination for a permanent clerk for tonight's town meeting. Sue Dowdell nominated Marla Scirpo and the nomination was seconded by Brian Ploss. C. Bielik asked three times for any other nominations. There were no other nominations for the permanent clerk and one ballot was cast for Marla Scirpo as the Permanent Clerk for tonight's town meeting.

5. **Nomination of Permanent Moderator for Town Meeting**

M. Scirpo asked for a nomination for a moderator for tonight's town meeting. Brian Ploss nominated Chris Bielik and the nomination was seconded by Erin Schwartz. M. Scirpo asked three times for any other nominations. There were no other nominations for the moderator and one ballot was cast for Chris Bielik as the Permanent Moderator for tonight's town meeting.

6. **Discussion for Method of Voting**

C. Bielik asked for a motion for the method of voting for tonight's town meeting. Joe Dowdell made a motion for the method of voting by show of hands. Brian Ploss seconded the motion.

Motion for the method of voting for tonight's town meeting to be by show of hands: **J. Dowdell/B. Ploss; no discussion; 13 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.** Chris Bielik, Peter Betkoski, Dominick Sorrentino, and Marla Scirpo acted as the counters for the voting process by show of hands. C. Bielik indicated the motion passes for voting at tonight's town meeting to be by show of hands.

C. Bielik gave a brief description of each of the three special town meeting resolutions. The audit report completed for the fiscal year 2013-2014 was positive. It was reported that the year was started with a General Fund surplus of \$2.1 million which reflects about 9.25% General Fund balance. This number is a good number and helped with the town in getting the bond rating. The town currently has an AA- rating which is excellent. Through aggressive back tax collections, good management, and a combination of other things, the town was led from the \$2.1 million surplus to an ending position of \$3.1 million. The General Fund surplus was increased by approximately \$1million.

C. Bielik continued with using that money towards constructive purposes, it would be to the town's best interest. The entire \$1 million is not being asked to be used for the town resolutions. The breakdown of the request of using \$850,000 is for \$500,000 towards roads repairs and improvements; \$100,000 towards the drainage repairs and repaving of the parking lot at town hall; and \$250,000 towards the waste water treatment plant.

C. Bielik asked if there were any questions by the members of the public and there were none.

7. Voting of Special Town Resolution for the Total Sum of \$500,000 for Road Repairs and Infrastructure Improvements Needed to Various Roads within the Town of Beacon Falls

With voting by show of hands, C. Bielik indicated that the Special Town Resolution for the Total Sum of \$500,000 for Road Repairs and Infrastructure Improvements Needed to Various Roads within the Town of Beacon Falls passed with a vote of 15 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions. Chris Bielik, Peter Betkoski, Dominick Sorrentino, and Marla Scirpo acted as the counters for the voting process.

8. Voting of Special Town Resolution for the Sum Up to \$100,000 for Drainage Repairs and Repaving at the Town Hall Parking Lot

With voting by show of hands, C. Bielik indicated that the Special Town Resolution for the Sum Up to \$100,000 for Drainage Repairs and Repaving at the Town Hall Parking Lot passed with a vote of 15 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions. Chris Bielik, Peter Betkoski, Dominick Sorrentino, and Marla Scirpo acted as the counters for the voting process.

9. **Voting of Special Town Resolution for the Sum of \$250,000 for Adding to the Waste Water Treatment Fund Contingency Fund**

With voting by show of hands, C. Bielik indicated that the Special Town Resolution for the Sum of \$250,000 for Adding to the Waste Water Treatment Fund Contingency Fund passed with a vote of 15 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions. Chris Bielik, Peter Betkoski, Dominick Sorrentino, and Marla Scirpo acted as the counters for the voting process.

10. **Adjournment**

With completion of the voting, C. Bielik asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Motion to adjourn tonight's Board of Selectmen Public Hearing at 6:39 P.M.: Kevin McDuffie/Tom Broesler; no discussion; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Board of Selectmen