

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



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monthly Meeting
January 11, 2016
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 Mike Krenesky

Others present: Luke Marshall, Citizens News

2. Comments from the Public

C. Bielik asked three times if there were any 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 meetings held in December 2015 – regular meeting on December 14th; special meeting on December 18th; and town meeting on December 29th.

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

4. Resident Trooper/Police Report

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

5. Wastewater Treatment Plant Report

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Wastewater Treatment Plant for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Krenesky**; *discussion was that the phone lines will be out of service for tonight's operation for approximately 5 hours due to upgrades; all eyes.*

6. Report of Public Works

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Public Works for tonight's meeting: **Krenesky/Betkoski**; *discussion noted that sand is still being distributed and Christmas trees are picking up by the town. M. Krenesky questioned the lack of curbing on Noe Place and C. Bielik indicated that the curb is there but not backed with dirt. Ciocchiola was contacted indicating that if anything happens, it will be their responsibility to make any repairs; all eyes.*

7. Report of the Fire Marshal

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Fire Marshall for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Krenesky**; *discussion noted that Woodland Regional High School was closed for a couple of days due to the pump house and water delivery failure; all eyes.*

8. Report of the Finance Manager

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

There was no report submitted by the Finance Manager for tonight's meeting. He will have a report to be submitted at the next Board of Finance meeting, which is scheduled for this Thursday, January 14th.

9. Report of the Tax Collector

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: **Krenesky/Betkoski**; *discussion was by M. Krenesky noting that in regards to the delinquent tax report, there are a number of companies/individuals who provide services to the town of Beacon Falls that are on the report. M. Krenesky noted the current ordinance and perhaps an amendment or a new ordinance stating that in order to provide services to the town, then the companies/individuals should be on a payment plan or similar. C. Bielik indicated that he will pass that along to the Tax Collector; all eyes.*

10. 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: **Krenesky/Betkoski**; discussion noted that Naugatuck Valley Savings & Loan will become Liberty Bank by the end of the month; all ayes.

11. Report of the Town Clerk

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

12. Report of the Library

Sue Dowdell was not present at tonight's meeting.

Motion to accept the report submitted by the Library for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Krenesky**; discussion included that the gingerbread house event was a good one. M. Krenesky noted that he will be doing a program on February 4th regarding the History of Beacon Falls between the years of 1898-1925; all ayes.

13. Report of the Fire Department

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

14. Any Other Reports

a. Report of the Custodian

Motions to accept the reports from November 2015 and December 2015 as submitted by the Custodian for tonight's meeting: **Betkoski/Krenesky**; discussion noted the railing coming off the wall will be repaired tomorrow; all ayes.

b. Report of the Town Nurse

Motions to accept the quarterly report as submitted by the Town Nurse for tonight's meeting: **Krenesky/Betkoski**; no discussion; all ayes.

c. Report of the Animal Control Officer

Motions to accept the reports for April 2015, May 2015, June 2015, July 2015, August 2015, September 2015, October 2015, November 2015, and December 2015 as submitted by the Animal Control Officer for tonight's meeting: **Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

15. Correspondence

1. A notice from the Beacon Falls Rotary Club and Beacon Hose Co. 1 that on Saturday, February 6th, there will be hosting an event "The Original Best Grapes and Hops in the Valley with a Little Spice". The event will be from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM and a homemade wine and beer contest as well as a chili contest.
2. Two invoices from the clerk were submitted – one for the regular meeting held on December 14, 2015 in the amount of \$117.50 and one for the town meeting held on December 29, 2015 in the amount of \$42.50.

Motion to approve and pay the two invoices from the clerk in the amounts of \$117.50 and \$42.50 as submitted: **Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.**

3. A report of tax rebates was received from the Tax Collector indicated that there are three parties to be reimbursed – Patricia Crossley in the amount of \$5.18; Lars E. Edgren or Janet R. Edgren in the amount of \$33.30; and Patricia A. Wagner in the amount of \$163.33 – for a grand total of \$201.81.

Motion to approve and pay the three tax rebates as reported by the Tax Collector and submitted for tonight's meeting for a grand total of \$201.81 - Patricia Crossley in the amount of \$5.18; Lars E. Edgren or Janet R. Edgren in the amount of \$33.30; and Patricia A. Wagner in the amount of \$163.33: **Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

4. A letter from Chief Trzaski was received noting wastewater issues at the fire house. Chief Trzaski met with WPCA and reviewed the conditions of the water going into the sewer drains rather than the stormwater drains. Chief Trzaski is requesting the issues to be corrected through Capital Expenses on next year's budget.
5. A request of a \$500.00 award was received from The Umbrella, the Center for Domestic Violence Service. The letter noted that services were provided to 59 clients from Beacon Falls and 304 clients in Beacon Falls had been contacted.

6. A letter from the Wepawaug-Flagg Credit Union was received announcing that they are now servicing the New Haven county.
7. A letter dated 12/30/2015 was received from the CT Citing Counsel. In regards to the Energy Park, a meeting was held on last Thursday and the vote to approve the site was passed by a vote of 5-0.
8. A letter from Rich Minnick was received noting that the Boys Scout Troop 138 held the Eagle Court of Honor on December 6th. There was a list of potential projects for future Eagle Scouts to choose from that could be done around the town of Beacon Falls.
9. A letter from CT General Assembly was received advising that, beginning in the fiscal year 2017, there will be additional monies distributed from the municipal revenue sharing account.
10. A letter from COST was received regarding the annual town meeting that will be held on February 16th in Rocky Hill, CT. Another letter was received today indicating that that meeting has been cancelled.
11. A letter from a resident in Beacon Falls who was a participant in the small cities grant program praising the professional manner in which all the repairs was handled and the tradesmen involved.
12. An email from Diane Betkoski was received regarding signage on telephone poles. C. Bielik noted that it is illegal to post signs on the telephone poles.
13. A letter from the Naugatuck Valley Council of Government was received regarding that the preliminary budget that will be presented for the fiscal year 2016-2017 will include an increase in dues by an estimate of 3%.

16. Old Business

a. Community School Sale - Update

C. Bielik indicated that there was a conversation with Tom Galvin who is the president of the Town Council in Prospect. They anticipate having a meeting on January 19th and will vote to approve the expenditure of \$873,000 sale price of Community School that has been agreed by Region 16 and the town of Prospect. There is some question on the ability of Region 16 to disperse those funds to the member towns or to hold them and disperse as they see fit.

b. Riverbend Park – Update

C. Bielik indicated that Rich Minnick and the subcommittee have been working on the question of what could be developed on the property. Also, the town's attorney indicated that a meeting between the Harmon's attorney and himself was held last week and, by the end of next week, the process should be completed and should have the title for the property.

17. New Business

a. Public Works – Mechanic/Maintainer – Job Description - Discussion

C. Bielik indicated that the position on the budget line currently listed as Crew Leader has been vacant for some time. Rob Pruzinsky, the Public Works Supervisor, noted the need for an in-house mechanic/maintainer.

After a brief discussion, P. Betkoski will review the job description that was present to the Board and make any changes that he sees as beneficial. M. Krenesky suggested a special meeting to vote on the job description would be better. After reviewing their schedules, the special meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 20th at 7:00 PM.

b. Tax Abatement Proposal - Discussion

The development group is still reworking the proposal since a math error was found. C. Bielik noted that he is deferring this agenda item discussion to another night.

c. Revised Tax Lien Procedure – Discussion & Vote

A memo from the Tax Collector was received regarding the cost of processing tax liens. The town has a cost of \$24.00 for the tax lien procedure that is charged to the owner of the property and the town has to pay the state \$24.00. The Tax Collector gets paid \$2.00 each side of the transaction. The Tax Collector is requesting to increase the cost to \$28.00.

Motion to approve and increase the cost for the tax lien procedure from \$24.00 to \$28.00: **Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.**

d. Private Road – Trash Collection – Discussion

C. Bielik indicated that he contacted Winter Bros. and found that there would be a cost to provide trash collection to the residents of Sharon Drive. At the meeting last month, one of the residents had indicated that he contacted Winter Bros. and was told that there would be no additional cost to the town to provide trash collection to Sharon Drive. Winter Bros. indicated that the cost is \$25.00 per month per household for the trash collection. C. Bielik noted that he is not inclined to have the town pay for the additional cost for the residents on private roads.

e. Blight Condition – 27 Railroad Avenue – Discussion – Possible Action

C. Bielik indicated that Pran Gjeloshi, a Sanitarian at the Naugatuck Valley District Health department, looked at the property at 27 Railroad Avenue. DEEP also looked at the property and submitted a letter to the Board. DEEP indicated that, at this time, they will not be investigating and forwarding any future investigation to the town of Beacon Falls. C. Bielik will be reaching out to DEEP for clarification.

18. Appointments

There were no appointments made at tonight's meeting.

19. Budget Transfer Requests

Public Works requested a budget transfer of \$4,000.00 for the extra duty police during the tree trimming.

Motion to approve the budget transfer request of \$4,000.00 from Budget Line Item 10.90.83.1170, Contingency, to Budget Line Item 10.90.59.1713, Tree Work, and pass it along to the Board of Finance: **Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.**

20. Comments from the Public

C. Bielik asked three times and there were no comments from the public at this time.

21. Executive Session

The Board of Selectmen did not enter into Executive Session at tonight's meeting. The agenda had included the Tax Abatement Proposal discussion and the Police Lieutenant discussion under this agenda item but the Board decided not to enter into Executive Session tonight.

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 8:45 P.M.:
Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Board of Selectmen