

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



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monthly Meeting
August 8, 2016
MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)**

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

First Selectman Chris Bielik called the meeting to order at 7:31 P.M.

Members Present: First Selectman Chris Bielik, Selectman Peter Betkoski, and Selectman Mike Krenesky

Others present: Sue Dowdell, Library Director, Atty. Fred Stanek, Kevin McDuffie, Chairman of Planning & Zoning; Jim Galligan, Town Engineer; Fire Chief Jim Trzaski; Joe Rodorigo, Chairman of the Board of Finance; Luke Marshall, Citizens News; and 20 members of the public.

2. Comments from the Public

Greg Wright, 98 Pond View Circle, is the vice-president of Pond Springs Village Homeowners Association and was present at tonight's meeting to discuss the propane storage tanks being installed on the property on Haviland Drive. G. Wright read a letter to the Selectmen indicating the residents' concerns. One of the main concerns is that they were not made aware of this plan. Other concerns stated were property values, safety, and quality of life. There was a request of knowing how much propane going to be stored on-site, what safety and security measures are going to be taken, the distance to the proposed fire school, why were the residents of Pond Springs Village not notified, and was the proposed use of the property endorsed by the Selectmen and Economic Development Commission.

Tom Beatrice, 35 October Lane, also voiced his concerns and questions that he asked. T. Beatrice asked if the number of railroad-sized tanks that are located on the property is 6 and C. Bielik indicated that that is correct.

T. Beatrice also asked if there is a specified safety distance and what is that distance, what is the pressure of the gas/liquid that the tanks will be charged to, will there be a safety fence or any warning signs around the area, and what would happen if there is a forest fire or lightning strike. C. Bielik asked for copies of the gentlemen's letters and questions in order to review and research the information for everyone's concerns.

C. Bielik introduced Fire Chief Trzaski and Kevin McDuffie, Chairman of Planning & Zoning to the public. C. Bielik noted that himself; Lt. Eddie Rodriguez, the Fire Marshall; Chief Trzaski; and the engineer of the project visited the site prior to approvals were given. They went over all the safety concerns that they had and discussed everything in a meeting. Chief Trzaski noted that a concern of the water supply and the project is within the standards that are necessary. Chief Trzaski asked to be more involved in the design process. There is the ability to have deck gun/water guns installed to help with safety concerns.

Bill Davis, October Lane, noted his concern of the lack of notification to the public and that it is a done deal. C. Bielik asked for K. McDuffie to elaborate on this. K. McDuffie indicated that the project was brought to Planning & Zoning last year and were discussed at their meetings last year. The project fit the industrial park regulations and did not require a public hearing. There were no requests to change the zoning regulations since the project fit into the regulations already. G. Wright asked as to how the information was published since no one knew about the project. K. McDuffie indicated that the agendas are posted downstairs in town hall, on the town website, and the information for anything regarding the town is posted on the town website and downstairs.

Doug Bousquet, Cedar Circle, indicated that there should have been more communication to the residents of Pond Springs Village. K. McDuffie noted that the project did not require a town meeting and if it did, then the residents within the area of the property would have been notified in writing based on regulations. The project fit into the regulations of the industrial park and did not require a public hearing. Marsha Wright, Pond Springs Village, asked if taxes would be going down with this project and C. Bielik indicated that taxes did go down this year.

C. Bielik asked if there were any questions regarding another topic. Kurt Hummel, 6 Patricia Lane, asked if the Burton Road paving project was completed and C. Bielik indicated that it is not completed.

Paul Brennan, 13 Highland Avenue, noted that there has been a lack of communication since the street project on Highland Avenue started. P. Brennan indicated that there have been people coming on personal property and not letting us know what was going on with what they were doing. C. Bielik indicated that the Highland Avenue project is on the agenda for tonight's meeting and the Town Engineer will address the concerns at that time.

Stephen Pretto, Goldenrod Corporation, is across the street from the project on Haviland Drive. S. Pretto indicated that it would have been nice if the project was advertised more since he did not know until it was there. C. Bielik indicated that the Citizens News did publish the project in their newspaper. Carol Sullivan, 20 September Lane, noted that the Fuel Cell project has been in the newspaper all the time but there was no information that she had seen in the newspaper in regards to the propane tanks.

D. Bousquet asked about the curbing on Burton Road and Jim Galligan indicated that all the curbs that need to be replaced will be replaced and will address this in his report to the Selectmen later in the agenda.

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

C. Bielik indicated that he would entertain a motion to rearrange the agenda to accommodate the people in attendance for tonight's meeting.

Motion to change Agenda Item 16 – Old Business to new Agenda Item 3, and then Agenda Item 16a – Study Committee-Wolfe Avenue-Multi Use Community Center-Discussion, to Agenda 3e, and move the other agenda items up one letter: Betkoski/Krenesky;no discussion;all ayes.

3. Old Business

a. Review of Proposed Change to Ordinance Relating to Taxes/Issuance of Permits

C. Bielik indicated that there was a recommendation by the town attorney and sent back to the originator of the ordinance. There is nothing at this time and will remain on the agenda for discussion at a future meeting.

b. Review of Proposed Corrected New Ordinance Relating to the Composition of Elected or Appointed Officials to Boards, Commissions, or Committees

Due to a miswording of the agenda item, Atty. Stanek indicated that a motion should be made to add a new agenda item 3c and no action will be taken to agenda item 3b.

Motion to add a new agenda item under Agenda Item 3 as Agenda Item 3c – Review of Proposed Corrected New Ordinance Relating to the Compensation of Elected or Appointed Officials to Boards, Commissions, or Committees: **Betkoski/Krenesky**; discussion was by M. Krenesky indicating that he does not want to pursue; motion withdrawn.

c. Review of Proposed Corrected New Ordinance Relating to the Compensation of Elected or Appointed Officials to Boards, Commissions, or Committees

M. Krenesky indicated that his intention is not to carry this ordinance forward based on information that he has obtained.

d. Compensation of the Registrars of Voters/Deputy Registrar of Voters

M. Krenesky indicated that conversation needs to be continued based on information he obtained regarding Statute 9-192.

Atty. Stanek indicated that he needs time to review the Statute noted by M. Krenesky.

e. Highland Avenue Construction Project – Update

Jim Galligan indicated that construction has begun on Highland Avenue. J. Galligan addressed the issues and concerns as noted previously by residents. The company doing the sidewalks could not be there on the regular date and rescheduled the work to the other side of the street. J. Galligan indicated that he was not made aware of the change and would have notified everyone if he was.

J. Galligan indicated that the curbs and sidewalks on the school side will be done this week and the curbs and sidewalks on the residents' side next week. The road excavation and paving will be the week after. The plan is to be complete around August 25th.

J. Rodorigo asked about the telephone poles On Highland Avenue. J. Galligan indicated that the markings were redone and the new poles are not going into the new sidewalk but behind the sidewalks. The big issue removing the existing sidewalks.

J. Galligan indicated that in regards to Burton Road, O & G has offered the town a \$20,000-\$25,000 credit if they are able to wait until the middle of September for the paving.

f. **Study Committee – Wolfe Avenue – Multi Use Community Center – Discussion**

Sue Dowdell indicated that more depth is needed in regards to the charge.
C. Bielik asked for her input and will look into this forward.

C. Bielik indicated that he will entertain a motion to move Agenda Item 17a – Petition for Tax Credits for Septic Tank Owners – Discussion/Possible Action to Agenda Item 4.

Motion to move, under New Business, Agenda Item 17a - Petition for Tax Credits for Septic Tank Owners – Discussion/Possible Action, to new Agenda Item 4: Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

4. **Petition for Tax Credits for Septic Tank Owners – Discussion/Possible Action**

C. Bielik indicated that a petition of 25 certified names was received in the Town Clerk's office on July 11, 2016. C. Bielik read the petition that is requesting a town meeting to be scheduled for the purpose of creating a tax credit up to \$500 per year for all town residents on a septic system. After a brief discussion, Atty. Stanek indicated that his professional opinion is that the enactment of such an ordinance would infringe on the Board of Finance's authority with regards to the budget process.

C. Bielik indicated that he would entertain a motion not to move forward with the petition as presented.

Motion not to move forward and will take no action on the petition as presented: Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.

C. Bielik indicated that he would entertain a motion to move Agenda Item 19– Budget Transfer Requests to new Agenda Item 5.

Motion to move Agenda Item 19 – Budget Transfer Requests to new Agenda Item: Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.

5. **Budget Transfer Request**

Joe Rodorigo indicated that he is in attendance on behalf of the Riverbend Park Project Chairman, Dominick Sorrentino. There is a budget transfer request of \$19,900 due to the size of the park has doubled. The costs of the construction that needs to be done is greater than the grant of \$100,000 that has been received to date.

Motion to approve the budget transfer request from the excess General Fund Balance to Unbudgeted Grants with regards to the Riverbend Park Project in the amount of \$19,900: Betkoski/ Krenesky: no discussion;all ayes.

There was a budget transfer request from the Road Foreman for the 2016-2017 budget in the amount of \$4,200.00. The request would be from the Boom mower account to the Education account

Motion to approve the budget transfer of \$4,200.00 Budget Line Item for the Boom Mower, to Budget Line Item 10.90.03.1495, Education, and present it to the next Board of Finance meeting: Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion;all ayes.

There was a budget transfer request from the Finance Department to close out the books for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016. This is the end-of-year bookkeeping by zeroing out the accounts with minuses that occur. The Selectmen reviewed the list and a motion was made to approve the transfer request.

Motion to approve the budget transfer request list as prepared by the Finance Department (see Attachment 1) and present it to the next Board of Finance meeting: Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.

C. Bielik indicated that he would entertain a motion to rearrange the agenda to accommodate the Fire Chief.

Motion to change Agenda Item 16 – Report of the Fire Department to new Agenda Item 6: Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.

6. Report of the Fire Department

Chief Jim Trzaski was present at tonight's meeting.

Chief Trzaski indicated that they attended the Jr. Corp. Graduation. The Jr. Corp. has risen to 12 members and 4 of those members attended a one-week program at the fire academy. Grants were received by 3 of the members.

Chief Trzaski noted that there has been a change in the State Plan in the way it is being developed. It is actually for the town of Beacon Falls and acknowledged Joe Chew, Ken George, and Gretchen Carlson for spearheading this. A contract between the town of Beacon Falls and Beacon Hose Co. 1 is being drafted.

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

7. Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

The three members reviewed the two meeting minutes held on July 11, 2016 – the regular monthly meeting and the special town meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes from the two meeting held on to the July 11, 2016: Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

8. Resident Trooper/Police Report

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

9. Wastewater Treatment Plant Report

Motion to accept the June and July reports as submitted by the Wastewater Treatment Plant for tonight's meeting: Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

10. Report of Public Works

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

11. Report of the Fire Marshal

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

12. Report of the Finance Manager

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

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

13. Report of the Tax Collector

There was no report submitted by the Tax Collector for tonight's meeting.

14. Report of the Town Treasurer

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

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

15. Report of the Town Clerk

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

16. Report of the Library

The Library Director was present at tonight's meeting.

S. Dowdell indicated that the Library received a grant in the amount of \$8,000 for a retractable screen and projector for the Assembly Room at Town Hall.

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

17. Any Other Reports

a. Report of the Custodian

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

b. Report of the Town Nurse

There was no report submitted by the Town Nurse for tonight's meeting since it is a quarterly report and not due until September 30th.

c. Report of the Animal Control Officer

There was no report submitted by the Animal Control Officer for tonight's meeting.

18. Correspondence

1. An email from the Wolfe Avenue Custodian was received on July 23rd regarding vandalism at the Wolfe Avenue House. The police were contacted and the recommendation is to turn off the electricity.
2. A thank you note was received from Ashely Norton, one of the recipients of the Melbourne Trust Scholarship.
3. A letter was received from Marilyn Goudreault who lost her wallet at the Firemen's Carnival. Someone had found it, an announcement was made, but she was gone. Officer Obar researched and finally found M. Goudreault and returned the wallet. M. Goudreault wanted to thank everyone for returning the wallet with all of its contents.
4. A report was received from Brown Roofing in regards to the Senior Center and other municipal buildings in town. The Senior Center roof is in need of immediate attention since it is original to the building.
5. An email dated 08/08/2016 was received from the Administrative Assistant at Beacon Hose in regards to a woman who picks up trash around downtown. Stacey Tiano was identified and the Selectmen would like to thank her for all the help. C. Bielik also noted that Diane Betkoski and Barbara Betkoski can be seen around town picking up trash as well.
6. An invitation was received to attend the next Economic Development Commission meeting being held on Monday, August 29th.
7. Two invoices from the clerk were received - one for the regular monthly meeting on July 11th in the amount of \$80.00 and one for the special town meeting on July 11th in the amount of \$42.50 for a total of \$122.50.

Motion to approve and pay the clerk for the two invoices submitted for tonight's meeting for a total of \$122.50: Krenesky/Betkoski;no discussion;all ayes.

8. A letter from Lori Betkoski Sirocco was received in regards to blue ribbons being hung on mailboxes. The blue ribbons are for the recognition and thanks to the police officers.
9. An email from Desiree Brooks was received in regards to the vacant position on the Parks & Rec Commission. D. Brooks is interested in serving on the Commission.
10. An email from Donna Taylor was received in regards to the vacant position on the Parks & Rec Commission. D. Taylor is interested in serving on the Commission.
11. A letter from Bob Egan was received endorsing both Desiree Brooks and Donna Taylor for the vacancies on Parks & Rec.
12. A letter was received from the Library noting the award of \$8,000 from Katherine Matthies Foundation.

19. New Business

a. Wastewater Treatment Plant Study - Discussion

There was a joint meeting held at the plant last Wednesday. The meeting was held based on the Board of Finance's Capital Plan review of all municipal buildings in town.

b. Horizontal Curve Safety Program - Discussion

The town received a grant from the State in regards to road signage to be placed on rural roads where there are hazardous conditions/areas on the road. Skokorat Street was the winning road and there will be signs installed warning drivers of the hazardous conditions in a designated area.

C. Bielik indicated that he would entertain a motion to add new Agenda Item 19c – Link on the Town Website to Fund the Melbourne Trust Scholarship Fund.

Motion to add new Agenda 16c – Link on the Town Website to Fund the Melbourne Trust Scholarship Fund: Krenesky/Betkoski;no discussion;all ayes.

c. **Link on the Town Website to Fund the Melbourne Trust Scholarship Fund**

C. Bielik indicated that the Melbourne Trust Fund is getting low and the Selectmen are looking into adding a link on the town's website where people can go and donate money to help build up the Melbourne Trust. Sue Dowdell asked if the Fund is a 501-C3 and the Selectmen indicated that it is not, just an account that the town has.

20. Appointments

There were several people that were contacted and are interested in joining the Community Center Building Committee.

Motion to appoint Doug Bousquet to the Community Center Building Committee:
Betkoski/Krenesky;no discussion;all ayes.

Motion to appoint Darlene Ragozzin to the Community Center Building Committee:
Krenesky/Betkoski;no discussion; all ayes.

Motion to appoint Steve Ruhl to the Community Center Building Committee:
Krenesky/Betkoski;no discussion; all ayes.

Motion to appoint Sue Cable to the Community Center Building Committee:
Betkoski/Krenesky;no discussion;all ayes.

Motion to appoint Mike Krenesky to the Community Center Building Committee:
Bielik/Betkoski;no discussion;all ayes.

Motion to appoint Desiree Brooks to the Parks & Rec Commission:
Betkoski/Krenesky;no discussion;all ayes.

Motion to appoint Donna Taylor to the Parks & Rec Commission:
Krenesky/Betkoski;no discussion;all ayes.

21. Comments from the Public

M. Krenesky asked for an update on the Terese Road situation with Greg Campbell. C. Bielik indicated that Atty. Stanek has reached out to G. Campbell and to the neighbor in regards to the issue as discussed at several previous Board of Selectmen meetings. G. Campbell acknowledged Atty. Stanek's contact but has not been heard from since.

Sue Dowdell indicated that Liz Setaro and herself have received their Notary licenses. Also, next week, there will be a Lego-Robotics program held in the Assembly Room. The tables will be on the side of the room.

22. Executive Session

The Board of Selectmen did not enter into Executive Session at tonight's meeting.

23. 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 10:08 P.M.:
Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Board of Selectmen