

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



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monthly Meeting
June 12, 2017
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 (arrived at 9:23 PM), and Selectman Mike Krenesky

Others present: Joe Rodorigo, Board of Finance; Daniel Lawrence and Kevin Lott, Aquarion Water Company; Luke Marshall, Citizens News; and 10 members of the public.

2. Comments from the Public

Doug Bousquet, Cedar Circle, asked about when the fire hydrants on Highland Avenue. C. Bielik indicated that the last of the fire hydrants were fixed as of this afternoon.

Jim Carol, Fieldstone Lane, noted that on tonight's agenda, there is an item to discuss on waiving the application fee for Tiverton. J. Carol also noted that with the budget and mil rate going up, why would the Selectmen considering a fee being waived.

Bob Spear, Lakeview Rise, indicated that he has been analyzing the appraisals that were done by the town's consultant and found mistakes have been made. B. Spear noted, in particular, Chatfield Farms have been classified a Condominium and Chatfield Farms, in fact, PARD #3 – Senior Citizen Housing. B. Spear also noted that he could not find the worksheets on how the consultants appraised the town properties versus Chatfield Farms. B. Spear requested that, until the corrections are made, not to implement the new assessments.

Kevin Dokla, Timber Ridge, was present to follow up on the cleaning up of the pump station by the developer for Oakwood Estates. K. Dokla noted that the bond was released to the developer and presented some pictures for the Selectmen to review. K. Dokla also noted that he spoke to the developer who informed K. Dokla that they are done at Oakwood Estates and will be selling the land, not building any more homes. K. Dokla indicated that the developers have left the lots in a complete mess with materials, stumps, extra asphalt, etc.

C. Bielik indicated that he would like to entertain a motion to discuss Timber Ridge, making it Agenda Item 17c under Old Business.

Motion to add as Agenda Item 17c, Old Business – Timber Ridge- Discussion:
Krenesky/Bielik;no discussion;all ayes.

Dino Verrelli, Kalea's Way, indicated that at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on 04/10/2017, C. Bielik commented that the EDC was contacted for feedback on the crosswalk on North Main Street and EDC's recommendation was not to support the crosswalk. D. Verrelli noted that he spoke with three EDC members and they indicated that this item was not discussed. C. Bielik indicated that the EDC Chairman responded that the EDC had considered it but not recommending it. D. Verrelli also noted that in regard to the conversation on police and coverage, C. Bielik stated that any state road overtime project goes to the state police barrack and they are responsible for scheduling the overtime on state roads. C. Bielik indicated that he indicated that town police officers are offered the jobs first and if they cannot be filled internally, then it goes to external towns.

D. Verrelli indicated that 111 Railroad Avenue should be visited by the Blight Officer since there are about 20 vehicles in the front yard and weeds are growing through the vehicles. D. Verrelli noted that this is along the way to the industrial park and not what people should see at first look going to the industrial park. C. Bielik indicated that he will get in touch with the Zoning Enforcement Officer regarding this issue.

M. Krenesky noted that EDC is doing a downtown walk on June 17, 2017.

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

3. Laurel Ledge Sprinkler System – Update

C. Bielik introduced Dan Lawrence, Director of Engineering & Planning at Aquarion Water, and Kevin Lott, Pipeline Coordinator at Aquarion Water.

D. Lawrence distributed a presentation to the Selectmen regarding the Highland Avenue Project overview and the Laurel Ledge School connections. In regards to Highland Avenue, Aquarion Water replaced 1,980 feet of 6" water main with new 8" water main, which was coordinated with the Town of Beacon Falls Roadway Improvement project. Nafis & Young was selected as the consultant to design and oversee the water main replacement based on their involvement with the roadway portion of the project and previous experience working with Aquarion Water. Burns Construction was selected to complete the construction.

In regards to the Laurel Ledge School connections, D. Lawrence indicated that Aquarion Water's records showed three connections to the school but information on the three connections were not incorporated into the project design. Aquarion Water's review of the design documents did not note all three connections to Laurel Ledge School were not on the drawings. It should have made Aquarion Water question the number of connections since three is odd – more than the normal amount of connections. The project mark-out would have included the three connections but Aquarion Water cannot confirm as the contractor and inspector do not recall the events completely. Aquarion Water coordinated with School Staff on the timing of connections and if the system was complete after the switchover was done.

After a brief discussion, D. Lawrence summarized that the three connections to Laurel Ledge School were not shown on the drawings indicating the requirement to switch over the water service connections to the new water main during construction. Also, communication related to the water service connections did not involve a formal review by the School Staff, Fire Marshal, and Aquarion Water during design. The communication that was done was by the construction inspector and designated school staff during construction. Also, the coordination of the change from the older 6" main to the new 8" main should have involved a formal meeting to finalize details related to the number of connections, timing and procedures that would be implemented after the connection to ensure systems were in proper working order. The meeting would have occurred 1-2 weeks prior to switching the connections from the older 6" to the new 8" main. Finally, D Lawrence indicated that Aquarion Water is requesting a meeting to review the pavement restoration plan and costs proposed by the Town of Beacon Falls. The town has indicated that the meeting will occur once costs associated with the repairs have been finalized. Once the meeting is held and parties agree, the Town of Beacon Falls would implement the solution and Aquarion Water would pay for the agreed upon costs for the work.

C. Bielik clarified the timeline of the issue. C. Bielik indicated that an inspector came out to test the system on the morning of March 29, 2017, and the test failed. It was immediately relayed to the Beacon Falls' Fire Marshall that there was an issue and a "fire watch" for the maximum of 4 hours while the building is occupied in order to maintain security. C. Bielik noted that there was enough time to get the children through the end of the school day and not disrupt anything. In the meantime, everything started immediately to fix the issue and by the next morning, everything was verified and fully operational. C. Bielik also noted that there were some communicational problems but everything was in process of being addressed and fixed immediately.

C. Bielik thanked the gentlemen for attending tonight's meeting. C. Bielik indicated that he would like to move Agenda Item 17c to Agenda Item 4 since the gentlemen from Aquarion Water are present.

Motion to change Agenda Item 17c, Old Business – Timber Ridge – Discussion, and move to new Agenda Item 4: **Krenesky/Bielik;no discussion;all ayes.**

4. Timber Ridge – Discussion

Kevin Dokla indicated that the fire hydrants are shut down on Timber Ridge and presented pictures for the Selectmen to review. The developer is indicating that it is Aquarion Water's problem, not theirs. C. Bielik indicated he reached out to Planning & Zoning as soon as he was made aware of the situation. It was verified that the completion of security and beautification is part of the contract with the developer. C. Bielik also noted that the developer indicated that there is more work to be done in the area and the developer is reluctant to put anything there then have to remove it when the work begins.

K. Dokla indicated that he cannot take two showers at the same time in his house, and is trying to grow grass but having a difficult time watering. D. Lawrence noted that Aquarion Water is a regulated utility and standards have to be met. D. Lawrence indicated that they have been working with the developer for some time and a pump station was put in. The developer did not account of irrigation and decided to use cisterns for fire suppression. Aquarion Water made the developer take off the fire hydrants off since they imply fire protection on the line. K. Dokla asked if they are aware that there are 3,000 square foot homes there and a cistern is not going to put out a fire. D. Lawrence noted that, as far as Aquarion Water is concerned, there is no fire protection there.

D. Lawrence indicated that there was talk about another phase up top and there was going to be storage tank put in. D. Lawrence also indicated that they have a punch list and a contract with the developer and will have a meeting to finalize everything.

After a brief discussion, C. Bielik indicated that they will be consulting with the Land Use Attorney as to pulling the bond if and when the developer is in default of the bond. C. Bielik noted that there are specific legal steps and processes that must be adhered to before the town can take action.

5. Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings

Motion to accept the minutes from the meetings – regular monthly meeting held on 05/08/2017; the special town meeting held on 05/17/017; the public hearing held on 05/24/2017; the joint Board of Selectmen/Finance meetings held on 6/05/2017: Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion; all ayes.

6. Resident Trooper/Police Report

Motion to accept the Resident Trooper/ Police Report as submitted for tonight's meeting: Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion; all ayes.

7. Wastewater Treatment Plant Report

Motion to accept the report as submitted by the Wastewater Treatment Plant for tonight's meeting: Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion; all ayes.

8. Report of Public Works

Motion to accept the report as submitted by Public Works for tonight's meeting: Krenesky/Bielik; discussion was by C. Bielik indicating that the last of the phone poles have been removed on Highland Avenue, the reseeding and aprons still need to be done though. M. Krenesky asked about wood chips on a property in the buffer area on South Circle and C. Bielik indicated that the home owner had discussions with the Engineering firm. There are concerns from the house owner on the upkeep and maintaining the area; all ayes.

9. Report of the Fire Marshal

Motion to accept the report as submitted by the Fire Marshall for tonight's meeting: Krenesky/Bielik; discussion was by M. Krenesky asking for the report to indicate who performed the work since there are assistants; all ayes.

10. Report of the Finance Manager

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: **Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion; all ayes.**

11. Report of the Tax Collector

Motions to accept the monthly report as submitted by the Tax Collector for tonight's meeting and forward to the Board of Finance for their next scheduled meeting: **Krenesky/Bielik; discussion was by C. Bielik indicated that the town exceeded the budgeted tax collection by about \$500,000 with one month yet to go. M. Krenesky asked for a copy of the delinquent taxes for property & motor vehicles as well as a list of the back-tax payment plans noting if they are up-to-date. C. Bielik indicated that M. Krenesky can ask for the information since he is one of the Selectmen; all ayes.**

12. Report of the Town Treasurer

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: **Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion; all ayes.**

13. 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/Bielik; no discussion; all ayes.**

14. Report of the Library

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

15. Report of the Fire Department

Motion to accept the report as submitted by the Fire Department for tonight's meeting: **Krenesky/Bielik; discussion was by C. Bielik thanking the Fire Dept. for an outstanding carnival and by Kenny George thanking everyone for attending the carnival and their support; all ayes.**

16. Any Other Reports

a. Report of the Custodian

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

b. Report of the Town Nurse

The next quarterly report from the Town Nurse is not due until June 30, 2017.

c. Report of the Animal Control Officer

Motion to accept the report as submitted by the Animal Control Officer for tonight's meeting: Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion; all ayes.

d. Report of the Community Media Building Committee

M. Krenesky noted that he moved forward on creating a survey to go out to the town but will bring it to the Selectmen before sending it out to the residents. The survey will ask if the residents are interested in developing the Wolfe Avenue property for a library, a library/community center/just a community center. Action was postponed until the July 2017 monthly meeting since P. Betkoski was not present tonight.

17. Correspondence

1. Thank you letters were received from the recipients of the Melbourne Trust Scholarships.
2. Three invoices from the clerk was received for the BOS meetings – one from 05/08/2017 in the amount of \$91.25; one from 05/17/2017 in the amount of \$42.50; and one from 05/31/2017 in the amount of 42.50.

Motion to approve and pay the clerk for the three invoices as submitted for tonight's meeting in the amount of \$176.25: Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion; all ayes.

3. A letter from the Registrars of Voters from 06/06/2017 was received regarding to the eligibility of voting at a town meeting. The Registrars researched the issue and found that a person eligible to vote at a town meeting are registered voter in the town of Beacon Falls or a property owner who is listed on the last certified Grand List.
4. A letter from the Valley Women Health Initiative soliciting nominations for recognition for community service.
5. An invitation from Beacon Hose Co. 1 was received regarding the dinner for Past Chief Jim Trzaski.
6. An email was received today from Max Merillo indicating that he was interested in the vacancy on the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission but his residency is in question now. His lease at Beacon Mill will expire at the end of July and he is looking for a new residency in Beacon Falls.
7. A letter from the State of CT DOT was received regarding the tank replacement work on Breault Road will proceed later this year.
8. An undated letter from the Planning & Zoning clerk informing the Board of Selectmen that the Planning & Zoning Commission recommend to have the application fee waived from Tiverton. The recommendation came from their meeting held on 05/18/2017 and applied to Application #P2016-207A. M. Krenesky and C. Bielik indicated that they need to have more information from Planning & Zoning.
9. M. Krenesky indicated that he received a letter from Country Enterprises LLC regarding their request to bid on the trash disposal.

18. Old Business

a. Trash Disposal Proposal – Discussion and Possible Action

C. Bielik indicated that currently the town is with Winter Brothers for the trash pickup and a contract with MERA for disposal. A request to make counter-proposal from Winter Brothers was received.

To date, the contract for review from Winter Brothers has not been received yet. C. Bielik indicated that action will be postponed since P. Betkoski is not present and there is a new company that would like to bid.

b. Riverbend Park Maintenance – Discussion and Possible Action

Joe Rodorigo indicated that a recording fee on the deed needs to be paid and once it has been paid, then the project will be closed out.

M. Krenesky had several questions. The first question was regarding the Bulky Waste site under negotiations with O & G. C. Bielik indicated that they are trying to schedule a meeting. M. Krenesky wanted to make a motion to have no funds from the 2016-2017 Budget nor the upcoming 2017-2018 Budget be utilized and/or transferred into a project related to building a bulky waste site. C. Bielik indicated that he will not second the motion. The next question was regarding the holding tanks at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The question is that the plan was to have them where the solar plant is now located. C. Bielik indicated that this will be added to the July agenda for discussion.

19. New Business

a. Appointments

1. Land Use/Open Space – Joe Fitzpatrick – Term Expired 11/08/2016

C. Bielik indicated that there is no candidate for this vacancy.

2. Inland Wetlands – to replace Jamie Lillis – Term Expires 11/07/2017

C. Bielik indicated that there is a candidate for this vacancy – Max Merillo. Based on M. Merillo's lease expiration at the end of July and looking for a new residency, C. Bielik indicated that they will hold off on appointing M. Merillo to Inland Wetlands.

3. Ethics Board – Alternate

C. Bielik indicated that there is no candidate for this vacancy.

4. South Central Connecticut Regional Water District's Representative Policy Board – Reappoint Tanya Gutierro (term expires on 06/30/2017)

C. Bielik indicated that P. Betkoski did some research as to this position and found that other municipalities have a representative from the Selectmen or Town Council. P. Betkoski indicated that he would be interested in the position.

Motion to appoint Peter Betkoski to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District, starting 07/01/2017: Bielik/Krenesky;no discussion;all ayes.

C. Bielik would like to thank Tanya Gutierro for her many years of service.

Motion to add Agenda Item 19a-5, Appointments – Dept. of Veterans Affairs Representative: Bielik/Krenesky;no discussion;all ayes.

5. Dept. of Veterans Affairs Representative

Motion to appointment Bruce Carlson as the Dept. of Veterans Affairs Representative: Krenesky/Bielik;no discussion;all ayes.

b. Request from Planning & Zoning to Waive Application Fees for Tiverton Application P-2016-207A

C. Bielik indicated that discussion and action will be postponed to the July meeting.

20. Budget Transfer Requests

C. Bielik indicated that there is one budget transfer requests to be addressed tonight and pass along to the Board of Finance for their next monthly meeting.

Motion to approve the budget transfer requests from Public Works as follows and pass it along to the Board of Finance:

1. From Line Item 10.90.59.1710, Highway Materials, in the amount of \$2,420.00 to Line Item 10.90.59.1714, Line Painting, in the amount of \$2,420.00.

Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion;all ayes.

21. Public Comment

Ted Goodman, Fieldstone Lane, asked if the property reassessment for the town be added to the July meeting agenda for the Board of Selectmen.

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

22. Executive Session

The Selectmen did not enter into an Executive Session tonight.

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 9:24 P.M.:
Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

The next regular monthly meeting for the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, July 10, 2017, starting at 7:30 PM in the Town Hall Assembly Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Board of Selectmen