

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



BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Special Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2017
(Subject to Revision)

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

First Selectman Chris Bielik called the special meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Town Hall Assembly Room

Members Present: First Selectman Chris Bielik and Selectman Mike Krenesky

Absent: Selectman Peter Betkoski

Others present: Tom Broesler, Finance Manager, EJ Smith, Luke Marshall, Rick Cherhoniak and 2 members of the public

C. Bielik noted that this was the last meeting with the current administration and the December 11 BOS meeting will mark the start of the next administration.

2. Comments from the Public

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

3. New Business

a. Appointments

1. Affirm hiring actions from BOS Special Meetings for Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent effective 10/6/17 and Assistant to Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent effective 10/25/17

Motion to affirm the hiring actions from previous BOS Special Meetings for Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent effective 10/6/17 and Assistant to Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent effective 10/25/17: Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion, all aye.

b. Reappointments

C. Bielik explained that under certain conditions the Board of Selectmen extends terms of members for one month to ensure quorums for meetings. He added that Selectman P. Betkoski previously indicated that he would prefer to defer some of the reappointments until he can be present at the December BOS meeting.

1. Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission - Shawn Styfco & Edward J. Smith

Motion to reappoint Edward J. Smith to the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

Mr. Smith was sworn in by C. Bielik.

Motion to extend Shawn Styfco's term on the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission for one month and revisit at the BOS December 11 meeting: **Krenesky/Bielik**; discussion: M. Krenesky questioned why this reappointment needs to be delayed. C. Bielik reiterated his reasons given at the start of this agenda item why a decision would not be made at this meeting; all aye.

2. Land Use/Open Space - Edward J. Smith

Motion to reappoint Edward J. Smith to the Land Use/Open Space Committee as the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission representative: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

Mr. Smith was sworn in by C. Bielik.

3. Planning & Zoning - Domenic Setaro

Motion to reappoint Domenic Setaro to the Planning & Zoning Commission: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

4. Water Pollution Control - David Finn & Rich Komar

Motion to extend the terms for David Finn and Rich Komar on the Water Pollution Control Authority for one month and revisit at the BOS December meeting: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

5. Tree Warden - Robert Pruzinsky

Motion to reappoint Robert Pruzinsky as Tree Warden: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

6. Northwest CT Public Safety Communications - Jeremy Rodorigo

Motion to reappoint Jeremy Rodorigo as Northwest CT Public Safety Communications representative: Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion, all aye.

7. Zoning Board of Appeals - Carl Gandarillas as alternate

Motion to reappoint Carl Gandarillas as an alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals: Krenesky/Bielik; no discussion, all aye.

c. New Electricity Provider - Discussion and Possible Action

C. Bielik invited Finance Manager T. Broesler and Municipal Energy Advisor R. Cherhoniak to participate in this discussion. C. Bielik noted he had three options with projection rates as of 1/1/18 for 12, 24, and 36 month terms from Global A Energy, an energy consultant, and proposed the possibility of changing electricity providers for the town.

Discussion: C. Bielik requested R. Cherhoniak to provide some background on this topic. He commented that Agara is one of the largest energy companies and their prices are reasonable. He added that Iso New England forecasted higher prices for capacity charges and that rates are normally set for 6-month terms.

T. Broesler noted the solar credits the town receives from Green Beacon LLC are at a fixed rate for 6 months to Eversource with an agreement to buy at a rate based on the prior 6 months. He had researched the lowest electricity rate for the town regardless of supplier. The less we pay for energy the more we'll get for credits. The town doesn't receive enough credits to fully cover energy costs.

R. Cherhoniak cautioned that the rates listed online may not be accurate as they are not updated real time and advised calling the company to get the current rate.

M. Krenesky commented that since there was a quote from only one company this action would not move forward and referred to the town policy of having 3 bids. He was not in favor of making any changes at this time.

R. Cherhoniak stated that rates will most likely be higher in December when the BOS meets again to consider bids.

T. Broesler asked what was the acceptable process for receiving bids. C. Bielik suggested having a third party shop the market for the town and make recommendations and to keep this item on the agenda for discussion at the December BOS meeting.

M. Krenesky asked about the contract with Green Beacon LLC and if there would be any problem or penalty to change providers. T. Broesler said no, the town would continue to get energy credits as it doesn't matter to Eversource. He added they are looking at other meters in order to optimize the town's return.

C. Bielik expressed his appreciation to T. Broesler and R. Cherhoniak for their insight on this subject.

d. Tax Refunds

A list of tax rebates to be refunded was submitted by the Tax Collector with a total of 12 recipients for a total of \$3,492.35 and is as follows:

Shannon Griffin in the amount of \$355.81
Roman Woloszyn in the amount of \$11.08
Behar Jashanica in the amount of \$35.58
Anne Kennedy in the amount of \$16.23
Meadowbrook Homes Inc. in the amount of \$28.62
JP Morgan Chase Bank NA in the amount of \$296.67
Honda Lease Trust in the amount of \$36.13
Vault Trust in the amount of \$524.96
VW Credit Leasing LTC in the amount of \$770.27
Toyota Lease Trust in the amount of \$896.41
USB Leasing LT in the amount of \$440.48
Junfeng Zhou in the amount of \$80.11

Motion to approve and pay the 12 tax rebate refunds to the individual and/or organizations as listed previously, and as submitted for tonight's meeting by the Tax Collector for a grand total of \$3,492.35: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

e. Resolution for EMPG Generator Grant Application - Discussion and Approval

T. Broesler explained that this grant was for replacing the generator at the fire house.

RESOLVED, that the Town of Beacon Falls may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and FURTHER RESOLVED, that Christopher J. Bielik, as First Selectman of the Town of Beacon Falls is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Beacon Falls and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents.

Motion to approve the EMPG Generator Grant Application resolution as read: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

4. **Budget Transfer Requests**

C. Bielik indicated there was one transfer request to be addressed which had already been approved by the Board of Finance at their meeting on November 14.

Motion to approve the budget transfer request as follows: from Line Item 10.90.83.1170 Contingency, in the amount of \$1,331.00 to Line Item 10.90.57.1645 Emergency 911 Dispatch: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

Motion to call a recess at 7:39 P.M.: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

Motion to end recess at 7:42 P.M.: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

5. Executive Session

C. Bielik asked T. Broesler if he preferred to have the following discussion in an open public forum or in Executive Session. Mr. Broesler requested this matter be discussed in Executive Session.

Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing of two personnel matters, the Finance Manager Position and the rate increase for Public Works Maintainer I, at 7:42 P.M.: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

a. Discussion of Finance Manager Position and Possible Action

b. Approval of rate increase for Public Works Maintainer I

Executive Session ended at 7:47 P.M.

Motion to approve the Finance Manager position to include paid holidays for normally scheduled work days: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

Motion to increase rate of pay for Jeff Kean to 100% of the Maintainer I pay scale per the CBA: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

6. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, C. Bielik asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen special meeting at 7:50 P.M.: **Krenesky/Bielik**; no discussion, all aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Melville
Acting Administrative Assistant