

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

**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monthly Meeting
July 9, 2017
Draft MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)**

Please be advised that the Town of Beacon Falls Board of Selectman has scheduled a special meeting for **Monday, July 9, 2018**. The meeting will begin at **7:30 PM** at **Laurel Ledge Auditorium**, 30 Highland Ave, Beacon Falls, Ct.

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: Financial Manager; and 13 members of the public.

Chris Bielik: [calls Gerald Smith to come to the front]. If anyone pays attention to the minutes, Mr. Smith volunteered his services to fill the position of chaplain for BF police. The chaplain provides spiritual guidance and comfort to PD in cases where they need those services. Someone right on hand in case there is a difficult call. Mr. Smith is on call to provide those immediate responses. I can't say thank you enough to volunteer. We officially made that appointment months ago and it takes a while for trappings of that office to catch up, but we have some things for you. [Called Ann Smith to come up to the front]. Thank you for allowing him to this. Whenever you are doing something in the public service, if you don't have the support of the person at home, you aren't doing anything. So I can't thank you enough. We have an official BFPD chaplain hat, and the all important official shield. There are some additional pieces of attire in the pipeline, but I did not want to hold off on the presentation. Thank you on behalf of town and the rest of the force here.

[CB swears in Gerald Smith]

2. Comments from the Public

Raymond Binkowski, 52 Ceder Lane: Concerning the property next to the town garage of Public Works Department and sewage treatment, I have so many concerns about how it happened that solar panels were put there when this property was being used so well. With the brush and the leaves and salt mix, we used it so well, and suddenly its gone. It was never proposed like that and then overnight it was put there. It's hard to replace and we have been unable to find a place to replace it. It's a domino effect. It happened well before the storm. We had dumpsters, we never had them before. Now fireworks were cancelled because the brush at Pent Field. All this came about because we sublet this property and nobody knows how it happened. We need to find if it was done illegally. I don't think BOS ever voted after the zoning board approved it and one way or another we are going to get to the bottom of this. Thank you.

Sean Styfco, 71 Lasky Road: I actually think it was very rude of you to stare at your watch this whole time while Mr. Binkowski was addressing his concerns, because you are very adamant about the three minute time. Thank you.

David Damico, 1 Clark Lane: I was understanding that the meeting tonight was to approve money for the town wide cleanup.

CB: That was the 6pm hearing.

DD: And how is the estimated, is it based on tonnage or time?

CB: This is public comment, usually not interactive but this was addressed earlier at the public hearing. RFP was based on 15,000 cubic yards.

DD: How many days? What kind of numbers are we talking about as far as cleanup goes?

CB: Based on town meeting tonight, based on the estimates were were able to scientifically come up with, based on original RFP when chasing FEMA standards, was well over \$500-600k. The vote tonight was not to exceed \$300k for this clean up.

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

3. Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings

Motion to accept the minutes from the meetings – regular monthly meeting held on June 11, 2018 and BOS/BOF Joint Meeting held on June 27, 2018: Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

4. Resident Trooper/Police Report

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

5. Wastewater Treatment Plant Report

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

6. Report of Public Works

Motion to accept the report as submitted by Public Works for tonight's meeting:

Krenesky/Betkoski;

MK: is PW keeping track of how much material they are moving?

CB: yes

MK: And where are they collecting?

CB: Pent Road

MK: I wanted to make clear not just residents are using that site. Lots of small trucks passing that way. It is out of control right now. Road should be chained.; all aye.

7. Report of the Fire Marshal

Motion to accept the report as submitted by the Fire Marshall for tonight's meeting:

Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.

CB: For the record. I've received half a dozen calls from people in town who are pleased with the performance of Keith Griffin, temporary fire marshal.

8. 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:

*CB: The financial manager is present for any questions. This report is for the period ending June 30th. There will be a final reconciliation and adjustments over next couple of months. End of year clean up transfers probably next month, before end of August. **Krenesky/Betkoski; no further discussion; all ayes.***

9. 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/Betkoski;**

CB: Note the last page, and prior year tax collections, and it looks like collected taxes exceeded projections by about 50%. Kudos to Maryann Holloway for a job well done; all ayes.

10. 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:

Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.

11. 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.

12. Report from Economic Development

Motions to accept the monthly report as submitted by the Economic Development Committee for tonight's meeting and forward to the Board of Finance for their next scheduled meeting:

MK: Is this report sent electronically? Can it be?

PB: What is going on I-95?

CB: A joint EDC effort to share in marketing expense for the industrial park. Check with Sadie to see prototypes. Looks good. Nice message.

Betkoski/Krenesky; no further discussion; all ayes.

13. Report from Library Director

Motion to accept the report as submitted by the Library Director for tonight's meeting:

Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.

CB: Thanking the clerk for taking over Robotics and Thank You to Michelle Horgan and Sue Dowdell for their work on the Willy Wonka performance. A very good job and fun was had by all.

MK: Look at the percentage change: almost every line item here is going negative. I would like a report showing the last several years to see if there is an actual trend showing just going down, or if this is just a blip. Adults going down by 10%. If we could get some way to compile it from other reports, or an excel spreadsheet.

CB: The library director should be able to, but it's hard to miss downloadable audiobooks has a 6% increase, and see if there is a tradeoff between that. Overall number is only down 5% from prior year.

MK: Let's see if there is a real trend, because we spend a large amount on physical books. Sets up a different perspective.

14. Report of the Fire Department

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

CB: This meeting is being held after the results of Fireman's' Carnival. No actual numbers, they hold them pretty closely. But from observation exceptionally well attended and expecting large numbers from that. Packed, packed, packed! Congrats and our thanks to members of BH1. Kyle Brennan, the carnival chair, and his group did a magnificent job, and pulled off a successful event.

15. Any Other Reports

1. Report of the Custodian

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

2. Report of the Town Nurse

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

CB: Just to give Sue some additional kudos, We can't thank her enough. Two weekends ago when heat levels projected above 100 degrees, she volunteered to be at the cooling station and Sue and Bernie had a knitting party. No customers, just well wishers, but better safe than sorry. She stayed with bernie to make sure she had company.

3. Report of the Animal Control Officer

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

4. Report of the Community Media Center Building Committee

Motion to accept the report from the Community Media Center Building Committee as submitted for tonight's meeting: **Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.**

5. Report of the Grant Writer

Motion to accept the report from the Grant Writer as submitted for tonight's meeting:
Krenesky/Betkoski; no discussion; all ayes.

16. Correspondence

1. Three invoices from the clerk was received for the BOS meetings

Motion to approve and pay the clerk for the three invoices as submitted for tonight's meeting (June 4, 2018: \$35, June 11, 2018: \$83, June 27:\$67): **Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes**

2. CB: Letter for entire BOS and town of Beacon Falls, from Maria Teixeira, thanking us for receipt scholarship, and we also received one from Jen DiZazzo, the other recipient. Nice to know that winners, as deserving as they are, are considerate of people behind the money.

3. CB: Jeremy Rodrigo, July 6th email, noting his term on EDC is expiring and interested in continuing his service.

4. CB: I did receive an email from Steve Ruhl, town historian and Park and Rec chair. He has asked to step down from the Community Media Center Building Committee. His prospective replacement, Ann Cook, has volunteered to replace him and reached out us as well.

Motion to accept his stepping down from the CMCBC: **Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes**

17. Old Business

A. Proposed Change in Land Use Permits Ordinance (Zoning Compliance)- Discussion & Possible Action

CB: Asked for P&Z to make a recommendation, they have done so and asked us to approve them. This will be pushed out to town attorney, then a town meeting to enact the change.

PB: The numbers are fair.

CB: They are in line with surrounding municipalities, while still giving us an advantage.

MK: New or all existing?

CB: All existing ones that were at lower levels. These are the new levels recommended by P&Z. The zoning inspector had input. Lots of eyes and staffwork

MK: Whose responsibility is it to go and get a permit if they are doing anything to their property? Owner or contractor?

CB: technically the owner, but in practice the contractor often goes to get it. But if work is being done and contractor did not do it, it rests on the homeowner.

Motion to accept the proposed ordinance changes and forward to town attorney for review:
Krenesky/Betkoski; no further discussion; all ayes.

B. Proposed Transfer Station Fee Changes- Discussion & Possible Action

CB: Had this one for a little while. The way we run the TS is that people are supposed to pay \$2 to town clerk to get a sticker.

PB: Public Works is asked for them all the time.

MK: They don't want to handle money at the transfer station on site for that

CB: That is the wrong time and the wrong place when they are there directing traffic and handling drop offs

MK: when we instituted this, you got the sticker, not numbered, not regulated, and the question becomes how crazy do we get with this? Do we number and track stickers like we do with a dog license? It can get off the rails. I have no problem with current process but how do you know who bought the sticker, or borrowed? Ordinance does not say sticker has to be stuck to windshield.

CB: Do we have enough need, do we look at this as a way to fund transfer station, is the admin headache involved in making a change of some kind worth it? Is there enough value here to offset that? I will entertain a motion in any direction. Things with freon, propane, some towns don't take, or have a high fee, but some have no fee. We are high in some places, low in others.

MK: Unless we are making a motion to accept, there is no recommendation. I don't see how we can entertain this until we get an actual recommendation.

CB: I like that, will keep on agenda for next week, get a recommendation from public works.

Postpone actions on item B for august meeting

c. Ordinance Codification Project- Discussion & Possible Action

CB: I brought a copy of the big book. I had a discussion with town clerk that was a little different from the conversation we had a month ago. Then when asking for volunteers, we got one, Gary Komarowsky, who has been doing work already, already going through it. Some questions still to be answered. Less structured than maybe Len originally proposed when initially

discussed. We had then discussed a committee, periodic meetings through course of the review process. Len and Gary have done work on this, and now Len's recommendation is that this is not best way to go about this. There are questions, very specific, that will have to have legal opinion and be farmed out directly. Can be broken down in digital format and sent to the attorney in question and sent back. Gary has been doing some of that already. Its more of a individual review process that is needed rather than a group process. So mabe part is for P&Z, and that would get farmed out, too. Len is recommending that an ad hoc approach may be the best for it. Maybe we don't need a committee. Len is comfortable with the process as is now. He reached out to Don Sorrentina, see if there are some areas where he can lend his expertise. This is kind of our way to get our way through this. Progress that Len is comfortable with already, should get us to the target date no problem. Status update next month. No action to take other than thank Gary for his effort so far and still to come.

MK: Just something to bring up, it's my understanding that a decision was made to move the dead files, HR files, out of the building, to McGuiness.

CB: It's a recommendation, not done yet. We can put on as an agenda item for next month.

18. New Business

A. Appointments

1. Land Use/Open Space – Joe Fitzpatrick – Term Expired 11/08/2016 - no name yet

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

1. Community/ Media Center- Ann Cook to Replace Steve Ruhl

Motion to appoint Ann Cook to the Community Media Center Building Committee:
Betkoski/Krenesky; no further discussion; all ayes.

b. Reappointments-

1. Economic Development Commission – Jeremy Rodrigo- Term Expired 5/1/18

Motion to reappointment Jeremy Rodrigo to the Economic Development Commission:

Krenesky/Betkoski; no further discussion; all ayes.

C. Tax Incentive Program Applications- Discussion & Possible Action

CB: Two applications for the program were received digitally. One from Goldenrod and one is from Dibra. Both business owners made their presentations at special BOF meeting in June and they approved both application requests.

Motion to approve the tax incentive program application for Goldenrod: Krenesky/Betkoski; no further discussion; all ayes.

Motion to approve the tax incentive program application for Dibra:

MK: Questions. This is for 113 south main?

CB: The new building.

MK: He has already put the building up, so what is this for?

CB: The building not finished.

MK: There are a number of challenges with the business. But at the same time, he's here.

Krenesky/Bielik; no further discussion; 2 aye, 1 abstention (Betkoski).

MK: This should have been under correspondence, but planning for parks and rec, the 150 year anniversary committee planning. They should start meeting, get it on their agenda. They are a big part of what types of plans and events are made.

19. Budget Transfer Requests

Motion to approve the budget transfer requests, \$3000 from Contingency 1090831170 to Part Time Patrol Wages 1090531041, current year request, 18-19. as follows and pass it along to the Board of Finance:

Betkoski/Krenesky; CB: This covers a percentage pay rate increase 2.5%. BOF has in the past been encouraging our force to make max use of part time officer line. As far as scheduling, maxing number of people filling the shifts. This is a way of showing part time officers that we value their contributions the same as our full time officers. ; all ayes.

20. Public Comment

Gary Komarowsky, 15 Second Street: Point of clarification- Am I on the codification committee?

CB: We're not actually forming a codification committee, but the person the the clerk needs, he will reach out to directly. But you will stay in the capacity that you have been so far. Nothing formal to appoint you to but you can't go either.

GK: Bringing up the issue of police body cams under the grant. Sorely disappointed that the BOF did not move that forward. I think that is a direction that the town needs to move forward in. This is a penny wise- pound foolish issue, potential for a million dollar lawsuit.

Ray Binkowski, 52 Cedar Lane: I am not into computers or all that, not into all of that technical stuff. How do I find out answers to certain questions, like how much money before the BOS has to bring something to a vote. How do i do that?

CB: Feel free to put any question in writing, get it to the town hall, clerk's office or BOS secretary, and then it will go to the department that is responsible for providing that data to you.

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

21. Executive Session

The Selectmen did not enter into an 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 8:35 P.M.: **Betkoski/Krenesky; no discussion; all ayes.**

The next regular monthly meeting for the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, August 13, 2018, starting at 7:30 PM in the Town Hall Assembly Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Vardon
Temporary Clerk, Board of Selectmen
Board of Selectmen Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2018