

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
C/O TOWN HALL
10 MAPLE AVENUE
BEACON FALLS, CT 06403

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
VOTE ON PROPOSED REVISIONS TO FOUR (4) EXISTING
TOWN ORDINANCES
JUNE 19, 2013
MINUTES
(Draft – Subject to Approval)

First Selectman Gerard F. Smith called the Town Meeting held at the Beacon Falls Firehouse to order at 7:06 P.M. with the Pledge to the flag.

PRESENT: First Selectman G. Smith, Selectmen D. D’Amico, C. Bielick and approximately 175 Town residents.

Clerk read call for this Town Meeting. **Joseph Rodorigo made motion to accept the call as read, 2nd by Richard Minnick. All voted aye.**

G. Komarewsky made motion to appoint Karen Wilson to serve as Clerk for the meeting, 2nd by Helen Mis. No more nominations three (3) times. All voted aye. One ballot cast for Karen Wilson

Joseph Rodorigo made motion to appoint Gerard Smith to serve as Moderator for this Town Meeting, 2nd by Richard Minnick. No more nominations three (3) times. All aye. One ballot cast for Gerard Smith.

Joseph Rodorigo made motion to have a show of hands as the method of voting, 2nd by Michael Pratt. Vote by show of hands: Vote by show of hands was: all voted yes, with 2 no votes.

First Selectman G. Smith appointed Selectmen David D’Amico and Christopher Bielick to serve as counters.

G. Smith noted that a Public Hearing had already been held on the proposed revisions to the four (4) existing Ordinances.

1. Revision to Ordinance Establishing a Land Use Committee (Open Space, Parks, Natural Areas, Playgrounds, Trails and Walkways or any other Land Use). G. Smith noted the proposed change is to add the Land Steward and W.P.C.A. Commission member to the Land Use Committee. **A. Botticello made motion to approve the proposed change to this Ordinance, 2nd by D. Scott. Vote by show of hands: 162 Aye Votes, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions. Motion passed.**
2. Revision to Ordinance Concerning Local Option Tax Relief for Elderly and Disabled Homeowners. G. Smith noted the proposed change is to change the calculation from the current .05% to 10%. The change would allow for the current \$500 tax abatement to remain with the cap to remain at \$500. He

also noted that State Statute does not allow the Town to remove the calculation. He also stressed that the only item up for discussion would be the proposed calculation change, with other suggestions to be heard at another time. He asked those wishing to speak clearly give their name and address for the record.

Gary Komarewsky made motion to vote on the proposed revision to this Ordinance and keep the calculation at the current .05%, 2nd by Richard Minnick.

Discussion, Comments, Questions

1. Lauren Classey, Munson Road, said she would like to see the income limits lowered, with G. Smith noting this issue was not up for discussion at this time.
2. Gary Komarewsky, 15 Second Street said he is urging everyone to reject this proposed Ordinance change citing facts that there is still available land at both Pond Spring Village and Chatfield Farms for expansion of the age-restricted housing, and that more 'baby boomers' are coming of age, adding the mil rate will go up because of these factors.
3. Tom Beatrice, 35 October Lane, noted the mention of 10% of the Grand List and asked what the numbers were. G. Smith noted he did not have the Assessors figures on the Grand List. T. Beatrice added that Connecticut has the lowest Gross National Product in the country and that the unemployment rate is 20%. He added that the seniors living in Beacon Falls do not cost the Town anything as people living in the age-restricted housing pay for their own trash pick-up, snowplowing, etc. As a senior citizen he wants to be around for awhile for his children and grandchildren.
4. Rodger Addil, 26 Fieldstone Lane, suggested that anything that the Town can do to help its seniors to be able to live in this Town would help, adding that the seniors do not have children in the school system who need to be educated.
5. **Dino Verrelli, 33 Kaleas Way, made motion to bring this motion to a vote, 2nd by R. Minnick. Vote to approve the proposed change to the Ordinance by show of hands: 125 Yes to approve the proposed revision, 38 No votes, 1 abstention. Motion passed.**

3. Revision to Ordinance Regarding Noise.

G. Smith noted this Ordinance would add ATV activity on residential properties and restrictions. **Joseph Dowdell made motion to approve the proposed revision to the Noise Ordinance, 2nd by M. Krenesky. Vote by show of hands: 146 Yes, 6 No, and 0 Abstentions. Motion passed.**

4. Revision to Ordinance Providing for Biennial Elections in the Town of Beacon Falls as per Public Act 159-1949 Session.

G. Smith noted this revision would eliminate the Board of Assessors because the Town had hired a full-time paid Assessor, eliminating the need for a Board of Assessors. He added this is merely cleaning up the language of the existing Ordinance. If the Board of Assessors is still included then those positions would have to be included in upcoming election ballots.

Susan Cable made motion to approve the revision to the Biennial Election Ordinance, 2nd by A. Tortori. Vote by show of hands: 147 Yes, 1 No, 0 Abstentions. Motion passed.

With no other business, **Joe Rodorigo made motion to adjourn this Town Meeting, 2nd by E. Groth. By show of hands all voted aye.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Wilson, Clerk for Special Town Meeting – Vote on Proposed Revisions to four (4) Existing Ordinances.