

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



**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Special Town Meeting  
August 31, 2017  
(Subject to Revision)**

**1. Call to Order/ Pledge to the Flag**

First Selectman Chris Bielik called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

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

Registrars of Voters were present in the event that they may be needed.

Others Present: 139 members of the public

**2. Purpose for the Town Meeting**

To Vote on the Following:

1. Transfer of \$26,915.00 from the FY 2016-17 Medical Insurance (10.90.13.1245) Budget Line Item to Social Security (10.0.13.1240) Budget Line Item.

2. To expend from Unassigned Fund Balance the following amounts:

a.) Town Hall Phone System Upgrades	\$29,000.00
b.) Police and Fire Departments Security Upgrades	\$43,000.00
c.) Fire Department Personal Protection Equipment	\$30,000.00
d.) Fire Department Portable Radios	\$25,000.00

### **3. Clerk Reads Call**

C. Bieliek asked for the temporary clerk to read the call. Marla Scirpo, Clerk for the Board of Selectmen read the Legal Notice for the Town of Beacon Falls, CT, for the Special Town Meeting as posted in the newspaper and as follows:

The Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen will hold a **Special Town Meeting** of the electors and citizens of the Town of Beacon Falls, on **Thursday, August 31, 2017** beginning at **7:00 P.M.** in the **Town Hall Assembly Room, 10 Maple Avenue, Beacon Falls, CT 06403** to **VOTE** on the following:

1. Transfer of \$26,915.00 from the FY 2016-17 Medical Insurance (10.90.13.1245) Budget Line Item to Social Security (10.90.13.1240) Budget Line Item.

2. To expend from Unassigned Fund Balance the following amounts:

a.) Town Hall Phone System Upgrades	\$29,000.00
b.) Police and Fire Departments Security Upgrades	\$43,000.00
c.) Fire Department Personal Protection Equipment	\$30,000.00
d.) Fire Department Portable Radios	\$25,000.00

Dated at Beacon Falls, Connecticut, this 23rd day of August 2017.

Motion to accept the call as read by the temporary clerk: Helen Mis/Bob Covino; no discussion; all ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Chris Bieliek asked for the public to say their answers. There were no voices heard when asked for a nay vote nor when asked for an abstention vote.

### **4. Nomination of Permanent Clerk for Town Meeting**

C. Bieliek asked for a nomination for a permanent clerk for tonight's town meeting. Mike Krenesky nominated Marla Scirpo and the nomination was seconded by Peter Betkoski. C. Bieliek asked three times for any other nominations. There were no other nominations for the permanent clerk and one ballot was cast for Marla Scirpo as the Permanent Clerk for tonight's town meeting.

## 5. **Nomination of Permanent Moderator for Town Meeting**

M. Scirpo asked for a nomination for a moderator for tonight's town meeting. Peter Betkoski nominated Chris Bielik and the nomination was seconded by Helen Mis. M. Scirpo asked three times for any other nominations. There were no other nominations for the moderator and one ballot was cast for Chris Bielik as the Permanent Moderator for tonight's town meeting.

At this time, C. Bielik asked for a motion to recess the Special Town Meeting in order to move the meeting from the Town Hall Assembly Room to St. Michael's Church Lyceum due to the number of the public present.

Motion to recess the Special Town Meeting at 7:10 PM in order to move the meeting to St. Michael's Church Lyceum from the Town Hall Assembly Room: **Lee Edwards/Helen Mis; no discussion; in the opinion of the moderator, the ayes won the vote.**

The Special Town Meeting came out of recess at 7:19 PM and was now being held in St. Michael's Church Lyceum.

## 6. **Discussion for Method of Voting**

C. Bielik asked for a motion for the method of voting for tonight's town meeting. Harry Roscoe made a motion for the method of voting to be by hand and Dave Pokras seconded the motion of voting to be by hand.

Ned Grace suggested that due to the number of the people present, a vote by voice may be a better suggestion. The time of having everyone raising their hands and counting may be a lengthy process. Harry Roscoe withdrew his motion.

Ned Grace made a motion to have a voice vote for each item and the opinion of the moderator would confirm the vote, and if the voice vote is not clear, then the moderator would ask for a show of hands. This motion was seconded by Kathy Grace.

Motion to have a voice vote for each item and the opinion of the moderator would confirm the vote, and if the voice vote is not clear, then the moderator would ask for a show of hands: **Ned Grace/Kathy Grace; no further discussion; in the opinion of the moderator, the ayes won the vote.**

C. Bielik indicated that he will take each of the two questions in turn tonight.  
C. Bielik explained the need for the transfer of \$26,915.00 from the Medical Insurance budget line item to the Social Security budget line item.

After a brief discussion and questions by members of the public, C. Bielik asked for a motion to move the call for Question #1 to vote.

**7. Motion to Move the Call for Questions #1 to Vote**

Motion to move the call for Question #1 to vote: Dave Pokras/Jeremy Rodorigo; no discussion; all ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Chris Bielik asked for the public to say their answers. There were no voices heard when asked for a nay vote nor when asked for an abstention vote.

C. Bielik indicated the motion passes for moving the call to vote.

**8. Motion to vote on the Transfer of \$26,915.00 from the FY 2016-17 Medical Insurance (10.90.13.1245) Budget Line Item to Social Security (10.90.13.140) Budget Line Item**

Motion to approve Question #1 on tonight's agenda: Mike Krenesky/Kathy Grace; no discussion; all ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Chris Bielik asked for the public to say their answers. There were no voices heard when asked for a nay vote nor when asked for an abstention vote.

C. Bielik indicated the motion to approve Question #1 on tonight's agenda passes unanimously.

C. Bielik explained the need to expend from the Unassigned Fund Balance the amounts as indicated in the call read by the clerk.

After a discussion and questions by members of the public, C. Bielik asked for a motion to move the call for Question #2 to vote.

**9. Motion to Move the Call for Questions #2 to Vote**

Motion to move the call for Question #2 to vote: Mike Krenesky/Peter Betkoski; no further discussion; all ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Chris Bielik asked for the public to say their answers. There were no voices heard when asked for a nay vote nor when asked for an abstention vote.

C. Bielik indicated the motion passes for moving the call to vote.

**10. Motion to expend from Unassigned Fund Balance the following amounts: a.) Town Hall Phone System Upgrades = \$29,000.00; b.) Police and Fire Department Security Upgrades = \$43,000.00; c.) Fire Department Person Protection Equipment = \$30,000.00; and d.) Fire Department Portable Radios = \$25,000.00**

Motion to approve Question #2 on tonight's agenda: Bill McCasland/Jeremy Rodorigo; no further discussion; in the opinion of the moderator, the voice vote is too close to call and the vote will move to a hand vote.

C. Bielik asked for two of the members of the public to be the counters for tonight's hand vote on Question #2.

C. Bielik indicated the motion to approve Question #2 on tonight's agenda failed by a hand vote of 30 ayes, 113 nays, and 0 abstentions.

**11. Adjournment**

With completion of the voting, C. Bielik asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Motion to adjourn tonight's Board of Selectmen Special Town meeting at 8:06 PM: Ned Grace/Dave Pokras; no discussion;all aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo  
Clerk, Board of Selectmen