

**Regular Meeting**

The regular meeting of the Beacon City Council held at the Municipal Center, One Municipal Plaza March 15, 2010 was called to order beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Council Members Present:**

Mayor Steve K. Gold

Casale, Randy – Council Member – Ward Three

Landisi, Jerry – Council Member – Ward One

Pasti, Sara – Council member – Ward Four

Mansfield, George – Council Member – At Large

**Also Present:**

City Administrator – Meredith Robson

City Attorney – Nicholas M. Ward-Willis

**Excused:**

Kelly, Charles – Council Member – Ward Two

Fredericks, Marlene – Council Member – At Large

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**First Opportunity for Public Comments: Pertaining to any, item Maximum time for this section is thirty minutes. Maximum time for individual Public Comment is Four Minutes:**

**Neil Caplan – 120 Howland Avenue** – Regarding New York State cutting twenty five percent of the operating budgets that will close eighty three state parks throughout New York State. This is a huge part of tourism and many will lose their jobs. There is an EPF Grant that was submitted a grant for five million dollars which if it is approved will save forty three State Parks. Council is urged to write a letter from Governor Patterson Office, legislatures, etc. Bannerman Island – Mr. Caplan is the Executive Director and spoke this evening with regards to stabilizing the Castle. Two and one half sides of the Main Tower is falling down. They are in need of volunteers from Advisory Council, Board, and anyone who can help out in any way on this Island. Senator Chuck Schumer has submitted for emergency funds. The infrastructure needs to be replaced but first the building needs to be fixed. There are a few events that will be happening such as a concert at the Chance, and many other functions.

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**Tom Baldino 19 North Street** – Now there is a good chance that Hudson Baylor will be taking care of the recyclables. Now the City needs to address clean composting. The CAC has a plan in mind whereas jobs can be created for students trained in clean composting, which is environmental friendly. The CAC as well as the City Council endorses the Second Saturday each month and June 12<sup>th</sup> is the First Annual Garden Compost Tour. There will be plentiful information for all regarding Clean Composting and keeping our environment clean.

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**Vane Lashua – 95 Liberty Street** – the census forms have been sent out and most should have received today. The form is very simple to fill out and it includes a postage paid envelope. It costs forty cents to mail the census questionnaire out. It was noted that if someone does not sent the census back, it will cost the taxpayers one hundred dollars for a Census Worker to knock on your door. It does count the people in our area, which brings a certain amount of representation, and federal dollars back to us. In 2012 there will be a new Congressional Map. Further he stated that he attended a conference on how to make your town or city “green” Council Member Mansfield spoke regarding a resident calling from Forrestal Heights stating that residents have been warned about the Census Workers will be knocking at the door. Lane approached the podium to explain a Census Worker will be like a Fire Inspector, Utility Worker they MUST have an ID and a phone number that one can call to see if they are creditable or not. NEVER give your social security number or any personal information. Mayor Gold stated that it would be helpful if Vane could share with City Hall the names of the Census Workers and the Phone Number to give out to the residents in Beacon. In

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addition, it would be helpful to have this information put on the website. The Mayor thanked Mr. Lashua for taking this task on and being responsible as a volunteer.

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**Lou Amoroso – 40 Vail Avenue** – Regarding a condition that he has been bringing to the Council for the past year or so. What impact does it have when the City of Beacon makes decisions? On the corner of East Main Street and Verplanck Avenue, he believes that there are codes on how wide the streets, lane, sidewalk, how high and thick of a curb, and the site distance. There is not enough room on the corner of East Main Street and Verplanck for a pickup truck with side view mirrors without crossing the double yellow line, which is a violation of the laws in New York State. The view from both left and right the cars are parked too close to the curb that another vehicle cannot see into that intersection.

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**Kathy Deuteran – 27 South Brett Street** – Regarding the cuts to the Office for the Aging and Senior Nutrition Program. First she thanked Council Member Landisi as he was the first to step up and said “what can I do”. The other is Council Member Casale he also said “what can I do”? I thought was to get Dunkin Donuts to donate donuts to Forrestal Heights and Hamilton Fish Plaza, which they did and the first day they donated twelve dozen donuts for our Seniors. It was further noted that the County still has five hundred seniors that do not receive meals on Fridays, and out of that there are seventy seniors right here in Beacon. State of New York was awarded six million dollars in stimulus money for senior nutrition. ZERO dollars came to Dutchess County, which is horrific, and where was our representation. National Night Out is August 3<sup>rd</sup> this year. She promises that it will be bigger and better this year, and will be pleading for help.

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**Elizabeth Morse – 32 Union Street** – She is here to comment on the heroic job that the City of Beacon did during the snow storm. It was a bad storm, but one must ask will I be part of the problem or part of the solution. Everyone should be prepared within one’s own home. Check on your neighbors and just say that you are here if you need me.

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**Public Hearings:**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Beacon will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 15, 2010 at the City of Beacon Municipal Center, One Municipal Plaza, Beacon, New York at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter is reached on the agenda, to consider a Special Use Permit for a Proposed Accessory Apartment, to be located at 41 Eliza Street, Identified on City Tax Maps as 6054-29-019865, owned by Hector Cordero.

A copy of the proposal is available for inspection at the Municipal Center, lower level, One Municipal Plaza, Beacon, New York during regular business hours (Monday-Friday 8:30a.m.–3:30 p.m.)

All interested persons and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on said proposals at the date, time and place aforesaid.

**Motion** by Council Member Mansfield to Close Public Hearing, Seconded by Council Member Pasti

All Council Members Present voted in Favor to Close Public Hearing

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**Community Segment:**

**Proclamation – First Annual City of Beacon Garden Tour**

**WHEREAS**, that the City Council endorses the designation of Second Saturday on June 12, 2010 as the First Annual City of Beacon Garden Compost Tour

**WHEREAS**, this Will Increase Awareness of Composting and Principles Of Zero-Waste.

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**WHEREAS**, the City Of Beacon Garden Club Will Share Information About Composting Techniques And Products.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Beacon through the City of Beacon Garden Club will reduce Garbage Output.

**WHEREAS**, The City Of Beacon Through The City Of Beacon Garden Club Encourages Fertilizing Of Lawns And Gardens Without Chemicals.

**Now, therefore**, I do hereby proclaim June 13, 2010, as the First Annual City of Beacon Garden Compost Tour

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**Proclamation – Epilepsy Awareness**

1. Whereas Purple Day is a global effort dedicated to promoting epilepsy awareness in countries around the world, and
2. Whereas epilepsy is one of the most common neurological conditions, estimated to affect over 50 million people worldwide and over 3 million people in the United States, and
3. Whereas one in ten persons will have at least one seizure during his or her lifetime, and
4. Whereas the public is often unable to recognize common seizure types, or how to respond with appropriate first aid, and
5. Whereas Purple Day will be celebrated on March 26 annually to increase understanding, reduce stigma and improve the quality of life for people with epilepsy throughout the country and globally.

Now, therefore, I do hereby proclaim March 26, 2010, "Purple Day", in an effort to raise awareness of epilepsy in the United States of America.

**Pam Seegler and Larisa**– Regarding Epilepsy Awareness Day which is March 26<sup>th</sup> which was started by a eight year old in Canada, she had seizures and felt isolated as nobody would play with her as they were afraid. Pamela asked the City Council to put together a Proclamation and this in combination with the Sargent Schools, where we asked if each child could wear purple on March 26<sup>th</sup> to support this cause.

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**Approval of Minutes** - A motion by Council Member minutes of January 19<sup>th</sup>, February 1<sup>st</sup> and February 16<sup>th</sup>

**Motion** by Council Member Landisi to Approve Minutes of January 19<sup>th</sup>, February 1<sup>st</sup> and February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Seconded by Council Member Pasti. **Council Member Pasti** brought attention to the February 16<sup>th</sup> Minutes of a spelling of someone name (Kevin Bryne) and Brynes. All Council Members Present Voted in Favor to Approve Minutes.

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**Communications and Reports** - Reports to be typed or handwritten and to be forwarded to the Recording Secretary at [cswift@cityofbeacon.org](mailto:cswift@cityofbeacon.org)

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**These reports will be found at the end of the Minutes.**

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Resolutions:**

**Resolution 35 of 2010**

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**GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR AN ACCESSORY APARTMENT,  
41 ELIZA STREET**

**WHEREAS,** Hector Cordero (the "Applicant"), has submitted an application for a Special Use Permit dated November 17, 2009 to maintain an accessory apartment in an existing single family home on a 0.25 acre property (Tax Map Designation: Section 6054, Block 29, Lot 019865), located at 41 Eliza Street (the "Property") in the R1-5 Zoning District in the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York (the "Application"); and

**WHEREAS,** the Application was referred to the Planning Board for a report and recommendation and the City Council received a report from the Planning Board dated February 10, 2010, recommending, by a vote of 4-2, that the City Council issue a Special Use Permit for the accessory apartment based on the fact that the submission met all zoning requirements; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed action is a Type II action pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and accordingly, no further environmental review is required; and

**WHEREAS,** on March 15, 2010, the City Council conducted a public hearing on the application at which time all interested persons were given the opportunity to be heard; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council has reviewed the application for a Special Use Permit against the general standards for a Special Use Permit set forth in Section 223-18 of the City's Zoning Ordinance and with the specific standards for accessory apartments set forth in Section 223-24.1 and has found the proposal complies with these sections of the Zoning Law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the City Council grants a Special Use Permit to Hector Cordero to maintain an accessory apartment as set forth and detailed on the plans prepared by Aryeh Seagal, architect, dated last revised December 21, 2009 (the "Architectural Plan"), upon the following conditions:

1. That the accessory apartment shall not exceed 648 square feet as detailed on the Architectural Plan;
2. Prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy for the accessory apartment, the Applicant shall remove the existing door and close the opening with a new wall to match the existing wall as detailed on the Architectural Plan;
3. The area indicated on the Architectural Plan as being "storage for owner and having no access for accessory apartment" shall remain as storage for owner and shall not be permitted to be connected to, used by or for the accessory apartment;
4. Any lease for the accessory apartment shall state that the accessory apartment contains a maximum floor area of 648 square feet and that the tenant shall have the exclusive right to use two (2) parking spaces within the existing macadam driveway;
5. Prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy for the accessory apartment, the Applicant shall record a restrictive covenant against the Property in form satisfactory to the City Attorney that only 648 square feet of the second floor total floor area of 1,132 square feet is to be used for the accessory apartment and that the use and existence of the accessory apartment is regulated by this City Council Resolution and by the Zoning Ordinance of the City Code of Beacon, specifically including, but not limited to, Sections 223-18 and 223-24.1;

6. The owner of the house shall occupy at least one (1) of the dwelling units on the Property;
7. At the time of filing the application for the Certificate of Occupancy, the Applicant shall submit an affidavit that the Property is owner occupied;
8. As required by Section 223-24.1(G), the accessory apartment shall be inspected by the Building Department every two (2) years in order to determine that the apartment remains in compliance with Section 223-24.1 of the Zoning Ordinance and this Resolution;
9. In the event the apartment is no longer in compliance with the City of Beacon City Code or the terms of this Resolution, the Certificate of Occupancy shall be revoked until the violations are cured;
10. A copy of this Resolution shall be attached to the Certificate of Occupancy issued for the accessory apartment.

**Motion** by Council Member Mansfield, to Approve Special Use Permit, Seconded by Council Member Pasti

**Discussions:** None

**All Council Members present voted in favor to Approve Special Use Permit.**

**Local Laws and Ordinances**

None

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolutions:**

**Resolution 36 of 2010**

**TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF  
BEACON AND MMA CONSULTING GROUP, INC.**

WHEREAS, the City Council approves the execution of the Agreement between the City of Beacon and MMA Consulting Group, Inc. regarding an analysis of fire service for the City of Beacon;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Beacon is authorized to execute said agreement with MMA Consulting Group, Inc. and any documents consistent therewith. Agreement to Follow:

The following Agreement is made and entered into between MMA CONSULTING GROUP, INC., (hereinafter referred to as MMACG) and the CITY OF BEACON, NEW YORK (hereinafter referred to as the CITY).

**I. SCOPE OF SERVICES AND PRODUCT**

MMACG will conduct a Comprehensive Multi-Level Operational Analysis of Fire Service for the City of Beacon, in accordance with the City's Request for Proposals of December 29, 2009 and MMACG's proposal of January 11, 2010. The study will be conducted in accordance with acceptable professional standards. The City's Request for Proposals and MMACG's Proposal are incorporated herein by reference.

**II. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

Performance hereunder will commence within 10 days of the last date at the end of this Agreement and will be completed within 120 days of commencement. Completion of the services within this period depends on information being made available to MMACG as provided below, upon prompt responses of employees of the City to inquiries by

MMACG, and timely review by the City of materials submitted to the City by MMACG. Any delays in providing such information, responses or reviews will correspondingly extend the period of performance.

### III. AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

The City agrees to make available promptly upon MMACG's request any and all reasonable information which MMACG may deem necessary to the progress and successful conclusion of this engagement.

### IV. PERSONNEL TO BE ASSIGNED

The contact person for MMACG will be Mark E. Morse. MMACG reserves the right to substitute personnel to perform the services under this Agreement. In the event of a substitution, MMACG will notify the City in writing and, if such substituted personnel are unsatisfactory to the City, MMACG will agree to terminate the Agreement upon payment for services rendered prior to termination.

The contact person for the City shall be Meredith S. Robson, City Administrator, or other official designated of the City. The contact person for the City will be responsible for reviewing the work performed under the Scope of Services and relaying to the contact person for MMACG any questions or concerns relative to the same.

### V. FEES

MMACG will provide the Scope of Services and Product under this Agreement for \$20,700. MMACG will invoice the City in accordance with the following fee schedule. Payment of each invoice is due within 30 days of the invoice date. MMACG may suspend the performance of future services until overdue payments are received.

GENERAL TASK	PAYMENT
Review background information, meet with City officials and project committee.	\$ 3,000
Conduct field work, visit fire departments, collect data, and consult with the project Committee, Begin computer mapping.	\$ 5,000
Analyze information, develop findings, and conduct follow- up field work. Develop recommendations.	\$ 5,000
Prepare and submit draft report. Meet to review report.	\$ 5,000
Prepare final report. Make final presentation.	\$ 2,700
Total	\$20,700

### VI. STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE

MMACG will perform the Services in a professional and responsible manner. However, such performance and the Product to be delivered involve matters of judgment and opinion. Therefore, MMACG's responsibility and any liability under this Agreement are limited to providing the Scope of Services and Product in a professional and responsible manner and in accordance with generally accepted professional standards.

To the extent that the Scope of Services and Product involve recommendations as to a particular company, person, system or product to be chosen by the City, the City shall be responsible for the ultimate selection of the company, person, system or product and MMACG shall have no responsibility or liability for the performance of the same, provided that MMACG has acted in a professional and responsible manner and in accordance with generally accepted professional standards.

### VII. RETENTION OF RECORDS

MMACG will have no responsibility to retain a copy of materials furnished to MMACG by the City or its employees and may dispose of the same, as well as all notes and documents prepared by MMACG's employees or independent contractors.

#### VIII. AMENDMENT OR TERMINATION

This Agreement, including any document incorporated by reference, contains all of the terms and provisions of the agreement between the parties and can be amended only by a written document signed on behalf of both parties. In the event either party believes the other party is not fulfilling its obligations hereunder, it shall notify the contact person of the other party in writing specifying such failure. If the other party does not resolve such failure to the reasonable satisfaction of the notifying party within 30 days, the notifying party may terminate this Agreement by written notice to the other party. Nothing herein shall prevent MMACG from suspending the performance of services when its invoices have not been paid as provided above. Upon termination of this Agreement, the City shall pay MMACG for all services performed prior to such termination.

#### IX. GOVERNING LAW, JURISDICTION

All legal questions pertaining to this agreement shall be determined in accordance with the laws of the State of New York. The venue of any action arising under this Agreement shall be Dutchess County, New York.

#### X FORCE MAJEURE

Neither party shall be responsible for any delay or failure in performances of any part of this Agreement to the extent that such delay or failure is caused by fire, flood, explosion, war, embargo, government requirement, civil or military authority, act of God, act or omission of carriers or other similar causes beyond its control.

#### XI. SEVERABILITY

If any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be invalid or unenforceable under the laws of the State of New York applicable to the entire Agreement, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not invalidate or render unenforceable the entire Agreement or order but rather the entire Agreement shall be construed as if not containing the particular invalid or unenforceable provision or provisions, and the rights and obligations of the Licensor and Licensee shall be construed and enforced accordingly.

#### XII. AUTHORIZATION

The individuals signing this Agreement warrant that each of them is authorized to sign it on behalf of the party he or she has signed for, and the individual signing on behalf of the City warrants that funds are available for MMACG's fees.

**Motion** by Council Member Casale, to Approve Contract between City of Beacon and MMA Consulting Group, Seconded by Council Member Landisi

**Discussions:** The Mayor addressed the Public to inform them what this resolution and agreement is about. MMACG has been employed by the City to conduct operational analysis of Fire Services for the City of Beacon. MMA group has conducted studies in numerous states, and has conducted more than twenty fire department latest studies in New York. The consultant will examine the management, operations, structure, service delivery and planning capacity of the Beacon Fire Department. The study will require consultants to evaluate the element of resources, the amount and type of apparatus and locations of Fire Stations. This study will take several months to complete. The consultants will be working with local committees, composed of individuals to be named later. The consultant team consists of five and rescue professionals and management consultants. The members of the consulting team are Philip McLaughlin and Gary McCarther, Fire and Rescue Consultants, and Mark Morse, Management Consultant. The teams will the assist with John Gratino, Fire and Rescue Consultant. The team will be collecting data visiting Fire Stations, including interviewing members of the fire department during the cost of the study. The results of the consulting firm work will be a report

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which will be present its findings and conclusions and recommendations. The report is designed to be used as a planning tool for the future direction of the Fire Department. Mayor Gold will distribute this letter to all the Fire Departments so they are made aware of this and what will be taking place. So the public know the City put out some specs and received many applications, which was reviewed by the RFP's which we conducted interviews with five members of the City Council, including members of the Fire Advisory Committee. The selection was decided by a vote, by all members of this adhoc committee.

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Council Member Mansfield asked what the attitude of the Fire Department study is. The Mayor assured all Council Members that there will be cooperation from all fire department personnel.

**All Council Members Present voted in Favor**

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**Resolution 37 of 2010**

**AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FUNDS FOR JUVENILE/COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAM  
TOTALING \$2,723.00 FOR THE YEAR 2010 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT DELINQUENCY PREVENTION (YDDP)  
PROGRAMS**

RESOLVED, that the Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to make application of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) for approval of the Projects described in the Youth Development Delinquency Prevention Application on file with OCFS and Dutchess County Youth Bureau. In submitting the application it is agreed that:

1. The municipality will abide by OCFS as to the propriety of all expenditures upon which State aid is requested;
2. This project will be operated in compliance with the laws, rules, regulations, resolutions, and codes of the State of New York and pertinent political subdivisions;
3. No youth will be denied the services or facilities of this project because of race, creed, color, or sex; and
4. No fee will be charged for the programs supported by State funds.

**Motion** by Council Member Landisi, for the Authorization for the Mayor to Apply for and Accept Funds from Youth Development Delinquency Prevention, Seconded by Council Member Casale.

**Discussions:** Council Member Casale questioned what type of programs are they providing? City Administrator stated that the money will go to the Juvenile Programs that the City already has in place.

**All Council Members Present voted in Favor.**

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**Resolution 38 of 2010**

**SUPPORT OF A JOINT APPLICATION WITH OTHER MUNICIPALITIES TO THE New York STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S  
2009-2010 LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSES OF SEEKING FUNDING FOR A  
GENERAL EFFICIENCY PLANNING GRANT**

**WHEREAS**, the current economic crisis at state and local levels makes collaboration and shared services a high priority and necessity for continued operations, especially when such efforts and initiatives lead to cost savings, economies of scale, and reduced burdens on the taxpayer; and

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**WHEREAS**, Town of LaGrange and the City of Beacon in the County of Dutchess share interest in studying how a regional approach to service delivery would lead to savings and other efficiencies yet to be demonstrated and have participated in several meetings to discuss the issue of shared services given current and projected needs; and

**WHEREAS**, Pattern for Progress, the regional planning group has facilitated meetings in which The City of Beacon has been represented to explore regional collaboration among neighboring municipalities in which reducing costs through collaboration and sharing has emerged as a top priority; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has requested that the City of Beacon be authorized to submit a grant application to the New York State Department of State's 2009-2010 Local Government Efficiency Grant Program for multi-municipal, general efficiency planning grant and for the City of Beacon to commit to share equally among participating municipalities, the ten (10%) percent required cash match, not to exceed \$300.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor of the City of Beacon, on behalf of The City of Beacon is hereby authorized to apply for a grant from the New York State Department of State for the Local Government Efficiency Grant program in the General Efficiency Planning Grant category for the purpose of funding a study of cost savings and economies of scale resulting from shared services.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Beacon will share equally with other participating municipalities in the required ten (10%) percent cash match, not to exceed \$300, for the project and commits to this local contribution.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor of the City of Beacon is hereby authorized to execute any and all other paper and agreements required in connection with such application subject to the review thereof by the City of Beacon municipal attorney for the purposes of form and content.

**Motion** by Council Member Pasti, in Support of a Joint Application with Other Municipalities..., Seconded by Council Member Mansfield

**Discussions:** Council Member Pasti had a question about the ten percent match. Is all communities who are participating in this will contribute the fair share and how many communities are participating. This all came about by attending the Mayor's and Supervisors Association of Dutchess County. What will happen is the Dyson Foundation has agreed to fund the entire the match that the municipalities were going to put in. The Association would like the City of Beacon to pass this resolution, but there will be no cost to the City. The Mayor believes that all of Dutchess County will participate in this.

**All Council Members Present Voted in Favor.**

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**Resolution 39 of 2010**

**SET A PUBLIC HEARING**

Special Use Permit – 16 West Main Street – Applicant Atlantic Horizons Auto Repair Facility – Warehouse Wholesale Storage – Public Hearing Set for Monday, April 5, 2010

**Motion**, by Council Member Casale to Set Public Hearing, Seconded by Council Member Mansfield.

**Discussions:** None

**All Council Members Present Voted in Favor.**

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**Resolution 41 of 2010****APPOINTMENT OF CITY OF PLANNER**

Resolved that the City of Beacon City Council Consents to the Mayor's appointment of Fredericks & Clark, as City Planner for the Year Ending December 31, 2010.

**Motion**, by Council Member Landisi to approve Appointment of the City Planner, Seconded by Council Member Mansfield.

**Discussions:** Council Member Casale asked if anybody else apply for this? Mayor Gold, stated similar to the Fire Department Study, RFP's did go out, and there was an Ad-Hoc Committee formed again with several Council Members who reviewed the RFP's and a decision was made.

**All Council Members Present Voted in Favor.**

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**Local Laws and Ordinances:**                      **None**

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**Ratifications / Appointments****Resolution 41 of 2010****Board of Assessment Review Appointment**

APPROVE appointment of Robert Palisi. To fill five year unexpired term. Term to expire 09/30/14

APPROVE appointment of John Berry. To fill five year unexpired term. Term to expire 09/30/14

**Motion**, by Council Member Pasti to approve Appointment of Board of Assessment Members, Seconded by Council Member Mansfield.

**Discussions:**    **None**

**All Council Members Present Voted in Favor.**

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**Announcements:**

Appointment of Carolyn Serino to the Beacon Housing Authority

Grievance Day will be on the Fourth Wednesday of May which will be May 26, 2010.

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**Budget Amendments:**

Amend the 2010 General Fund Balance (Code: A0000.091100) in the amount of \$53,000. These funds are to be amended to a Snow Removal Rental of Equipment expense (Code: A5142.447000) to cover the cost of renting trucks and loaders to remove the snow following the storms of February 24 and February 26.

**Motion**, by Council Member Pasti to approve Budget Amendment, Seconded by Council Member Casale.

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**Discussions:** Council Member Casale questioned if there was any money in the budget for rental of equipment for snow removal. City Administrator stated that not under Snow Budget, but will have to check. The City Administrator further stated that she would like to keep the snow removal separate, so we can have a clear record and a clear paper trail, for FEMA funding if that becomes available.

**On a Roll Call:** Council Member Casale – Yes, Council Member Fredericks – Excused, Council Member Kelly – Excused, Council Member Landisi – Yes, Council Member Mansfield – Yes, Council Member Pasti – Yes, and Mayor Steve K. Gold – Yes. Five Ayes, Two Excused, Motion Passes.

Amend the 2010 Water Fund Balance (Code: A0000.091 100) in the amount of \$1,005. These funds are to be amended to a Water Distribution Removal Rental of Equipment expense (Code: A5142.447000) to cover the cost of renting a generator for the East Main Street Pumping Station during the storms of February 24 and February 26.

**Motion,** by Council Member Casale to approve Budget Amendment, Seconded by Council Member Pasti.

**Discussions:** Council Member Casale questioned if this money is not used than it will go back into the General Fund. This was confirmed by the City Administrator.

**On a Roll Call:** Council Member Casale – Yes, Council Member Fredericks – Excused, Council Member Kelly – Excused, Council Member Landisi – Yes, Council Member Mansfield – Yes, Council Member Pasti – Yes, and Mayor Steve K. Gold – Yes. Five Ayes, Two Excused, Motion Passes.

Amend the 2009 Budget by transferring the following unexpended balances on the left to the over expended expense items in the right column:

Transfer From:	Transfer To:	
A5010.445100 St. Adm.Mtce. Equip.	A5010.416000 St.Adm. Materials	22.00
A3120.447200 Police Repair Equip.	A3120.440200 Police Auto Body	264.00
A1410.443200 Accounts Training	A1410.446000 Accounts Printing	516.00
A1210.443200 Mayor Training	A1210.446000 Mayor Printing	183.00
A8189.416000 Recycling Materials	A8189.447200 Recycling Repairs	130.00
A7112.469600 USC Bldg Demo	A7112.452012 USC Consultant	3,000.00
A1420.450422 Attorney Hiddenbrooke	A1420.456500 Attorney Civil Action	6,426.00
F8310.250000 Water Purchase Equip.	F1980.400000 MTA Tax	1,473.00
G8120.416000 San.Sr. Materials	G1980.400000 MTA Tax	2,516.00

**Motion,** by Council Member Casale to approve Budget Amendment, Seconded by Council Member Mansfield.

**Discussions:** Council Member Pasti, asked if this was the last of the 2009 Budget Amendments.

**On a Roll Call:** Council Member Casale – Yes, Council Member Fredericks – Excused, Council Member Kelly – Excused, Council Member Landisi – Yes, Council Member Mansfield – Yes, Council Member Pasti – Yes, and Mayor Steve K. Gold – Yes. Five Ayes, Two Excused, Motion Passes.

Amend the General Fund Budget by transferring \$1,000 from the Council Printing expense (Code: A1010.446000) to the Highway Flowers expense (Code: A5110.412802). This will be used to purchase flowers for Main Street to be distributed by the Tioronda Garden Club.

**Motion**, by Council Member Casale to approve Budget Amendment, Seconded by Council Member Landisi.

**Discussions:**

**On a Roll Call:** Council Member Casale – Yes, Council Member Fredericks – Excused, Council Member Kelly – Excused, Council Member Landisi – Yes, Council Member Mansfield – Yes, Council Member Pasti – Yes, and Mayor Steve K. Gold – Yes. Five Ayes, Two Excused, Motion Passes.

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**Public Comments:** Can Be On Any Issue or Item. The Speaker May Have One Opportunity to Speak up to **Five** Minutes Only.

**Mayor Gold** stated that there was a comment earlier stating that seniors do not get meals Fridays. To clarify that our seniors do get a meal on Friday, but it is not a hot meal, it is the same meal that they get on the weekends which is also a cold meal. He thanked her for everything she is doing, and just wanted to clarify that. The Mayor will contact her to discuss the senior meals further

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**Vane Lashua – 95 Liberty Street** – On this coming Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> is World Water Day. Pete Seeger is a participant, and other upcoming events. It is an observance for another need for conservation, and the importance of our water supplies. Went to New Paltz on Saturday which was one of the best attended, approximately six hundred people there, from Municipalities all over Hudson Valley. It is important to measure energy savings. Mr. Lashua pointed out how hot it was in City Hall where the Council Meeting is held, in addition, the amount of lights that are on. I have looked on the Budget Line for Electric, and wanted to know if the City of Beacon has done an energy audit? This audit is free for a municipal audit, and that goes for all our buildings. Mayor Gold stated that we accepted a bid to make all the necessary changes to be more energy efficient.

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**Elizabeth Morse – 32 Union Street** – Regarding the traffic on Washington and Depuyster Avenue. I tried to cross the intersection to get into the Spring Street Deli, and you take your life in your hands. There are many cars parked on both sides of the road, even though they all have driveways.

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**Lou Amoroso – 40 Vail Avenue** – regarding the past snow storm and trees that have fallen down, limbs all over the sidewalks and limbs hanging ready to fall down. He noted that there are some trees that will not survive due to the damages. Mr. Amoroso further stated that the City should be taking care of hanging limbs on City Property and find out if any of the trees are worth saving. In addition, Mr. Amoroso made a suggestion that the building department drive around and notify residents if they see a tree ready to fall or branches.

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**Justin Riccobono – 30 Banks Street** – Took the time to thank everyone in the City that helped with the past snow storm, as they did a bang up job. He reiterated what Mr. Amoroso, if anybody sees a tree that has limbs ready to fall, that they need to prune it back. Someone came forth to say that the parking on Ferry Street is a problem, and the same problem exists on Bank Street. Also, many residents did not shovel the sidewalk in front of their residents and there is a City Law that mandates this. There should have been violations given out.

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**Correspondence Report:** *None*

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**Reports by the Council:**

**Council Member Landisi – Ward One**

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1. Approached by many, complementing the job DPW performed, both with snow removal and now picking up trees and brush.
2. At the last Council meeting I spoke about a grant Congressman John Hall secured for the E.F. Fire Dept. (77K). Just recently I read he secured another grant for Glenham Fire Dept (98K). With this I contacted his office and requested he attempt to secure a grant for Beacon Fire Dept. His office acknowledged they received my request and will get back to me in several weeks.
3. In reference to the hot meals being reduced for 70 seniors. I held a meeting with the board and the membership of St Rocco' s last week and as a result, we would like to help by providing some hot meals for the seniors. I've had a discussion with Ron Traudt, director at Forrestal Heights and he is going to have his social worker contact me, to work on putting a plan in place. St Roccas has been in Beacon for over 100 years and the community has been good to us, so now we want to give something back.
4. Letter pertaining to W. Church St. (Letter attached)

Dear Mr. Landisi,

I am writing to you as a homeowner on West Church Street to request that our road be resurfaced this year. Three years ago I called the buildings' department and was told that my street was on the docket to be resurfaced that year, and that new sidewalks would be put in as well. To this date, neither have been done. The condition of the road and the sidewalks has greatly deteriorated causing damage to cars (we've had two flat tires this year) and creating a hazardous condition for pedestrians.

The lengths of the sidewalks along West Church Street, which are original stone pavers, are now so badly uneven and misaligned that they are a serious tripping hazard. Because they're so uneven they're impossible to clear properly in the winter, which makes them even more hazardous. Consequently most people choose to walk on the street - a danger for both drivers and pedestrians. Please be aware that our street provides a direct line to the train station and so is heavily traveled by both cars and pedestrians during the week.

In addition to the poor condition of the road and sidewalks, several years ago a huge mound of dirt was excavated for a new home and dumped on the lot opposite our house. This used to be a grassy area where children would play and now is an eyesore and a general dumping ground. My neighbors and I take care of our properties and take pride in the place we live and we would like to see this mound removed.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns.

Sincerely,  
Alison Wilkes

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**Council Member Kelly – Ward Two**

Excused

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**Council Member Mansfield – At Large**

The Pub Crawl was quite different than it has in the past, the weather was our friend which helped to control any potential problems that would be. I thank the Police force and Neighborhood Communities Law Enforcement. The Pub Crawl does have a great potential culture celebration and Community Affair if it was planned out correctly. I strongly suggest that the planning for next year's Pub Crawl begin tomorrow, instead of two weeks before. Planning with all parties, it could be something the City of Beacon can be proud in the future.

I also received a call regarding Cyber Insurance, attending the planning board meeting last Tuesday, there is quite of few things coming up, including the development of the Round House. There seems to support from many constituents, but still a problem with parking and traffic.

Update on visitor center met recently with the fabricator in which they are designing the unit. This building will be placed after the foundation is completed. We hope to break ground in mid April, which we expect ninety nine percent by mid June. Reached out to all parties who have stepped up to the plate to volunteer their time to sign commitment letters, which they are all very excited about this project.

Received many calls regarding the response that the City of Beacon acted on, which is nice to get positive feedback, instead of complaints, but complaints is also good though so the City Council is aware of issues that need to be addressed.

Met with members of the Martin Luther King Center, that will be announcing soon regarding expansion of their programs, which I am very excited about as it will feel the gap from BCC.

I would like to welcome our new lawyer, Nick Ward-Willis

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#### **Council Member Casale – Ward Three**

1. I had some constituents from Washington Avenue ask me if we could get stop signs either at Grove and Washington, or Tillott and Washington because cars speed up and down the street. Could we have the traffic committee look at this? I also suggested last year that we park an extra police car in the area and every once in a while put a person in it to run radar. Could we look into this?
  2. I had a resident call be about the 4 hour parking on Ferry Street not being enforced. He was told it was not in the city code. I checked the code book and it is in the code. Could we please start enforcing this.
  3. I had a constituent from Jessen pond call me about a city tree from Hiddenbrooke that fell on their shed and demolished it. I suggested they take pictures and submit them to the City Administrator. Could we look into this?
  4. Could we get an update on the University Settlement Camp and find out what work has been done in lieu of rent from the time they moved in until now.
  5. I went to the Recreation meeting on Tuesday. They had three members present and said they are still too short of members. I had a constituent apply and they have not been notified about being appointed or not. If we are two members short, I don't understand why we would not appoint someone.
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#### **Council Member Fredericks - At Large**

Excused

#### **Council Member Pasti – Ward Four**

**City Administrator** stated that the City of Beacon does not have cyber insurance, but we do have protection that the City of Poughkeepsie did not have.

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**City Attorney – Nicholas Ward-Willis** – First of the Month ONLY

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**City Administrator – Meredith Robson:**

1. The water leak detection grant project is underway, though it's a bit delayed given the existing workload of our water dept.
2. Bid for solar panel project is out and due back shortly, so that project will soon begin.
3. Still double checking costs, but preliminary estimates of costs related to snow storm are in the neighborhood of \$123,000. The County as a whole has to have had costs of approximately \$904,000 in order for the County and municipalities to seek FEMA reimbursement. Since only a handful of communities experienced the same type of damage we did, it's unclear right now whether or not we will be able to secure any funding to cover these expenses.
4. I attended a Moody's training seminar recently hosted by the NYSCMA. This was really a refresher on the types of things Moody's looks for when rating communities and where communities have had problems. It was an excellent seminar.
5. Also attended a mediation session regarding certain litigation, which we will discuss in executive session once the next mediation is completed which is scheduled for early next week.
6. The energy efficiency audit recommendations are nearly drafted. There are a few items yet to be completed.
7. Labor negotiations are continuing with all 3 bargaining units.

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**Mayor – Steve K. Gold**

MMA Consulting Group, Inc. (MMACG), has been employed by the City to conduct an Operational Analysis of Fire Service for the City of Beacon. MMA Consulting Group, Inc., has conducted studies in numerous states and has conducted more than 20 fire department related studies in New York. The consultant will examine the management, operations, structure, service delivery and planning capability of the Beacon Fire Department. The study will require consultants to evaluate the deployment of resources, the amount and type of apparatus, and the location of fire stations. The study will take several months to complete.

The consultants will be working with a local committee composed of individuals to be named later. The consulting team consists of fire and rescue professionals and management consultants. The members of the consulting team are Philip McLaughlin and Gary McCarragher, fire and rescue consultants, and Mark Morse, management consultant. The team will be assisted by John Granito, fire and rescue consultant.

The consultants will be collecting data, visiting fire stations and interviewing members of the Fire Department during the course of the study. The result of the consulting firm's work will be a report which presents findings, conclusions and recommendations. The report is designed to be used as a planning tool for the future direction of the fire department.

**Pub Crawl**

Thanks to the State Liquor Authority who came to Beacon, and attended a meeting that was held last Thursday with many of the Business owners, Sheriff Department, New York State Troopers and of course the Beacon Police Department with what requirement the SLA had. They will have two representatives in Beacon the day of the Pub

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Crawl, which I am sure it made a big difference keeping all honest and following protocol. They came to Beacon a few months ago, and there were a few violations I would like to thank the Sheriff's Department for sending into Beacon a number of their officers, which they did not charge the City. The same applies for the New York State Troopers they were present to help out if needed. And of course the Beacon Police Department, they did a phenomenal job. I witnessed by day by going around, and later in the evening, witness some individuals who had a good time during the course of the day, and our Police Officers called Taxi's to help these individuals to get to where they were going. I have received many compliments on how friendly our Police Department was in all different establishments. I would like to take the time to thank all our Police Officer, especially Chief Scofield, Lieutenant Sands Frost for planning such a well organized event. Thanks to the Business owners for their cooperation. Also the Knights of Columbus, St. Rocco's and the Beacon Elks club in which they handled business this year, which made a difference for all.

I also would like to thank the MTA along with the other services that came into the City. The last thank you is to our building department and to the City Administrator, Meredith Robson. The Building Department had the hardest rolls on their shoulders to assure occupancy amount did not exceed requirements for those particular establishments. All three building inspectors were out that day going around doing what was needed to be done.

I would like to address some issues concerning some of the Council Members comments. Congressman Hall has given a lot of money to the City of Beacon. Three years ago, he was able to give sixty thousand dollars from member items for the solar panels, for the roof of the Municipal Building, which City Administrator talked about and we are receiving bids. In addition, we continue to ask for member items for our City. The member item that we have requested is for Beacon Long Dock, so it will help to get the construction loan going with a very significant and beneficial project for the city. City Administrator is in the process of putting together a list of all the member items that the City has submitted.

Attended the new Beacon Chamber of Commerce, which there was a ribbon cutting, and have space on Main Street, which is across the street from the Howland Library. I commend the Chamber for their foresight and their dare to go further, then just being a Business Association. They will get proceeds from this venture, they have been working on getting grants with help from the City, and this will be a wonderful for the transition, and the location in the middle of the City. We have been helping with the grant, and it will be a co-grant with the City.

Attended a dinner for the Mill Street Loft which is a Poughkeepsie Youth Organization. Scenic Hudson has contracted with them to conduct youth programs at the Red Barn. They have some very great and empowering programs and I believe the Red Barn will be completed by summer, and the Mill Street Loft will be presenting programs to our youths.

I met with Ron Traudt who is the Executive Director of the Beacon Housing Authority, in addition had a lengthily discussion with John Beal, Director of Dutchess County Office for the Aging, regarding our Seniors and the storm, and meals. I am still in the process of gathering more information, including speaking with Dot Paulin from the Martin Luther King Cultural Center, I received their assessment on how it went for our Seniors, and things the City should still be doing. I will still continue to follow up on this and it will be included in our report on how we looked at the storm and how we can still improve on, which we half done.

Received a letter from Roger Conner regarding Cablevision News that Council Members and myself have been requesting to bring this news back to our City. Their lawyers are working on a resolution for us and as soon as this is completed which I will share with the Council. The update on Channel 22 has been held up in our building, which they will be looking at the wiring and the equipment here at City Hall, because of the storms and the demands that they have had and they expect to be done sometime this week. I am very hopeful in a week or two to be ready for this, which has some great possibility for the City.

Attended the Southern Dutchess Chamber of Commerce's Supervisor's and Mayor's Conference a few weeks back and it was very informative and very proud and boastful on how the City handled the storm, and it was nice to say how well all our departments handled the storm.

Just a few notes, there is a possibility of movement at the Beacon High School, there is someone interested in acquiring it. They are in negotiations with the school board. If this turns out to be positive, Beacon Studios will remain will remain there. They will have a gallery, teach art classes, and have artist work live space. I am very hopeful, and have been assisting where ever I can to make this happen.

I also attended the Planning Board Meeting, Council Member Casale who made an interesting suggestion with regards to traffic, along with Council Member Mansfield, and Round House Project was indeed up for discussion, and public hearing. One point I would like to mention, is that the Round House is down by the "dummy light" , this building is not the building with the banners, but it is slightly down the across the street by the Waterfalls. There objective is to make it look like the original mill. This is historic restoration to Beacon, because what makes us different than any other locality around are Mattawan Industrial Buildings, this Council has fought very hard to keep these building alive and existing. We went around with a Code Enforcement which the City has not seen in two years to seal the buildings up so they would not fall down due to neglect, we where successful in doing this and those buildings are ready for refurbishment and the adaptive use, and we are all so very pleased.

I attended some meetings with the Incline Railway, I will start to report this a little more than I have been and I will be meeting with them on a monthly basis, sometimes twice a month. The last meeting that we had was with Scenic Hudson, and we are very positive about moving forward with the Incline Railway with the Chief Operating Officer who was a former Lieutenant Colonel at West Point, which we are able to bring in some West Point Resources, including marketing studies as a class project.

We have received two bids for the railway and have a price on that.

To sum it up we have some good things happening and I will keep all informed.

Lastly, I attended the Glenham School Elementary School fund raiser on Friday, which was are you smarter than a fifth grader, I let the fifth graders win, but it was a very nice event.

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**John Forman – County Legislature** : Welcome to the new City Attorney. Received the very simple Census Questionnaire, which does not require a stamp, so get them out as soon as possible.

Confirmed James M. Fedorchak to be the next County Attorney. Also Keely Soloman as the next Community and Development, she has the dubious task of replacing Roger Akley. The Legislature has just implement a new mileage policy, for County Legislatures. We just approved a rescue phone for the City of Beacon Police Department in the amount of sixteen thousand, three hundred dollars this is not taxpayer's money. The City of Beacon should have received a check for a large amount for two hundred and fifty eight dollars and sixty four cents for dog license fees. Recently appealed the electrical licensing law, which will not affect the City of Beacon as it has its own city wide law. Thank you to the Highway, Police and Fire Departments, along with the Beacon Ambulance Corp and all the municipal workers who worked through the masses snow storm, and that includes all the Central Hudson employees.

Sales Tax Exemption on clothing, footwear costing one hundred dollars and less which no longer exists, it was repealed by the County Legislature, approved the State Assemblyman including the State Senate, which goes into effect March 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.

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**Check List:** \$349,872.55

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**Next Workshop:** March 29, 2010

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**Next Council Meeting:**

April 5, 2010

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**Adjournment:** Motion to Close Council Meeting of March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 8:50pm Seconded by Council Member Pasti. All members present voted in favor.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Colleen Swift  
Executive Assistant to Mayor Steve K. Gold