

FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Town of Becket
557 Main Street
Becket, MA 01223**

Minutes for Monthly Meeting on Thursday, June 23, 2011

Call to Order: 7:03 pm

Present: Steve L., Ann S., Jeremy D, Craig C., Dan P.,

Absent: Chuck A.

Public Present: None

AGENDA

- 1. Review and approve minutes for meeting on May 5, 2011 Tabled**

Motion: Second:

- 2. Elect Officers**

Chair: Steve

Vice Chair: Ann

Secretary: Dan

- 3. Correspondence and Transfers:**

Transfers: Total of \$700 from Town Administrator Salaries, \$250 to Town Administrator Expenses and \$450 to Police Dept Expenses; and a total of \$7,000 from Health/Life Insurances, \$1,000 to Planning Board Expenses, \$1,000 to Street Lighting, \$3,100 to Legal Expenses, and \$1,900 to Police Dept Salaries were approved. There was a discussion on why there are excesses in Health/Life insurances as these monies were transferred from Free Cash at the ATM. There was also discussion on why there were overages in Legal and Police Salaries. All other explanations given on the transfer requests were understood. All were passed. A further question was raised as to when all transfers were to be finalized for year end. (Subsequent Craig confirmed by July 15).

- 4. Ask Craig about how Enterprise funding works: Craig distributed a handout with full explanations. To summarize, it is a separate department that raises funds through direct charges. Any excesses can be retained for future use by that department. Deficit funded by town. Budget detail is to be submitted no later than 120 days before the fiscal year start. This was requested to better understand the responsibilities of the Ambulance Dept. It was requested that the Ambulance dept 2010 and 2011 Actual financial results along with the 2010, 2011, and 2012 Budgets, in detail be submitted to the Finance Committee asap for review.**

- 5. Are contracts with non-profits signed:**

Not all yet but Craig will get them completed.

- 6. Discussion of how to effect a new salary survey. Craig to investigate cost of new survey for possible future year appropriation. Interim it was felt an informal survey of wages paid for similar positions in similar sized towns should be conducted. The surveys would be sent to the Town Administrators and results summarized and shared with participating towns. This will include Gross compensation, benefits and amount of benefit contribution by Town employee.**

- 7. Public Input: None**

- 8. Any other business:**

Question as to when final calculations will be done as to where the 2012 approved Budget compares against the Levy Maximum under Proposition 2 ½. This all needs to be done and reviewed by the FC timely in order to send timely Tax Bills for 2012.

The preliminary calendar was laid out. Meetings will be:

July 13

Aug 4

Sept 1

Oct 13

Nov 3

Dec 8

Jeremy D recommended to appoint Chuck Andrews to fill the vacant FC position for the coming year. Second by Dan, all approved.

Quality of Firehouse #2 work was brought up. There were complaints from others outside the FC about poor quality. Craig feels the quality is good and the project is progressing well.

Adjourned: 8:35 PM

Respectfully submitted by Dan Parnell

Approved by Steven LaBelle

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Steven LaBelle", written over a horizontal line.