

**Town of Becket Finance Committee**

**March 26, 2009 Minutes**

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**TOWN CLERK**  
**TOWN OF BECKET**

**Present: Mike Falk, Ann Spadafora, Steve LaBelle, Amy Fyden**  
**Also present: Kathy Hayn Burt, George Fuller**

**The meeting was called to order at 7.09 p.m.**

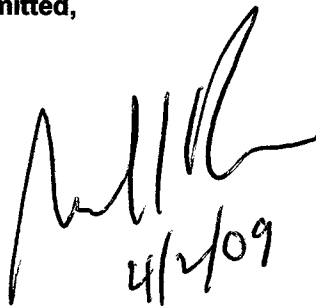
- 1. Minutes of 3/19/09 were revised. Vote to approve will be taken on 4/2/09.**
- 2. Discussion of latest FY 2010 Town of Becket Warrant:**
  - a) A few Highway Dept. employees' salaries are over the range by about .20c. Discussion about whether they should stay in range. Vote next meeting.**
  - b) Highway Dept. diesel price lock in - as of now Richard F. has not locked in a price.**
  - c) Tax Collector - discussion over whether to increase demand fees from \$5 to \$15. This could triple the annual revenue from such fees which is currently about \$6,000. (For town real estate taxes and taxes in the road districts). Vote 4/2/09.**
  - d) Library request - Discussion about a 50% recommendation on amount requested.**
  - e) Town Counsel - retainer reduced.**
  - f) CBRSD Operating Budget/Town of Windsor - Mike met with Ambulance/Fire/Police Depts chiefs here on Monday (March 23) with Rep. Dennis Guyer to discuss practical issues. Windsor got a 14% increase in their portion of the school budget. It is now appealing the Dept. of Education's wealth formula analysis.**
  - g) One more child has been added to the Vocational Education program.**
  - h) Stabilization Fund - discussed if more money should be put in.**
  - i) Ambulance Expense Budget - We might need a new ambulance in FY 2011.**
  - j) Jim Kupernik feels his FY 2010 Ambulance Dept. budget is fair.**
  - k) Police Dept requests - Vote next meeting (Mike will check the 2.99% increase currently shown on warrant).**
- 3. Ambulance Grant writing - such grants are tough. Leasing was discussed as an alternative. Not really feasible.**
- 4. Tax Title - will update at a later date.**
- 5. Becket-Washington School local initiative - discussed what format could attract students to the school instead of going elsewhere.**
- 6. Funding Emergency Management petty cash fund - to cover miscellaneous expenses. Some discussion.**
- 7. Vote on budget at meeting on April 2. Discussed line item changes.**

**8. No Public Input.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8.59 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Ann G. Spadafora**  
**Vice Chairperson**  
**/ags**



4/2/09