

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Town of Becket  
557 Main Street  
Becket, MA 01223

Meeting Minutes for Thursday, April 4, 2013

Call to Order: 7:03 PM

Present: Steve LaBelle (SL); Ann Spadafora (AS); Dan Parnell (DP); Maria Wallington (MW); Jeremy Dunn (JD); Joe Kellogg (Interim TA) (JK)

Absent: None

Public Present: None

AGENDA

1. Review and approve minutes for:

- a. March 7                      Motion: MW                      Second: DP
- b. March 21, 2013              Motion: MW                      Second: DP

Both unanimously approved

2. Correspondence and transfers: None

3. Town Administrator's input:

See below

4. Line by line review of budget

The attached lists those budget line items approved by the FC for the Becket Town Budget FY 2014.

The previously approved Reserve account was increased \$10,000 to \$40,000 as we reduced the Veteran's Benefits because of smaller activity in recent years but to allow for unexpected increases if they occur.

In addition a recommendation by JK was made to set up a revolving fund for the Public Safety Inspections which would remove the income and expense of those items from the budget and place them in a separate account for receipt and expenditure. Expenditure is limited to the receipts taken in.

The meeting ended with discussion on the Becket Athenaeum (BA) funding. Maria Wallington recused herself from the discussion as she is a Trustee for the Becket Athenaeum. A significant concern of the committee is the increase requested by the BA would lock the Town into a minimum contribution level that may not be sustainable by the Town in future years, which, if occurs, could impact the BA certification and therefore State funding. Different options were discussed including a separate funding for capital (a major driver of the BA needed increase) which needed to be explored for the next meeting. Further discussion to resume at next meeting.

5. Any further budget changes for FY 2014:              None

6. Any other business: None

Adjourn: 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by Dan Parnell

Approved by Steve LaBelle, Chair

