

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Town of Becket  
557 Main Street  
Becket, MA 01223

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, April 11, 2013

Call to Order: 7:05 PM

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

Absent: None

Public Present: Chris Bouchard (CB)

### AGENDA

1. Review and approve minutes for  
April 3, 2013    Motion: MW                      Second: DP  
  
April 4, 2013    Motion: MW                      Second: DP  
  
All Approved
2. Correspondence and transfers: NONE
3. Town Administrator's input:  
Building Fees were increased to cover software and so far \$6K has come in.

We can support a payment to the Becket Athenaeum (BA) designated towards capital improvements without being counted towards the MARS certification thereby not committing the town to this contribution in the future. It was decided that this should be \$20K for FY 2014. The funding of operating expenses of the BA, which is free to town residents and heavily used, was increased \$1K to \$43K to allow for the 2.5% required increase for MARS Certification. The FC would like to explore the feasibility of the Town taking over the building from the BA. This would accomplish a few items: A loan for capital and efficiency improvements could be obtained at low interest rates which would reduce the overall operating costs of the BA and the town could reassess a proper operating funding at that point. There could be a possibility that CPA Funds could pay the debt service as this is an historical building in North Becket Center and would have the northerly corner buildings all owned by the town (Mullin House and Becket Arts Center buildings included). A committee would need to be formed with proper representation from the BA, FC, CPA and any other parties that will have needed input for the decision.

The Highway Budget has been collapsed into fewer accounts for simplification and ease of planning and tracking. The Building Maintenance person's compensation was removed from the Highway Budget as agreed. Compensation was increased by 2%. All other categories were increased by 2% except Fuel which was significantly under-budgeted in the past and that was brought up to \$90K. CB explained the rationale for the Cab & Chassis capital purchase, why they were higher than anticipated and the need of the Multi-functional Tractor vs contracting this activity out.

The Health Dept increase of \$3K should be covered by increased fees effective Jan 1. JK will increase Local Revenues to reflect this.

The Cab & Chassis and Tractor will be removed from the Budget Expense Appropriations and will be purchased with debt. This will even out the tax rates in the current and future years as current debt funding on items will end being replaced by the debt service of these items.

The Ambulance Enterprise Fund Free Cash will be distributed as \$20K towards their Stabilization Fund, \$2,200 for a new AED, and the remainder to offset the Ambulance dept operating expenses.

The remainder of the FY 2012 town Free Cash will be put into the FY 13 Reserve account to cover needed unexpected expenses as the year ends.

4. Line by line review of budget:

The attached list shows the details of those line items and amounts approved by the FC for the FY 2014 Budget.

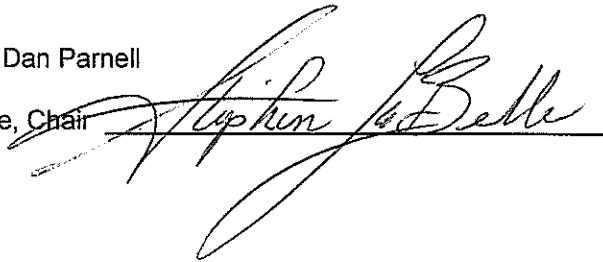
5. Any further budget changes for FY 2014. None

6. Any other business: DP will link the 2 budget files for budget expenditures and the overall Financial Summary with anticipated growth and Revenues. This will serve as a double check as well. JK to send the files to DP for linking.

Adjourned : 9:26 PM

Respectfully submitted by Dan Parnell

Approved by Steve LaBelle, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen LaBelle", is written over a horizontal line.

TOWN OF BECKET FINANCIAL SUMMARY  
FY 2014 BUDGET

A	B	C	D	E	F
	TOWN OF BECKET FY2014	BUDGET REQUEST	TOWN ADMIN PROPOSED BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	NOTES, COMMENTS, REASONING
		FY2014	FY2014	RECOMMENDED FY2014	
5					
6					
7					
8					
9	HIGHWAY				
10	SUMMER LABOR	\$ 185,312	\$ 185,312	\$ 185,312	
11	WINTER ROAD LABOR	\$ 122,146	\$ 122,146	\$ 122,146	
12	LABOR SUBTOTAL	\$ 307,458	\$ 307,458	\$ 307,458	
13	MATERIALS/EQUIPMENT	\$ 70,500	\$ 70,500	\$ 70,500	
14	WINTER MATERIALS/SUPPLIES	\$ 67,800	\$ 67,800	\$ 67,800	
15	FUEL ACCOUNT	\$ 86,700	\$ 86,700	\$ 90,000	
16	MACHINERY ACCOUNT	\$ 41,500	\$ 41,500	\$ 41,500	
17	RECONSTR OF GRAVEL ROADS	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	
18	MATERIALS AND SERVICES SUBTOTAL	\$ 316,500	\$ 316,500	\$ 319,800	
19	TRANSFER STATION LABOR	\$ 22,754	\$ 22,754	\$ 22,754	
20	TRANSFER STATION COSTS	\$ 70,317	\$ 70,317	\$ 70,317	
21	TRANSFER STATION SUBTOTAL	\$ 93,071	\$ 93,071	\$ 93,071	
22	HIGHWAY TOTAL	\$ 717,029	\$ 717,029	\$ 720,329	
23	EDUCATION ITEMS				
24	VOCATIONAL TUITION	\$ 225,000	\$ 225,000	\$ 225,000	Increase in students/tuition
25	VOCATIONAL TRANSPORT	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	
26	EDUCATION ITEMS TOTAL	\$ 315,000	\$ 315,000	\$ 315,000	
27					
28					
29	HEALTH & SANITATION ITEMS				
30	BOARD OF HEALTH SALARIES	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	Major increase requested to deal with new members training
31	BOARD OF HEALTH EXPENSES	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	BOH requests increase/TA proposed moving to Revolving Fund
32	HEALTH & SANITATION ITEMS TOTAL	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	
33					
34	UNCLASSIFIED EXPENSES				
35	LIBRARY	\$ 63,000	\$ 43,000	\$ 43,000	Library requests inc/TA prelim rec of level funding, need more discuss.
36	UNCLASSIFIED EXPENSES TOTAL	\$ 63,000	\$ 43,000	\$ 43,000	
37					
38					
39	SPECIAL ARTICLES				
40	Stabilization Fund	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	
41	Historical Commission - Ballou Park Obelisk	\$ 6,150	\$ -	\$ -	
42	250th Anniversary Committee - Expenses	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
43	Bylaw Meeting Review Committee - PA System	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	
44	Highway Department - Truck #4 Cab & Chassis	\$ 145,000	\$ 145,000	\$ 145,000	To be funded through debt
45	Highway Department - Multi Function Tractor	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	To be funded through debt
46	Town Hall Phone System	\$ 8,500	\$ -	\$ -	
47	Town Clerk Fireproof Cabinet	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200	\$ -	Check need and fund through reserve if necessary
48	Community Preservation Articles	\$ 68,500	\$ 68,500	\$ 68,500	
49	Highway Garage Roof Snow Guards	\$ 8,200	\$ 8,200	\$ 8,200	
50	Ambulance AED & Stretcher	\$ 17,200	\$ -	\$ 2,200	Stretcher not recommended for funding
51	Library Capital Improvements	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	
52	SPECIAL ARTICLE ITEMS TOTAL	\$ 472,750	\$ 440,900	\$ 440,900	