

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Town of Becket
557 Main Street
Becket, MA 01223

Meeting Minutes for February 6, 2014

Call to Order: 7:02PM

PRESENT:

Committee (FC): Steve LaBelle (SL); Ann Spadafora (AS); Dan Parnell (DP); Maria Wallington (MW);

Board of Selectmen (B of S): Jeanne Pryor (JP)

Town Administrator: Ed Gibson (EG)

ABSENT: Jeremy Dunn (JD)

AGENDA:

1. Review and approve minutes for January 9, 2014 meeting: moved by DP and seconded by AS. Accepted unanimously.
2. **Correspondence and transfers**
 - a. Board of Appeals has done more complicated reviews than budgeted for and needs an additional \$750 from the Reserve Fund. Move acceptance by MW and seconded by AS. Passed unanimously.
 - b. The building and grounds pickup truck transmission failed. \$3800 was requested from the Reserve Fund to the Municipal Building Repairs for those repairs. Acceptance moved by DP and seconded by AS. Passed unanimously.
 - c. The board of Health has been very active this year and needs an additional \$2000 from the Reserve Fund. Acceptance moved by DP and seconded by AS. Passed unanimously.
 - d. Dan informed us that the regional school budget will be challenging. A Representative from the town is needed for their February 25 meeting. DP and EG will try to go.
 - e. CRBSD is planning to take on debt for a roof of a school for which we will not be involved so we don't need a town meeting to vote on this debt.
3. **Town Administrator's input**
 - a. Free cash was certified as \$196,557.
 - b. The SB approved the Financial Committee's suggested policy for free cash and stabilization funds.
 - c. We did not get the state grant Berkshire Regional Planning had applied for on the behalf our several towns including Becket.
 - d. EG determined that federal grants are available for doing feasibility studies for small communities to look as community water supplies. He is thinking of North Becket's water problems as a possibly for needing such a grant.
4. **Discussion of departmental budgets for FY 2015**
 - a. The FC had a discussion of centralizing maintenance budget and responsibilities. The town building maintenance has not been well attended to since no one person/department has it as a primary responsibility. Centralizing maintenance will affect the budgeting process. The FC supported the idea of centralized responsibility for town building maintenance.

5. Further development of Capital Plan for Town of Becket

- a. EG presented a draft capital plan. The FC discussed several issues that we would like to have additional information on from the department heads when we meet with them.

6. Draft the 2013 FinCom Report for Becket Annual Town Report.

- a. The report is due February 20th. A working meeting was set for February 13 at 3 PM in the Berkshire room to create the report.

7. Any other business

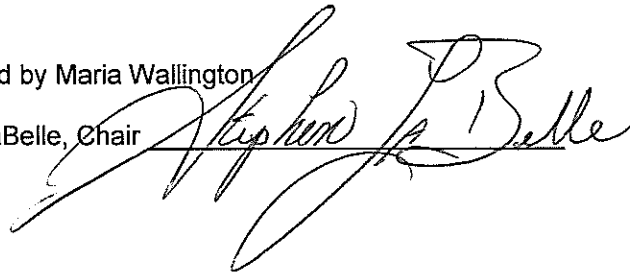
- a. None.

Next meetings: February 13 and February 20

Adjourn: 8:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Maria Wallington

Approved by Steve LaBelle, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve LaBelle", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.