

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

**Meeting Minutes for May 1, 2014**

**Call to Order: 7:04 PM**

**PRESENT:**

Committee (FC): Steve LaBelle (SL); Ann Spadafora (AS); Dan Parnell (DP); Maria Wallington (MW); Jeremy Dunn (JD)  
Board of Selectmen (B of S): none  
Town Administrator: Ed Gibson (EG)  
Public: none

**AGENDA:**

1. **Review and approve minutes** for April 17, 2014 meeting moved by JD and seconded by AS. **Approved.**
2. **Correspondence and transfers**
  - a. Transfer request for \$3,500 to be moved from Board of Health Salaries to Board of Health Expenses. Moved acceptance by JD and seconded by AS. **Approved** unanimously.
  - b. Request for transfer from the Reserve Fund of \$400 to the Town Administrator Expenses for MCPPO Procurement Training for the administrator. Moved acceptance by JD and seconded by AS. **Approved** unanimously.

**Town Administrator's input**

None

3. **Any further discussion for ATM**
  - a. **JD** will present finance committee **comments at ATM May 10**. Suggestions for inclusion in his comments: FC is trying to keep expenditures level to avoid significant increase in taxes; budget proposal is under allowable levy (2.5% rules) by about \$255,000; school budget assessment percentage increase is less than other years but we cannot count on this continuing in the future; FC, with SB agreement, developed policy for reserve funds and stabilization funds; proposals spread capital costs ( example new grader) over several years by borrowing for equipment avoiding significant impact on levy as some debt is retired as new debt is undertaken. **EG will handle questions about the budget** at the ATM.
4. **Any other business**
  - a. There was some discussion by group about insurance providers. No change expected.
  - b. **Article 25** continues authorization of the revolving accounts which need annual renewal. **JD moved** DP seconded **support** by FC of the Article. **Approved unanimously.**
  - c. Questions have been raised about the funding in the 2014 budget for fire truck and dump truck debt. EG is investigating.
  - d. Ron Defoe is interested in the FC position as a write-in candidate. Mark Karlberg was nominated at the town caucus.

**Next meetings:** June 5, 2014 and then July 10.

**Adjourn:** 7:46 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Maria Wallington

Approved by Steve LaBelle, Chair

