

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

**Meeting Minutes for February 5, 2015**

**Call to Order:** 7:00 PM

**PRESENT:**

Finance Committee (FC): Steve LaBelle (SL); Ann Spadafora (AS); Maria Wallington (MW); Mark Karlberg (MK)

Board of Selectmen (B of S): None

Town Administrator: Ed Gibson (EG)

Public: None

**ABSENT:** Dan Parnell (DP)

**AGENDA:**

- 1. Review and approve minutes for January 8, 2015 meeting**
  - a. Acceptance of minutes moved by AS and seconded by SL. Passed unanimously with MK abstaining.
- 2. Correspondence and transfers**
  - a. Letter from CBRSD requesting meeting before May 1.
  - b. Letter from CBRSD announcing a meeting Feb. 19.
  - c. Finance education available at MMA Annual Meeting
  - d. Request from Conservation Committee for \$4577.76 to cover expected additional need due to much more work being handled. Money to be moved from Reserve Fund to 01-171-5500 Con. Comm. Expenses. MK moved acceptance of request. Seconded by AS. Approved unanimously.
- 3. Town Administrator's input**
  - a. EG is in the middle of submitting another grant application to CDBG to cover housing (in conjunction with Sheffield) and a feasibility study for north Becket group septic system and a study of Maple street bridge. FC voted unanimously to support this requested grant.
  - b. The town has sold the note to purchase grader. Note is for \$350,000 at 1.5% for 3 years. EG is still hoping to recover \$30,000 for old grader. Any town is interested.
  - c. SB is willing to investigate replacing heating system in Town Hall rather than adding AC at this time. The grant from Green Communities DOER for AC has been extended and can be used for the heating system.
  - d. Wild West has presented their letter to the SB for their signatures which will go out to all home owners requesting residents to sign up to use the service. The goal is 40% of residents expressing interest.
  - e. The new debt schedule was presented. It is noted that the school debt runs until 2025 instead of 2017 as we thought last meeting.
- 4. Request for snow and ice deficit spending**
  - a. The heavy snow this year has created a needed for deficit spending in the snow and ice removal account. MW moved to approve deficit spending in the Snow and Ice Removal accounts under MGL Chapter 44, Section 31D for the remainder of fiscal year 2015. Seconded by MK. Motion unanimously approved. There is a \$29,000 deficit so far.
- 5. Department budgets for FY 2016**
  - a. All department requests in. EG is reviewing.
  - b. Our Insurance company has not yet announced its rates for next year. It will probably be available in a week or two.
  - c. The School budget assessment for Becket is still hanging.
- 6. Report suggestions for Town annual report**

- a. AS reviewed old minutes for ideas for the town annual report. MW will work on it with help from MK and AS.

**7. Any other business**

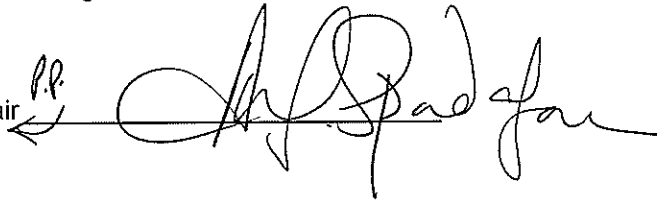
- a. The next auction for items taken through foreclosure will be in the fall.

**Next meeting: February 19, 2015**

**Adjourn: 7:50 PM**

Respectfully Submitted by Maria Wallington

Approved by Steve LaBelle, Chair

*P.P.*  
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve LaBelle', is written over a horizontal line. Above the signature, the initials 'P.P.' are written.