

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

Meeting Minutes for February 19, 2015

Call to Order: 7:01 PM

PRESENT:

Finance Committee (FC): Ann Spadafora (AS); Maria Wallington (MW); Mark Karlberg (MK) Dan Parnell (DP);
Board of Selectmen (B of S): None
Town Administrator: Ed Gibson (EG)
Public: None

ABSENT: Steve LaBelle (SL);

AGENDA:

- 1. Review and approve minutes for February 5, 2015 meeting**
 - a. Acceptance of minutes moved by MK and seconded by MW. Passed unanimously.
- 2. Correspondence and transfers**
 - a. None
- 3. Town Administrator's input**
 - a. None
- 4. Department budgets for FY 2016**
 - a. State aid still not known.
 - b. Expenditure numbers not clear. Retirement numbers are lower. School numbers not known yet. Insurance not know yet but will probably go up.
 - c. Anomalies:
 - i. Health department requested an increase of \$17,000.
 - ii. The Police Chief is asking for a raise to be comparable to other towns. And for a couple of extra patrols to allow him to do his administration.
 - iii. Highways needs more for road supplies. May change personal and hire a mechanic and separate that position from the transfer station position.
 - iv. Arts Center is requesting \$7,000 to complete the funding for ADA access to their second floor.
 - v. Capital requests came in at about \$926,000. Not all will be funded. ED favors attending to fire escapes, roof, furnaces and perhaps associated fuel tank changes. Fire department requesting thermal imaging cameras. Highway wants a loader and a dump truck. If these vehicles are not replaced the maintenance will need to be budgeted for.
 - vi. Wired West is still an issue. Jeremy Dunn is now our representative.
- 5. Report draft for Annual Town Report**
 - a. The draft of the FC report for the 2014 Annual Town Report was presented by MW. Some improves were suggested and final draft moved by MK and seconded by DP. It was unanimously approved by the FC. EG will submit it for the Annual Town Report.
- 6. Any other business**
 - a. MK moved that the FC meet at 6:00PM until the budget process is complete. MW seconded. Passed unanimously.

Next meeting: March 5 and March 19.

Adjourn: 8:27 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Maria Wallington

Approved by Steve LaBelle, Chair

