

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

**Meeting Minutes for January 07, 2016**

**Call to Order:**

**PRESENT:**

Finance Committee (FC): Dan Parnell (DP); Maria Wallington (MW); Steve LaBelle (SL); Ann Spadafora (AS); Mark Karlberg (MK)  
Town Administrator: Ed Gibson (EG)  
Public: None

**ABSENT:** None

Meeting was called to order by DP at 6:00 PM.

**AGENDA:**

1. **Review and approve minutes for December 03, 2015 meeting.**
  - a. Acceptance of December 03 minutes moved by SL and seconded by MW. Passed unanimously.
2. **Correspondence and transfers**
  - a. There are no transfers.
  - b. There is an updated remote meeting policy.
  - c. Regarding the annual holiday party by the Ladies Guild; the Board of Selectmen (BOS) approved the \$500.00. The Ladies Guild has not submitted a reimbursement for the money saying they thought they had raised the necessary funds to hold the party. As an aside EG said the downstairs was not left up to the proper standards by the party.
  - d. EG stated the mileage reimbursement rate has dropped to \$0.54 / mile.
3. **Town Administrator's input**
  - a. Still lacking 89 subscribers for Wired West to reach the goal. MBI issued comments on the RFP's.
  - b. Tax bills were sent out.
  - c. Sherwood Forest Neighbors Association, Inc. filed a petition to dissolve. \$184,000 in back taxes of land has been transferred to the Lake District.
  - d. EG mentioned the FC has spent \$129 of its \$600.00 budget.
  - e. EG mentioned the Ambulance Department will be looking at a new unit in 2018 and the Highway Department will be looking for a new front end loader in 2017. Ambulance is currently 5 years old.
  - f. 2017 budget process is ongoing.
4. **Set tentative dates for Finance Committee through April for the budget cycle**
  - a. Was agreed we would meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday for the months of February, March and April.
    - i. February 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> (It was noted that the 18<sup>th</sup> could possibly conflict with the 7 Town Advisory Committee meeting of the CBRSD)
    - ii. March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>
    - iii. April 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>
5. **Any other business.**
  - a. Annual report inputs are due January 31<sup>st</sup>. AS and MW will compile.
6. **Executive Session**

- a. Finance Committee to go into Executive Session under MGL c. 30A, section 21 (a) (3) to discuss:
  - i. Discussion re: Litigation strategy with respect to litigation Crystal Pond Homeowners Association vs. Town of Becket if an open meeting may have a detrimental impact of the public body on the litigating position of the town.
  - ii. Discussion regarding: Litigation strategy with respect to litigation Cooper vs. Town of Becket Land Sale if an open meeting may have a detrimental impact of the public body on the litigation position of the town.

SL moved to go into Executive Session to discuss above items at 6:45 P.M and that the open meeting will not reconvene at the close of the Executive Session. MW seconded. Roll call vote was taken. AS aye, MK aye, MW aye, SL aye and DP aye.

**Next meeting:** February 4, 2016 at 6 PM.

**Adjourn:** Not Applicable

Respectfully Submitted by Mark Karlberg

Approved by Dan Parnell, Chair



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dan Parnell", is written over a horizontal line.