

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

Meeting Minutes for February 2, 2017

PRESENT:

Finance Committee (FC): Dan Parnell (DP); Ron De Foe (RF); Ann Spadafora (AS); Mark Karlberg (MK); Maria Wallington (MW)
Town Administrator: Ed Gibson (EG)
Absent: None
Public: None

Meeting was called to order by DP at 6:07 PM.

AGENDA:

1. **Approve minutes for December 1, 2016 and January 5, 2017 meetings.**
 - a. December 1st meeting minutes are unavailable.
 - b. MW moved to accept the minutes of the January 5th meeting. AS seconded. DP, RD, AS and MW approved. MK abstained.
2. **Correspondence and transfers**
 - a. EG detailed the following Reserve Fund Transfer request:
 - i. Request to transfer \$1,500 from the Reserve Fund (acct # 01-941-5500) to Advertising (acct # 01-118 5500) to pay for advertising expenses for By Law changes, Public Hearing Notifications, Hiring, and Procurement. Acceptance moved by MW and seconded by AS. Passed unanimously.
 - ii. EG requested the December 1st transfer of \$25,000.00 for the Bonny Rigg Culvert project be rescinded. MW moved to rescind the transfer and MK seconded. Passed unanimously.
 - b. EG reported the mileage reimbursement rate was changed to .535 cents per mile as of January 1, 2017.
 - c. DP noted that the Central Berkshire Regional School District is holding a meeting February 16th at Wahconah to discuss the budget, Cummington school status and the status of the school building study.
3. **Further discussion about FinCom submission for the Annual Town Report.**
 - a. MW moved to accept the submission as amended. MK seconded. Passed unanimously.
4. **Budget Discussion**
 - a. EG reported there was nothing unusual to report.
 - b. FinCom may switch to 2 meetings per month starting in March.
5. **Any other business**
 - a. EG provided copies of a memo from KP LAW providing details on the Municipal Modernization Act as it applies to assessments and procurement. Of note were the following:
 - i. License Denials (General Law (GL) c.40, sec 57. A bylaw change will be required to take advantage of the changes.
 - ii. Snow and Ice Deficit (G.L. c.44, sec 31D. Allows the chief administrative officer (Board of Selectmen) to approve snow and ice deficit spending;
 1. MW moved to allow snow and ice deficit spending approval to EG. AS seconded. Passed unanimously.
 - iii. Year-End Transfers (G.L. c.40, sec 33B). This deletes the 3% cap and the \$5,000.00 cap on transfers between departments.
 - iv. Revolving Funds (G.L. c.44, sec 53E ½. Revolving funds may now be established by bylaw if the Community would like to move away from the requirement of authorizing and approving them every year by a Town Meeting vote.
6. **Adjourn meeting**
 - a. MK moved to adjourn meeting at 7:37 P.M. AS seconded. Passed unanimously.

Next meeting: March 2, 2016 at 6 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by Mark Karlberg

Approved by Dan Parnell, Chair

Maria Wallington vice chair