

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

Meeting Minutes for March 29, 2018

PRESENT:

Finance Committee (FC): Dan Parnell (DP); Ron DeFoe (RD); Ann Spadafora (AS); Mark Karlberg (MK – arrived at 6:22 PM); Maria Wallington (MW)
Interim Town Administrator: Bob Markel (BM)
Selectman: William Elovirta (WE)
Absent: None

Meeting was called to order by DP at 6:15 PM

AGENDA:

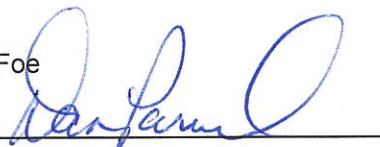
1. **Meeting minutes**
 - i. Will delay until next meeting
2. **Correspondence and transfers**
 1. None
3. **Administrator's input (2019 Budget)**
 - a. Town Administrators salary currently at \$72,000
 - i. Much discussion whether this is adequate
 - ii. We want our next Administrator to stay long term if possible
 - b. Town employee salaries currently at 2% increase
 - i. WE suggesting we try for 2.5%
 - c. Staff Coverage
 - i. Recommend reducing to \$2,000
 - d. Town Clerk has requested 11.2% increase
 - i. FinComm recommending 2% at this time unless hours change
 - e. Municipal Building Repairs
 - i. 3 or 4 window AC units may be needed for Town Hall since HVAC project is on hold
 - ii. Suggest 2019 budget request of \$12,000
 - f. Police Department Expense
 - i. Need to review with chief relative to expected new hires (or not)
 - g. E911 Communications
 - i. Substantial increase due to costs of tower setup (\$3,000) and rental (\$1,400/mo)
 - ii. Otis may help offset this cost by sharing this equipment
 - h. CBRSD Operating Expense
 - i. \$92,011 / 4.3% increase
 - ii. Primarily due to wealth formula
 - i. Transfer Station
 - i. Hazmat costs are up due to refrigerant removal costs
 - ii. May need to increase some fees to offset overall operating cost increases (mostly trucking)
 - j. Payroll Tax Account
 - i. To investigate why 5% increase request when payroll is only increasing 2 or 2.5%
 - k. Capital
 - i. Need more details, especially on highway equipment
 1. Condition of existing equipment
 2. Details on requested equipment (size, etc.)
4. **Adjourn meeting**
 - a. MK moved to adjourn meeting at 8:31 PM. AS seconded. Approved unanimously

Next FinComm meeting: April 5, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Possible joint FinComm/BOS meeting: April 12, 2018; time TBD (6:00 or 7:00)

Respectfully Submitted by Ron DeFoe

Approved by Dan Parnell, Chair



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Parnell", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with large, flowing loops.