

**Town of Becket
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
October 4, 2017
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall
557 Main Street, Becket**

Attendees:

Board of Selectmen: William ("Bill") Elovirta, *Chair*; Nicole Ledoux, *Vice-Chair*
Michael Lavery, *Clerk*

Staff: Ed Gibson, *Town Administrator*; Beverly Gilbert, *Recording Secretary*
Christopher Bouchard, *Highway Superintendent*; George Roberts, *Town Clerk*

Others: None

1. Call to order

Bill called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. He noted that the BOS was recording tonight's meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Bill led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Board to review minutes of previous meeting(s)

Nicole moved to approve the minutes for the 09/06/2017 Regular Session Meeting and the 09/26/2017 Working Session Meeting as presented. Bill seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4. 7:05 PM: Opening and possible BOS vote to award sealed Bid #18-002 for Full Depth Reclamation with Injected Asphalt Stabilization Fine grade and Compaction and Type I and Hot Mix Asphalt Binder and Top mixes

At 7:07 p.m., Bill announced the commencement of the bid opening and the BOS's possible vote to award sealed Bid #18-002 for Full Depth Reclamation with Injected Asphalt Stabilization Fine grade and Compaction and Type I and Hot Mix Asphalt Binder and Top mixes. Chief Procurement Officer and Town Administrator Edward Gibson opened and announced the bids. All contractors were pre-qualified and had submitted the required documents. The results of the three bids received were as follows:

- LB Corporation, Lee Massachusetts - \$318,084.90
- Warner Bros, Sunderland, Massachusetts - \$325,678.50
- Lane Construction Corp, Pittsfield, Massachusetts - \$315,926.50

Bill made a motion to award bid #18-002 for Full Depth Reclamation with Injected Asphalt Stabilization Fine grade and Compaction and Type I and Hot Mix Asphalt Binder and Top mixes to Lane Construction Corp. in the amount of \$315,926.50 with the stipulation that the Highway Superintendent's review is favorable. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion and possible vote to appoint Election Workers

Town Clerk George Roberts asked the BOS to revisit their decision to only appoint Becket residents as Election Workers. He asked if the BOS would consider reappointing two non-Becket residents due to that they had been long-time residents of Becket, had served many years as reliable and proficient election workers, and he regards this as in the best interest of the town as he regards them as valuable employees due to their level of experience. George

further explained that although 19 election workers (that the BOS appointed) may seem sufficient, the reality is that additional workers are needed to fill the shifts and perform various tasks for the elections. He stated that it is not realistic to expect 100% of his election workers to be available at every election. George pointed out that many other town employees reside in other communities, and he would like to suggest that this approach be taken for the town's election workers at this time because although there is a legal requirement that election workers be registered voters, there is no requirement that they must reside in the Town of Becket. George advised that he has started to recruit election workers and it is his intention to recommend applicants who are Becket residents and when he finds himself with a sufficient number of election workers who are Becket residents, he would refrain from recommending election workers who are not Becket residents. During his discussion with the BOS, George named many of the functions/duties of the election workers and indicated that he schedules new workers with his more knowledgeable and seasoned employees. Per Michael's inquiry, George Roberts listed this fiscal year's election schedule. Nicole indicated her willingness to reconsider as she thinks George presented good points. Nicole made a motion to reappoint Beth VanNess and Patricia Clemons with a term beginning 10/4/2017 through 08/15/2018. Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Bill indicated that he voted as he did with the understanding that George will diligently recruit Becket residents to serve as Election workers. George Roberts thanked the BOS.

6. BOS to acknowledge and vote to accept resignation of Cultural Council members: Luz Bravo Gleicher, Michelle Raymer, Catherine Savini, Barbara Craft-Reiss, and Ruth Glazerman

The following individuals submitted letters to the BOS to resign from the Cultural Council: Luz Bravo Gleicher (effective 09/23/2017), Michelle Raymer (effective 09/20/2017), Catherine Savini (effective 09/20/2017), Barbara Craft-Reiss (effective 09/20/2017), Ruth Glazerman (effective 09/30/2017) and Ann Krawet (effective 10/2/2017). Ann Krawet submitted her letter after the agenda was posted. Bill stated that he had wondered why so many members resigned all at once. Linda Bacon, Chairperson of the Committee, had advised the Selectmen's Office that with the objective of meeting quorum, she contacted members who were not attending meetings, and requested that if they no longer wished to serve, to please submit their resignations. Bill indicated that whether or not there is an issue relating to these resignations, it would be prudent for the BOS to act on the requests that have come before them. Bill moved to accept the six resignations from the Cultural Council. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The BOS signed letters of appreciation to each of the afore-named individuals. During discussion it was clarified that the Cultural Council used to be called the Arts Lottery Council. The most current name (Cultural Council) will be reflected in the 2017 Annual Town Report.

7. Discussion and possible BOS vote re: Marijuana Moratorium (Recreational & Medical)

The BOS reviewed a draft marijuana moratorium (Recreational & Medical) provided by Town Counsel. Ed stated that the reasoning behind the moratorium is to help protect the town so that the Planning Board has time to develop and enact any amendments to the zoning laws that might impact recreational marijuana establishments. Potential amendments may include where establishments may be placed (distance from schools/churches).

Bill made a motion that the Board of Selectmen approves the Moratorium on Recreational Marijuana as worded (in order to allow the Planning Board the time to develop an

amendment to our current Zoning By Law regarding recreational Marijuana Establishments) and to send it to the Planning Board in order for them to hold Public Hearing on it as a zoning By Law. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill moved that the Board of Selectmen approves the Moratorium on Medical Marijuana as worded (in order to allow the Planning Board the time to develop an amendment to our current Zoning By Law regarding Medical Marijuana Establishments) and to send it to the Planning Board in order for them to hold a Public Hearing on it as a Zoning Bylaw. Nicole seconded. Motion carried with Michael abstaining.

8. Trick or Treat 2017

Michael moved to accept the Police Chief's recommendation to allow Becket's Trick or Treat to occur on 10/31 from 5 p.m. till 7 p.m. Bill seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Winter Parking Ban from November 15, 2017 through April 15, 2018

Nicole moved for the BOS to impose the Winter Parking Ban (No parking on town roads or streets. Vehicles will be ticketed and, if interfering with snow removal, will be towed at the owner's expense.) from November 15 through April 15, from 11 p.m. till 7 a.m. Bill seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Monthly Reports: Animal Control Officer (August 2017), Becket Volunteer Fire Department (August 2017, and Police Dept. (July & August 2017)

The BOS reviewed monthly reports as listed above.

11. Board of Selectmen's Comments and Announcements

Michael inquired about the speed limit on Fred Snow Road. George Roberts advised that the limit for unposted dirt roads (not gravel) is 40 mph. There is a yellow (advisory) 25 per hour speed limit sign posted on Fred Snow Road. Michael has observed speeding occurring on that road and he recently noticed a triaxle truck which he did not deem appropriate due to the layout and narrowness of Fred Snow Road. He asked whether trucks are allowed on Fred Snow Rd. Chris Bouchard advised that the only Becket roads that have a truck exclusion (issued by the state) are Johnson Rd. due to the bridge weight limit established by the State on this road, and Werden Rd.

Michael met with Andrea Sholler, Managing Director of Jacob's Pillow, and they discussed developing a tri-fold pamphlet listing Becket attractions/events that may be distributed at the Town Hall that would be sponsored by local institutions and businesses. He inquired if the BOS had any objections to his participation. The BOS had none. Michael conveyed Jacob's Pillow's appreciation for being allowed to purchase a town beach permit.

Bill indicated that based on the significant increase in the value of their property, he thinks it makes sense to renegotiate the P.I.L.O.T. agreement between the town and Jacob's Pillow. Bill asked the Town Administrator to research the P.I.L.O.T. agreement between Jacob's Pillow (including payment history) and the town. As a member of the Volunteer Fire Dept., Bill has observed an increase in JP's public safety services.

12. Town Administrator's Report

Broadband: Precision Valley Communications has been in Becket performing the 1st Phase (mapping of the dwellings) of our Broadband Pole Surveys since September 15th. They have been making good progress. Each day they notify us of the streets they will be

working on that day and we add this information to the Town's website and also send it out as an e-mail blast to help keep our residents and businesses informed and to let them know the contractors they are seeing on their streets are there for legitimate reasons.

Energy Committee Information Session: The Becket Energy Committee held their Information Session on Sept. 9th here in the Community Room. It was well attended and very informative. Jim Barry from the DOER gave an excellent presentation on the various programs that are available to residents to save energy and to reduce their energy bills. We also had two presentations from Solar Companies. A short presentation of our Becket Broadband initiative was also given along with a summary of the timeline the project will take.

Town Hall HVAC System: EDM has sent us copies of the complete design and specification documents for the Town Hall HVAC project. Ed will review them with Bill Girard and Dave Shorey over the next week before we request bids for the new system and its installation.

Vocational High School Tuition: Ed has been notified by Central Berkshire Regional School District that three of the students who planned to attend Smith Vocational High School are not attending. The final count has ten students attending Smith Vocational High School for this school year. This includes the one student who moved into Becket just two days before the start of school and the Board of Selectmen had approved a waiver for her to attend. This is actually two students fewer than we had originally budgeted for Vocational tuition. We will pay \$34,000 less than originally budgeted for Vocational High School Tuition.

Otis: The Town of Otis has asked if we would be willing to share our kennel with them as they are in the need to partner with another community or have to build their own. Unless the Selectmen have any objections (The BOS did not voice any objections about this at tonight's meeting.), Ed will meet with their Town Administrator and one of their Selectmen to go over the idea and to show them what we have that we may be able to offer to them to share. Ed believes this would be another good example of regionalization if it were to pan out.

Highway Superintendent: Ed is pleased to inform the Board of Selectmen that our own Highway Superintendent Christopher Bouchard took first place in the Grader Skills Training National Competition held last week in Colorado. All others present joined the Town Administrator to convey their congratulations to Chris.

Meetings: Tomorrow Ed will attend the Broadband Ad Hoc Group meeting and Finance Committee Meeting. He will meet with our MIIA Claims Manager next Wednesday to go over the town's account and review two possible grant applications we are planning to submit to MIIA (one for flammable liquid storage cabinets at the two Fire Stations and Highway Garage, and the other for a radar trailer to improve on work zone safety for our employees who work in the public way). Michael suggested that perhaps a radar trailer (which alerts drivers of their speed) may be placed on Fred Snow Road.

13. Public Input

Chris Bouchard provided an update on the Bonny Rigg Hill Road culvert project including reimbursement, and the remainder of the work to be completed. It was noted that the Becket

Conservation Commission issued a certificate of compliance for this project that will need to be filed at the Registry of Deeds.

Chris Bouchard will provide his recommendation to the BOS for winter road closures, and additional stop signs.

14. Any other business to come before the Board

Beverly will register Michael for the Berkshire County Selectmen's Association dinner.

She advised that Jeanne Pryor, Chairperson of the Bylaw Review Committee, inquired about the status of the recruitment for a member to serve on the Bylaw Review Committee. To date, the BOS has not received any applications to serve on the Bylaw Review Committee and Bev asked the BOS and Town Administrator to advise if they had any suggestions for filling this opening.

15. BOS to Sign Warrants

The BOS reviewed and signed the payable warrants.

16. Review Correspondence:

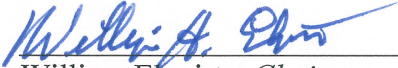
- Letter dated 09/08/2017 from CBRSD School Committee re: CBRSD Seven Town Advisory Meeting Scheduled on 11/16/2017
- MassDOT letter dated 09/19/2017 re: Bridge Inspection – Quarry Rd./Cushman Brook

The BOS reviewed the above noted correspondence.

17. Board of Selectmen to adjourn the meeting

Nicole moved to adjourn. Bill seconded. Motion carried unanimously. At 9 p.m., Bill adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Gilbert, Secretary


William Elovirta, Chairperson

Documents discussed at this meeting:

- E-mail from Police Chief re: 2017 Trick or Treat.PDF
- ACO Aug 2017 Report
- Ann Krawet - resignation from Becket Cultural Council & BOS letter of appreciation
- BC Selectmen's dinner registration form
- Becket Cultural Council letters of resignations and BOS letters of appreciation
- Fire Dept. Aug 2017 Report
- BOS 09/06/17 meeting minutes
- BOS 09/26/17 working meeting minutes
- Letter - CBRSD 7 Town Advisory meeting scheduled on 11/16/17
- Marijuana Moratorium draft document and email from Town Administrator
- MassDOT letter dated 05/11/17 (received by town 092217) Bridge Inspection re Quarry Rd, Cushman Brook.PDF
- Notice of Invitation to Bid: FDR with Injected Asphalt Stabilization Fine Grade Compaction & MHA Binder and Top Mixes
- Police Dept. July and August 2017 Reports
- Communication from Town Clerk re: Election Workers.PDF
- Winter Parking Ban document for possible posting