

**Town of Becket**  
**Board of Selectmen Working Meeting**  
**March 15, 2019**  
**1:00 p.m.**  
**Town Hall**  
**557 Main Street, Becket**

**Attendees:**

Board of Selectmen: William Elovirta, *Chairperson*; Michael Lavery, *Vice Chairperson*

Staff: William Caldwell, *Town Administrator*; Bev Gilbert, *Administrative Assistant*

Others: Maria Wallington

**Call to order**

Bill called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

**Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by Town Clerk George Roberts dated March 6, 2019 – acknowledgement and discussion of Complaint and Board’s response thereto.**

Bill E. read the above captioned Complaint. The BOS and Town Administrator discussed the Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by Town Clerk George Roberts dated March 6, 2019. During discussion the BOS acknowledged receipt of the Open Meeting Law Complaint from George Roberts dated and received March 6, 2019. Following review, discussion and deliberation of the Complaint, Bill E. moved to issue a response as follows:

1. There was no intentional violation of the Open Meeting Law;
2. At the time the update was provided by the Town Administrator, the matter was within the Town Administrator’s jurisdiction and did not require Board action;
3. The Board places a great value on transparency and seeks to ensure full compliance with the Open Meeting Law and will therefore, place an item on its agenda entitled “Town Administrator Personnel Update – Accountant” for its March 20, 2019 meeting and discuss the topic during open session at the meeting;
4. Consistent with its review of the Complaint and its discussions today, the Board authorizes Town Counsel to respond to the Complaint as deliberated, on its behalf, and designates the Town Administrator to work with Town Counsel to issue its final response and update Town Counsel after the March 20, 2019 meeting notice is posted and discussion of the topic “Town Administrator Personnel Update – Accountant” takes place at the March 20, 2019 meeting.

Michael seconded. Motion carried.

**Any Other Business**

Bill C. provided and discussed a handout entitled *Proposed Becket Budget Content Prioritization* which will be used to create the budget presentation for town meeting.

Bill C. will research if short-term rental taxing applies to camp weekend or camp housing (Jacob’s Pillow and YMCA).

Beverly gave the BOS a copy of Henry A. Scarpo's Appointment Application. She had provided a copy of this to the Conservation Commission; Mr. Scarpo's application will appear on a future BOS agenda. Bev reported that the Conservation Agent indicated that John Deacon accepted the Conservation Commission's invitation to attend the next Conservation Commission meeting scheduled on 3-26-19, and Meredyth Babcock has not returned her appointment application to the BOS.

Beverly received an inquiry from Samantha Weisenthal, Events Coordinator, from The Wild Honey Pie Music Discovery Collective (Brooklyn, NY), about obtaining a three-day liquor permit for a music festival to occur on Memorial Day weekend at Camp Lenox in Becket. Bill C. will research this matter with the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission to ascertain if the BOS may legally issue a one-day liquor permit for three days in a row. Beverly will ask if the festival is proposed to occur solely on Camp Lenox property within Becket since part of Camp Lenox is in Otis. The BOS indicated that an entertainment permit is required.

Bev asked the BOS to proofread a section of the Annual Town Report.

Maria Wallington, a candidate for Selectman, inquired if Town Bylaws require:


- 1) the Board of Selectmen to report the status of the last Town Meeting items at the Annual Town Meeting. The BOS indicated that they have not heard of the existence of this requirement.
- 2) the Board of Selectmen, after each Town Meeting, to give the Finance Committee a listing noting funds appropriated by the town at such Town Meeting and the purposes for which the monies were appropriated. The BOS indicated that their understanding is that the Town Clerk's minutes of the Town Meeting accomplishes this.

**BOS to adjourn the Meeting**

Michael moved to adjourn. Bill seconded. At 1:32 p.m., Bill adjourned the meeting.

Date Approved: 3-22-2019

Respectfully submitted,  
Beverly Gilbert, Secretary

  
William Elovirta, Chairperson