

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

Meeting Minutes for April 6, 2017

PRESENT:

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

Meeting was called to order by MW at 6:03 PM. Dan Parnell is remotely participating due to geographical reasons. Since there is a phone-in member; all votes will be roll call votes.

AGENDA:

1. Approve minutes for March 16, 2017 meeting.

- a. RD moved to accept the minutes of the March 2nd meeting. MK seconded. Roll call vote DP aye, RD aye, AS aye, MK aye and MW aye.

2. Correspondence and transfers

- a. EG detailed the following Reserve Fund Transfer request:
 - i. Request to transfer \$1,571.46 from the Reserve Fund (acct # 01-941-5500) to Police Department Expenses (acct # 01-210 5500) to pay for unanticipated repairs to the 2014 Explorer cruiser. Acceptance moved by MK and seconded by AS. Roll call vote DP aye, RD aye, AS aye, MK aye and MW aye.

3. Administrator's input

- a. EG stated the new Taurus is back and running fine.

4. Budget Discussion

- a. Final CBRSD assessment is ~\$2.04 million.
- b. EG provided the current capital plan requests. EG stated he was moving the replacement of the town hall emergency generator, the highway department doors, the repaving of the Town Hall parking lot, the dump truck 1 ton #5, the backhoe, the 6 post vehicle lift and the equipment storage building out to the next fiscal year.
- c. Asbestos analysis work of the 21 Maple Street siding is underway.
- d. A detailed line item review of the budget was conducted. EG stated he was using a COLA of 2% for salary purposes based on a review of COLA's for county towns. Highway department will have to reduce their current estimated COLA of 2.5%.

5. Broadband Update

- a. This will be discussed at the Baby Town meeting to be held at the Town Hall on May 4th at 7:00P.M.
- b. Charter has made a proposal for the town:
 - i. Advantages are they will pay for it all but use State grant funding through MBI (no loan required by the Town) and they will provide TV, phone and internet ((Westfield Gas and Electric would only provide phone and internet) and they will address low income homes.
 - ii. Disadvantages are they will only provide coax to the homes (limits future upgrades to zilch) and will be slower.

6. Any other business

- a. None

7. Adjourn meeting

- a. MK moved to adjourn meeting at 8:33 P.M. DP seconded. Roll call vote DP aye, RD aye, AS aye, MK aye and MW aye.

Next meeting: April 20, 2017 at 6 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by Mark Karlberg

Approved by Maria Wallington, Vice Chair

