

Town of Becket, Massachusetts
2013
ANNUAL TOWN REPORT
of the
Town Officials



Deer Monument and Stone Cairn, "The Summit," Jacobs Ladder Trail
Photos by Erica Johnson, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

IN MEMORIAM

*During the year, we were saddened by the passing of six former Town Officials.
We dedicate this Annual Report to their memory:*

C. MARTIE MARTIN
Conservation Commission
January 5, 2013



FRANK AVALLE SR.
Chief of Police
Becket Volunteer Ambulance Squad
Recreation Committee
March 4, 2013



PAUL MITCHELL
Historical Commission
September 19, 2013



SANDRA LABONBARD
Council on Aging
Board of Health
October 20, 2013



GIL FALCONE
Town Administrator Screening Committee
Mullen Center Task Force
Sherwood Greens Legislation Committee
October 2013



ANTHONY LORIO
Conservation Commission
November 29, 2013

Town of Becket, Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Town Officials

♦ ***2013*** ♦



Jeanne W. Pryor

Selectperson

William H. Elovirta

Selectperson

Angela I. Hilton

Selectperson

Edward J. Gibson

Town Administrator

For the year ending December 31, 2013

◆ *Town Officers* ◆

Elected Officials

Board of Selectmen	Term Expiring
Jeanne W. Pryor, Chair	2014
William H. Elovirta	2015
Angela I. Hilton	2016

Planning Board

Martin Schlanger	2014
Robert Ronzio, Chair	2015
Beth VanNess	2016
Gale LaBelle	2017
Ann Krawet	2018
Howard Lerner, Associate Member (appointed by the Board of Selectmen)	2014

Finance Committee

Jeremy Dunn	2014
Ann Spadafora	2015
Maria Wallington	2015
Stephen LaBelle, Sr., Chair	2016
Dan Parnell	2016

Board of Health

Howard Lerner	2014
Laurel Burgwardt	2015
Gale LaBelle, Chair	2016

Town Clerk

George Roberts	2014
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Constables

Marc Portieri	2015
Michael Sawyer	2015

Moderator

Bruce Garlow	2014
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Cemetery Commissioners

Alfred (Bud) Moylan, resigned	2014
Michelle Smith	2015
William Cavanaugh	2016

School Committee

Michael Falk, resigned	2014
John Les	2016

Appointed Officials

Town Administrator	Term Expiring
Edward J. Gibson	2016

Chief Procurement Officer

Edward J. Gibson	2016
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Municipal Light Plant Manager

Edward J. Gibson	2016
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Tax Collector

Kathleen Hayn	2014
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Assistant Tax Collector

Kenneth Bilodeau	2014
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Deputy Tax Collector

Barbara Thomas	2014
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Treasurer

Christine Bleau	2016
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Assistant Treasurer

Kathleen Hayn	2014
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Board of Assessors

David Zagorski	2014
Geraldine Walter	2015
Elizabeth Will	2016

Accountant

Margaret McClellan	2014
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Ambulance Director

James Kupernik	2014
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Animal Control Officer

Albert Goodermote	2014
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Animal Inspector

Madelaine Elovirta	2014
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Emergency Management Director

Timothy Sullivan	2014
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Fire Chief/Fire Warden

Ray Tarjick	2014
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◆ *Town Officers* ◆

Harbor Master

Steve Rosenthal 2014

Police Department

Kristopher McDonough, Chief 2014

Marc Portieri, Sergeant 2014

Michael Sawyer 2014

Nicole Miller 2014

Steven Hilton 2014

Tyler Miller 2014

Michael Hunt 2014

Matt Virginia 2014

Inspector of Buildings/

Trench Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer

William Girard 2015

Assistant Building Inspector

Gary Danko 2014

Plumbing/Gas Inspector

Mark Levernoch 2014

Assistant Plumbing/Gas Inspector

Brian Middleton 2014

Wiring Inspector

Dana Spring 2014

Assistant Wiring Inspector

Jim LaPier 2014

Highway Superintendent/Pest Control/Tree Warden

Christopher Bouchard 2014

Zoning Board of Appeals

Joshua Lombard, Chair 2014

Robert Gorden, resigned 2014

Susan Deacon 2015

Jeff Wilkinson 2016

Karen Karlberg 2016

George Roberts (Associate Member) 2014

Alvin Blake (Associate Member) 2014

Arts Lottery Council

Barbara Ginsburg 2014

Roberta Goldman, Chair 2016

Audrey Schlanger 2016

Sally Soluri 2016

Ruth Glazerman 2016

Barbara Wacholder 2016

Ann Krawet 2016

Tracy Wilson 2016

Luz Bravo-Gleicher 2016

Tommie Hutto-Blake 2016

Conservation Commission

Kathleen Vsetecka Agent, resigned 2014

Alfred Moylan 2014

Laurel Burgwardt 2014

Martin Winters 2015

Richard Pryor 2015

Scott Morley, Chair 2016

Priscilla McEwen 2016

Council on Aging

Herbert Nelson 2014

Lorraine Dean 2014

Claire Daigle 2014

Eva Bonney 2015

Paula Cianfarani 2015

Marc Portieri 2015

Lorraine Wechter 2015

Joan Moylan, Director 2016

William Robinson 2016

Marie Grull 2016

Franklin Daigle 2016

Celine Godbout 2016

Phyllis Fitzgerald 2016

Historical Commission

Harry Roff, resigned 2014

Robert Gorden, Chair, resigned 2014

Gail Kusek 2015

Rita Furlong 2016

Jennifer Beatty 2016

Aaron Beatty 2016

Parks Commission

Rita Furlong, Chair 2014

Madelaine Elovirta 2014

Ginger Conner 2015

Election Workers

Gale LaBelle 2014

Eva Bonney 2014

Alymer Trivers 2014

Priscilla McEwen 2014

◆ *Town Officers* ◆

Charles Garman	2014
Ann Krawet	2014
Beth VanNess	2014
Adrienne Metcalf	2014
Meredyth Babcock	2014
Patricia Clemons	2014
Charles Francis	2014
Jerome Schwartzbach	2014
Julia Kay Grace	2014
Stephen LaBelle, Sr.	2014
Alvin Blake	2014
Joshua Lombard	2014
Joan Moylan	2014

Recreation Commission

Sean Raymer	2015
Tina LeVasseur, Chair	2016

Registrar of Voters

Michelle Smith	2014
Colleen Cox	2015
Dorothy Bellavance, resigned	2016

Veterans' Agent

Doug Mann	2014
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Veterans' Grave Officer

William Mulholland	2014
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Westfield River Wild & Scenic Advisory Committee

Mercedes Gallagher	2014
William Babcock, Alternate	2014

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

Robert Ronzio, Delegate	2014
Beth VanNess, Alternate	2014
Stephen LaBelle Sr., Alternate, resigned	2014

Berkshire Public Health Alliance

Laurel Burgwardt, Alternate	
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Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board

William H. Elovirta	2014
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Jacobs Ladder Trail Advisory Committee

William Robinson	2014
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Agricultural Commission

Kristopher Massini	2016
Neil Toomey	2016

Community Preservation Committee

William Cavanaugh	2014
Kathleen Vsetecka, resigned	2015
Robert Gorden, resigned	2015
Rita Furlong	2016
Neil Toomey, Chair	2016

Massachusetts Broadband Initiative/Wired West

Robert Ronzio	
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250th Anniversary Committee

Michel Richard	
Sandi Jarvis	
Rita Furlong, Presider	
Barbara Roberts	
Beth VanNess	
Ann Spadafora	
Karen Karlberg	
George Roberts	
Linda Bacon	
Bruce Garlow	
Ann Krawet, resigned	

Town Meeting Bylaw Review Committee

Bruce Garlow, Chair	
Jeanne Pryor	
Ann Krawet	
Robert Gorden, resigned	

Public Relations Liaison/Officer

William H. Elovirta	
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Affordable Senior Housing Advisory Committee

Eva Bonney	
William Cavanaugh	
Beth VanNess	
Ruth Glazerman	
Jeanne Pryor	

Housing Rehab Advisory Committee

Beth VanNess	
Jeanne Pryor	
Nina Weiler	

Large Wind Turbine Bylaw Committee

Alvin Blake	
Robert Gross	
Ann Krawet, Chair	
Robert Ronzio	
Maria Wallington	

◆ *Town Officers* ◆

Board of Survey

William Cavanaugh
Beth VanNess

Energy Committee

Catherine DeFoe, Chair	2014
Katherine Hoak	2015
Garth Klimchuk	2015
Alvin Blake	2016
Robert Gross	2016
Christopher Bouchard, Ex-Officio	
Edward J. Gibson, Ex-Officio	
William Girard, Ex-Officio	
Dan Parnell, Ex-Officio	

Town Employees

Town Secretary

NinaWeiler

Highway Department

Robert Cooper
Jeff Waite
Bert Goodermote
Mark White
George Fuller

Building and Grounds Technician

David Shorey

Clerk of Committees

Heather Hunt

Ambulance Department

Joseph Mechare
Vincent Garofoli

Volunteer Fire Department

James Atwell
Ronald Casella
Justin Elovirta
Madelaine Elovirta, Assistant Chief
William H. Elovirta
Adam Giarolo
Jessica Giarolo
Gene Goebel
Mark Hanford, Deputy Chief
Robert Healey, Sr.
Robert Johnson
Kristopher Massini, Captain
Paul Mazut
Paul Mikanicwicz, Captain
Tyler Miller
Michael Ozner
Sidney Tarjick
Aurele Bergeron
Christopher Eisner
Darlene Casella
Robert Healey Jr.
Kyle Kelson
Joshua Tarjick



Town of Becket, Massachusetts
Annual Report
of the
Town Officials
◆ 2013 ◆

Fiscal Year July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013

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Tax Collector	57
Town Administrator	1
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****Town of Becket Appointment Application*** – At end of report

◆ **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR USE IN 2014** ◆

Governor

Deval Patrick
Massachusetts State House, Room 280
Boston, MA 02133
TEL: 617-725-4005

United States Senators

Elizabeth Warren
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-4543
www.warren.senate.gov

Edward J. Markey
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-2742
www.markey.senate.gov

Congressman

Richard E. Neal
Federal Building, 78 Center Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201
TEL: 413-442-0946

State Senator

Benjamin Downing
7 North Street, Suite 307
Pittsfield, MA 01201
TEL: 413-442-4008
Benjamin.downing@masenate.gov

State Representative

William “Smitty” Pignatelli
Lenox Town Hall
PO Box 2228
Lenox, MA 01240
TEL: 413-637-0631
Rep.Smitty@mahouse.gov

Annual Town Meeting

Second Saturday of May

Annual Town Election

Third Saturday of May

◆ **FACTS ABOUT BECKET** ◆

Incorporated	June 21, 1765
Location	Western Massachusetts
Population	1,802 (Annual Town Census)
Registered Voters	1,367
Form of Government	Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator Open Town Meeting
Tax Rate	\$9.62 Fiscal Year 2013
Public Schools	Central Berkshire Regional School District
Police	Full-Time Chief, One Full-Time Sergeant, One Full-Time Police Officer and Five Part-Time Officers Non-Emergency Telephone: 623-6010
Fire	Fire Chief Non-Emergency Telephone: 623-6480 Burning Permits 623-6480 (January 15 – May 1 weather permitting) To apply for a burn permit online please go to the following link: http://www.bcburnpermits.com/
Ambulance Department	Fire Station #2 Non-Emergency Telephone: 623-5027
Public Library	Becket Athenaeum 3367 Main Street, Becket Telephone: 623-5483
Arts Center	Becket Arts Center 7 Brooker Hill Road, Becket Telephone: 623-6635
Post Office	Becket Post Office 623 Main Street, Becket Telephone: 623-8845
Elevation	1,200 Feet
Area	48.04 Square Miles
Website:	www.townofbecket.org

If you would like to receive public meeting agendas and/or public notices please subscribe on the town's website at the following link: <http://www.townofbecket.org/subscriber>. Thanks.

◆ TELEPHONE DIRECTORY ◆
OF TOWN SERVICES

Local Emergency Numbers

ALL EMERGENCIES	911
FIRE DEPARTMENT	623-8760
AMBULANCE	623-5027
POLICE	623-6010
STATE POLICE	243-0600

Becket Town Offices - 623-8934

Department	Extension
Selectmen's Office/Secretary	#10
Town Clerk	#11
Treasurer	#12
Town Administrator	#13
Building Inspector	#14
Tax Collector	#16
Assessors	#18
Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals	#20
Board of Health	#22
Council on Aging	#27
Conservation Commission	#29
Harbor Master	#40
Animal Control Officer	#56

◆ *REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR* ◆

I have enjoyed my short time here in Becket since starting as Town Administrator on May 13, 2013. I would like to thank the residents of Becket along with the staff at Town Hall and the members of the Boards and Committees for their open, courteous and welcome reception to me. Everyone has made me feel at home in my new position.

I would also like to thank Joe Kellogg, Interim Town Administrator for all his efforts in developing the fiscal year 2014 Town Budget and handing the reins over to me with a smooth transition in the Town Administrator position.

2013 saw a number of new employees besides me starting in positions here in Becket. Margaret McClellan started as our Town Accountant in January and Christopher Bouchard began as our Highway Superintendent in April. David Shorey was transferred from the Highway Department to our new Building and Grounds Technician position at the beginning of July. Having the Building and Grounds Technician has been a great asset to me and the town in keeping up and planning for needed repairs and identifying maintenance needs at town owned buildings and facilities.

It has been a very interesting seven and a half months for me in getting to know everyone here and learn what policies and procedures were all ready in place and what new procedures and policies may be needed to be added and implemented. Most of my first year has been directed towards personnel, financial and purchasing procedures which have been used in the town. It has been exciting for me to participate in the completion of some larger projects such as the CDBG Grant and the North Becket Village Infrastructure project as well as picking up in the middle of the town's Green Community Grant.

I would like to thank the Town Administrator Search Committee as well as the Board of Selectmen for the confidence and faith they have bestowed upon me in offering me the position as Town Administrator. Also thanks to Nina Weiler, Town Secretary for being so helpful and a valuable source of information and history as well as being my right hand when researching topics and developing reports.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Gibson
Town Administrator



◆ *REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN* ◆

This has been a transitional year for the Town of Becket in many ways, including personnel and reorganizational changes. We hope that you find this “State of the Town” for 2013 informative.

Personnel

- We would like to thank Joe Kellogg, our Interim Town Administrator, for assisting the town with day to day operations, working with the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee on preparing the budget and warrant articles for the 2013 Annual Town Meeting and for successful searches for our new Highway Superintendent and our new Town Administrator.
- The Town Administrator Search Committee received 21 applications for this position, conducted five interviews in executive session and recommended two candidates for the Board of Selectmen. The two candidates were interviewed by the Board and Edward Gibson was chosen and appointed as Town Administrator effective May 13 with a three year contract. Ed previously had served twelve years as the first mayor of the Town of West Springfield and had also previously served on the finance committee. Ed is well versed in managing a municipal government and is respected by both town employees, officials and the citizens. We would like to thank the committee for doing an excellent job. We are extremely pleased with the excellent work that Ed is doing as Town Administrator.
- During the same period a committee was appointed to search for a new Highway Superintendent. We would like to thank this committee for advertising, interviewing and submitting their findings to the Town Administrator who made the appointment of Christopher Bouchard that was approved by the Board of Selectmen. Chris started on April 8. He previously worked for six years as the Highway Superintendent in Otis, brings a wealth of construction knowledge and is well versed in working with MassDOT regulations. Chris is also a director on both the Berkshire County Highway Superintendents’ Association and the Massachusetts Highway Association boards.
- At the Annual Town Election in May, Angela Hilton was elected to the Board of Selectmen, replacing Mark Karlberg. At the first Board meeting after the election, the Board was reorganized with Jeanne Pryor elected Chair, Bill Elovirta elected Vice-Chair and Angela Hilton elected Clerk. With a new Board and new Town Administrator our meetings are very productive and professionally run.
- On July 1, David Shorey, a Highway Department employee, was transferred to a newly created position, Building and Grounds Technician, reporting to the Town Administrator. Dave is a licensed construction supervisor. This position will be responsible for janitorial services and minor repairs to the Town Hall, minor repairs to other town buildings, snow plowing of town buildings, weekly collection of trash from all town buildings and lawn maintenance of town buildings and parks. Improvements are very noticeable at the Town Hall as well as in the maintenance of lawns and parks.
- The Selectmen voted that the gas/plumbing and wiring inspectors fee be raised to \$50 and that the inspectors be paid 90% of the fee. The inspectors will no longer be paid mileage.
- The Selectmen voted to participate in the Berkshire County Study of OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) in an effort to save the town some money. An agreement with Segal Company for the Town’s OPEB valuation procurement, which was done through the Berkshire Region Group Purchasing Program, was signed. The Town Administrator received the documentation from the 2013 actual OPEB valuation and he will be working with the treasurer to update that information to reflect June 30, 2012 information. The treasurer has compiled the requested information for the actuary to perform the OPEB Valuation and that information has been returned to them. The actuary will now perform the technical actuarial analysis of the valuation and return that information to the town.
- In June, the Selectmen reviewed the Wage and Benefit Agreements for full time employees. The Town Administrator will begin a review of all the WABA’s and try to make them all consistent and consistent with the Employee Handbook, which needs to be updated.
- The Selectmen voted to designate members of the Conservation Commission and the Board of Health as Special Municipal Employees.
- The Town Administrator is working with Jim Kupernik to identify the effects and potential cost associated with new training that the town would need to meet new requirements if the state adopts the National Model for Emergency Medical Services.
- At the request of the Selectmen, the Police Chief has added a narrative of police activities and training to his monthly report, the Ambulance Director has added more detailed information to his monthly report, the Highway Department has begun providing monthly reports and the Fire Department has been asked to provide a monthly report.
- Currently there are vacancies on the Community Preservation Committee for a representative from the

◆ **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN** ◆
(Continued)

Historical Commission and a representative from the Planning Board. There are also two vacancies for at-large members. The Historical Commission and the Planning Board have been advised to designate someone to represent these boards. The Board of Selectmen is seeking applications for two at-large members.

Policies and Procedures

- The Selectmen voted to go to a bi- weekly payroll 90 days from May 2, 2013.
- The Selectmen voted to form a committee to include the tax collector, town administrator, treasurer and one Selectman to develop a policy for handling donated lands.
- The Selectmen have recommended home rule legislation and a new bylaw in order to incorporate the Parks Commission and Recreation Committee into one entity due to a lack of membership on these committees.
- The Selectmen voted to accept a Town Counsel Policy.
- At the request of the Town Administrator, the Selectmen voted to approve a Leave Request Form to be used by town employees.
- The Selectmen voted to approve the composition of an Athenaeum Ad Hoc Committee. The Committee's Charge is to advise the Becket Board of Selectmen and make recommendations concerning the purchase of the Becket Athenaeum, 3367 Main Street, Becket, MA, by the Town of Becket, including the land and building thereon, and arrangements for the leasing of the building to the Athenaeum after the purchase by the town. The governance of the Becket Athenaeum will remain completely with the Board of Trustees and that Board will continue to have the sole right to set all policies and procedures.
- The Selectmen discussed the possible need for either an ordinance or a Public Nuisance Bylaw to regulate public nuisances such as noise.
- With the resignation of Bud Moylan as Cemetery Commissioner, the Selectmen suggest that a review of procedures regarding the maintenance of the cemeteries may be needed to ensure that all cemeteries are well cared for as new Commissioners are elected.
- The Selectmen voted to accept a Town of Becket Ambulance Write-Off Policy in an effort to clarify the policy and make it fairer for all parties. A majority of the Selectmen agreed that the Town Administrator should be the one to make decisions regarding financial hardship determinations and collections.
- The Selectmen discussed the town Betterment Bylaw that requires that all home owners have their house numbers posted so that all emergency personnel can locate them.
- The Ambulance Department expressed concerns about finding some homes because the numbers are not posted and it takes them longer to locate them because of this. At the Selectmen's request, a notice was put in the Country Journal, the Berkshire Eagle and on the town's website advising home owners that their houses need numbers so emergency personnel can easily locate them. House numbers are required to be posted and homeowners could be fined if they do not comply with this bylaw.
- The Selectmen voted to have the Town Administrator send a letter to anyone involved in turning in cash reiterating the Town of Becket Handling of Departmental Receipts Policy issued on May 3, 2006. Ms. Pryor advised that the Board of Selectmen approved this policy in May of 2006 but wants to make sure everyone responsible for handling departmental receipts is aware of this policy.
- The Selectmen voted to approve the 2014 Town Meeting Budget Calendar that shows responsibilities and due dates. The budget calendar follows the town's bylaws and also includes a due date of April 1 for petitioned articles. The calendar was distributed to all boards, officers and committees.
- The Selectmen voted to exempt the following positions from distribution of summaries and the mandatory training and education requirements as allowed under the Ethics Reform Law Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2009: Poll (Election) Workers, Senior Tax Abatement Work off Participants, Lifeguards, Summer Park's Director, Summer Park's Program Assistant, Volunteer Firefighters (Fire Chief is not Exempted) and the Council on Aging (Council on Aging Director is not exempted).
- The Selectmen discussed the need to update the Animal Control Bylaw per Chapter 193 of the Acts of 2012. The Animal Control Officer will need to go through training within two years of when this legislation took effect and our Bylaws need to be updated to be consistent with this legislation.
- On November 20, the Selectmen agreed to submit revisions to the "Draft" Medical Marijuana Treatment Center Bylaw to the Planning Board for their review and consideration.
- The Selectmen voted to accept a revised Appointment Application for those applying to volunteer on a town committee.
- The Selectmen reviewed the fee schedule for the fire department. The last time the Selectmen voted to change the fees was in February of 2010 and updates may be needed. The Board feels there should be a fee for the storage of flammable materials and want to ensure that,

◆ **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN** ◆

(Continued)

per MGL, the town clerk has records of the properties that store flammables.

- In December, the Selectmen reviewed a draft Financial Reserves Policy with the Finance Committee. Ms. Pryor advised that, in response to Becket's 2006 DLS Financial Management Review, she had drafted and submitted this policy to the Finance Committee about a year ago. The Finance Committee reviewed, revised and approved the draft version of the policy that is before the Selectmen and it will be acted on in January.

Community Development Block Grants



The Selectmen voted unanimously to have Ed Gibson be the authorized signatory for the CDBG grants. The performance period for the CDBG grants was extended to September 30, 2013. The status of projects is summarized below.

Infrastructure Improvements in North Becket Village:

- North Becket Village Infrastructure construction has been completed.
- The streets and sidewalks project was designed by White Engineering, of Pittsfield MA.
- The construction contractor was Gomes Construction of Ludlow, MA.
- Approximately 1,450 linear feet of sidewalk was reconstructed.
- Drainage improvements, including a drainage swale, were constructed throughout the project area, improving the quality of run-off into 2 nearby streams.
- Thermoplastic crosswalks were installed on High Street, Main Street and State Route 8.
- Guardrails were installed in appropriate locations on High Street.

Housing Rehabilitation:

Eight (8) low to moderate income homeowners received assistance under this grant. Berkshire Housing Development Corporation served as housing rehabilitation manager.

Affordable Senior Housing Feasibility Study:

An Affordable Senior Housing Public Forum was held on March 16, 2013 at Town Hall and the "Feasibility Study: Affordable Senior Housing for Becket", as presented at the forum, is available on the town website. The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission worked with an Advisory Committee comprised of Town officials and residents to assess the feasibility of Affordable Senior Housing in Becket, including site identification and analysis, market study, funding strategies and operations pro forma. This study would allow the town to make decisions on whether or not it wants to develop Affordable Senior Housing and how to become involved with funding agencies. One of the problems with this part of the grant was that the senior housing project might have to be bigger than originally thought in order to obtain funding. To continue with this project the town would need to own or purchase property for this purpose. The committee made site visits to about ten properties that met the criteria for this study and properties were selected for a desktop engineering study and one site was selected that best fit the project. The biggest criteria for Affordable Senior Housing was that it needs to be close to amenities. Although the town owns property in Jacobs Well, most of this property is wetlands, is not close to amenities and was found to be not suitable for this project.

Green Communities

The Green Communities grant was extended to September 30, 2013. The building improvements on the Highway garage are completed and now the town needs to start the procurement process for the HVAC Improvements (air conditioning) for the town hall. There are a set of plans for the air conditioning for the town hall that Hesnor Engineering Associates put together when we first went out to bid on this project. The Selectmen voted to ask Hesnor for the additional cost of the Air Conditioning bid installation and discussed the need to decide whether to contract with Hesnor so they can conduct a Pre-Bid walk-through, complete bid evaluations and final approval of work. In August, the Selectmen voted to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the proposal for professional engineering for the Town Hall A/C not to exceed \$1,000.

Technical Assistance Grant

In December, the Town Administrator advised that BRPC has filed, on behalf of the Town of Becket, a Request for Technical Assistance Grant funding to complete our Housing Needs Assessment and to serve as liaison between the town and various state agencies. The Technical Assistance Grant would also identify challenges and solutions with respect to the limitations of the Town's infrastructure in determining

◆ **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN** ◆
(Continued)

appropriate sites for affordable housing within the Town and to explore the merits of organizing an Affordable Housing Trust.

Central Berkshire Regional School District

In November, members of the School District Administration met with the Selectmen and Finance Committee to discuss planning for the FY 2015 budget. Dr. Cameron, School Superintendent, advised that since he has been the superintendent, he has tried to meet with all of the district towns to see what their concerns and interests were for the upcoming fiscal year before the budget process started. He advised that the school committee has set up a budget schedule and the school committee has asked for his preliminary budget by January 9, 2014 and his final budget by the middle of March. He advised that there is a proposal that the legislature has made that would require the legislature to vote early in the budget process on school budgets so only the school's budget would not change once the final budget was approved. This might help but it is only a proposal and has not been enacted. Mr. Elovirta asked if the formula for the towns in the school district changed. Melissa Falkowski, the CBRSD Business Administrator, explained that the formula did not change, but it had to do with the target contributions. Some towns are below its target contributions and some are above its target contributions. The legislature is trying to get every town to be at its proper target contribution. She explained that the target contributions are assessed based partly on real estate valuation and the growth factor. Dr. Cameron advised that they are working very hard to keep the budget from increasing too much because they know that the school district's enrollment is dropping like most districts in Berkshire County and the towns are struggling with their own budgets. Mr. Gibson asked Dr. Cameron what the projected enrollment for CBRSD and for Becket Washington School would be and Dr. Cameron did not think there would be a big drop for the whole district or for Becket Washington School. Dr. Cameron advised that CBRSD did not receive grant funding for security systems for the schools but all of the towns in the district voted to incur cost for district wide building security improvements so they are moving ahead with this. Dr. Cameron also advised that the district does not currently have any students in the autism spectrum going to schools outside the district and that they are continually striving to improve the autism program. John Les advised that, since Mike Falk resigned from the School Committee, they are looking for his replacement. The Selectmen ask that anyone interested in representing Becket on the School Committee should apply to the Board of Selectmen.

Town Hall

- In response to a letter from DEP about the town hall water system, an updated water testing plan was submitted to DEP. Missing wellhead bolts were replaced and the wellhead has been covered and marked better so the plow does not hit it during a snow storm. A guardrail was put in place to prevent a plow from hitting the wellhead.
- The Selectmen approved Senator Downing's request to hold a "Coffee and Conversation" meeting at Town Hall on July 19, 2013, for local residents to be able to talk with him personally with any topics of interest. The meeting was well attended and covered an array of topics from Local Aid, Chapter 90, Affordable Senior Housing, to Health Care and Quarantine from the Asian Long Horn Beetle.
- A MMA Legislative Breakfast was held in the Community Room at Town Hall on Friday, September 27th from 8 AM to 10 AM.
- In September, the Town Administrator reviewed with the Board of Selectmen what will need to be done to bring the front entrance up to code. He advised that the building inspector and assistant building inspector spoke with him about the issues with the front entrance. The first thing he pointed out when speaking about having hand rails going up the steps was that the steps are all different heights which is not up to code. The next thing he pointed out was the ramps. The concrete part is up to code but the asphalt part is too steep. There should also be handrails on the front of the building by the ramps. The issues are a combination of building code and handicap accessibility violations. He wants the Board to think about what they would want to do to bring everything up to code. Ms. Pryor expressed her appreciation that better handicapped access would finally be addressed and there was a brief discussion about upgrading the entrance with a handicapped accessible door.

Becket Arts Center and Mullen House

In mid June, the Selectmen were advised that the Town Administrator was contacted by the company that performs water tests on the town's public water supplies and the DEP advising that there are levels of bacteria in the test of the well that serves the Becket Arts Center and the Mullen House. The DEP placed a "Boil Water Order" on the two facilities, the system needed to be shocked, and the water filter and the pressure tank were replaced. Also a sand separator unit was added to the submersible pump. This will enhance the performance of the pump and eliminate most of the sand and silt from plugging the filter. The water meter, which was broken, was replaced. The DEP has required that the Town install a new filtration system prior to the start of the Becket

◆ **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN** ◆
(Continued)

Arts Center's 2014 season. The Selectmen voted to sign the consent order and the Town Administrator will look into the different filtration systems and their costs to determine what funding will be needed.

In early November, the Selectmen voted to give the Town Administrator the authority to enter into negotiations for extending the lease for the Becket Arts Center.

Energy Committee

In August, the Selectmen approved the composition and structure for an Energy Committee. The Committee's Charge is to advise the Becket Board of Selectmen and make recommendations about energy efficiency in town buildings and operations, ensure compliance with the requirements of the Massachusetts Green Communities program, investigate and recommend renewable and alternate energy opportunities for Becket's municipal government, advise and assist the town and community to identify and apply for energy and conservation related grants and funding opportunities, educate residents about ways that they can save energy and reduce energy payments, advise them on energy-related issues and recommend specific initiatives. Alvin Blake, Robert Gross, J. Garth Klimchuk, Katherine Hoak and Cathy DeFoe were appointed to this committee.

County and Yokum Pond Roads

In November, after taking public input, the Selectmen discussed and voted to remove the Yield and Yield Ahead signs from Yokum Pond Road and place both signs on County Road. This conforms to the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control. A notice appeared in the Country Journal and on the town's website about the signage changes at the Yokum Pond Road/County Road intersection.

Other Endeavors

Senate Bill 2291 "An Act to Authorize the Town of Becket to Establish a Speed Regulation on Fred Snow Road and Johnson Road" was not enacted during the previous legislative session so the bill died. Senator Downing's office, in an email, explained that the reason this bill died was because Mass DOT vigorously opposes all home rules like this one, which sought to establish a speed limit through special legislation and not through the established process.

In February, the Selectmen voted to send letters to our representatives advising that the Board supports the \$300 million increase in Chapter 90 funds.

In April, Ms. Pryor and Mr. Elovirta attended a meeting of the Town of Washington Board of Selectmen where they were advised that the Town of Washington appropriated \$1,000 for FY14 for the Becket town beach and \$1,000 for FY13. They also appropriated \$8,000 for fire department coverage for FY13 and \$10,000 for fire department coverage for FY14. It was agreed to formalize an agreement that would include the Becket Ambulance Department covering Washington and for Washington to get paid one half of the cost for transporting Vocational Students to Pittsfield. They asked for the Becket Board of Selectmen to support their attempt to secure funding for the repair of Washington Mountain Road.

In July, a resident addressed the Board regarding a "Right to Farm" issue. The Department of Conservation and Recreation will not allow him to cut and split firewood on his property. Since one Emerald Ash Borer was found in Dalton, DCR has quarantined Berkshire County as a result of this discovery. This resident lives on the edge of Berkshire County and most of his customers are in Hampshire and Hampden Counties. He has the ability and the expertise to segregate the ash wood from the rest of the firewood and the Right to Farm law takes into account the farmer's ability to "minimize or prevent the undesirable external effects of the operation". The Selectmen voted to write a letter to DCR and to our State Senator and State Representatives including Congressman Neal strongly urging them to put pressure on DCR to issue a waiver for this business owner.

In August, Chris Bouchard advised that the Governor has released from Chapter 90 \$200 million which is still \$100 million short of what the legislature passed. The Chair of the Board of Selectmen drafted a letter to the governor asking that he release the entire \$300 million in local Chapter 90 funds and the Selectmen voted to send the letter.

Foresight Land Services has completed a grant application under the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for the culvert replacement on Bonny Rigg Hill Road and it was submitted to the agency before the grant deadline. We will now wait to hear if the grant has been approved.

It has been our pleasure to serve as your elected Board of Selectmen. Our thanks to all town employees and volunteers who work for the betterment of our town. We appreciate your time and effort.

Board of Selectmen
Jeanne W. Pryor, *Chair*
William H. Elovirta, *Vice-Chair*
Angela I. Hilton, *Clerk*



◆ *REPORT OF THE BECKET LAND TRUST* ◆

It has been a busy and successful year for the Becket Land Trust. We had two volunteer agencies, Americorp and Greenagers, come to build a new hiking trail and do extensive maintenance work on existing hiking trails.

Many groups, including Housatonic Heritage, Berkshire Knapsackers, OLLI, Hoffman Bird Club, Canyon Ranch and Appalachian Mountain Club have all had hikes this year at the quarry.

We received a grant for habitat development. The US Department of Agriculture, the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries and Wildlife along with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, in a combined program, have awarded the Land Trust a grant for a major New England Cottontail Habitat Management project. We will be working on over 30 acres to create much needed open space habitat for the Visuals as well as many other species of birds and mammals.

We have also received a grant from the Department of Conservation and Recreation for their Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) Recreational Trails Program. This grant will be used for extensive trail upgrades and development throughout our property.

Although most of our visitors respect the property and take steps to help keep the space attractive and clean, we continue to experience litter problems. We expend dozens of hours of volunteer work and money cleaning up after a few careless visitors. When you visit this Town treasure, please take out at least as much as you bring in.

Our Museum Exhibit in the Mullen House has had several improvements including an additional display of Quarry artifacts. Please read the Mullen House Education Center Report for further information.

We were saddened to lose a long serving Board member, Gil Falcone. He was an enthusiastic supporter of the Trust for many years and he will be greatly missed.

In closing, I would like to thank all of our membership and friends who generously give time and donations which are crucial to our continued success.

If you would like to learn more about the Trust, please visit our website or send us an email.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Smith
President
Becket Land Trust



◆ **REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT** ◆

The Fire Department responded to 104 calls in 2013.

BRUSH FIRES -5	CAR FIRES -1
CHIMINEY FIRES - 2	CO DETECTORS - 12
FIRE ALARMS -12	MEDICAL CALLS - 25
MUTUAL AID - 2	SEARCH AND RESCUE - 2
MVA - 19	STRUCTURE FIRES - 5
WATER CALLS - 6	TREES ON WIRES/ WIRES DOWN- 5
OTHER - 8	

In 2013, we remained part of the Berkshire County Online Burn Permit Program. It was a great success. In 2013, we had 347 burn permits that we issued with only having to respond to 5 brush fires. Again, we are using the online service so you are able to self issue online at www.bcburnpermits.com. You may still call and leave your information at my phone as well (413-623-6480) and I can log it in for you.

The new Engine 2 has been in service for over a year now and has proven a major asset to the department. We have recently acquired a second surplus military pickup truck that we are converting into a forestry vehicle to aid in wildland fires.

If you are interested in joining the Fire Department and would like more information you can contact me at 413-623-6480.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ray Tarjick
Fire Chief



◆ **REPORT OF THE BECKET AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT** ◆

We responded to 245 calls in 2013. The calls by town were:

Becket – 193
Otis – 22
Washington – 10
Lee – 11
Chester – 9

We are staffed with 3 full time and 19 part time EMT's to provide 24/7 coverage. We also have mutual-aid agreements with Otis, Lee, Huntington and County Ambulance.

We received a grant for new radios for the ambulance which will enhance our communication capability. We gave the fire department the old ones which they could use.

We also purchased a new Automated External Defibrillator and gave the old one to the Police Department.

The state is going to join the National Registry of EMT's and we will need to do some training to comply with the new guidelines.

I would like to thank the Police and Fire Departments for their help on calls we do.

Respectfully submitted,

James Kupernik, *Director*

◆ **REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT** ◆

The 2013 yearly breakdown shows the Police Department responded to 2,915 calls. For the full year breakdown of calls and categories please see below. The statistics are gathered from our computer records management system, Precinct Connection. Every call that the Department receives gets put into this database and the Department can print out the statistics monthly.

In addition to the activity breakdown, officers also issued citations for 188 civil motor vehicle violations, 30 criminal motor vehicle violations, 24 arrest violations, and 148 written warnings, for a total of 390 citations.

Officers made 20 arrests, including 3 for domestic assault & battery, 6 for operating under the influence of alcohol, 5 on warrants, 3 for operating after license suspension, 1 for carrying a firearm without a license/permit, 1 for breaking and entering in the daytime to commit a felony, and 1 for trespassing. Additionally, 22 individuals were summoned to court on 46 criminal charges.

Since we have added a full-time officer to cover the midnight shift we continue to see burglaries and breaking and entering calls in the Town decrease. From 53 in 2011 to 26 in 2012 to 23 burglaries and breaking and entering calls in 2013.

The Becket Police Association sponsored a certified pistol course for firearms training and will continue to hold classes in the future. All of the officers in the Department continue to be proactive and reactive while serving the Town. Each individual officer carries unique skills and qualities that help the Department provide the highest level of service to the Town.

In May of 2013, I applied for the bulletproof vest partnership grant through the U.S. Department of Justice,

Office of Justice Programs and I am pleased the Department found out in October that the application has been approved. The Police Department was awarded \$2064.83 in funding toward the purchase of new bullet proof vests for officers. Through the grant the Department will receive a 50% match for every vest that is purchased until the expiration date in 2015 or until all the funds have been requested.

I want to reiterate that I have an open door policy for anyone wishing to speak to me in regards to any issue. My office hours for firearms renewals and new applicants are from five to seven o'clock on Thursday nights. However, if residents are unable to make this time frame an appointment with me can be made.

Finally, I would like to thank all the officers for their continued dedication in providing quality policing to the residents of Becket while maintaining the highest level of professionalism and integrity. I would like to thank the Becket Fire Department, Becket Ambulance, and Becket Highway Department for their dedication and partnership in working together with the Police Department. Furthermore, I would like to thank the residents of Becket for their continued support of the Police Department. It is only through a strong partnership between the general public and the Police Department that a safe community can be established.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristopher G. McDonough
Chief of Police

Becket Police Department Calls 2013

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov	Dec	Total
Abandoned Vehicles	1	1		1		3	2	2		1			11
Abuse	2										2		4
Alarm	7	18	4	10	9	11	8	9	15	10	15	9	125
Ambulance/Medical	10	4	11	6	6	7	16	17	11	8	9	7	112
Animal	3	1	5	4	8	14	8	5	6	5	3	7	69
Assault					1		1						2
Assault & Battery								1					1
Assist other Department	2	6	4	3	2	3	4	3	4	5	1	4	41
Attempted Burglary		1	1						1	1			4
Attempt to locate		1	1	1				1	1				5
Attempted Suicide													0
Attempted Theft			1										1
Atv Complaint	1				1	1	2		2	1			8

Becket Police Department Calls 2013

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov	Dec	Total
Bad Checks													0
BOLO	5	14	13	12	12	9	6	5	5	8	11	6	106
Breaking & Entering	4	2	3	1		2	2		1	3			18
Burglary			2	1					1	1			5
Call Return	26	16	22	22	20	16	15	12	12	10	11	13	195
Criminal Mischief													0
Car Off Roadway	9	4	4		1						1		19
Calls for Service	9	3	5	5	8	5	5	8	3	8	8	2	69
Check		1	3				2						6
Child Custody				2	1								3
Civil	2	4	5	5	7	3			4				30
Court	2	1	5	4	8	6	3	7	4	3	5	2	50
Credit Card Fraud		1						1					2
Destruction of Property						1		2	1	1		1	6
Disorderly Conduct			2				2					1	5
DOA Dead on Arrival													0
Detail	13	14	14	34	15	10	15	24	24	23	11	5	202
Disturbance	1			1	1	1	2	2			3	1	12
Disabled Motor Vehicle	5	10	3	5	4	7	6	4	2	3	4	8	61
Domestic	1		2	5	2	2		2		2	1		17
Escort	3		2	2			1	1					9
Explosives													0
Firearms	1	3		3	1	2	1		2			1	14
Fire	2	1		2	2		2		1	3	6	2	21
Follow Up Invest	8	13	14	7	3	3	1	6	2	5	3	3	68
Found Property		1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1			8
209A Order Service	7												7
Fraud		1											1
Gun Shots	2					1	1		2				6
Harassment	5	1	4	1			1	2	1	1			16
House Watch/Check	43	15	29			1	4	1		1	4	2	100
Indecent Exposure							1						1
Illegal Burn				1	2			2		1	1		7
Illegal Dumping	1											1	2
Information Request	43	32	52	38	31	33	30	17	21	23	19	21	360
Juvenile Calls											1		1
Larceny Under 250	1					3		2		2			8
Larceny Over 250				1	1		1	1	4	3	4		15
Littering													0
Lock Out		3			1	1			1	1	1	3	11
Lost				1	1							1	3
Mail Complaint						1							1
Mental Health Sec 12	1		3	1	5	4	1			1	1	3	20
Missing Persons		2	1			1						1	5
Motor Vehicle Accident	3		2	1	3	6	6	6	3	4	4	10	48
Motor Vehicle Accident (OUI)					1						1		2
Motor Vehicle Violation	2	2	2	6	2	8	1	2	5	1		1	32

Becket Police Department Calls 2013

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov	Dec	Total
Nuisance		1		1			5	3	4	1	2		17
Open Burn													0
Operating under the Influence (oui)			3			2		1	1				7
Paper Work	7	4	4	6	3	1	9	4	1	2	1	5	47
Parade													0
Permits (LTC/FID/Vendor)	17	9	17	16	9	7	14	16	16	9	5	5	140
Parking Complaint	2			1	1		2	2		1		1	10
Patrol	4	7	48	41	18	13	39	20	27	6	7	4	234
Phone 911 Hang Up	4	1	1	3	3	7	2	2		1		1	25
Possible Scam	1												1
Property Damage			1	1	1	1	2	4			1		11
Property Return	7	3	4	1	2		1	5		2		2	27
Protect from abuse													0
Prowler Complaint													0
Radar Request						1	1		4	3	6	3	18
Reckless Driving		2		1	2			1		1			7
Records Request	8	2	8	3	3		1	3	2	3	4	5	42
Refer to other Dept.		1			1	1	1						4
Ride Along													0
Road Complaints	12	5	3	4	6	10	1	8	8	2	12	5	76
Runaway													0
Scam Complaints	3		2	2		1	2		2	1		1	14
Sex Offender Registry		1	1			3	2				3	2	12
Snow Mobile Complaint	2											2	4
Speeding Complaints	1			2		3	3	5	2			1	17
Stolen Motor Vehicle							1		1				2
Stolen Property				3								1	4
Suicide	1												1
Summons Service			11	2	2	2		1		1	3	4	26
Suspicious Activity	2	2	6	8	2	5	6	7		5	2	5	50
Suspicious Persons			1	3	2	2	2	5	1	2	1	3	22
Suspicious Vehicle		4	7	7	3	1		4	3	6	3	4	42
Trespass		1	2	1	1	1	2		2	2	1	1	14
Theft												2	2
Unattended death							1						1
Unsecure Property			2							1			3
Underage Drinking													0
Unwanted Party													0
Use without Authority	1												1
Vehicle Stop													0
Vehicles Towed	1	1	1	8	2	7	1			1			22
Warrant	1		3	1						2	2	1	10
Weather Advisory	1				2		2			1	1		7
Welfare Checks	5	3	6	1	1	1	1	2	2		2	4	28
Wires Down	1				1		1		1	2	6		12
Total Calls Monthly for 2013	306	223	351	303	224	235	253	239	217	195	192	177	Total Calls 2915
Total Arrests 2013			6		1	4	1	2	2	2	1	1	20
Total Criminal Charges 2013	2	3	2	5	2	10	2	3	3	8	5	1	46

◆ *REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD* ◆

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen
and Citizens of the Town of Becket:

The Planning Board consists of five elected members with five-year terms and one associate member who is appointed annually. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Becket Town Hall, 557 Main St. Additional meetings are scheduled on an as need basis.

I would like to acknowledge Ann Krawet for her re-election to the Board in May of 2013 and particularly thank her for her willingness to chair the Large Wind Bylaw subcommittee. Ann along with Gale LaBelle, the vice-chair, Marty Schlanger, the board's clerk, Beth VanNess the Clerk Pro Tem, and Howard Lerner, the board's associate member comprise an especially effective team. Together the Board has worked cohesively and cooperatively for the community to render decisions on various zoning issues and special permits brought before the Board in 2013. Having an associate member who assumes the duties of an absent elected official is very helpful in rendering a decision where time is of the essence.

The Planning Board's official powers and responsibilities are defined in the Becket Subdivision Rules and Regulations, the Becket Zoning Bylaws, and as prescribed in Massachusetts General Law. The subdivision rules and regulations were enacted to protect the safety, convenience and welfare of the inhabitants of Becket by regulating the laying out of new lots and constructions of ways providing access to lots therein. In addition to subdivision control, the Planning Board reviews site plan development for the review of land divisions where sufficient frontage exists, through the submission of an Approve Not Required (ANR) plans. The Board also act on special permit applications and undertakes long-range planning activities including the development of proposed amendments to the Zoning By-laws and other land-use regulations. The Board is required to hold public hearings for proposed zoning amendments prior to Town Meeting action.

During the calendar year 2013, the Planning Board held twelve regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

One Approval Not Required (ANR) plan for a parcel on Quarry Road that met the frontage and acreage requirements, which did not constitute a subdivision within the meaning of the Subdivision Control Law, was received and unanimously endorsed with the recusal of one board member. The approved plan was to be filed at the Berkshire Middle District Registry of Deeds.

Five special permit applications were presented for review. Three were approved, one was withdrawn without prejudice and one was denied as follows:

The Special Permit application to construct a private boarding/day care facility for dogs and cats was approved, as it was determined that the business will be an asset to the community, beneficial to the residents and harmonious to the natural environment.

A Special Permit application to allow for the reestablishment of a nonconforming use of a parcel which had not been used for a period of two years was approved. This gave the owner the ability to construct a new residential dwelling subject to the parcel meeting existing conservation, health and building codes, regulations and requirements regarding new construction.

A Special Permit by Verizon Wireless to add twelve antenna panels and six remote heads to an existing cell tower at the Wade Inn and Cross Road location was approved as it will not involve any substantial modification to the tower itself and because it will greatly improve cell service within the town.

Additional Actions

Members of the Board volunteered to serve on a town subcommittee if one was formed to discuss the Town of Otis' proposal to share a Community Center with Becket.

The Board informally discussed the issue of the subdivision road versus common driveway requirements with Foresight Land Services as the firm represented a client who was looking for a waiver. No action was taken, as the applicant never filed the necessary forms.

The Board discussed at length the recently enacted Medical Marijuana law and its effect on zoning dispensaries and cultivation facilities within the town. Although most of the medical marijuana law falls under the purview of the Massachusetts Department of Health, a tentative zoning bylaw section was drafted with input from the Becket Board of Health as there were concerns raised regarding locating these facilities within the proximity to places like schools and the library where youth congregate. The proposed language was posted on the town web site for community input.

The Board acting in its capacity as the Special Permit Granting Authority for specific types of Special Permits revised and updated the procedures documentation for those applications.

◆ **REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD** ◆

~ Continued ~

The Board voted to accept the recommendation of the Large Wind Turbine Subcommittee with some additional definition language and a change, which included a 5 decibels level. A motion to establish a moratorium period for large wind tower construction was not approved.

The table of Fees for the Establishment of Special Accounts set back in 2006 was corrected as it referenced incorrectly the Subdivision preliminary vs. definitive section of the Subdivision Rules and Regulations Bylaw.

The Board received a request from the community regarding bylaw changes and additions. One request that is being reviewed has to do with light pollutions where local light exceeds the level of ambient light within the town. It is know as the “Dark Skies Movement.” Another request asked the Board to research a “Public Nuisance Bylaw” dealing with issues such as water run-off, excessively loud noises and the enforcement of existing zoning bylaws.

The Board appreciates and encourages public attendance at its meetings and encourages citizens to offer their constructive comments. Planning Board meetings are posted in Town Hall, and also for information, on the town Web site, www.townofbecket.org.

Finally, the Board wishes to thank those town officials and members of the various boards, commissions and departments who provided technical assistance and expertise throughout the year for their cooperation. Please feel free to call the Planning Board Office at 413-623-8934 ext. 20, send correspondence via USPS or email at planning@townofbecket.org with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert T. Ronzio
Chair



◆ **REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR** ◆

The Building Department purchased software in the fall of 2012 with a \$10,000 grant from the state which allows residents and contractors to apply for building permits online. We have successfully launched the program and have completed our first full year of taking applications on line for plumbing, gas, electrical and building permits.

Residents and contractors are very happy that they can either fill out the application at home, at work or come to my office at the town hall where there is a touch screen computer that can be used. Fees can be paid by mail, at the office or online at Unibank.

We are still requiring all the same information but it is streamlined so that all the owner and parcel information automatically downloads into the form with selection of the street address. There are instructions to help understand the process at the town's website. Go to www.townofbecket.org and click on Online Permits. At the building department chose either application instructions or online permit application. This brings you to the website where you set up a user name and password so that you can sign in. Follow the prompts and fill in the form until you can submit. This will send it to me for review. All other documents and plans can be scanned and sent as an attachment to this submittal. I will send a chat and email to you with any questions that I have and we can also talk by phone, at my office or at the jobsite as we always have.

It's amazing how little storage space is needed at the town hall now for all the paperwork required to get a building permit.

The Building Department collected \$45,748.00 in fees (up from \$39,321 last year) for building permit applications during 2013. Estimated value of construction was \$ 6,805,565 up from 6,602,463 last year.

I want to mention that the Finance Committee and the Selectmen have pushed to include a budget line for demolition that has been instrumental in removing some unsightly and dangerous buildings around town. Because that money was available I have also been able to convince a couple of owners to do the right thing and not make the taxpayers cover the demo expenses.

I would like to thank Plumbing Inspector Mark Levernoch and his assistant Brian Middleton; Wiring Inspector Dana Spring and his assistant James LaPier for stepping up and working with the online permitting software.

Single Family Dwellings (new)	11
Total value	\$2,511,050
Commercial Permits (new)	5
Total value	\$405,000
(Includes Youth Camp Buildings)	
Other Commercial Permits	21
Total value	\$1,648,592
Accessory Structures (Includes Sheds, Garages, Barns)	11
Tent or Temporary Structure	10
Signs	3
Foundation Permit (For new or repair)	6
Additions includes 1 commercial project	8
Includes Decks and Screened Porches	27
Substantial Repairs and Renovations	30
Demo	8
Pools	1
Mechanical Permits	
Insulation and weatherizing	2
Solar	4
2 Commercial and 2 Residential Installations	
Sheet Metal	3
Wood, pellet stoves, fireplaces and chimneys	27
Outdoor wood boilers	1
Citations for violations	3
Certificate of Occupancy	13
Certificate of Inspection	71
Total Permits and Certificates	320
(Many permits overlap different job types)	

Thanks also to Gary Danko my assistant building inspector, Nina Weiler, the executive assistant and Heather Hunt, the secretary of the Planning Board for their help.

Plumbing permits issued35
Fees collected\$ 3,402.00
Electrical permits issued81
Fees collected\$ 6,655.00
Gas permits issued49
Fees collected\$ 2,660.00
Total Fees Collected.....\$12,717.00

Respectfully submitted,

William E. Girard
Building Inspector

◆ *REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS* ◆

This year was a certification year for the Town of Becket. Our adjustment of values follows the requirements of the Department of Revenue and reflects 100% fair market value. The current assessed values are based on sales in 2011 & 2012, as mandated by the DOR.

Our Board continues to inspect and photograph properties in town. As always, we appreciate the cooperation of Becket homeowners.

In Massachusetts, there are several exemptions available to residents. Becket has voted to offer exemptions for elderly, veterans and blind taxpayers. Call or visit our office to see if you are eligible.

Please remember to submit changes of address so tax bills will be forwarded appropriately. Two web sites you may find helpful: www.massrmv.com and www.masslandrecords.com. A number of our forms, as well as property record cards and maps can also be found at www.townofbecket.org.

Total Appropriations	\$5,789,102.00
Other Charges	\$ 1,437.00
State and County charges	\$ 24,920.00
Allowance for Abatements and Exemptions	\$ 112,415.45
Total Appropriations and Charges	\$6,002,713.79

Estimated Receipts - State	\$ 256,840.00
Estimated Receipts - Local	\$ 610,565.00
Free Cash	\$ 97,531.00

Total Receipts **\$ 964,936.00**

Total Amount to be Raised **\$5,037,777.79**

CLASS	LEVY %	VALUATION	LEVY	PARCEL COUNT
Residential	91.3773	478,522,608	\$4,603,387.49	3,763
Commercial	3.6518	19,123,462	183,967.70	68
Industrial	0.2217	1,161,230	11,171.03	3
Personal Property	4.7492	24,870.226	239,251.57	938
Totals	100%	523,677,526	\$5,037,777.79	4,772

Tax Rate **\$9.62**

The Board of Assessors processed:

Elderly and Veteran Exemptions	42
Blind	1
Senior Work-off Abatements	5
Personal Property /Real Estate Abatements	61
Motor Vehicle Abatements	70

Respectfully submitted,

W. David Zagorski
Elizabeth A. Will
Geraldine L. Walter

◆ **REPORT OF THE BECKET AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION** ◆

The Becket Agricultural Commission (BAC) is a standing committee of town government, created through a vote of Town Meeting and appointed by a vote of the Board of Selectmen. BAC represents the farming community, encourages the pursuit of agriculture, promotes agricultural economic development, protects farmlands and farm businesses, and preserves, revitalizes, and sustains agricultural businesses and land.

The intent of BAC is simple: protect agricultural lands, preserve rural character, provide a voice for farmers, and encourage agricultural based businesses.

Anyone who is a resident of Becket is eligible to serve on a town board or commission. However, the bylaw created and passed by the town determines the number of members and composition of the commission. Anyone interested in serving on the BAC should review the appropriate bylaws and contact the BAC.

Towns provide support for all committees – each town should decide what is an appropriate budget for the AG Commission. Existing budgets range from \$0 to \$1,000.

Unlike other town committees, AG Commissions do not operate under regulatory authority from the Commonwealth. While town conservation commissions implement the State

Wetlands Protection Act and planning boards enforce the local zoning code, AG Commissions are created at Town Meeting to represent farming interests in the town – but they do not have any legal mandate or enforcement authority.

In Massachusetts, AG Commissions are adopting local right-to-farm bylaws (Becket has one), raising money for farmland protection and economic development, starting local farmers markets, providing mediation and conflict resolution on farm related disputes within town, collaborating with other town boards on development proposals, educating town residents about the value of agriculture in the community, holding educational workshops on intergenerational transfer of property, Chapter 61 lands, farm viability, and agricultural preservation restrictions, obtaining technical assistance on non point source pollution, conservation farm planning, manure management, and environmental stewardship.

Anyone seeking out information and educational resources relevant to farming in Becket should contact the BAC for help and guidance.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil F. Toomey,
Chairman, Becket Agricultural Commission

◆ **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH** ◆

The Board of Health consists of three elected members. Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 10:00 am. The Board of Health welcomes Mr. Scott Krzanik as our Town Health Agent. Scott brings his expertise in Public Health and Inspectional Services to the Town.

Although all three members are new to the Board this year, a heartfelt thank you goes out to those who served before them: Ginger Conner, Bill Robinson and Chuck Andrews.

Board of Health Activities 2013:

Percolation Tests – 18
Title V Inspections – 24
System Construction Permits – 24
Installers Permits – 20
General Licenses – 10
Well Permits- 7
Food Service Permits and Inspections - 28
Beach Inspections - 19

Total Revenue for 2013 - \$ 20,800.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Gale LaBelle, **Chairperson**
Laurie Burgwardt
Howard Lerner



◆ **REPORT OF THE LARGE WIND TURBINE BYLAW REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE** ◆

The Large Wind Turbine Bylaw Review Sub-Committee (LWBR) was formed in January, 2013. It consisted of five members who were Becket voters and Mr. Girard, the Becket Building Inspector, as a non-voting member. It was formed at the request of several residents who were concerned that our existing Bylaw did not adequately protect our community from any potential negative health and safety impacts (a/k/a “wind turbine syndrome”) of large wind industrial size turbines.

After careful evaluation of numerous scientific and medical studies, and of anecdotal reports regarding audible and low frequency noise, flicker, and environmental damage by residents who live in the vicinity of the Falmouth, Hoosic Wind, Situate, and other such turbines, the Sub-Committee made the following recommendations on November 7, 2013 to the Planning Board:

1 -- Clarify language and correct erroneous citations (e.g., substitute the term “property line” for less specific location designations); and

2 -- Propose a Moratorium on the issuance of permits for construction of any large wind energy turbine/system within the Town of Becket until the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (MA DPU) Siting Standards Committee completes its study and issues its findings. (NOTE: the DPU committee is now conducting hearings throughout the State.)

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Krawet
Chair,
Large Wind Turbine Bylaw Review Sub-Committee

◆ REPORT OF THE PORCHLIGHT VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION ◆

The following is a report of the services performed in the Town of Becket from 1/01/2013 thru 12/31/2013:

HOME VISITS	1st Quarter 1/1/13 - 3/31/13	2nd Quarter 4/1/13 - 6/30/13	3rd Quarter 7/1/13 - 9/30/13	4th Quarter 10/1/13 - 12/31/13	Total
Skilled Nursing	71	73	46	46	236
Physical Therapy	25	24	11	30	90
Occupational Therapy	11	12	3	3	29
Speech Therapy	0	4	5	0	9
Medical Social Work	3	5	0	1	9
Maternal Child Health	0	0	1	1	2
Nutrition Services	0	2	0	1	3
Home Health Aide	0	14	7	0	21
Totals	110	134	73	82	399
NON-BILLABLE	0	2	1	2	5

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE	1st Quarter 1/1/13 - 3/31/13	2nd Quarter 4/1/13 - 6/30/13	3rd Quarter 7/1/13 - 9/30/13	4th Quarter 10/1/13 - 12/31/13	Total
Confirmed	0	2	0	0	2
Probable	0	0	0	2	2
Suspected	0	1	3	1	5
Revoked	0	0	0	0	0

CLINICS	# of Clinics Held / Attendance				
Flu	0	0	0	1/18	1/148
Blood Pressure	1/5	3/7	3/6	3/5	10/23

Telehealth Monitoring	1	3	2	2	8
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Respectfully submitted,

Holly Ann Chaffee, RN, BSN, MSN
President, CEO



◆ *REPORT OF THE BECKET PARKS COMMISSION* ◆

We continue to put in many hours of volunteer service to the town by weeding, planting, assembling picnic tables, picking up the beach, putting out ropes and the dock, weeding, organizing summer park's programs, weeding, hiring lifeguards who teach swim lessons, work on the ball field, and weeding.

At the beach this summer, Alexandra Keator and Matt Baker provided swim lessons and lifeguarding. Tina and Mike LeVasseur cleaned and repaired the shed at the beach. Committee member, Sean Raymer, acquired beach cleanup tools and made sure they worked. Our highway crew helped secure a new ADA picnic table there after the previous one was stolen. Derrick Rodgers, Ed Rossini, Wayne Pierce, and Town Administrator Ed Gibson, helped put out the ropes and dock. The beach was busy and looked great this summer. We replaced much of the mice chewed kickboards, life jackets, and ropes this summer. Don't forget, to use the beach you must have a beach sticker or a Becket Transfer Station sticker. Stickers may be acquired at the town hall.

The Becket Center Park was busier than it has ever been. Matt Baker and Jamie Pease ran an outstanding summer park's program. Signs were purchased to advertize the summer program and swim lessons at the beach. Next year more publicity will happen during the school year so that more can attend these events. We purchased sturdy soccer nets, a lacrosse net and sticks, a new volleyball net, and lots of materials for the summer program. Maddy and Bill Elovirta, with the help of Craig Willis of White Wolf, graded, weeded, and rolled the ball diamond. The highway crew, removed weeds and rocks on the hillside near the parking area, graded it and planted grass. They also added drainage near the skateboard area. We hired Dave Drugmand to repair the dugout roof that a tree had damaged. He feels the roofs are in bad shape and so we plan to rebuild the roofs this next summer. One dugout wall was bowing out and so he stabilized that also. Mark Sottile and Derrick Rodgers organized an adult softball game under the lights. Everyone had a terrific time. They also organized a kid's game. Next year more kids will participate we hope. We also hope for a series of softball games.

We hope to repair the track at the North Becket Village Park this spring as it is overgrown with grass.

The tennis court needs to have the end wall extended to create a safer back court area. The highway crew did some tree cutting to eliminate the potential for more moss growth which had created an unsafe and slippery backcourt. The newly painted surface looks great.

Maddy Elovirta would like to thank Kevin Whalen of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation who helped with the island work at the intersection of Route 20 and Route 8 North. Also, thanks to Sharon Pease who donated lots of hostas for the town parks. Thanks to Ginger Conner, Maddy, and Rita for maintaining,(weeding) the gardens. Thanks to Chris Bouchard, town highway superintendent, and his crew for all of their help. Thanks to Dave Shorey, Becket's new building and grounds manager, for his help in handling some of the heavier town parks work, and finally thanks to visitors and towns people for their gracious comments and show of appreciation for everyone who volunteered.

This year the Parks Commission and the Recreation Committee worked together because there was only one member of the Recreation Committee left. By working together, it evened out the efforts of the volunteer committees. Tina LeVasseur has been a member of the Recreation Committee for over twenty years and has been the lone star on the committee for the last few years now. At the May town meeting, there will be a by-law article to merge the two entities legally and give Tina some much needed help and a streamlining of the work of both of the groups. We ask for your support for this effort.

Respectfully,

Rita Furlong,
Maddy Elovirta,
Ginger Conner,
Sean Raymer



◆ **REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT** ◆

It has been a busy year doing normal road maintenance sweeping, drop inlet cleaning, grading and ditching, brush cutting / tree work, asphalt patching, crack sealing, shoulder work, drainage work, line painting and snow and ice control. The winter of 2013 we experienced the February blizzard, which FEMA reimbursed the Town 75% of the cost of the storm, and November / December have had a lot of little snowstorms and significant ice and freezing rainstorms. During 2013, the grader and loader underwent extensive repairs. In May, we received the 2014 International dump truck to replace the 1992 International dump truck. In August, we received the 2013 pickup which replaced the 2007 pickup that went to the Building and Grounds department. In September, we purchased a roller and trailer with Chapter 90 funds which will allow us to roll the roads when grading and doing construction work to help with dust, erosion and to get a firm road surface sooner after a disturbance. In October, we received the 2013 John Deere multi-purpose tractor. This year the Highway Associations have pushed the Representatives, Senators, Governor and Transportation Secretary to increase and release funding earlier for the Chapter 90 program (\$300 million). However, that did not come to fruition as the initial release was only \$150 million in late July (a decrease from the

previous year). Then in late August, they released an additional \$50 million to restore the funding level to the previous level of \$200 million but it was too late to bid projects and get them completed before winter. In August, we filed for a Hazard Mitigation Grant through FEMA and MEMA with the help of a Westfield River Wild and Scenic Advisory Committee Grant for a feasibility study for the design, engineering and construction of the box culverts crossing Bonny Rigg Hill Road. As of this letter, we are still waiting for release of the grant awards. Since taking over in April, the transition has gone well and I would like to thank Bert, Bob, George, Jeff and Mark for their hard work and dedication to the Highway Department. I would also like to thank the Ambulance, Fire, and Police Departments for their support and dedication. If residents have questions or concerns, please feel free to call the Highway Department office Monday through Friday 7:30 to 4:00 at 623-8988.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Bouchard
Highway Superintendent



◆ **REPORT OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE** ◆

The summer program was a hit thanks to Matthew Baker and Jamie Pease. There were a total of 19 children enrolled in our Summer Program. Next year we hope to get the word out sooner through the school. So look for flyers for our town summer program.

Next was our lifeguards. They were Alex Keator and Matthew Baker. They did an awesome job. Alex taught swim lessons. There were a total of 17 kids in this program.

I would also like to thank Maddy Elovirta, Rita Furlong, Derrick Rodgers and Sean Raymer for all of the help with the Recreation Department.

Anyone interested in joining the Recreation Committee please contact the Becket Town Hall at 413-623-8934.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina LeVasseur
Chairperson

◆ *REPORT OF THE BECKET ARTS CENTER OF THE HILLTOWNS* ◆

Exhilarating and stimulating, entertaining and rewarding, provocative and unearthing - these are just a few of the words others have used to describe a piece of art, or a Marty Lasker performance / lecture at the Becket Arts Center in 2013. Founded in 1970, the Becket Arts Center of the Hilltowns promotes and supports the arts through exhibits, performance, and instruction encouraging imagination and creativity in the communities we serve.

2013 is best described as a roller coaster year for the BAC. The 2013 Becket Washington School Art Exhibit broke all previous records in attracting children, parents, staff, friends, and BAC members to view the exhibit. The artwork was colorful, creative, and thought provoking, all under the guidance and coordination of art teacher Jennifer Annand and Paul Campbell, Executive Director of the BAC.

Having to say “Good-Bye” to Paul was a major setback for the Center. He was instrumental in establishing many community partnerships – with MCLA (Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts), the Westfield River Wild and Scenic Advisory Committee, Huntington’s North Hall and Arts Alive in Worthington. The Mullen House and the Athenaeum joined us to host the widely successful Summer Solstice Bash. His energy and enthusiasm will most certainly be missed. We wish him well as he begins his studies at U Mass Amherst, pursuing his MFA.

The BAC was selected and funded by the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation to participate in their 2013 Nonprofit Learning Program. Four members of our organization attended 5 sessions in Adams, MA. Learning focused on Creating an Effective Organization, Developing a Quality Board, and Strengthening Fund Development. We were most appreciative of being given this opportunity.

A family, fun filled day on June 21 featured dancing to the Latin beat of Trio Candela and guests, painting Dream Flags with Crispina French, and a Community Progressive Potluck Supper. The BAC, the Mullen House Education Center and the Becket Athenaeum joined together to celebrate our community on the longest day.

Funding for these programs and others was supported largely by membership contributions and by grants from the Local Cultural Councils of Becket, Washington, Lee, Chester, Hinsdale-Peru, and Worthington, whose support comes from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency supporting the arts.

The BAC welcomes all to visit, participate, and share their ideas and talents. We especially thank all of our volunteers who worked very hard creating and implementing our programs in 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Soluri,
President



◆ *REPORT OF THE MULLEN HOUSE EDUCATION CENTER* ◆

During the 2013 season, we continued to reach our goals of refurbishing and restoring the 1845 Mullen House. It is now hoped that the building's office spaces will be rented to appropriate tenants. There are five office spaces in the building. One first floor office is being rented year round to the Becket Land Trust and a small second floor office is being used by the MHEC. In an effort to occupy a more compact space near the back entry and near to the Barn Gallery and other exhibit spaces – the BLT moved from the second to the first floor. The Becket Arts Center has relinquished their lease. Additional tenants are being sought for three office spaces located upstairs. Anyone interested in renting an office/studio space for a reasonable cost please call Rita Furlong at 623-5146 for more information.

The barn, which has been totally renovated, will continue to be transformed into an exhibit/museum space during the summer of 2014. Lighting equipment was purchased in 2012, and was installed at the onset of the 2013 season. The barn is now filled with donated quarry artifacts that have been placed in interesting groupings. Also, in the Barn Gallery are three canvas baskets from the Ballou and Sons Basket Company. These baskets were donated by the Becket Historic Commission and will serve as the basis of a new exhibit about the history of basket making in Becket.

The Mullen House Education Center has continued its mission of presenting programs and exhibits for the community. The first 2013 exhibit featured art work by popular oil painter Sean McCusker of Middlefield. This exhibit opened in July as part of a joint 'landscape' show between the BAC and the MHEC. It was celebrated with two receptions, one during the Becket Community Day Open House. Also, as part of the summer of 2013, a speakers series was held in conjunction with the Becket Land Trust. Ken Smith began the season with a repeat of his interesting talk about the founding of the Becket Land Trust and the founding and development of the Becket Land Trust Historic Quarry. Allen Williams, at a later date, gave an illustrated talk about the history of the Bowe Quarry and also spoke about the former Hudson-Chester Quarry (now the BLT Historic Quarry) and quarrying in general. A particularly popular event was held in conjunction with David Pierce and the Chester Railway Museum. This event, which featured an illustrated lecture by David Pierce, inaugurated a partnership between the MHEC, the BLT and the Railway Museum and

has led to the creation of a new exhibit which interprets the history of the Becket-Chester Railroad and its impact on the community and local industry. This exhibit, consisting of historic photographs was hung in 2013, will be completed in 2014, when the signage and narrative descriptions are placed on the walls. Many of the photographs were provided by David Pierce - to whom we owe a great deal of thanks for helping us with this new venture.

Throughout the summer, the MHEC provided open days when docents could give tours of the house, the exhibits and the BLT Historic Quarry exhibit. In addition, the MHEC was open for both the Becket Arts Center Summer Solstice and also during the Autumnal Equinox Celebration.

The Becket Land Trust Historic Quarry Permanent Exhibit has continued to occupy the main gallery on the first level along with the pictorial narrative about James Burwell Turner, entitled: "DIARY OF A QUARRY WORKER" – featuring the 1892 diary of a twenty year old quarryman who later became the foreman (a position he held for 50 years) of the Hudson-Chester Quarry, now the Becket Land Trust Historic Quarry and Forrest. In addition, a tangential illustrated poetry exhibit was refurbished and expanded. The 2014 season will focus on expanding history programs, with emphasis on Becket-Chester Railroad (and other railroads which impacted the area), the Historic Quarry and Becket's Basket industry.

We thank the local cultural councils of Becket, Chester and Washington for funding the 2013 programs, as well as, the many volunteers who helped with receptions and served as docents and tour guides. Their participation is invaluable. We look forward to continuing our mission of serving the community with educational programming and maintaining a home for non-profits specializing in the environment and/or education.

We would like to acknowledge the efforts of Board of Director member Gil Falcone for his years of service. He passed away last fall and the town will miss him.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Napp Schindel,
Board of Directors

◆ *REPORT OF THE ENERGY COMMITTEE* ◆

On October 23, 2013, the Board of Selectman established the Becket Energy Committee. The members are:

Name	Title	Term
Cathy DeFoe	Chairman	2014
Garth Klimchuk	Vice Chairman	2015
Alvin Blake	Secretary	2016
Robert Gross	Member	2016
Katherine Hoak	Member	2015
Chris Bouchard	Ex-Officio	-
Ed Gibson	Ex-Officio	-
Bill Girard	Ex-Officio	-
Dan Parnell	Ex-Officio	-

Mission

The committee's charge is to advise the Becket Board of Selectmen and make recommendations about energy efficiency in town buildings and operations, ensure compliance with the requirements of the Massachusetts Green Communities Program, investigate and recommend renewable and alternate energy opportunities for Becket's municipal government, advise and assist the town and community to identify and apply for energy and conservation related grants and funding opportunities, educate residents about ways that they can save energy and reduce energy payments, advise them on energy-related issues and recommend specific initiatives.

The Energy Committee meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month, alternating between 10 am and 6 pm meeting times. Meeting agendas and minutes are currently posted on the Town of Becket website.

Short Term Goals (Within One Year):

1. Provide a broad list of information resources and tools via the Town of Becket website.
2. Develop resident-based energy reduction information package.
3. Establish workshops and seminars for residents (residential and commercial) focused on energy efficiency, renewable energy resources, permitting processes, and other relevant topics.
4. Analyze current and historic energy costs of each Town-owned building and identify additional opportunities to reduce energy consumption on a building-by-building basis.
5. Identify and inventory Town-owned resources (land greater than 5 acres, roofs, etc) that could be utilized to reduce the Town's energy bill and carbon footprint through dedicated renewable energy resources.

6. Examine state and regionally-based programs and proposals to see if there is a potential to offer such programs to residents and businesses of Becket to reduce their energy consumption.
7. Assist Town commercial businesses to identify and implement energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Long Term Goals (Beyond One Year):

1. Determine viability through a Request For Proposal program of Town-owned renewable energy projects such as commercial scale solar and wind, waste-to-energy, geothermal, small-scale hydro or other potential resources on landfills or other Town-owned space five acres or greater.
2. Determine viability of power aggregation strategy with Washington or other adjacent towns to reduce cost of power purchases through wholesale bidding.
3. Determine viability of creating Town of Becket municipal power company (municipalization/microgrid) to control costs, implement Town sustainability and renewable energy objectives and reduce dependency on WMECO.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

The Becket Energy Committee will be hosting workshops for Town residents whose dates and locations will be posted on the Town of Becket website. The following topics are being considered:

- Mass Save primer – review of steps to implementing a residential energy efficiency plan
- Overview of selection, installation and financial implications of residential solar with focus on real-life experiences
- Ins and outs of solar thermal water heating
- Overview of renewable energy resources that exist for residential and commercial users
- Grid independence for commercial and residential users
- Residential and commercial geothermal
- Power aggregation for Becket
- Overview and opportunities for small scale wind turbines

Respectfully submitted,

Energy Committee

◆ *REPORT OF THE BECKET CULTURAL COUNCIL* ◆

The Becket Cultural Council is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), whose allocations are made to all of Massachusetts' 351 cities and towns to support community cultural activities.

The Becket Cultural Council (BCC) gives priority to projects and programs that benefit local organizations and local citizens of all ages. Other priorities include applications that support local youth and senior programs, new applicants or projects in Becket, projects that emphasize cultural diversity, and projects that will take place in a local venue and can show local community support.

BCC members for 2013 were: Susan Dworkin, Barbara Ginsburg, Roberta Goldman, Ruth Glazerman, Zina Jayne (chair), Leslie Oransky, Audrey Schlanger, and Tracy Wilson (publicity).

For the grant year, July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013, the Becket Cultural Council, upon careful review at our November meeting, awarded 16 grants totaling \$6,705 to the following organizations for various programs benefiting the residents of Becket.

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Award</u>
Becket Arts Center of the Hilltowns	Summer Solstice Community Bash	\$250
Becket Arts Center/Becket Athenaeum/Mullen House	Autumnal Equinox Block Party	\$450
Becket Land Trust	2013 Speakers Series	\$200
Mullen House Education Center, Inc.	Summer/Fall Exhibits	\$300
Becket/Washington School PTO	Hilltown Hoot	\$150
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Inc.	School Residency Program	\$600
Becket Arts Center of the Hilltowns	BWS Student Art Exhibit	\$150
Becket Arts Center of the Hilltowns	BWS Writer's Visit	\$480
Becket Arts Center of the Hilltowns	BWS Pre-K Art	\$575
Becket Arts Center of the Hilltowns	Great Inspirations (M Lasker Series)	\$615
Becket Arts Center of the Hilltowns	Camp Imagination	\$760
Becket Athenaeum, Inc.	Museum Pass Program	\$875
Becket Athenaeum, Inc.	Children's Literature Program	\$500
Berkshire Lyric Theatre, Inc.	Concerts and Educational Programs	\$200
Berkshire Festival of Women's Writers/Bard College at Simon's Rock	Berkshire Festival of Women Writers	\$350
White Church of Blandford	Opera Performance	\$250

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Goldman,
Chairperson 2013-2014



◆ **REPORT OF THE VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICER** ◆

This office serves the needs of the Veterans of Becket and their families. The case load of Veterans' Services increased slightly this year. There have been several requests for financial assistance, most of which were approved. This year \$11,378.48 was approved for Veterans' Benefits with 75%, or \$9,102.78 being returned by the State for a total cost to the Town of \$2,265.70. This amount was almost double the amount of last year, mostly due to reimbursing medical expenses. Becket should be proud that we are able to help our veterans in this way.

One of the duties of the Veterans' Services Office is to assist veterans and their families with finding other agencies that can help them, and assisting them where needed in obtaining and completing the required paperwork. These are programs that would help them with food, shelter, and other assistance. We were able to assist in getting benefits from these agencies, sometimes providing financial assistance until approval from these agencies.

In 2013, there were numerous requests for information concerning what benefits a Veteran is entitled to for medical assistance and prescriptions. This office was able to help get that information and when necessary assisted filling out the

necessary forms. In some cases, we are able to provide "medical only" assistance. This is a reimbursement program for medical co-pays for veterans whose income is too high for regular benefits, but is below the 200% federal poverty limit. This is becoming even more necessary for veterans each year.

A continuing need continues to be for information and assistance in getting "Aid and Attendance". This is a Veterans' Administration program to assist veterans and their spouses who are housebound or in a nursing home and unable to care for themselves, and have limited income.

The Veterans' Services office is open Monday's from 10:00 to 1:00. If a veteran or their family needs help, information, or an appointment, they may do so by calling 243-5519 and leaving a message, or emailing LeeVetsAgent@wmconnect.com. They may also get information on the Becket Town website, under Town Departments – Veterans' Services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Mann
Becket Veterans' Service Officer (Veterans' Agent)



◆ **REPORT OF THE HARBOR MASTER** ◆

The 2013 Becket boating season was again reportable accident free. Although there was great activity on our lakes the general boating community behaved in a respectful manner necessitating little intervention by the Harbor Master. Although the boat and engine needed some shop repairs, the Harbor Master was able to just keep within budget by doing basic maintenance in house.

Raft registration was successful. For 2014, the registration process will be more clearly defined with a distinction between rafts, floats, and moorings anchored to the bottom of the lake

and docks attached to the shore or bottom of the lake. The first category is permitted by the Harbor Master. The second category is licensed by the Commonwealth and the Town.

I encourage anyone with a question to contact me via Town Hall.

Respectfully,

Steve Rosenthal
Harbor Master
Town of Becket

◆ *REPORT OF THE BECKET ATHENAEUM* ◆

At the Becket Athenaeum, our commitment to serving the communities of Becket and Washington remains strong. During 2013, we continued to provide outstanding library services and high-quality after-school programming as a result of appropriations received from the Town of Becket toward both operating and capital expenses, as well as a private foundation grant to upgrade and enhance our aging facility and infrastructure.

We have also made changes to our staff. Our new Director, Cathy DeFoe, is a former Board of Trustee member and a 30-year resident of Becket. Dawn Greene is our new Assistant Librarian and she, too, is a long-time Becket resident. Cheri Allison, is new to Becket from Pittsfield, and is working in our grant-funded position as After School Program Coordinator. Nancy Wilson, our long-serving librarian, continues in this role.

Our after-school programming serves the needs of students from both the local elementary and middle schools with nutritious snacks and help with homework. We serve up to 16 students on a single day with the help of a mix of eight adult volunteers and interns. We request that the families of our program participants help support our program by donating time or making a donation to our annual appeal. We also offer grant-funded paid internships for high school students to work in either the after-school program or with library tasks.

We are very pleased to report that the private foundation that funded our after-school programming from 2012-2013 has approved our grant application for 2014-2015, allowing us to continue the essential staffing, programming and technology elements of this innovative and growing program.

New to the Athenaeum this year is our Story Craft program for the pre-school age group. Designed to develop critical early-literacy skills, this program meets for an hour and a half one morning per week for stories, snacks, and a craft. We recently applied for and received a grant from the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation to fund this program through the fall of 2014.

Our biggest undertaking to date is the upgrade of our facility. In late 2012, we applied for and received a grant from a private foundation. Construction began during fall 2013 and is nearing completion. The project includes replacement of our handicapped access ramp to make it ADA compliant; the addition of a vestibule, which will improve energy efficiency and at the same time provide space for coats, boots and other belongings; a new loft on the west side of the building to create more meeting and study space; and a new handicapped-accessible bath and kitchen to better address the needs of our patrons.

The capital appropriation from the Town of Becket has helped us with additional energy-efficient building and improvements such as maintaining our aging slate roof and adding insulation throughout the Library's exterior walls, which had no insulation whatsoever. We continue to investigate other enhancements to reduce our energy costs, such as window maintenance and other heat loss areas.

As an independent non-profit organization, we rely on and so appreciate the many supporter groups that help us deliver the services and programs our community deserves from its library. Patrons, volunteers, donors, grantors and the Towns of Becket and Washington all come together as our partners to make the organization a success and we sincerely thank you.

We look forward to seeing you at the Athenaeum!

Director, Cathy DeFoe
Nancy Wilson, *Librarian*
Dawn Greene, *Library Assistant*
Cheri Allison, *After School Program Coordinator*

Becket Athenaeum Board of Trustees
Purr McEwen, *Chair*
Aaron Beatty, *Vice-Chair*
Lee Glazerman
Kelly Jourdain
Marcia Parnell, *Secretary and Treasurer*
Maria Wallington



◆ *REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE* ◆

2013 saw a joint-recommended budget from the Board of Selectmen (BoS) and Finance Committee (FinCom) and was another financially successful year for the town, mostly due to a significant reduction (10.16%) in Becket's share of the Central Berkshire Regional School District (CBRSD) budget. This reduction was a result of a different allocation approach recommended in the earlier Governor's Budget, speeding a levelling effect amongst the Commonwealth's towns, which was later changed in the Legislature's Budget to the old allocation method. The legislative change was done too late to impact the 2014 Town budget, but will come back in the form of an increase in Fiscal Year 2015. There were increases in Vocational Education to fund School Choice fees for Becket students who opt to go to a different school program not offered by CBRSD, which partially offset the CBRSD decrease. Overall, the education budget decreased by 6.83% from 2013. Since educational costs are about 43% of the town's operating budget, this was a significant event.

The funds made available were used for acquisitions of new vehicles for the Highway and Police departments, cost-of-living adjustments for town employees, fuel expenses, general insurance and legal expenses associated with a lawsuit stemming from the 2008 ice storm cleanup. There was also an increase to support our local library, the Becket Athenaeum, which covered much needed capital repairs and improvements. Once again it was recommended, and approved by the voters, not to increase taxes as much as the Proposition 2½ law allows.

In addition to the budget monies raised through taxes, the Town approved capital items for the Highway department, which will be funded through debt excluded funds. The town agreed to purchase a new dump truck and a multi-function tractor. The first payment will be due in FY2015. The debt exclusion approach is to stabilize the year-to-year tax rate.

In addition, an appropriation at the Annual Town Meeting to the Stabilization Fund was made in this year's budget, bringing our Stabilization Fund balance to over \$660,000. The Fiscal Year 2013 Free Cash Certification was in excess of \$196,000.

During the non-budgeting season, a Financial Reserves policy was jointly developed and approved by FinCom and the BoS. It covers the use of Free Cash, a Stabilization Fund

with two components (emergency and capital acquisition funds), and guidelines for the amount of a financial reserve fund in the operating budget to cover unforeseen challenges. The purpose of the policy is to improve and protect the Town's long-term financial health by establishing proper reserves to offset any unforeseen or extraordinary needs of an emergency nature.

Town departments, led by our new Town Administrator (TA), have compiled the first five-year Capital Acquisition Plan for major purchases and have presented it for consideration to FinCom. This document will be extremely valuable in multi-year planning of the town's budgets. Combining a portion of the Stabilization Fund for capital purchases, utilizing debt when necessary, and funding the remainder through yearly tax appropriations will allow the town to provide and maintain facilities and equipment to serve the residents while maintaining a stable tax rate.

As this annual report goes to print, we are beginning the FY2015 budget process. Town departments have submitted their operating and capital requests, but it is too early to tell how financially challenging a year this will be. As stated previously, a significant increase to our CBRSD allocation is certain.

FinCom wants to thank the interim TA, Joe Kellogg, for all his insight, knowledge, and leadership for the short time he was here, including the fiscal year 2014 budget cycle. It was truly a pleasure to work with him. We also welcome Ed Gibson, our new TA. His experience and knowledge has helped us achieve some long-sought goals and we look forward to many years of a rewarding working relationship. We would also like to welcome Margaret McClellan our new town accountant, who brings her knowledge from several other town accountant positions she concurrently holds. Lastly, it is sad to report that Jeremy Dunn, our long-standing finance committee member has decided not to seek another term on the committee. Jeremy has been on the committee since 2003.

Respectfully,

Stephen LaBelle, Sr., *Chair*
Daniel Parnell
Jeremy Dunn
Ann Spadafora
Maria Wallington



◆ *REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK - 2013* ◆

Elections and Town Meetings

New Voters Registered	56
Voters Deleted	49
Total Registered Voters as of 12/31/13	1,367

VOTER ATTENDANCE			
<u><i>Election</i></u>	<u><i>Registered Voters</i></u>	<u><i>Ballots Cast</i></u>	<u><i>Percent Voting</i></u>
Annual Town Caucus, April 9, 2013	1,351	67	5%
Special State Primary, April 30, 2013	1,351	166	12%
Annual Town Election, May 18, 2013	1,351	319	24%
Special State Election, June 26, 2013	1,356	375	28%

<u><i>Meeting</i></u>	<u><i>Registered Voters</i></u>	<u><i>Voters Attending</i></u>	<u><i>Others Attending</i></u>	<u><i>% of Voters Attending</i></u>
Special Town Meeting, March 30, 2013	1,352	27	1	2%
Annual Town Meeting, May 11, 2013	1,351	71	19	5.25%

ANNUAL TOWN CAUCUS, APRIL 9, 2013

For Member, Board of Selectmen (3-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
Mark Karlberg	34	51%
Marc Portieri (write-in)	12	18%
All Others (write-ins)	5	
Blanks	16	
Total Votes Cast	67	

For Member, Board of Health (3-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
John Amato	36	54%
Gale LaBelle (write-in)	12	18%
All Others (write-ins)	4	
Blanks	15	
Total Votes Cast	67	

For Member, Board of Health (2-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
Laurel Burgwardt	48	72%
Robert Ronzio (write-in)	11	16%
All Others (write-ins)	3	
Blanks	5	
Total Votes Cast	67	

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

For Member, Board of Health (1-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
Howard Lerner (write-in)	16	24%
Laurel Burgwardt (write-in)	10	15%
All Others (write-ins)	9	
Blanks	32	
Total Votes Cast	67	
For Cemetery Commissioner (3-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
William F. Cavanaugh	50	75%
All Others (write-ins)	2	
Blanks	15	
Total Votes Cast	67	
For Member, Finance Committee (3-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for Two		
Stephen LaBelle	50	37%
Daniel Parnell	52	39%
All Others (write-ins)	1	
Blanks	31	
Total Votes Cast	134	
For Member, Planning Board (5-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
Ann Krawet	58	87%
All Others (write-ins)	0	
Blanks	9	
Total Votes Cast	67	
Registered voters	1,351	
Ballots cast	67	
Percent Voting	5%	

Per MGL 53:121. "If a person receives less than eight per cent of the votes of those voting for candidates for such office, he shall not be declared nominated."

Per MGL 53:121, "At a town caucus... the two persons receiving the highest number of votes cast for the nomination of candidates for an office shall be declared nominated for such office..."

SPECIAL STATE PRIMARY - APRIL 30, 2013

DEMOCRATIC

Senator in Congress (Vote for One)	VOTES	Ballots Cast
Blanks	1	136
Stephen F. Lynch	15	
Edward J. Markey	120	
Write Ins:	0	
TOTAL VOTES	136	

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

REPUBLICAN

	VOTES	Ballots Cast
Senator in Congress (<i>Vote for One</i>)		30
Blanks	0	
Gabriel E. Gomez	21	
Michael J. Sullivan	8	
Daniel B. Winslow	1	
Write Ins:	0	
TOTAL VOTES	30	
Registered Voters:	1,351	
Ballots cast:	166	
Percent Voting	12%	

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTIONS, MAY 18, 2013

For Member, Board of Selectmen (3-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
Mark Karlberg	124	39%
Marc Portieri	38	12%
Angela Hilton (write-in)	144	45%
All Others (write-ins)	1	0%
Blanks	12	4%
Total Votes Cast	319	

For Member, Board of Health (3-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
John Amato	137	43%
Gale LaBelle	155	49%
All Others (write-ins)	8	3%
Blanks	19	6%
Total Votes Cast	319	

For Member, Board of Health (2-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
Laurel Burgwardt	233	73%
Robert Ronzio	68	21%
All Others (write-ins)	4	1%
Blanks	14	4%
Total Votes Cast	319	

For Member, Board of Health (1-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
Howard Lerner	154	48%
Karen Karlberg (write-in)	51	16%
Gene Pike (write-in)	39	12%
All Others (write-ins)	11	3%
Blanks	64	20%
Total Votes Cast	319	

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

For Cemetery Commissioner (3-year term)	<u>Votes</u>	%
Vote for One		
William F. Cavanaugh	258	81%
All Others (write-ins)	1	0%
Blanks	60	19%
Total Votes Cast	319	
 For Member, Finance Committee (3-year term)	 <u>Votes</u>	 %
Vote for Two		
Stephen LaBelle, Sr.	224	35%
Daniel Parnell	189	30%
All Others (write-ins)	1	0%
Blanks	224	35%
Total Votes Cast	638	
 For Member, Planning Board (5-year term)	 <u>Votes</u>	 %
Vote for One		
Ann Krawet	251	79%
All Others (write-ins)	3	1%
Blanks	65	20%
Total Votes Cast	319	
 Registered Voters:	 1,351	
Ballots cast:	319	
Percent Voting	24%	

SPECIAL STATE ELECTIONS, JUNE 26, 2013

Senator in Congress	<u>Votes</u>
Vote for One	
Blanks	0
Gabriel E. Gomez	109
Edward J. Markey	266
Richard A. Heos	0
Write-ins	0
Total Votes Cast	375
 Registered Voters:	 1,356
Ballots cast:	375
Percent Voting	28%

The minutes from the Town's 2013 Annual Town Meeting and the Special Town Meeting of March 30, 2013, as recorded by the Town Clerk are included in a separate section of this Report.

Board of Registrars: Coleen Cox, George Roberts (Town Clerk), Michelle Smith, and Dorothy Bellavance.

Voter Registration Sessions	4
Candidate Voter Lists prepared	0
Sherwood Forest Road District Voter Lists prepared	2

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

Census Results

Residents over age 16	1,612
All Residents	1,802

Vital Records

Vitals recorded in Becket:

22 Births
8 Deaths
7 Marriages

	<u>Fees</u>
Marriage Intentions filed (8)	\$200.00
Certified copies prepared:	
17 birth certificates	\$85.00
19 death certificates	\$95.00
11 marriage certificates	\$55.00
Burial Permits issued: 13	\$0
Cemetery Deeds Recorded: 0	\$0
Genealogy requests: 7	\$0
Total Vitals Fees Collected	<u>\$435.00</u>

Other Licenses, Permits, Recordings

<u>Issued</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Fees</u>
288	Dog Licenses (neutered & non-neutered)	\$ 1,752.00	\$ 216.00
4	Kennel licenses	\$ 203.00	\$ 3.00
	Dog License Late Fees	\$ 0	\$ 125.00
1	Raffle Permits (1 renewal)	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
0	Physician Registration	\$ 0	\$ 0
0	MGL 94C:32L Citations	\$ 0	\$ 0
0	Civil Disp. Citation	\$ 0	\$ 0
0	Utility Pole Recording	\$ 0	\$ 0
27	Business Certificate applications:	\$ 540.00	<u>\$ 540.00</u>
	Total Other Fees Collected		<u>\$ 894.00</u>

Business Certificates recorded:

EJA MAGICAL JOURNEYS
MURRAY'S LANDSCAPING & EXCAVATING
SURREINER FARM HORSE BOARDING
ARNOLD TRUCKING
BLUE MOON CHIMNEY SERVICE
CRIPPLE CREEK
MOHAWK GARAGE
PLANETARY HEALTH, INC., d/b/a AMBERWAVES
KUSHI INSTITUTE
D. MARIE BOOKKEEPING
LEDOUX CONTRACTING
CANTERBURY FARM
DISH HOLLOW
TIMELESS SALES & MARKETING
M & M MOWING AND MORE

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

ALICE BRIGGS ILLUSTRATION
JJM TECHNOLOGIES
BERKSHIRE CUSTOM CEDAR HOMES, INC. d/b/a LINDAL CEDAR HOMES
PAUL MAZUT CORVETTE RESTORATION & PARTS LLC
TINA SWEET, MASSAGE THERAPY
THE SHERWOOD FOREST HANDYMAN
ROBINSON CONSTRUCTION
LOGSDON PLUMBING AND HEATING
JOHN OSTHOFF GUITARS
HAPPY HOUNDS MOBILE GROOMING
GROWING EDGE FOUNDATION
FRANK AVALLE CONCRETE

Respectfully submitted,

George E. Roberts
Town Clerk



◆ **REPORT OF THE TOWN MEETING BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE** ◆

During the year the Town Meeting Bylaw Review Committee continued its work on revising the bylaw that governs the conduct of town meetings in order to ensure a clear, fair and concise set of rules that puts all voters on the same footing, leaving less to chance or tradition.

Upon recommendation of the committee, the Selectmen voted to have a “baby” town meeting on May 1 to allow voters an opportunity to ask questions and get an understanding of the articles coming before the Annual Town Meeting. Following the meeting a candidates’ forum was held and the voters were able to hear and meet the candidates running for office at the Annual Town Election.

The committee gave a copy of the draft bylaw to the Selectmen and it was made available on the town website. A public hearing to receive comments on the proposed changes was held January 15 of this year and the revised bylaw was scheduled to be presented to voters at a Special Town Meeting in the spring. In addition, the committee is completing work on a Town Meeting Handbook that provides an informal and informative guide to how Becket town meetings are conducted and how voters may fully participate in the process.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Garlow, ***Chair***
Jeanne Pryor, ***Clerk***
Ann Krawet



◆ *REPORT OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE* ◆

The 250th Anniversary Committee has been diligently working toward Becket's upcoming celebration in 2015.

All members of the Committee and many contributors from the town are working to publish an update to the book, *A Bicentennial History of Becket, Berkshire County, Massachusetts*. This major undertaking encompassing the past 50 years of Becket history is being lead by Bruce Garlow.

The joint video and oral history project with the afterschool group at the Becket Athenaeum continued during the year. The Committee is appreciative of the many residents who have given of their time to record their memories of Becket.

Plans are being developed for the Memorial Day weekend with the dedication of the Revolutionary and Civil War obelisk, an ecumenical, nonsectarian celebration, along with the traditional Memorial Day tribute in North Becket.

The first weekend in June will see a spectacular fireworks display along with other family orientated activities. The staff at Camp Chimney Corners has graciously offered their support, including sponsoring a family picnic, at their facilities in Central Becket.

Jacob's Pillow in West Becket has generously offered their facilities for the second weekend in June for a music fest with local musicians showcasing their talents for everyone's enjoyment. They may also offer: tours, a free screening of the documentary "Never Stand Still", and work with the Becket Washington School children.

In November 2013, the Committee launched a design contest for a new town logo. If an outstanding design is found and if it passes at an upcoming town meeting, the design would become the new, official seal for the Town of Becket.

The Committee under the leadership of Karen Karlberg and Linda Bacon has created a website at Becket250.org to showcase the town and to promote Becket's 250th Anniversary. The site has photos, history, information and a schedule of the planned events. See more photos of the town at Becket250 on facebook.com.

Geocaching events are also being planned. In addition to the caches already located in town and posted on the Internet, new ones will be added. This hobby uses a GPS (global positioning system) to locate a hidden container (cache). These containers are found by using latitude and longitude coordinates encouraging families to get outdoors and introducing them to local areas of historic, natural, or scenic interest. The cache container usually has small toys and trinkets for finders to exchange. The Committee is planning to offer special Becket 250th commemorative items in the different caches. Plans are in the beginning stages for a family or school event to learn about Geocaching; also to create a Letterbox event finding caches without the need for a GPS.

The Committee encourages all townspeople and businesses to join in on the celebrations surrounding Becket's 250th Anniversary date of June 21, 2015.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sandi Jarvis
Clerk, Becket 250th Anniversary Committee

Becket 250th Anniversary Committee Members

Linda Bacon
Rita Furlong, **Presider**
Bruce Garlow
Sandi Jarvis, **Clerk**
Karen Karlberg
Michel Paul Richard
Barbara Roberts
George Roberts
Ann Spadafora
Beth Van Ness



Community Preservation Act FY 2013 Report

FY 2013 Appropriated by Category	Community Housing	Historical Preservation	Open Space	Recreation	Undesignated Budget Reserves	Committee Admin Expenses	Total Appropriation
Project:							
Committee Administrative Expenses Article 14					\$5,000.00	\$500.00	
Mullen House Restoration Project Phase IV Article 15							
Total Appropriated for Projects for FY 2013	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$500.00	\$5,500.00
FY 2013 Expenses against approved Projects:							
Committee Administrative Expenses						\$250.00	
Mullen House Restoration Project					\$5,000.00		
Center Pond Weed Treatment * Approved FY 2011			\$1,500.00				
Total Expended FY 2013	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$250.00	\$6,750.00
FY 2013 Est. Revenues Appropriated to Reserves	Community Housing Reserves	Historical Preservation Reserves	Open Space Reserves	Recreation Reserves	Undesignated Budget Reserves		Total Budgeted Reserves
Estimated Revenues to Reserves	\$4,355.00	\$4,355.00	\$4,355.00	\$0.00	\$30,500.00		\$43,565.00
	Estimated	Actual	Actual vs. Budget				
FY 2013 Local Revenue CPA 1.5%	\$33,900.00	\$39,786.24	\$5,886.24				
FY 2013 State Percentage Match of Local Revenue	\$10,165.00	\$15,563.00	\$5,398.00				
Totals	\$44,065.00	\$55,349.24	\$11,284.24				

◆ **REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS** ◆

The North Center Cemetery is in very good condition with ongoing maintenance. The gravel roads within the cemetery have all been recently repaired with some of the stone walls.

The Becket Center Cemetery remains in good condition with ongoing maintenance to the grounds. In the very near future the maintenance shed will need to be replaced. The shed at the present time is in a state of disrepair.

The West Cemetery remains in very good condition with ongoing maintenance. The cemetery remains to be closed due to the total lack of records.

The recent resignation of Alfred (Bud) Moylan is due to the fact that he has moved out of the Town of Becket.

Once again the Cemetery Commissioners request that plastic flowers and glass containers not be used for decorations within the Cemetery. These items become a serious maintenance hazard.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alfred Moylan
Bill Cavanaugh
Michelle Smith



◆ **REPORT OF THE BECKET SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION** ◆

The Becket Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce that three scholarships were awarded for 2013 to graduating seniors from Monument Mountain and Wahconah Regional High Schools. This year's recipients are as follows:

Graham Hagenah
Karley Weiner
Nicholas Sawyer

Scholarships are awarded every year to Becket students who are graduating and going on to further their education. These awards are made possible by generous donations from Becket home owners and organizations within the community

as well as fundraising efforts by the Foundation. There is a continuing effort to try to make the awards more and more meaningful as costs of education are constantly on the rise.

Congratulations to this year's winners! Keep up the great work!

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Rodhouse
Secretary
Becket Scholarship Foundation

◆ *REPORT OF THE TRANSFER STATION* ◆

The Transfer Station hours of operation are May 15th to October 15th, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm. From October 16th to May 14th the hours are Tuesday and Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm. A vehicle permit is required for entry to the Transfer Station and vehicle permits can only be purchased at the Town Hall. Recyclables (paper, cardboard, cans, bottles, plastic containers and scrap metals) may be disposed of free of charge. Household trash must have bag stickers affixed to the bags and is placed into the compactor. Appliances containing freon, tires, CRT's, mattresses, box springs, stuffed chairs, couches and bulky waste require a separate disposal fee. Please check with attendant before unloading. All scrap metals being disposed of must be free of wood, plastic, tires, gas and oil.

The Town of Becket is a member of the Southern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District (SBSWMD), which assists with recycling, waste reduction and household hazardous waste collection programs. The Center for Ecological Technology (CET) coordinates the districts activities. CET assisted with the Renewal of the License to Operate, the Transfer Station and the Massachusetts DEP required inspection, and visited the Transfer Station to distribute recycling information and hazardous waste collection at various locations in the county that residents could participate in. We distributed compost bins

to residents as part of a DEP recycling grant that we received during the year.

As a reminder, the Town has a recycling bylaw, and by recycling we reduce our disposal expenses and use of natural resources. For this year, with the effort of the residents of Becket, we recycled over 40 tons of paper and cardboard, 61 tons of cans, bottles, and plastics, 50 tons of scrap metals, 1.8 tons of mattresses and 3.5 tons of e-waste (electronics). Solid waste disposal was 308 tons for household trash and bulky waste was 148 tons. I would like to thank Bud, Mark and Siegfried for their hard work and dedication to the Transfer Station.

The Transfer Station is under the authority of the Board of Health and operational control is handled by the Highway Department. If residents have questions or concerns please feel free to call the Town Hall 623-8934 or the Highway Department office Monday through Friday 7:30 to 4:00 at 623-8988.

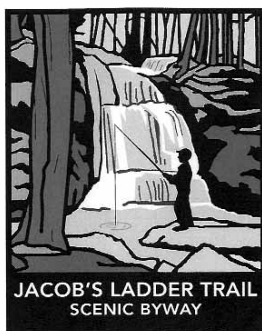
Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Bouchard
Highway Superintendent



◆ *REPORT OF THE JACOB'S LADDER TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY, INC.* ◆

The Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that serves as the steward of the Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway, which is Route 20, as it travels through the towns of Lee, Becket, Chester, Huntington and Russell. The overall goal of our work is to entice people – local residents and tourists – to visit Jacob's Ladder Trail, learn a bit about our history, enjoy our natural and scenic areas, and patronize our local businesses. We are pleased to provide this annual update on our activities during the 2013 calendar year.



We also drafted new interpretive signs for each of the towns along the roadway to inform people about Jacob's Ladder Trail. The new signs will replace the existing interpretive signs that were installed several years ago because these have deteriorated due to time and weather. In addition to replacing the existing signs, we are adding new signs in the towns of Lee and Huntington. We expect that these signs will be installed in the coming spring and we invite you to stop by and enjoy them.

During the past year, we have continued to actively participate in the Western Massachusetts Scenic Byways Marketing Campaign project. The intent of this project is to brand and promote the seven scenic byways in Western Massachusetts as a travel destination. Specifically, we worked with our fellow byway committees to create and distribute a colorful brochure that highlights each of the scenic byways and helped to develop a new tourist website, www.bywayswestmass.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Gaherty, *Clerk*
Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway, Inc.



REPORT OF THE WESTFIELD RIVER

◆ WILD & SCENIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ◆

Now also known as the Wild & Scenic Westfield River Committee, we work to preserve, protect, and enhance the special qualities and natural resources of the Westfield River watershed in concert with local communities. Over 78 miles of the Westfield River and its tributaries in ten towns are nationally recognized as Wild & Scenic. In Becket, these include the West Branch and Shaker Mill, Depot, and Center Pond Brooks.

The Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program again provided funding to the Committee in 2013 to support projects enhancing the “outstandingly remarkable values” associated with these Wild & Scenic Rivers. Highlights of our activities in 2013 are as follows:

Our Stream Team Project, coordinated by Meredyth Babcock of Becket, continued the Wild & Scenic Saturday trainings and workdays, and we were assisted by over 120 volunteers. They ranged from climbers who cut vegetation that threatened the Keystone Arch bridges to collecting macroinvertebrate samples to ‘Walking the Watershed’ volunteers who recorded observations about habitat and water quality along their section of river. Many thanks to all of our great volunteers.

Last year we provided funds to Mass. Rivers Alliance to put together workshops for town and state officials on “Improving Stream Crossings: Flood Resilient, Fish Friendly”. These workshops were held at three locations in Western Mass during March 2013 with over 200 attendees. The Committee had pledged that W&S towns that sent representatives were eligible to apply to us for grants for preliminary engineering to further road-stream crossing improvements. Bill Elovirta attended for Becket (and our new Highway boss, Chris Bouchard, attended prior to being hired by Becket). The three W&S towns who applied for these grants – Becket, Middlefield and Washington – all received funding. Becket received \$4,900 for the preliminary engineering needed to submit a MEMA Hazardous Mitigation Grant application for the crossing over Walker Brook on Bonny Rigg Hill Road. The other towns received engineering services providing technical information, cost estimates, mapping and flagging wetland and river resource areas, and providing a Right-of-Way survey.

During the summer of 2013, we contracted with two well-respected botanists to do an inventory of rare and invasive plants along 10 miles of the East Branch and 3.5 miles of the West Branch. Over 2,200 invasive species locations, ranging

from isolated individuals to dense stands, were recorded. The data from this survey will enable our Committee, the Westfield River Invasive Species Partnership, and other organizations to develop plans for reducing invasive species threats to rare species and exemplary natural communities along the Westfield River. Look for this report on our website.

We provided lots of Community Grants this year with Partnership River funds that had built up over the last 5 years: \$40,000 to Trout Unlimited for their Kinne Brook project in Chester which will remove a small dam and two culverts impeding fish passage this summer; \$35,000 to the Friends of the Keystone Arch Bridges to attain National Historic Landmark status; \$10,000 to the Trustees of Reservations for solutions to erosion problems on Rivulet Brook; \$8,500 to The Nature Conservancy for a Wildlife Corridor Study; and \$6,876 to the Westfield Invasive Species Partnership for outreach and administration. We also continued to support riparian land conservation projects and sent a mailing to over 1,300 landowners along the Westfield River and its tributaries. The mailing included our new brochure and condensed version of our *Landowner Resources Guide* highlighting financial, technical, and informational resources.

We sponsored the *Travel the Watershed* public art project to inspire you to tour the Westfield River, soak up its beauty, and learn about the watershed. Six handcrafted wooden suitcases functioning as display cases were painted by local artists, including Becketeers Nelena Soro and Anthony Verano. Each suitcase, along with the maps and information about the watershed inside, “traveled” around the watershed this past summer at Hilltown art venues. Catch one at your local library this Winter-Spring of 2014!

Our committee meets once a month and all meetings are open to the public. Please take part in any of our activities, including workshops, river monitoring and land protection. To learn more visit our website at www.wildscenicwestfieldriver.org.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mercedes Gallagher
Town of Becket Representative

Bill Babcock
Town of Becket Representative, Alternate

◆ *REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION* ◆

It was a year of change and much activity for the Becket Historical Commission in 2013. From fielding numerous inquiries regarding historic people and places in Becket, reviewing ZBA requests for historic impact and continuing to catalog and maintain important historic documents related to Becket, the Commission was kept quite busy.

Specifically, here are some of the highlights from the work we accomplished in 2013:

- Applied for and received CPA funding to construct a granite obelisk (to be placed in Ballou Park) to honor those from Becket who fought in the Civil War, Revolutionary War & War of 1812.
- Partnered with Berkshire Regional Planning (Lauren Gaherty) to secure scenic byway grant funds to restore/re-etch the Wagon Accident (John Glede Jr.) monument on Route 20 as well as create a Historic District directional sign at the intersection of Route 8 & 20.
- Began fostering a partnership with Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA regarding upcoming 250th anniversary celebration of Becket's founding.
- Rob attended a conference on Historic Preservation hosted by Berkshire Regional Planning in May.
- Welcomed new Historical Commission member Gail Kusek in May.
- Acquired an old voting machine, which is now displayed in the Becket Room in Town Hall
- Rita undertook a large-scale cleaning, re-painting and re-organization of our current space in Town Hall.
- Rita re-did the post card displays in the Becket Room.

- Gail attended an archives conference
- Aaron and Rob repaired and installed Plexiglas on the North Becket Map sign on the lawn of the library.
- Sandy Jarvis volunteered her time to catalog all the town annual reports, micro film & microfiches, resulting in a complete and organized index of those items

Leadership Change

2013 brought the retirement of two significant and long-time Commission members: Rob Gordon and Harry Roff. The Commission wishes to extend its heartfelt gratitude to Rob Gordon for his leadership, dedication and service. Rob has been instrumental in most all of the Commissions successes over the past 18 years and, as is the mark of any good leader, has left the Commission better than he found it. The Commission also wishes to extend its gratitude to Harry Roff for his long time service and dedication to the preservation of Becket's history.

In 2014 the Commission looks forward to:

- Repairing the Becket Center and West Becket Map Signs
- Welcoming new member Sandy Jarvis
- Continuing our work celebrating and preserving the historical significance of Becket

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Beatty



◆ **REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER** ◆

This year was a quiet year at the dog pound, however a busy year for dog calls as well as wild life calls in general.

I would like to say a special thank you to Nina Weiler as well as Steve Robinson.

Please remember to license your dogs. Thank you,

Respectfully submitted,

Albert Goodermote,
Animal Control Officer

Animal Control Calls for 2013 were as follows:

Dog calls	114	Woodchuck calls	1
Cat calls	17	Llama calls	11
Fox calls	2	Hawk calls	1
Coyote calls	9	Bird calls	2
Barking dog calls	13	Moose calls	1
Raccoon calls	10	Owl calls	1
Squirrel calls	3	Bear calls	2
Rooster calls	1	Goose calls	1
Horse calls	4	Beaver calls	1
Fischer cat calls	1	Assisting out-of-town calls	3
Miscellaneous calls	12		



◆ **REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS** ◆

The Becket Zoning Board of Appeals processed three (3) applications for variances, as well as one (1) application for a Dimensional Special Permit and one (1) application for a site plan review. One applicant voluntarily withdrew their variance application, all the rest were approved and requests were all granted.

Please visit us at the Town of Becket Website: www.townofbecket.org . Find links to the Zoning Bylaws, guidelines, applications, and meeting minutes too.

The Zoning Board of Appeals welcomed two new Associate members this year; George Roberts and Alvin Blake.

A special thank you to Mr. Robert Gorden who served on the Zoning Board for many years. We would like to wish him a happy, healthy future and wish him the best of luck in any future endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua Lombard, **Chairman**

Board Members:

Joshua Lombard, **Chairman**

Sue Deacon

Jeffrey Wilkinson

Karen Karlberg, **Clerk**

George Roberts, **Associate Member**

Alvin Blake, **Associate Member**

Heather Hunt, **Secretary**

◆ *REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING* ◆

We started the year with the “Lunch Bunch” going out to lunch at the Grand Buffet Restaurant in Pittsfield. The “Lunch Bunch” went out two more times during the year; Michael’s Restaurant in Lenox and the 99 Restaurant in Pittsfield.

Our first “Potluck” of the year was held and, as usual, everyone looked forward to it. We have our main meal, then everyone brings in a dish to share. We have “Potluck” on the fourth Friday of the month, excluding November and December.

We were invited to a Valentine’s dinner in Otis sponsored by the Veterans of Otis, and also got invited to the Russell VFW for a ham dinner in April.

Our own Sergeant, Marc Portieri, cooks for us four times a year. His wife Pat also adds to the meal with one of her delicious dishes. We all appreciate everything Marc and Pat do for us during the course of the year.

On June 6th, Rev. Smail from the Becket Congregational Church hosted the Becket Seniors to a wonderful lunch. We thank Rev. Smail for inviting us.

On May 15th, the Becket Seniors traveled to Deerfield, MA. We went to Magic Wings, we saw beautiful butterflies, after that we had lunch at Chandler’s Tavern, a great place to visit.

On September 24th, the Becket Seniors traveled to Boston and boarded the Odyssey Luncheon Cruise Ship for a very elegant meal, and cruised the Boston Harbor seeing many interesting sights. This was a great trip and a lot of fun.

On November 7th, we traveled to Newport, RI to the Newport Dinner Theater. This was a great day and the food was very good. I don’t think anyone left there hungry. Everyone enjoyed the play and had a few laughs.

In July, we lost a member of our group and the Town of Becket also lost a wonderful man, Jean (Chummy) Godbout. In December, we lost Kenneth Shepard who helped in the kitchen, and I for one miss all the help he gave to me. Ken was a very gentle man and a great friend to all. They both will be missed very much.

In December, Marc and I did our annual Christmas Party at the center. Marc made prime rib and also served baked stuffed shrimp. Marc’s sister Robin made her special Italian cookies, and Pat made cookies and cupcakes. We had a great dinner. We also had a grab bag after dinner which was a lot of fun.

As usual, our programs continue to be a great success. Lunch is served every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00 a.m. and Bingo follows. Brown Bag is the third Friday of the month at 11:00 a.m., and Potluck is the fourth Friday of each month at 12:00 p.m. excluding November and December.

All Becket Seniors are invited to attend any of our functions, so watch the Berkshire Eagle and the Country Journal for information.

I personally want to thank the Town of Becket for all the support they have given us throughout the year in helping us improve our programs and support to our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Moylan
Director



◆ ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ◆

May 11, 2013 - 7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the Annual Town Meeting was called on May 11, 2013, 7:00 p.m. at Becket Washington School, 12 Maple Street, Becket, MA 01223. There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Moderator. There were 71 registered voters present (5.25 % of 1,351 registered voters) and a total of 90 people attended the meeting. Town Officials Present: Bruce Garlow, Moderator; Jeanne Pryor, Bill Elovirta, and Mark Karlberg, Selectmen; Ann Spadafora, Maria Wallington; Finance Committee Members; George E. Roberts, Town Clerk; Joseph Kellogg Interim Town Administrator; Joel Bard, Esq., Town Counsel.

The Moderator opened the meeting stating the rules to be followed. He welcomed all non-voters and instructed them that they could address the meeting but could not vote. The Moderator noted measures he would take to speed up the meeting, including paraphrasing each article (as the articles are available in written form) and not having the Town Clerk read the call of the meeting and officer's return of service. The Moderator reviewed the warrant and declared it to have been duly posted as evidenced by the attestation of the posting constable.

Ann Spadafora gave a brief opening statement on behalf of the Finance Committee.

The following articles were voted on:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,855.58 to fund the following prior year bills from FY 2012:

LP Adams	\$ 63.73
O'Connell Oil	\$ 3,671.86
Staples	\$ 119.99

and to fund this appropriation by transferring \$3,855.58 from Free Cash.

4/5 Vote Required

Article 1 Was moved and seconded from the floor. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 1 Passed Unanimously**

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$45,137.42 to the Reserve Fund to pay for anticipated deficits in accounts for FY2013.

Majority Vote Required

Article 2 Was moved and seconded from the floor. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article**

2 Passed Unanimously.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Chapter 41, Section 108 of the General Laws, to fix the compensation of the Board of Selectmen at \$2,000 each and pursuant to Chapter 41, Section 4A of the General Laws, to allow the following boards to employ their members for pay at the listed hourly rates.

- 1.) Board of Health at the rate of \$13.72 per hour for the performance of their duties as Board of Health members.
- 2.) Cemetery Commission at the rate of \$13.72 per hour for the performance of their duties as Cemetery Commission members in maintaining the cemeteries.

Majority Vote Required

Article 3 Was moved and seconded from the floor. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 3 Passed Unanimously**

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be needed to defray the expenses of the Town for the 2014 fiscal year as set forth in the following line items:

Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2013

~ Continued ~

TOWN of BECKET FY. 2014	BUDGET APPROVED FY 2013	DEPARTMENT REQUEST FY 2014	FIN COMM/ SELECTMEN RECOMMEND	Percent INCREASE (DECREASE)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
1. TOWN COUNSEL	\$13,500.	\$13,500.	\$13,500.	0.00%
2. LEGAL EXPENSE	\$5,000.	\$100,000.	\$100,000.	1900.00%
3. AUDIT	\$20,500.	\$0.	\$0.	(100.00%)
4. SELECTMEN'S SALARIES	\$4,500.	\$6,000.	\$6,000.	33.33%
5. SELECTMEN'S EXPENSES	\$800.	\$1,000.	\$1,000.	25.00%
6. ADVERTISING	\$2,500.	\$3,500.	\$3,500.	40.00%
7. TOWN SECRETARY	\$41,781.	\$42,617.	\$42,617.	2.00%
8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SALARY	\$51,500.	\$60,000.	\$60,000.	16.50%
9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR EXPENSES	\$1,700.	\$1,700.	\$1,700.	0.00%
10. FINANCE COMMITTEE	\$400.	\$400.	\$400.	0.00%
11. ASSESSORS SALARIES	\$117,599.	\$119,168.	\$119,168.	1.33%
12. ASSESSORS EXPENSE	\$10,200.	\$30,000.	\$12,500.	22.55%
13. TOWN TREASURER SALARY	\$37,750.	\$38,505.	\$38,505.	2.00%
14. TOWN TREASURER EXPENSES	\$5,600.	\$5,605.	\$5,605.	0.09%
15. TAX COLLECTOR SALARY	\$53,772.	\$54,848.	\$54,848.	2.00%
16. TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSES	\$6,185.	\$5,200.	\$5,200.	(15.93%)
17. ASSIST. TAX COLLECTOR/IT ADVISOR	\$34,900.	\$41,238.	\$41,238.	18.16%
18. TOWN CLERK SALARY	\$25,584.	\$26,096.	\$26,096.	2.00%
19. TOWN CLERK EXPENSES	\$2,520.	\$4,495.	\$2,295.	(8.93%)
20. ELECTION-REGISTRATION	\$11,608.	\$7,743.	\$7,743.	(33.30%)
21. CONSERVATION COMMISSION	\$7,500.	\$7,555.	\$7,555.	0.73%
22. PLANNING BOARD EXPENSE	\$4,000.	\$6,500.	\$6,500.	62.50%
23. BERK. REG. PLANNING COMM.	\$1,193.	\$1,223.	\$1,223.	2.50%
24. BOARD of APPEALS	\$2,500.	\$2,500.	\$2,500.	0.00%
25. RESERVE FUND	\$30,000.	\$40,000.	\$40,000.	33.33%
<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT TOTAL</u>	<u>\$493,092.</u>	<u>\$619,393.</u>	<u>\$599,693.</u>	<u>21.62%</u>
HIGHWAY				
26. SUMMER LABOR	\$234,201.	\$185,312.	\$185,312.	(20.87%)
27. WINTER LABOR	\$120,508.	\$122,146.	\$122,146.	1.36%
<u>LABOR SUBTOTAL</u>	<u>\$354,709.</u>	<u>\$307,458.</u>	<u>\$307,458.</u>	<u>(13.32%)</u>
28. MATERIALS/EQUIPMENT	\$68,364.	\$70,500.	\$70,500.	3.12%
29. WINTER MATERIALS/SUPPLIES	\$66,750.	\$67,800.	\$67,800.	1.57%
30. FUEL ACCOUNT	\$84,620.	\$90,000.	\$90,000.	6.36%
31. MACHINERY ACCOUNT	\$40,000.	\$41,500.	\$41,500.	3.75%
32. RECONSTRUCTION OF GRAVEL ROADS	\$50,000.	\$50,000.	\$50,000.	0.00%
<u>MATERIALS AND SERVICES SUBTOTAL</u>	<u>\$309,734.</u>	<u>\$319,800.</u>	<u>\$319,800.</u>	<u>3.25%</u>
33. TRANSFER STATION LABOR	\$22,307.	\$22,754.	\$22,754.	2.00%
34. TRANSFER STATION EXPENSES	\$70,317.	\$70,317.	\$70,317.	0.00%

Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2013

~ Continued ~

<u>TRANSFER STATION SUBTOTAL</u>	<u>\$92,624.</u>	<u>\$93,071.</u>	<u>\$93,071.</u>	<u>0.48%</u>
<u>HIGHWAY TOTAL</u>	<u>\$757,067.</u>	<u>\$720,329.</u>	<u>\$720,329.</u>	<u>(4.85%)</u>
CEMETERIES				
35. CENTER CEMETERY	\$3,500.	\$3,570.	\$3,570.	2.00%
36. NORTH CEMETERY	\$6,000.	\$6,120.	\$6,120.	2.00%
37. WEST CEMETERY	\$1,200.	\$1,224.	\$1,224.	2.00%
<u>CEMETERIES TOTAL</u>	<u>\$10,700.</u>	<u>\$10,914.</u>	<u>\$10,914.</u>	<u>2.00%</u>
FORESTRY				
38. FORESTRY	\$300.	\$300.	\$300.	0.00%
39. MOTH ACCOUNT	\$100.	\$100.	\$100.	0.00%
40. TREE ACCOUNT	\$5,000.	\$10,000.	\$10,000.	100.00%
<u>FORESTRY TOTAL</u>	<u>\$5,400.</u>	<u>\$10,400.</u>	<u>\$10,400.</u>	<u>92.59%</u>
EDUCATION				
41. CBRSD OPERATING ASSESSMENT	\$1,984,071.	\$1,782,413.	\$1,782,413	(10.16%)
42. VOCATIONAL TUITION	\$190,000.	\$225,000.	\$225,000.	18.42%
43. VOCATIONAL TRANSPORTATION	\$77,000.	\$90,000.	\$90,000.	16.88%
<u>EDUCATION TOTAL</u>	<u>\$2,251,071.</u>	<u>\$2,097,413.</u>	<u>\$2,097,413.</u>	<u>(6.83%)</u>
PROTECT/ PERSONS & PROPERTY				
44. POLICE DEPT. SALARIES	\$219,600.	\$227,333.	\$227,333.	3.52%
45. POLICE DEPT. EXPENSES	\$17,270.	\$17,270.	\$17,270.	0.00%
46. HARBOR MASTER	\$1,390.	\$1,390.	\$1,390.	0.00%
47. CONSTABLE EXPENSE	\$300.	\$300.	\$300.	0.00%
48. FIRE CHIEF STIPEND	\$3,772.	\$3,848.	\$3,848.	2.00%
49. FIRE DEPT. EXPENSES	\$27,000.	\$30,000.	\$27,000.	0.00%
50. FIRE CALL STIPEND	\$8,000.	\$10,000.	\$10,000.	25.00%
51. DRY HYDRANTS	\$0.	\$7,500.	\$7,500.	N/A
52. BUILDING INSPECTOR. SALARY	\$47,271.	\$48,201.	\$48,201.	1.97%
53. BUILDING/CODE INSPECT. EXPENSES	\$5,875.	\$2,275.	\$2,275.	(61.28%)
54. DEMOLITION FUND	\$6,000.	\$12,200.	\$12,200.	103.33%
55. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$1,000.	\$2,150.	\$1,000.	0.00%
56. EMERGENCY MGT. TRAINING	\$0	\$5,000.	\$5,000.	N/A
57. ANIMAL CONTROL SALARIES	\$7,400.	\$7,548.	\$7,548.	2.00%
58. ANIMAL CONTROL EXPENSES	\$2,500.	\$2,500.	\$2,500.	0.00%
<u>PROTECT/PERSONS & PROPERTY TOTAL</u>	<u>\$347,378.</u>	<u>\$377,515.</u>	<u>\$373,365.</u>	<u>7.48%</u>
HEALTH & SANITATION				
59. E911 COMMUNICATION	\$9,946.	\$10,941.	\$10,941.	10.00%
60. INSPECTOR of ANIMALS	\$300.	\$306.	\$306.	2.00%
61. SOUTH BERKSHIRE SOLID WASTE	\$5,960.	\$5,960.	\$5,960.	0.00%

Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2013

~ Continued ~

62. BOARD of HEALTH SALARIES	\$8,000.	\$12,000.	\$12,000.	50.00%
63. BOARD of HEALTH EXPENSES	\$7,000.	\$6,000.	\$6,000.	(14.28%)
64. PORCHLIGHT VNA	\$4,962.	\$4,962.	\$4,962.	0.00%
65. MENTAL HEALTH CENTER	\$550.	\$1,894.	\$550.	0.00%
66. VETERANS AGENT SALARY	\$1,900.	\$1,938.	\$1,938.	2.00%
67. VETERANS AGENT EXPENSES	\$100.	\$100.	\$100.	0.00%
68. VETERANS BENEFITS	\$32,000.	\$20,000.	\$20,000.	(37.50%)
<u>HEALTH & SANITATION TOTAL</u>	<u>\$70,718.</u>	<u>\$64,101.</u>	<u>\$62,757.</u>	<u>(11.26%)</u>

UNCLASSIFIED EXPENSES

69. OUTSIDE PAYROLL SERVICES	\$6,500.	\$3,500.	\$3,500.	(46.15%)
70. TOWN ACCOUNTANT SALARY	\$14,423.	\$14,712.	\$14,712.	2.00%
71. GENERAL INSURANCE	\$66,000.	\$90,000.	\$90,000.	36.36%
72. STAFF COVERAGE	\$0.	\$7,500.	\$7,500.	N/A
73. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS LABOR	\$0.	\$43,598.	\$43,598.	N/A
74. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS EXPENSES	\$58,000.	\$60,000.	\$60,000.	3.45%
75. SOFTWARE MAINT. AGREEMENTS	\$12,420.	\$17,089.	\$17,089.	37.59%
76. MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	\$61,800.	\$65,000.	\$65,000.	5.18%
77. STREET LIGHTS	\$6,400.	\$7,500.	\$7,500.	17.19%
78. WIRED WEST MEMBERSHIP	\$1,000.	\$0.	\$0.	(100.00%)
79. TOWN REPORTS	\$3,000.	\$3,200.	\$3,200.	6.66%
80. POSTAGE	\$13,000.	\$13,000.	\$13,000.	0.00%
81. COUNCIL on AGING	\$5,000.	\$5,000.	\$5,000.	0.00%
82. OUTREACH	\$1,500.	\$500.	\$500.	(66.66%)
83. PARKS AND RECREATION	\$18,000.	\$18,000.	\$18,000.	0.00%
84. WEED SURVEYS CENTER POND	\$1,500.	\$1,500.	\$1,500.	0.00%
85. HISTORICAL COMMISSION	\$700.	\$700.	\$700.	0.00%
86. INTEREST on SHORT-TERM DEBT	\$1,500.	\$1,500.	\$1,500.	0.00%
87. COUNTY RETIREMENT	\$190,928.	\$187,633.	\$187,633.	(1.73%)
88. HEALTH INSURANCE	\$421,481.	\$385,000.	\$385,000.	(8.65%)
89. PAYROLL TAX ACCOUNT	\$19,600.	\$21,000.	\$21,000.	7.14%
90. LIBRARY	\$42,000.	\$63,000.	\$43,000.	2.38%
91. MEMORIAL DAY	\$550.	\$750.	\$750.	36.36%
92. ARTS CENTER	\$1,800.	\$1,800.	\$1,800.	0.00%
93. WOMEN'S AUX CHILD. HOLIDAY PARTY	\$500.	\$500.	\$500.	0.00%
94. COMMUNITY RECREATION	\$750.	0.	\$0.	(100.00%)
<u>UNCLASS. EXP. TOTAL</u>	<u>\$948,352.00</u>	<u>\$1,011,982.00</u>	<u>\$991,982.00</u>	<u>4.60%</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	<u>\$4,883,778.00</u>	<u>\$4,912,047.00</u>	<u>\$4,866,853.00</u>	<u>(0.34%)</u>

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~ Continued ~

Majority Vote Required

Article 4 was moved seconded from the floor. The Moderator stated that he would not read each line item but rather, if there were to be any questions or discussion of any item, a “Hold” would be asked to be placed on that item. At the end of the process for any line items to be held, all items not having a “Hold” put on them would be voted on. The Moderator stated that in the non-held line items, the figure being voted on would be the Finance Committee/ Selectboard recommended amount. Following this, all line items having a “Hold” would then be voted on separately. “Holds” were placed on the following line items:

- 2. LEGAL EXPENSE
- 12. ASSESSORS EXPENSE
- 17. ASSIST. TAX COLLECTOR/IT ADVISOR
- 26. SUMMER LABOR
- 54. DEMOLITION FUND
- 71. GENERAL INSURANCE
- 73. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS LABOR
- 78. WIRED WEST MEMBERSHIP
- 94. COMMUNITY RECREATION

After placing holds on the above referenced line items, a vote was taken. The motion on the Finance Committee/Selectboard recommended amounts that were not held above, **Passed Unanimously.**

Line Item 2. LEGAL EXPENSE: Town Counsel Joel Bard explained that the significant increase in legal expense was the result of the need to defend the lawsuit brought against the Town of Becket by BRD in connection with a dispute over tree removal expenses resulting from the catastrophic ice storm of 2008. Mr. Bard went on in response to questions from Colleen O'Connor, Joan Drucker, Jeff Wilkinson and Jeff Bacon that “Insurance” wouldn’t cover the expenses of the lawsuit because the nature of the lawsuit was a claim for breach of contract and insurance typically doesn’t cover this kind of claim. He also noted that the amount in controversy was approximately \$800,000.00, and that the litigation was particularly document review intensive, and thus expensive. He also explained that Kopelman and Paige had been successful in having a Becket’s action joined with a similar action brought by plaintiff BRD against Blandford which should provide some legal fee savings to both Becket and Blandford. Joe Kellogg gave some background of FEMA payments made in connection with the ice storm cleanup. **Line Item 2** was moved and seconded. A vote was taken. The motion on the Finance Committee/Selectboard Budget Recommend amount for **Line Item 2 Passed Unanimously.**

Line Item 12. ASSESSORS EXPENSE: Joe Kellogg responded to a question from Sheila Cyr, explaining that every 3 years the Department of Revenue requires the Assessor’s Office to re-assess real estate values, and that this periodic activity resulted in costs for consultants and such to facilitate the re-assessment. **Line Item 12** was moved and seconded. A vote was taken. The motion on the Finance Committee/Selectboard Budget Recommend amount for **Line Item 12 Passed Unanimously.**

Line Item 17. ASSIST. TAX COLLECTOR/IT ADVISOR: Joe Kellogg responded to a question from Jeff Wilkinson explaining that the reason for the increase for this employee was that the Assistant Tax Collector had taken on increased responsibilities. Part of the increased responsibility was transition planning in anticipation of the Tax Collector retiring, and thus the Assistant Tax Collector was assuming greater responsibilities with respect to his duties in collecting taxes. It was also noted that the Assistant Tax Collector is knowledgeable about computer networking had been performing, on an ad-hoc basis, providing advice and expertise with respect to the Town’s computer network, and part of the increase was a formal acknowledgment of the contribution being made in this area. **Line Item 17** was moved and seconded. A vote was taken. The motion on the Finance Committee / Selectboard Budget Recommend amount for **Line Item 17 Passed Unanimously.**

Line Item 26. SUMMER LABOR: Joe Kellogg explained that that decrease in Summer Labor represented moving the labor cost of one road crew employee from road maintenance to Municipal Building Labor, explaining that one employee would be taking over the maintenance of town buildings and doing the town mowing, but would also be available in the winter for plowing. **Line Item 26** was moved and seconded. A vote was taken. The motion on the Finance Committee / Selectboard Budget Recommend amount for **Line Item 26 Passed Unanimously.**

Line Item 54. DEMOLITION FUND: Responding to a question from Sheila Cyr, Joe Kellogg explained that the demolition fund was used to raze derelict buildings that had been abandoned and were unsafe. He explained that the Town would do everything it could to have the owner of the building remedy the situation, but if the owner had walked away from the property the Town, as a last resort, would step in, and demolish the building. **Line Item 54** was moved and seconded. A vote was taken. The motion on the Finance Committee / Selectboard Budget Recommend amount for **Line Item 54 Passed Unanimously.**

Line Item 71. GENERAL INSURANCE: Christopher Swindlehurst questioned why there was a 36.36 percent increase in this line item. Joe Kellogg explained that largely the increase resulted from increases in the value of Town Buildings and

Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2013

~ Continued ~

increases in the cost of Worker's Compensation claims. **Line Item 71** was moved and seconded. A vote was taken. The motion on the Finance Committee / Selectboard Budget Recommend amount for **Line Item 71 Passed Unanimously.**

Line Item 73. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS LABOR: Joe Kellogg briefly referred to his explanation for the decrease in Line Item 26. Summer Labor and explained that the increase in Municipal Buildings Labor represented moving the labor cost of one road crew employee from Summer Labor to Municipal Building Labor, explaining that one employee would be taking over the maintenance of town buildings and doing the town mowing, but would also be available in the winter for plowing. **Line Item 73** was moved and seconded. A vote was taken. The motion on the Finance Committee / Selectboard Budget Recommend amount for **Line Item 73 Passed Unanimously.**

Line Item 78. WIRED WEST MEMBERSHIP: Josh Lombard inquired as to this fee being zero. Robert Ronzio explained that last years fee was in the nature of a one time start up fee to provide Wired West with seed money to begin operations, and that it would be 2 to 3 years before we could expect to get fiber optic internet for the Town. **Line Item 78** was moved and seconded. A vote was taken. The motion on the Finance Committee / Selectboard Budget Recommend amount for **Line Item 78 Passed Unanimously.**

Line Item 94. COMMUNITY RECREATION: Joe Kellogg explained that this was a line item that just kept getting carried forward, and that there had been no request to continue it this year. Richard Furlong explained that in years past, the Dalton CRA offered lower tuition for Becket kids if this was paid to them. There was no further discussion. **Line Item 94** was moved and seconded. A vote was taken. The motion on the Finance Committee / Selectboard Budget Recommend amount for **Line Item 94 Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$284,956 to fund the bond payments due in fiscal year 2014 for the following previously approved debt items:

Becket Washington School	\$102,730
Nessacus Regional Middle School	\$ 15,038
Fire Pumper and Dump Truck	\$161,755
Wahconah Regional High School	\$ 4,385
Kittredge School	\$ 1,048

Majority Vote Required

Article 5 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 5 Passed Unanimously**

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer to the Stabilization Fund the sum of \$100,000.

2/3 Vote Required

Article 6 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 6 Passed Unanimously**

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to accept any monies appropriated by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for Chapter 90 use. These funds to be used for maintenance and reconstruction of Town roads and to fund the appropriations by transferring said amounts from available funds with any unspent funds to carry over from year to year until spent by the Town. These sums will be reimbursed to the Town by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in accordance with Chapter 90 of the General Laws.

Majority Vote Required

Article 7 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 7 Passed Unanimously**

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$300,000 for the salaries (\$283,700) and expenses (\$16,300) of the Ambulance Enterprise Fund, and to fund said appropriation:

To raise and appropriate \$192,949 and to appropriate from Fiscal Year 2014 Ambulance Receipts \$70,000 and from the Ambulance Enterprise Free Cash \$37,051.

Majority Vote Required

Article 8 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 8 Passed Unanimously**

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the Ambulance Enterprise Stabilization Fund and to fund this appropriation with \$20,000 from Ambulance Enterprise Free Cash.

2/3 Vote Required

Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2013

~ Continued ~

Article 9 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 9 Passed Unanimously**

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Ambulance Enterprise Fund Free Cash the sum of \$2,200 to purchase and equip a new AED for the Ambulance.

Majority Vote Required

Article 10 Was moved and seconded. Madeleine Swindlehurst stated that the acronym AED was not clear and moved that this Article be amended to replace AED with Automatic External Defibrillator. The motion to amend was seconded and a vote was taken, passing unanimously. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 10, as amended Passed Unanimously**

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$145,000 to purchase and equip a new single axle Cab and Chassis to be retrofitted with an existing Dump Body to replace Truck #4 at the Highway Department, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow the sum of \$145,000 for said appropriation under applicable sections of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell or otherwise dispose of the old Cab and Chassis.

2/3 Vote Required

Article 11 Was moved and seconded. Joe explained that we were more than \$200,000.00 below our levy limit, and thus the Town could raise and appropriate the funds without a debt exclusion. Madeleine Swindlehurst then moved to amend Article 11 to read in relevant part “and authorize and require that the Board of Selectmen sell, trade or otherwise get rid of the old cab and chassis.” Joel Bard, Town Counsel, that the proposed language requiring the Board of Selectmen to act was not legal. The Town Moderator did not accept the motion. There was no further discussion. A vote by show of hands was taken and the Town Moderator declared a 2/3 majority in favor, and the motion on **Article 11 Passed by 2/3 Majority.**

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$90,000 to purchase and equip a new Multi-function Tractor for the Highway Department, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow the sum of \$90,000 for said appropriation under applicable sections of Chapter 44 of the General Laws.

2/3 Vote Required

Article 12 Was moved and seconded. There were questions from the floor inquiring why the new tractor was necessary, why we didn’t put this out to bid, and whether or not we could “share” a tractor with nearby towns? Joe Kellogg explained that because all the towns would need the tractor for the same tasks at approximately the same time, it would be impractical to “share” a vehicle with nearby towns. He also explained that the gentleman that used to mow our roads, could no longer do the job. Chris Bouchard explained that the contractors that were available to do mowing work on roads charged \$110 per hour, and at this rate purchasing a tractor and using Town employees to do the work made financial sense. He also explained that the tractor could be used for pulling a York Rake and could use other implements that currently would be pulled by the grader or other more expensive equipment thus saving engine hours on the more expensive equipment. A vote by show of hands was taken and the Town Moderator declared a 2/3 majority in favor, and the motion on **Article 12 Passed by 2/3 Majority.**

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$39,000 to purchase and equip a new Pick-up Truck for the Highway Department.

Majority Vote Required

Article 13 Was moved and seconded. Madeleine Swindlehurst made a motion to require the selectmen to transfer the 2007 pickup truck to the facilities manager. The Moderator declared this motion out of order as it attempted to require the Selectmen to do something that was management prerogative, discretionary on their part, and did not allow the motion. Colleen O’Connor asked if the person to be driving the pickup should be driving at all. Joe Kellogg stated that the Town would not allow someone to drive a Town vehicle that wasn’t qualified and properly licensed to do so. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 13 Passed.**

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53I of the General Laws to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the expenses of the Becket 250th Anniversary Committee.

Majority Vote Required

Article 14 The Moderator, Bruce Garlow explained that he was a member of the Becket 250th Anniversary Committee, and as such, had a conflict moderating Article 14 and also felt that he had a conflict with Article 15, and that Mark Karlberg, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen would moderate the meeting with respect to Article 14 and Article 15. Mark Karlberg read Article 14. Article 14 was moved and seconded. Rob Gorden, Chair of

Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2013

~ Continued ~

the Historical Commission spoke in favor of the motion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 14 Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to purchase a new public address system for use at Town meetings and events.

Majority Vote Required

Article 15. Mark Karlberg read Article 15. Article 15 was moved and seconded. A vote was taken and the motion on Article 15 Passed.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 to purchase and equip a new Four Wheel Drive Police Cruiser for the Police Department and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell or otherwise dispose of an older Police Cruiser.

Majority Vote Required

Article 16. Bruce Garlow resumed moderating. Article 16 was moved and seconded. Madeleine Swindlehurst felt that the language in this article was vague. She noted that in Article 11 of the minutes of the 2011 purchased a new police cruiser and authorizing the Board of Selectmen to trade or sell the old police cruiser. She noted that the Selectmen have not traded or sold the old cruiser and that it is still on the police inventory and should not be. She proposed amending the article to change from “an older police cruiser” to “the 2008 Ford Expedition” The amendment was moved and seconded. Joe Kellogg explained that the Selectboard needed the flexibility as to which vehicle would be traded or sold because the 2007 Crown Victoria and the 2008 Ford Explorer were both on their last legs and it was not clear which would die first. He stated that when they receive the new cruiser they would like to be able to dispose of whichever of the two older vehicles had the least useful life in it. The Police Chief noted that the Crown Victory had 141,000 miles and the Expedition had 125,000 miles. A vote on the proposed amendment was taken by a show of hands, the motion to amend failed. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 16 Passed.**

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for legal, advertising, and related costs to process tax delinquent accounts.

Majority Vote Required

Article 17 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 17 Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for capital repairs and improvements at the Becket Athenaeum in order for Library Services to be provided to Town residents.

Majority Vote Required

Article 18 Was moved and seconded. Madeleine Swindlehurst asked why the funds were not coming out of Community Preservation Funds. Joe Kellogg noted that there was \$15,000.00 coming out of CPA and \$21,000.00 in this Article. He went on to note that we were emptying the Historical Reserve category in CPA funds and that left a need of 21,000.00. Bob Ronzio asked if this is a town facility and if it was ok to spend money on private enterprise. Joe Kellogg noted that it is proper and appropriate to spend money on a facility that benefits the public. Joel Bard noted that the general principle is that public funds can be spent for any public purpose. He noted that other communities have private or private/public hybrid libraries to which towns spend public funds on. Rob Gorden also noted that he believed the Town of Washington contributes funds to the Becket Athenaeum. Maria Wallington noted that the funds would be used to repair leaky doors and windows that cause high utility bills. The other funds would be used for painting. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 18 Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,000 for the costs of preparing applications for community and housing development grants for the Town.

Majority Vote Required

Article 19 Was moved and seconded. Bob Ronzio noted grant writing was not part of the Town Administrator’s job description and questioned why the Town Administrator didn’t assume this responsibility. Joe Kellogg explained that this money was targeted to go after housing and community development grants which were very specific, technical and demanding grants to apply for. BRPC could write grants more cost effectively and efficiently than the Town Administrator, and that the cost of applying for these type of grants were often reimbursed if the grant is approved. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 19 Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$8,200 for snow guards to be installed on the Highway Garage Roof to protect against injuries and damage from sliding snow.

Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2013

~ Continued ~

Majority Vote Required

Article 20 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 20 Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, and control of the parcel of land described below from the Treasurer for the purpose of sale at public auction to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of conveyance, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service a parcel of land to be used for conservation and passive recreation purposes, such sale to be on such terms, conditions and restrictions as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate, said parcel described as an irregularly shaped 110-acre parcel approximately 400 feet from the terminus of Maple Street and further described in documents recorded in the Berkshire Middle District Registry of Deeds in Book 4643, Page 193 and Book 1199, Page 14, shown as Assessor's Map 206, Lot 89, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary to sell such property, or take any other action relative thereto.

2/3 Vote Required

Article 21 Was moved and seconded. Sheila Cyr asked about the use implications of this transfer. Joe Kellogg explained that the land transferred to the U.S. Fish and Game Dept. would be restricted to passive recreation purposes which are limited to fishing, walking and hiking. There was general discussion both in favor and against this Article. Bob Ronzio wanted to know if the Fish and Wildlife Service would post the boundaries of the property. A realty specialist from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stated that when they acquired a piece of property the Service posted signs at each corner and along each boundary at intervals identifying the property as Fish and Wildlife land. A vote was taken by show of hands and the Town Moderator declared a 2/3 majority in favor, and the motion on **Article 21 Passed by 2/3 Majority.**

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the use of the following revolving funds for departmental operations which shall not exceed the noted sums for each fund, which shall be under the control of the Town Treasurer, which shall be accounted for separately, and to which shall be credited only the receipts received in connection with the departmental operations supported by the revolving fund; further to authorize the Town Treasurer to expend from such funds in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2 of the General Laws, provided however that said expenditures for the revolving funds shall not exceed the receipts for said fund:

Plumbing Inspector:	\$10,000
Gas Inspector:	\$10,000
Wiring Inspector:	\$15,000

Majority Vote Required

Article 22 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 22 Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2014, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY 2014 estimated revenues to Committee
Administrative Expenses \$500

Reserves:

From FY 2014 estimated revenues to Historical Resources Reserve	\$ 4,800
From FY 2014 estimated revenues to Community Housing Reserve	\$ 4,800
From FY 2014 estimated revenues to Open Space Reserve	\$ 4,800
From FY 2014 estimated revenues to Undesignated Reserve	\$ 33,100

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

Majority Vote Required

Article 23 Was moved and seconded. Madeleine Swindlehurst stated that she supported the CPA but asked that the CPA Committee prepare and submit a written accounting in each year's Annual Town Report setting forth: total accumulated account balances from receipts of the CPA real estate surtaxes; the annual contributions from Massachusetts Real Estate Transfer Taxes; the appropriations and allocations that have accumulated, been disbursed and the Fiscal Year-end balances for Committee administrative expense; Historical Resource Reserves; Open Space Reserves, and Undesignated Reserves. Ms. Swindlehurst also suggested that the CPA Committee could make its meeting notices more accessible to the public by posting to the Town web page and the Public Meeting Agenda email subscriber list. Joe Kellogg and Rita Furlong gave brief

Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2013

~ Continued ~

explanations on the complexities of the accounting issues surrounding this account and the posting and reporting procedures currently employed. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 23 Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$7,000 from the Historical Resources Reserve and \$8,000 from the Undesignated Reserve of the Community Preservation Fund for exterior restoration and painting of the Becket Athenaeum; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee and the Board of Directors of the Becket Athenaeum.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

Majority Vote Required

Article 24 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 24 Passed Unanimously.**

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$6,000 from the Open Space Reserve of the Community Preservation Fund to purchase and install an obelisk to commemorate the Revolutionary War and the Civil War volunteers from Becket to be placed at Ballou Park; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee and the Board of Directors of the Becket Historical Commission.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

Majority Vote Required

Article 25 Was moved and seconded. There was brief discussion regarding the source of financing this project, the number of monuments already in Ballou Park, and the nature and size of the monument. A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 25 Passed.**

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell, on such terms, conditions and restrictions as they deem appropriate, a certain parcel of land for conservation and passive recreation purposes, said parcel located on Quarry Road, shown as Assessor's Map 417, Lot 61, described in a Treasurer's Deed to the Town of Becket, dated October 17, 1960, recorded with the Berkshire Middle District Registry of Deeds in Book 713, Page 190, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary to sell such property, and to accept a restriction on said property.

2/3 Vote Required

Article 26 Was moved and seconded. Bob Ronzio raised concerns regarding the manner in which this parcel was originally conveyed to the Becket Land Trust, noting that the parcel was never offered to abutters and calling into question whether the parcel was indeed land locked, and whether the initial transfer was legal. There was further discussion on the two limitations stated in the Article, and questions as to whether those limitations would allow Agriculture as well as the stated Conservation and Passive Recreation. Joe Kellogg explained that the Town did not have the authority to transfer the property as it attempted to do, and that it should have been put out to auction. He stated that the Town believes that the parcel is land locked. Town Counsel explained that the deed recording the prior attempted transfer was not legally sufficient because it lacked the Certification of the Town Clerk, which, apparently was never prepared or recorded. A motion was made to amend the language of Article 26 to add “, agriculture” immediately after the word conservation so it would read in relevant part as: “... for conservation, agriculture and passive recreation purposes...” The motion was seconded, and a vote was taken. The amendment passed unanimously. A vote was taken by show of hands and the Town Moderator declared a 2/3 majority in favor, and the motion on **Article 26 as amended Passed by 2/3 Majority.**

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to change the composition of the Board of Selectmen from a three member Board to a five member Board, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article Petitioned by Voters

Majority Vote Required

Article 27 A motion was read by the Town Clerk as follows:

I move that the Town vote to change the composition of the Board of Selectmen from a three-member board to a five-member board; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to submit special legislation on behalf of the Town, in accordance with the Home Rule Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution: 1) amending Chapter 662 of the acts of 1990, as most recently amended by chapter 184 of the acts of 2000, so that section 3 of said act shall state, “There shall be a board of selectmen, consisting of five members, elected as provided in section 2.”; and 2) addressing the transition of the Board of Selectmen from three members to five; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and provided further than the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve

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~ Continued ~

amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

The motion as read above was moved and seconded. Beth VanNess spoke in favor of this motion noting that additional members would add diversity to the board. Barbara Roberts spoke against this motion noting that 5-member Selectboard is not appropriate for the population of Becket. She also noted that a larger board might be less efficient. Angela Hilton asked why the Selectmen do not support this Article. Mark Karlberg feels that a three man board is sufficient, noting that in his 3 years there was only one meeting was called because two members were sick. He also feels the board functions quite well, and that there is often not interest in people serving on the Selectboard. Coleen O'Connor feels that the current Selectboard is rife with nepotism and cronyism. She feels a lot needs to be done with the Selectboard and that a 5-member board is good, and there should be further expansion of the board that holds the key to decision making in the Town. Madeleine Swindlehurst noted that this same petition was voted down last year, and that she was in favor of it then and is in favor of it now on the theory that the board would better represent the diversity of opinion in the various communities within the Town. Rita Furlong noted that she can recall this issue has come up at least 5 times and has been voted down each time. She also observed that there were only approximately 50 people present for the meeting out of a populations of over 1700. She also notes that there are committees in Town with only one member, who would appreciate others to join and participate. Chris Swindlehurst spoke against the five member board, observing that he was against "mission creep" noting that government tends to get bigger over time. Bob Ronzio spoke against the Selectboard getting paid, and spoke in favor of a 5-member board. Karen Karlberg noted problems with larger boards, using the Planning Board as an example. Rob Gorden spoke to the issue of the lack of mass discontent with the size of the Selectboard noting the small number of people in attendance at the meeting. Julia Kay-Grace spoke in favor of the 5-member board noting that a larger board would be better, and calling into question the motivation of those who object to the larger board. Madeleine Swindlehurst noted that with a larger board would be more stable but might stagnate. Beth VanNess noted that this matter did pass several years ago, but was defeated at Town Election. A vote was taken by hand count with 24 in favor and 35 opposed, and the motion on **Article 27 Failed**.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to express approval of debt for the purposes and in the amounts as shown below, which debt has been authorized by the School Committee of the Central Berkshire Regional School District on April 11, 2013, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 71, Section 16(d) of the General Laws.

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Becket Assessment</u>
1. Becket Washington School Playground Equipment	\$20,000	\$12,000
2. WRHS Replacement of Concrete Sidewalks	\$110,000	\$4,222
3. WRHS Refurbishing of Auditorium Seats	\$100,000	\$3,838
4. Central Office HVAC	\$50,000	\$3,398
5. Purchase of Two Vehicles	\$54,783	\$3,723
6. District Wide Building Security Improvement	\$72,000	\$6,576

Majority Vote Required

Article 28 was moved and seconded. Joe Kellogg gave an explanation of the process underlying this Article. The CBRSD Superintendent explained what was involved in item 6, District Wide Building Security Improvement. Becket Washington School would receive new exterior cameras and additional radios. Berkshire Trail school would receive new exterior cameras, and get the installation of new PA system. Craneville School would receive new exterior cameras, half glass doors and bollards. Kittredge School would receive new exterior cameras, emergency phone in the computer lab, additional radios and bollards; Nessacus Middle School would receive additional exterior cameras, bollards at the front doors, and additional radios; Wahconah would receive bollards and new front doors. These items were suggested by Local Security and Public Safety Officials and the Massachusetts State Police. Replacement of doors with half glass doors are to prevent someone from being able to shoot down a hallway; bollards are to prevent vehicles from ramming their way into a school. The Moderator announced that each line item would be voted on separately.

Line Item 1. - Becket Washington School Playground Equipment: A vote was taken on Line Item 1.

Line Item 1 Passed Unanimously.

Line Item 2. - WRHS Replacement of Concrete Sidewalks: A vote was taken on Line Item 2.

Line Item 2 Passed Unanimously.

Line Item 3. - WRHS Refurbishing of Auditorium Seats: A vote was taken on Line Item 3.

Line Item 3 Passed Unanimously.

Line Item 4. - Central Office HVAC: A vote was taken on Line Item 3.

Line Item 4 Passed Unanimously.

Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2013

~ Continued ~

Line Item 5. - Purchase of Two Vehicles: A vote was taken on Line Item 5.

Line Item 5 Passed Unanimously.

Line Item 6. - District Wide Building Security Improvement: A vote was taken on Line Item 6.

Line Item 6 Passed Unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn to the Annual Town Election which will be held one week from today on May 18, 2013, starting at 10:00 a.m. A vote was taken and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m. The checkers were Election Workers Eva Bonney and Patricia Clemons, Meredyth Babcock and Ann Krawet.

Respectfully submitted,

George E. Roberts
Town Clerk



◆ **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING** ◆

March 20, 2013 - 7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the Special Town Meeting was called on March 20, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Becket Town Hall, 557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223. There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Moderator. There were 27 registered voters present (2% of 1,352 registered voters) and a total of 28 people attended the meeting. Town Officials Present: Bruce Garlow, Moderator; Jeanne Pryor, William Elovirta, and Mark Karlberg, Selectmen; Ann Spadafora, Dan Parnell, Jeremy Dunn, and Maria Wallington, Finance Committee Members; George E. Roberts, Town Clerk; Joseph Kellogg, Town Administrator.

The Moderator opened the meeting stating the rules to be followed. He asked for a showing of hands of non-voters and welcomed them, indicating that they could address the meeting but could not vote. The Moderator noted measures he would take to speed up the meeting, including paraphrasing each article (as the articles are available in written form) and not having the Town Clerk read the call of the meeting and officer's return of service. The Moderator reviewed the warrant and noted it as having been duly posted.

The following articles were voted on:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to the Legal Expense account.

Majority Vote Required

Article 1 Was moved by Mark Karlberg and seconded by Jeremy Dunn. Joseph Kellogg gave a brief explanation of the need for the transfer of funds from Free Cash to the Legal

Expense Account. Mr. Kellogg explained that the Town is involved in a major lawsuit in which it is being sued by a company named BRD for a high six figure sum. BRD billed the Town for storm clean-up that was not authorized by the Town, and for which the Town refused to pay. Mr. Kellogg noted that the law suit was currently in the "discovery" stage, and that the Town could expect significant legal bills going forward. Eva Birkett asked if the money that was being transferred would only be used to pay for this law suit. Mr. Kellogg went on to explain that the Legal Expense account was empty, and that there were a few other small matters requiring legal services that would also be paid for with the funds to be transferred at this meeting. He noted that it was also to be expected that further significant funding of the Legal Expense account would be sought at the Annual Town Meeting upcoming in May. Mr. Kellogg agreed that this lawsuit could accurately be characterized as an extraordinary event.

A vote was taken and the motion on **Article 1 Passed Unanimously**

It was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn. A vote was taken and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m. The checkers were Election Workers Eva Bonney, Beth VanNess and Patricia Clemons.

Respectfully submitted,

George E. Roberts
Town Clerk



◆ **TOWN OF BECKET TAX COLLECTOR - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS** ◆

July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013

<u>Fiscal Year/Tax</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>07/01/2012</u>	<u>Commitments</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Refunds</u>	<u>Abatements</u>	<u>Tax Title</u> <u>Transfers</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>06/30/2013</u>
2013							
Real Estate		\$4,798,547.45	\$4,528,954.88	\$1,277.58	\$34,933.20		\$235,936.95
Personal Property		\$242,821.88	\$238,037.81	\$333.74	\$2,139.45		\$2,978.36
Motor Vehicle		\$194,410.82	\$181,210.50	\$2,740.31	\$3,680.42		\$12,260.21
Fees			\$16,316.13				
Interest			\$12,907.21				
2012							
Real Estate	\$242,457.78		\$103,620.72		\$2,008.44	\$85,044.77	\$51,783.85
Personal Property	\$3,289.91		\$1,414.91		\$212.18		\$1,662.82
Motor Vehicle	\$8,730.32	\$19,829.25	\$25,274.71	\$1,059.98	\$1,325.08		\$3,019.76
Fees			\$9,977.70				
Interest			\$12,099.72				
2011							
Real Estate	\$114,603.44		\$10,925.98		\$1,645.93	\$86,785.74	\$15,245.79
Personal Property	\$889.72		\$242.23		\$98.78		\$548.71
Motor Vehicle	\$3,179.37	\$136.25	\$948.60	\$113.33	\$113.33		\$2,367.02
Fees			\$1,995.21				
Interest			\$3,199.23				
2010							
Real Estate	\$74,855.38		\$4,097.49		\$945.00	\$66,718.65	\$3,094.24
Personal Property	\$528.63		\$76.98		\$54.21		\$397.44
Motor Vehicle	\$3,364.48		\$898.66		\$422.50		\$2,043.32
Fees			\$897.50				
Interest			\$1,758.94				
2009							
Real Estate	\$7,990.72		-\$114.04		\$509.70	\$6,749.18	\$845.88
Personal Property	\$125.87		\$0.00	\$21,348.89	\$21,356.07		\$118.69
Motor Vehicle	\$1,913.27	\$336.25	\$486.81		\$77.50		\$1,685.21
Fees			\$124.00				
Interest			\$63.76				
2008							
Real Estate	\$1,129.14					\$649.00	\$480.14
Personal Property	\$85.50		\$1.38		\$3.32		\$80.80
Motor Vehicle	\$2,647.40		\$72.50		\$2,574.90		\$0.00
Fees			\$94.00				
Interest			\$39.35				
2007							
Real Estate	\$484.63						\$484.63
Personal Property	\$85.50				\$58.85		\$26.65
Motor Vehicle	\$3,043.24		\$150.83		\$2,892.41		\$0.00
Fees			\$235.00				
Interest			\$98.31				

◆ **TOWN OF BECKET TAX COLLECTOR - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS** ◆

July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013

<u>Fiscal Year/Tax</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>07/01/2012</u>	<u>Commitments</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Refunds</u>	<u>Abatements</u>	<u>Tax Title</u> <u>Transfers</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>06/30/2013</u>
2006							
Real Estate	\$132.68						\$132.68
Personal Property	\$97.66				\$22.30		\$75.36
Motor Vehicle	\$2,909.80		\$5.00		\$2,904.80		\$0.00
Fees			\$47.00				
Interest			\$3.39				
2005							
Real Estate	\$173.06						\$173.06
Motor Vehicle	\$1,128.61				\$1,128.61		\$0.00
Fees			\$0.00				
Interest			\$0.00				
2004							
Real Estate	\$169.64						\$169.64
Motor Vehicle	\$342.19				\$342.19		\$0.00
Fees			\$0.00				
Interest			\$0.00				

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Hayn, *Collector*
Kenneth Bilodeau, *Assistant Collector*



◆ **TOWN OF BECKET FINANCIAL REPORT** ◆

July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>ENCUM.</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
ADVERTISING		\$2,500.00	\$755.12		\$3,255.12		100.00%
TOTAL		\$2,500.00	\$755.12		\$3,255.12		100.00%
SELECTMEN SALARIES		\$4,500.00			\$4,500.00		100.00%
SELECTMEN EXPENSES		\$800.00	\$242.95		\$1,042.95		100.00%
LEGAL EXPENSES		\$5,000.00	\$50,000.00		\$44,385.16	\$10,614.84	80.70%
SELECTMEN Total		\$10,300.00	\$50,242.95		\$49,928.11	\$10,614.84	82.46%
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES		\$51,500.00	\$99.06		\$51,599.06		100.00%
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR EXPENSES	\$15.00	\$1,700.00	\$-598.07		\$1,033.92	\$83.01	92.56%
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR Total	\$15.00	\$53,200.00	\$-499.01		\$52,632.98	\$83.01	99.84%
FINANCE COMM. EXPENSES		\$400.00			\$308.40	\$91.60	77.10%
FINANCE COMMITTEE Total		\$400.00			\$308.40	\$91.60	77.10%
TOWN ACCOUNTANT SALARIES		\$14,423.00	\$-2,666.52		\$11,370.01	\$386.47	96.71%
OUTSIDE PAYROLL EXPENSES		\$6,500.00	\$-878.03		\$3,334.00	\$2,287.97	59.30%
TOWN ACCOUNTANT Total		\$20,923.00	\$-3,544.55		\$14,704.01	\$2,674.44	84.61%
ASSESSOR SALARIES		\$117,599.00			\$116,089.04	\$1,509.96	98.71%
ASSESSOR EXPENSES		\$10,200.00			\$9,173.98	\$1,026.02	89.94%
ASSESORS Total		\$127,799.00			\$125,263.02	\$2,535.98	98.01%
TREASURER SALARIES		\$37,750.00			\$37,605.36	\$144.64	99.61%
TREASURER EXPENSES		\$5,600.00	\$-2,928.22		\$1,693.65	\$978.13	63.39%
TREASURER Total		\$43,350.00	\$-2,928.22		\$39,299.01	\$1,122.77	97.22%
TAX COLLECTOR SALARIES		\$53,772.00			\$53,748.34	\$23.66	99.95%
ASST TAX COLLECTOR SALARIES		\$34,900.00			\$34,756.80	\$143.20	99.58%
TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSES		\$6,185.00			\$4,665.68	\$1,519.32	75.43%
KVS SOFTWARE UPGRADE		\$4,045.00				\$4,045.00	0.00%
TAX COLLECTOR TOTAL		\$98,902.00			\$93,170.82	\$5,731.18	94.20%
TAX TITLE EXPENSES		\$22,000.00	\$1,683.22		\$23,683.22		100.00%
TAX TITLE TOTAL		\$22,000.00	\$1,683.22		\$23,683.22		100.00%
TOWN SECRETARY SALARIES		\$41,781.00			\$41,380.68	\$400.32	99.04%
TOWN SECRETARY TOTAL		\$41,781.00			\$41,380.68	\$400.32	99.04%
TOWN COUNSEL EXPENSES		\$13,500.00			\$12,386.76	\$1,113.24	91.75%
TOWN COUNSEL TOTAL		\$13,500.00			\$12,386.76	\$1,113.24	91.75%

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>ENCUM.</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
AUDIT EXPENSES		\$20,500.00			\$103.96	\$20,396.04	0.50%
AUDIT TOTAL		\$20,500.00			\$103.96	\$20,396.04	0.50%
POSTAGE EXPENSES		\$13,000.00	\$-3,000.00		\$8,494.22	\$1,505.78	84.94%
POSTAGE TOTAL		\$13,000.00	\$-3,000.00		\$8,494.22	\$1,505.78	84.94%
TOWN REPORT EXPENSES		\$3,000.00			\$3,000.00		100.00%
TOWN REPORT TOTAL		\$3,000.00			\$3,000.00		100.00%
TOWN CLERK SALARIES		\$25,584.00	\$165.88		\$25,749.88		100.00%
TOWN CLERK EXPENSES		\$2,520.00	\$-165.88		\$1,861.20	\$492.92	79.06%
TOWN CLERK TOTAL		\$28,104.00			\$27,611.08	\$492.92	98.24%
ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION EXPENSES		\$11,608.00			\$10,872.63	\$735.37	93.66%
ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION TOTAL		\$11,608.00			\$10,872.63	\$735.37	93.66%
CON COMM EXPENSES		\$7,500.00			\$6,633.23	\$866.77	88.44%
CONS COMM TOTAL		\$7,500.00			\$6,633.23	\$866.77	88.44%
PLANNING BOARD EXPENSES	\$78.25	\$4,000.00	\$414.03		\$4,492.28		100.00%
PLANNING BOARD TOTAL	\$78.25	\$4,000.00	\$414.03		\$4,492.28		100.00%
BOARD OF APPEALS EXPENSES		\$2,500.00	\$-414.03		\$1,787.91	\$298.06	85.71%
ZONING BOARD TOTAL		\$2,500.00	\$-414.03		\$1,787.91	\$298.06	85.71%
BERK REGIONAL PLANNING COMM		\$1,193.00			\$1,192.45	\$0.55	99.95%
BRPC TOTAL		\$1,193.00			\$1,192.45	\$0.55	99.95%
MUNICIPAL BLDG UTILITIES	\$939.11	\$61,800.00	\$-1,984.16		\$57,251.78	\$3,503.17	94.23%
MUNICIPAL BLDG EXPENSES	\$555.00	\$58,000.00	\$1,834.05		\$60,170.90	\$218.15	99.63%
WIRED WEST MEMBERSHIP		\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00		100.00%
MUNICIPAL BLDG REPAIRS	\$12,253.94				\$6,293.99	\$5,959.95	51.36%
MUNICIPAL BLDG TOTAL	\$13,748.05	\$120,800.00	\$-150.11		\$124,716.67	\$9,681.27	92.79%
COMPUTER HARWARE/SOFTWARE UPGRADES	\$10,265.06	\$6,940.00	\$3,355.67		\$20,560.73		100.00%
MUNICIPAL BLDG TOWN HALL CNTRL AIR			\$20,000.00			\$20,000.00	0.00%
GRANTS MANAGEMENT	\$25,349.72				\$9,093.15	\$16,256.57	35.87%
SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS		\$12,420.00	\$-4,227.50			\$8,192.50	0.00%
MUNICIPAL BLDG ARTICLES TOTAL	\$35,614.78	\$19,360.00	\$19,128.17		\$29,653.88	\$44,449.07	40.01%
RESERVE FUND		\$30,000.00	\$-27,692.95			\$2,307.05	0.00%
RESERVE FUND TOTAL		\$30,000.00	\$-27,692.95			\$2,307.05	0.00%
PUBLIC SAFETY INSPECTIONS		\$11,500.00	\$-530.00		\$10,179.24	\$790.76	92.79%
FY12 RADIOS			\$380.00		\$380.00		100.00%
PUBLIC SAFETY TOTAL		\$11,500.00	\$-150.00		\$10,559.24	\$790.76	93.03%

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>ENCUM.</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
POLICE DEPT SALARIES		\$219,600.00			\$213,065.81	\$6,534.19	97.02%
POLICE DEPT EXPENSES	\$475.00	\$17,270.00			\$17,296.65	\$448.35	97.47%
POLICE SERVER		\$5,000.00			\$3,348.19	\$1,651.81	66.96%
POLICE DEPT TOTAL	\$475.00	\$241,870.00			\$233,710.65	\$8,634.35	96.43%
EMERG MANAGEMENT EXPENSES	\$29.69	\$1,000.00			\$929.31	\$100.38	90.25%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TOTAL	\$29.69	\$1,000.00			\$929.31	\$100.38	90.25%
CONSTABLE EXPENSES		\$300.00				\$300.00	0.00%
CONSTABLE EXPENSES TOTAL		\$300.00				\$300.00	0.00%
FIRE DEPARTMENT SALARIES		\$3,772.00			\$3,772.00		100.00%
FIREFIGHTER STIPENDS	\$300.00	\$8,000.00			\$8,300.00		100.00%
FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPENSES	\$300.00	\$27,000.00			\$25,457.27	\$1,842.73	93.25%
FIRE DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$600.00	\$38,772.00			\$37,529.27	\$1,842.73	95.31%
DRY HYDRANT PARTS	\$7,000.00					\$7,000.00	0.00%
FY12 FIRE TRUCK	\$225,560.00				\$223,753.00	\$1,807.00	99.19%
FIRE DEPARTMENT ARTICLES TOTAL	\$232,560.00				\$223,753.00	\$8,807.00	96.21%
E911 COMMUNICATIONS		\$9,946.00			\$9,945.77	\$0.23	99.99%
E911 COMMUNICATIONS TOTAL		\$9,946.00			\$9,945.77	\$0.23	99.99%
BUILDING DEPARTMENT SALARIES	\$412.30	\$47,271.00	\$547.56		\$48,230.86		100.00%
BUILDING DEPARTMENT EXPENSES		\$5,875.00	\$427.50		\$6,181.61	\$120.89	98.08%
BUILDING DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$412.30	\$53,146.00	\$975.06		\$54,412.47	\$120.89	99.77%
ANIMAL CONTROL SALARIES		\$7,400.00			\$7,3371.00	\$29.00	99.60%
ANIMAL CONTROL EXPENSES		\$2,500.00			\$2,387.57	\$112.43	95.50%
ANIMAL CONTROL TOTAL		\$9,900.00			\$9,758.57	\$141.43	98.57%
HABOR MASTER EXPENSES		\$1,390.00			\$1,390.00		100.00%
HARBOR MASTER TOTAL		\$1,390.00			\$1,390.00		100.00%
DEMOLITION FUND	\$1,200.00	\$6,000.00	\$1,850.00		\$9,050.00		100.00%
DEMOLITION TOTAL	\$1,200.00	\$6,000.00	\$1,850.00		\$9,050.00		100.00%
SCHOOL OPERATING BUDGET		\$1,984,071.00			\$1,984,071.00		100.00%
SCHOOL CAPITAL BUDGET		\$6,461.00			\$6,461.00		100.00%
VOCATIONAL TUITION		\$190,000.00	\$-3,557.06		\$187,147.56	\$295.38	99.84%
VOCATIONAL TRANSPORTATION	\$6,245.00	\$77,000.00	\$11,007.94		\$93,854.35	\$398.59	99.57%
EDUCATION TOTAL	\$6,245.00	\$2,257,532.00	\$7,450.88		\$2,270,533.91	\$693.97	99.96%
MOTH EXPENSES		\$100.00	\$-5.60			\$94.40	0.00%
MOTH ACCOUNT TOTAL		\$100.00	\$-5.60			\$94.40	0.00%

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>ENCUM.</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
TREE ACCOUNT EXPENSES		\$5,000.00	\$5.60		\$5,005.60		100.00%
TREE ACCOUNT TOTAL		\$5,000.00	\$5.60		\$5,005.60		100.00 %
FORESTRY		\$300.00				\$300.00	0.00%
FORESTRY TOTAL		\$300.00				\$300.00	0.00%
HIGHWAY DEPT SALARIES		\$184,938.00	\$-5,000.00		\$161,087.87	\$18,850.13	89.52%
HIGHWAY VACATIONS		\$36,876.00	\$-2,500.00		\$34,371.55	\$4.45	99.98%
OVERTIME		\$12,387.00	\$-5,000.00		\$3,846.57	\$3,540.43	52.07%
GENERAL MAINTENANCE		\$68,364.00	\$765.56		\$67,606.75	\$1,522.81	97.79%
MACHINERY ACCOUNT	\$500.00	\$40,000.00	\$67,557.90		\$74,676.87	\$33,381.03	69.10%
RECON OF GRAVEL ROAD		\$50,000.00	\$-5,000.00		\$35,438.31	\$9,561.69	78.75%
FUEL ACCOUNT		\$33,848.00	\$10,991.86		\$35,068.66	\$9,771.20	78.20%
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$500.00	\$426,413.00	\$61,815.32		\$412,096.58	\$76,631.74	84.32%
FY13 DUMP TRUCK		\$150,000.00			\$150,000.00		100.00%
HIGHWAY RADIO UPGRADE		\$8,054.00			\$8,054.00		100.00%
HIGHWAY ARTICLES TOTAL		\$158,054.00			\$158,054.00		100.00%
WINTER ROAD OVERTIME		\$29,294.00	\$15,487.48		\$44,781.48		100.00%
WINTER ROADS SALARIES		\$91,214.00			\$96,112.25	\$-4,898.25	105.37%
WINTER ROADS FUELS		\$50,772.00			\$90,684.32	\$-39,912.32	178.61%
WINTER ROADS		\$66,750.00	\$28,712.44		\$95,462.44		100.00%
WINTER ROADS TOTAL		\$238,030.00	\$44,199.92		\$327,040.49	\$-44,810.57	115.87%
STREET LIGHTING		\$6,400.00	\$270.10		\$6,670.10		100.00%
STREET LIGHTS TOTAL		\$6,400.00	\$270.10		\$6,670.10		100.00%
TRANSFER STATION SALARIES		\$22,307.00	\$330.47		\$22,637.47		100.00%
TRANSFER STATION EXPENSES	\$300.00	\$70,317.00	\$-2,873.10		\$67,719.26	\$24.64	99.96%
TRANSFER STATION TOTAL	\$300.00	\$92,624.00	\$-2,542.63		\$90,356.73	\$24.64	99.97%
BECKET CENTER CEMETERY		\$3,500.00			\$2,770.70	\$729.30	79.16%
NORTH BECKET CEMETERY		\$6,000.00			\$6,000.00		100.00%
WEST BECKET CEMETERY		\$1,200.00			\$1,200.00		100.00%
CEMETERY TOTAL		\$10,700.00			\$9,970.70	\$729.30	93.18%
BOARD OF HEALTH SALARIES		\$8,000.00			\$7,931.79	\$68.21	99.14%
BOARD OF HEALTH EXPENSES		\$7,000.00			\$2,944.24	\$4,055.76	42.06%
SO BERK SOLID WASTE		\$5,960.00			\$5,959.65	\$0.35	99.99%
BOARD OF HEALTH TOTAL		\$20,960.00			\$16,835.68	\$4,124.32	80.32%
INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS		\$300.00			\$300.00		100.00%
INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS TOTAL		\$300.00			\$300.00		100.00%

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>ENCUM.</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
LEE VISITNG NURSE		\$4,962.00			\$4,961.25	\$0.75	99.98%
VISITING NURSE TOTAL		\$4,962.00			\$4,961.25	\$0.75	99.98%
COUNCIL ON AGING EXPENSES		\$5,000.00			\$5,000.00	\$1,500.00	100.00%
OUTREACH PROGRAMS		\$1,500.00					0.00%
COUNCIL ON AGING TOTAL		\$6,500.00			\$5,000.00	\$1,500.00	76.92%
VETERANS AGENT SALARIES		\$1,900.00			\$1,900.00		100.00%
VETERANS BENEFITS		\$32,000.00	\$-5,000.00		\$9,284.72	\$17,715.28	34.38%
VETERAN'S AGENT EXPENSE		\$100.00				\$100.00	0.00%
VETERANS TOTAL		\$34,000.00	\$-5,000.00		\$11,184.72	\$17,815.28	38.56%
MENTAL HEALTH CENTER EXPENSES		\$550.00			\$550.00		100.00%
MENTAL HEALTH TOTAL		\$550.00			\$550.00		100.00%
ARTS CENTER EXPENSES		\$1,800.00			\$1,800.00		100.00%
ARTS CENTER TOTAL		\$1,800.00			\$1,800.00		100.00%
COMMUNITY RECREATION		\$750.00				\$750.00	0.00%
COMMUNITY RECREATION TOTAL		\$750.00				\$750.00	0.00%
WOMEN'S AUX CHILDREN'S PARTY		\$500.00			\$500.00		100.00%
WOMEN'S AUXILIARY TOTAL		\$500.00			\$500.00		100.00%
LIBRARY EXPENSES		\$42,000.00			\$42,000.00		100.00%
LIBRARY TOTAL		\$42,000.00			\$42,000.00		100.00%
RECREATION COMM EXPENSES		\$10,000.00			\$8,912.22	\$1,087.78	89.12%
RECREATION TOTAL		\$10,000.00			\$8,912.22	\$1,087.78	89.12%
WEED TREATMENT CENTER POND		\$1,500.00			\$1,500.00		100.00%
CENTER POND TOTAL		\$1,500.00			\$1,500.00		100.00%
PARKS COMM EXPENSES	\$2,432.95	\$8,000.00	\$63.73		\$10,437.47	\$59.21	99.43%
PARKS COMM TOTAL	\$2,432.95	\$8,000.00	\$63.73		\$10,437.47	\$59.21	99.43%
HISTORICAL COMM EXPENSES		\$700.00			\$635.05	\$64.95	90.72%
HISTORICAL COMM TOTAL		\$700.00			\$635.05	\$64.95	90.72%
MEMORIAL/VETERAN'S DAY EXPENSES		\$550.00			\$524.87	\$25.13	95.43%
MEMORIAL/VETERAN'S DAY TOTAL		\$550.00			\$524.87	\$25.13	95.43%
BECKET WASHINGTON SCHOOL		\$112,374.00			\$112,374.00		100.00%
NESSACUS SCHOOL DEBT		\$13,764.00			\$13,764.00		100.00%
INTEREST ON SHORT TERM DEBT		\$1,500.00			\$10.85	\$1,489.15	0.72%
YOKUM POND BRIDGE							100.00%

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>ENCUM.</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
AMBULANCE AND TRUCK BODIES		\$92,051.00			\$92,050.47	\$0.53	99.99%
FIRE PUMPER DEBT		\$109,285.00			\$109,285.00		100.00%
CRANEVILLE SCHOOL DEBT		\$32.00				\$32.00	0.00%
WAHCONAH REGIONAL HS DEBT		\$6,429.00				\$6,429.00	0.00%
DEBT TOTAL		\$335,435.00			\$327,484.32	\$7,950.68	97.62%
RMV SURCHARGES					\$2,980.00	\$-2,980.00	100.00%
AIR POLLUTION					\$843.00	\$-843.00	100.00%
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY					\$11.00	\$-11.00	100.00%
SCHOOL CHOICE TUTITION					\$4,009.00	\$-4,009.00	100.00%
STRAP REPAYMENTS					\$10,500.00	\$-10,500.00	100.00%
TOTAL					\$18,343.00	\$-18,343.00	100.00%
HEALTH/LIFE INSURANCE		\$421,481.00	\$-5,000.00		\$358,396.99	\$58,084.01	86.05%
RETIREMENT		\$190,928.00			\$190,928.00		100.00%
PAYROLL TAXES		\$19,600.00			\$19,450.70	\$149.30	99.23%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS TOTAL		\$632,009.00	\$-5,000.00		\$568,775.69	\$58,233.31	90.71%
LIABILITY INSURANCE		\$66,000.00	\$13,066.00		\$75,288.65	\$3,777.35	95.22%
LIABILITY INSURANCE TOTAL		\$66,000.00	\$13,066.00		\$75,288.65	\$3,777.35	95.22%
OTHER FINANCING USES		\$103,950.00				\$103,950.00	0.00%
OTHER FINANCING USES TOTAL		\$103,950.00				\$103,950.00	0.00%
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$294,211.02	\$5,535,663.00	\$150,993.00		\$5,640,369.75	\$340,497.27	94.30%



◆ **TOWN OF BECKET BUDGETED VS. ACTUAL** ◆

FY 2013

GENERAL FUND

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
PERSONAL PROPERTY REVENUE	239,251.57	239,251.57	217,980.95	21,270.62
REAL ESTATE REVENUE	4,798,526.22	4,798,526.22	4,657,223.56	141,302.66
TAX TITLE REVENUE	0.00	0.00	16,533.85	-16,533.85
TAX POSSESSION REVENUE	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00
MVE REVENUE	195,000.00	195,000.00	206,358.39	-11,358.39
DISTRICT SALARY REVENUE	0.00	0.00	18,186.32	-18,186.32
SEPTIC LIEN REVENUE	0.00	0.00	1,747.03	-1,747.03
PENALTIES AND INTEREST	108,000.00	108,000.00	73,001.06	34,998.94
IN LIEU OF TAXES	3,000.00	3,000.00	5,260.00	-2,260.00
FEES	19,000.00	19,000.00	30,985.71	-11,985.71
OTHER DEPT. REVENUE	0.00	0.00	20,256.18	-20,256.18
LIQUOR LICENSES	0.00	0.00	4,150.00	-4,150.00
LICENSES AND PERMITS	58,000.00	58,000.00	65,765.91	-7,765.91
GARBAGE AND TRASH	50,000.00	50,000.00	52,160.31	-2,160.31
CHAPTER 70	0.00	0.00	66,795.00	-66,795.00
REVENUE FROM THE STATE	0.00	0.00	194,426.00	-194,426.00
FINES AND FORFEITS	17,000.00	17,000.00	22,174.48	-5,174.48
INTEREST EARNED	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,703.49	-203.49
REVENUE TOTALS	5,489,277.79	5,489,277.79	5,657,708.24	-168,430.45

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	696,220.00	779,670.70	674,570.44	105,100.26
PUBLIC SAFETY	373,824.00	611,776.05	591,038.28	20,737.77
EDUCATION	2,257,532.00	2,271,227.88	2,270,533.91	693.97
PUBLIC WORKS	937,621.00	1,042,163.71	1,009,194.20	32,969.51
HEALTH AND WELFARE	67,272.00	62,272.00	38,831.65	23,440.35
CULTURE AND RECREATION	65,800.00	68,295.68	66,309.61	1,987.07
DEBT	335,435.00	335,435.00	327,484.32	7,950.68
STATE/COUNT ASSESSMENTS	0.00	0.00	18,343.00	-18,343.00
OTHER EXPENSES	801,959.00	810,025.00	644,064.34	165,960.66
EXPENSE TOTALS	5,535,663.00	5,980,867.02	5,640,369.75	340,497.27

FUND 01 GENERAL FUND TOTALS **-46,385.21** **-491,589.23** **17,338.49** **-508,927.72**

GRAND TOTAL **-46,385.21** **-491,589.23** **17,338.49** **-508,927.72**

◆ **TOWN OF BECKET - COMBINED BALANCE SHEET** ◆

July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP

	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Govern Grant Funds	Capital Project Funds	Ambul Fund	Trust Fund	Agency Fund	Long Term Debt Group	Memo Only
<u>ASSETS</u>									
Cash	746,479.06	366,558.92	111,294.02	105,602.45	62,634.05	539,218.95	3,633.14	0.00	1,724,215.69
Property Taxes	281,953.45	1,752.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	283,705.76
Allowance for Abate & Exempt	273,248.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-273,248.67
Tax Liens	1,099,605.33	776.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,100,381.52
Motor Vehicle Excise	29,247.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,247.53
User Charges/Liens	1,752.97	3,354.70	0.00	0.00	188,038.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	193,145.97
Amts Prov for Pay of Bonds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	364,400.00	364,400.00
TOTAL ASSETS	1,885,789.67	372,442.12	111,294.02	105,602.45	250,672.35	539,218.95	3,633.14	364,400.00	3,421,847.80
<u>LIABILITIES</u>									
Other Liabilities	4,714.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,714.47
Def Rev Prop Tax	8,704.78	1,752.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,457.09
Def Rev Tax Liens	1,099,605.33	776.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,100,381.52
Def Rev MV Excise	29,247.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,247.53
Borrowing Authorized and Unissued	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-267,247.35	-267,247.35
Def Rev User Charges/Liens	1,752.97	3,354.70	0.00	0.00	188,038.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	193,145.97
Borrowing Authorized	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	267,247.35	267,247.35
Bonds Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	364,400.00	364,400.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,144,025.08	5,883.20	0.00	0.00	188,038.30	0.00	0.00	364,400.00	1,702,346.58
<u>FUND BALANCES</u>									
Reserved for Encumbrances	131,699.61	62,075.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	193,774.61
Reserved for Expenditures	8,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,251.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	67,451.00
Reserved for Appropriation Deficits	-44,810.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	-6,423.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	-51,234.07
Designated	0.00	35,860.00	0.00	0.00	9,806.55	507,136.99	0.00	0.00	552,803.54
Undesignated	646,675.55	268,623.92	111,294.02	105,602.45	0.00	32,081.96	3,633.14	0.00	956,706.14
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	741,764.59	366,558.92	111,294.02	105,602.45	62,634.05	539,218.95	3,633.14	0.00	1,719,501.22
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	1,885,789.67	372,442.12	111,294.02	105,602.45	250,672.35	539,218.95	3,633.14	364,400.00	3,421,847.80



◆ **WAGES PAID IN CALENDAR YEAR 2013** ◆

Board of Selectmen

Elovirta, William H.	\$ 1,749.96
Hilton, Angela I.	1,124.96
Karlberg, Mark L.	625.00
Pryor, Jeanne W.	1,749.96

Town Administrator

Gibson, Edward J.	\$ 36,812.38
Kellogg, Joseph A.	17,673.75
Kleman, Craig	1,183.87

Board of Assessors

Walter, Geraldine L.	\$ 25,767.61
Will, Elizabeth A.	42,946.05
Zagorski, David W.	48,506.50

Treasurer

Bleau, Christine D.	\$ 37,949.25
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Tax Collector

Hayn, Kathleen	\$ 54,188.30
Bilodeau, Kenneth	37,796.80

Town Secretary

Weiler, Nina M.	\$ 42,366.18
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Town Clerk/Elections

Roberts, George E.	\$ 27,617.86
Babcock, Meredyth	245.00
Blake, Alvin V.	267.50
Bonney, Eva J.	192.50
Clemons, Patricia	562.50
Francis, Charles I.	190.00
Garman, Charles A.	192.50
Kay-Grace, Julia	80.00
Krawet, Ann L.	85.00
LaBelle, Gale L.	292.50
McEwen, Priscilla J.	192.50
Moylan, Joan	250.00
Trivers, Aylmer R.	75.00
VanNess, Elizabeth P.	382.50

Police Department

Elovirta, Madelaine	\$ 661.20
Hilton, Steven A.	18,850.31
Hunt, Michael	15,620.00
McDonough, Kristopher G.	57,477.64
Miller, Nicole M.	18,237.31

Miller, Tyler S.	11,466.59
Portieri, Marc J.	49,182.99
Sawyer, Michael F.	3,058.51
Virginia, Matthew	46,992.23

Conservation Commission

Vsetecka, Kathleen	\$ 6,115.25
Martin, Martie C.	37.50

Fire Chief

Tarjick, Raymond M. Jr.	Chief Stipend & Fees \$ 6,987.00
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Ambulance Department

Aronow, Adam G.	\$ 120.00
Bulshey, Erica L.	7,792.62
Cardillo, Ernest J.	1,990.69
Carr, Jennifer S.	7,701.58
Cawthron, Danny R.	503.51
Crosby, Theodore R.	2,441.74
Davidson, Erik R.	8,486.44
Ferrin, Raymond E.	4,855.00
Garofoli, Vincent J.	13,369.00
Giarolo, Jessica	1,248.78
Hart, Hillary T.	18,347.61
Jones, Tara A.	9,869.52
Kibbe, Frances J.	6,258.91
Kupernik, James R.	51,611.07
Litourneau, George L.	15,569.01
Mechare, Joseph W.	48,545.10
Miller, Nicole L.	4,837.05
Murphy, Kevin	1,765.88
O'Connell, Kevin F.	3,117.63
Rockfeller, Scott	329.98
Scott, Joshua R.	324.46
Sheerin, Celine E.	6,531.78
Sorrentino, Victoria L.	17,889.83
Stanton, Diana L.	7,003.50
Stone, Caleb M.	4,596.22
Sullivan, Jessie E.	17,316.00
Sullivan, Timothy L.	1,463.70
Vivier, Edward V.	16,182.19

Building Inspector

Danko, Gary	\$ 1,156.40
Girard, William E.	47,399.05

Public Safety Inspections

LaPier, James	\$ 4,105.00
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◆ **WAGES PAID IN CALENDAR YEAR 2013** ◆

~ Continued ~

Levernoch, Mark A.	1,630.00	Recreation Program & Lifeguards	
Middleton, Brian	720.00	Baker, Matthew	\$ 4,034.25
Spring, Dana	1,845.00	Keator, Alex	2,919.00
		Pease, Jamie	1,586.00
Highway Department			
Cooper, Robert R.	\$ 52,845.00	Office Help	
Fuller, George J.	61,206.46	Swindlehurst, Madeleine	\$ 893.00
Goodermote, Albert R.	52,991.39		
Waite, Jeffrey	53,882.07	Accountant	
		McClellan, Margaret	\$ 11,803.45
Highway Department/Transfer Station			
White, Mark D.	\$ 46,802.79	Vocational School Bus Driver	
		Graham, Ian	\$ 15,552.91
Highway Department/Building and Grounds Technician		Sharp, Keith	1,956.90
Shorey, David O.	\$ 47,825.41		
		Harbor Master	
Highway Superintendent		Rosenthal, Steven	\$ 595.07
Bouchard, Christopher	\$ 41,819.90		
		Fire Department Stipend	
Board of Health		Atwell, James R.	\$ 550.00
Burgwardt, Laurel L.	\$ 6,015.52	Casella, Ronald	550.00
Conner, Virginia	1,062.55	Elovirta, Justin R.	550.00
		Elovirta, Madelaine	550.00
Animal Control Officer		Elovirta, William H.	550.00
Goodermote, Albert	\$ 7,158.73	Giarolo, Adam H.	550.00
		Giarolo, Jessica	550.00
Animal Inspector		Goebel, Gene R.	550.00
Elovirta, Madelaine	\$ 300.00	Hanford, Mark A.	550.00
		Healey, Robert	550.00
Veterans' Agent		Johnson, Robert L.	550.00
Mann, Lloyd D.	\$ 1,919.02	Massini, Kristopher M.	550.00
		Mazut, Paul F.	550.00
Cemetery		Mikanicwicz, Paul A.	550.00
Cavanaugh, William F.	\$ 6,559.95	Miller, Tyler S.	550.00
Moylan, Alfred E.	2,030.95	Ozner, Michael	550.00
Smith, Michelle S.	1,300.00	Tarjick, Sydney A.	550.00
Transfer Station		Fire Station Custodian	
Burke, Joseph J.	\$ 508.10	Casella, Ronald	\$ 200.00
Hoppe, Seigfried	4,282.49		
Moylan, Alfred E.	6,486.64	Council on Aging Transportation Stipend	
		Nelson, Herbert F.	\$ 250.00
Clerk of Committees			
Hunt, Heather	\$ 15,140.19		



TOWN OF BECKET

557 Main St.
Becket, MA 01223
(413) 623-8934 ext. 10

Appointment Application

TO: Board of Selectmen:

Please accept this application for ☐ **1. Appointment** or ☐ **2. Reappointment** to:

(Committee/Board/Commission)

Name: _____

Residential Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Tel. No.: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Current employment: _____

1. If you are requesting Appointment, please complete the following questions:

- Have you ever attended a meeting of the committee/board/commission?

- Why are you interested in this committee/board/commission?

- What experience, skills or insight would you bring to the committee/board/commission?

- Are you prepared to commit to the meeting schedule of the committee/board/commission?

- What would you hope to accomplish on the committee/board/commission?

2. If you are requesting Re-appointment, please complete the following questions:

- What has been your level of attendance at committee/board/commission meetings?

- What have you brought to the committee/board/commission in terms of experience, skills, ideas, insight?

- How do you feel you have helped the committee/board/commission in its goal(s)/mission?

- Why do you want to continue serving on the committee/board/commission?

Signature

Date

NOTES