



Town of Becket

Massachusetts

2016 Annual Town Report

of the
Town Officials

The Front Cover

Thank you to Jeanne Pryor for sharing her photograph of Silver Shield Lake, Sherwood Greens.

IN MEMORIAM

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

ROBERT L. PODOLSKI
Planning Board
Becket-Washington Athenaeum Board of Library Trustees
June 6, 2016



WILLIAM M. PUHALSKI
Harbor Master
Board of Health
March 26, 2016



HARRY C. ROFF, JR.
Historical Commission
May 16 2016

♦ **THANK YOU TO ELIZABETH “LIZ” WILL WHO HAS RETIRED** ♦



Assessor's Office – Elizabeth “Liz” Will

Elizabeth “Liz” Will joined the Assessor’s Office at the old Town Hall from 1985 to 1987. She returned to her position in the Assessor’s Office from July 1, 1998 until she decided to retire on October 21, 2016. She gained a wealth of knowledge of Becket History and saw numerous changes such as the demolition of several historic homes, and some never to be replaced iconic structures including the dam next to the Elementary School in North Becket Village, the Silk Mill dam, the Sherwood Forest Castle, and the Summit House/Deer’s Inn. We are fortunate to have Liz continue serving the town on the Board of Assessors. The Annual Town Report is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge Elizabeth Will and say, “Thank you” for her many years of dedicated service to the Town.



Town of Becket, Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Town Officials

♦ ***2016*** ♦



William H. Elovirta

Selectman

Jeanne W. Pryor

Selectman

Nicole D. Ledoux

Selectman

Edward J. Gibson

Town Administrator

For the year ending December 31, 2016

◆ *Town Officers* ◆

Elected Officials

Board of Health	Term Expiring
Laurel Burgwardt	2018
Erving D. Krawet	2017
Gale LaBelle, Chair	2019
Howard Lerner (resigned Jan. 16)	2016
Charlie Kaniecki, Special Health Agent appointed by the Board of Selectmen	2017

Board of Selectmen	
Nicole D. Ledoux, Clerk	2019
Jeanne W. Pryor, Vice Chair	2017
William H. Elovirta, Chair	2018

Cemetery Commissioners	
William Cavanaugh, North Becket Cemetery	2019
Dean Williams, Center Cemetery	2017
Michelle Smith, West Becket Cemetery	2018

Constables	
Marc Portieri	2018
Michael Sawyer	2018

Finance Committee	
Ronald DeFoe	2019
Dan Parnell, Chair	2019
Mark Karlberg, Clerk	2017
Ann Spadafora	2018
Maria Wallington, Vice Chair	2018

Planning Board	
Charles Andrews	2019
Gale LaBelle, Vice Chair	2017
Ann Krawet, Clerk	2018
Colleen O'Connor (resigned Jan. 17, 2017)	2021
Martin Schlanger (resigned Apr. 13)	2019
Robert Ronzio, Chair	2020
Howard Lerner, Associate Member*	2016
James Levy, Associate Member*	2017
*appointed by the Board of Selectmen	

Moderator	
Bruce Garlow	2017
Ethan Klepetar, Deputy Moderator appointed by the Moderator	2017

School Committee	
Barbara Craft-Reiss	2018
John Les	2020
Sheila Cyr (resigned May 2016)	2018

Town Clerk	
George Roberts	2017

Board of Selectmen Appointments

Agricultural Commission	
Kristopher Massini	2017
Neil Toomey	2017
Vacancy	

Arts Lottery Council	
Mary Manning Cohen	2019
Linda Bacon	2019
Luz Bravo-Gleicher	2019
Barbara Craft-Reiss	2019
Roberta Goldman, Chair (resigned Sept. 13)	2016
Tommie Hutto-Blake	2016
Ann Krawet	2019
Sally Soluri	2019
Barbara Wacholder, Treasurer	2019
Tracy Wilson	2019
Yana DeLuca	2018
Ruth Glazerman, Secretary	2018
Michelle Raymer	2018
Catherine Savini	2018

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission	
appointed by the Planning Board	
Robert Ronzio, Delegate	2017
Gale LaBelle, Alternate Delegate*	2017
*appointed by the Board of Selectmen	

Berkshire Public Health Alliance	
appointed by the Board of Health	
Gale Labelle, Voting Member	
Laurel Burgwardt, Alternate Representative	

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board	
William H. Elovirta, Designee	2017

◆ *Town Officers* ◆

Board of Assessors

Elizabeth Will	2019
Geraldine Walter	2018
Vacancy	
Elizabeth Will retired from the Assessor's Office on 10/21/16 and remains on the Board of Assessors.	

Marie Grull	2019
Joan Moylan, Director	2019
Herbert Nelson	2017
Marc Portieri	2018
William Robinson	2019
Betty Shepard	2019

Board of Survey

William Cavanaugh
Beth VanNess

Dog Hearings Officer

George Roberts	2017
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Bylaw Review Committee

Mark Karlberg, Clerk	2019
Jeanne Pryor, Chair	2017
Ann Krawet, Vice-Chair	2018
Town Clerk, Ex-Officio, non-voting member	
Moderator, Ex-Officio, non-voting member	

Election Workers

Meredyth Babcock (D)	2017
Alvin Blake (U)	2017
Eva Bonney (D)	2017
Candace Calgahan (U)	2017
Patricia Clemons (D)	2017
Charles Francis (D)	2017
Charles Garman (U)	2017
Julia Kay Grace (D)	2017
Katherine Hoak (U)	2017
Ann Krawet (D)	2017
Gale LaBelle (R)	2017
Stephen LaBelle, Sr. (R)	2017
Priscilla McEwen (U)	2017
Adrienne Metcalf (U)	2017
Joan Moylan (D)	2017
Ruth Rosenthal (U)	2017
Jerome Schwartzbach (U)	2017
Beth VanNess (D)	2017
Barbara Winters (D)	2017
Martin Winters (D)	2017
Michael Womack (U)	2017

Chief Procurement Officer

Edward Gibson	2017
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Community Preservation Committee

Neil Toomey, At Large member, Chair	2019
Rita Furlong, Parks & Recreation Designee	2019
Jan Elovirta, At Large member	2017
Cindy Delpapa, Conservation Com. Designee	2018
Gale Kusek, Historical Com. Designee	2017
Robert Ronzio, Planning Board Designee	2018
Vacancy, At Large member	

Conservation Commission

Barbara Brand	2019
Cindy Delpapa	2019
Karen Karlberg	2019
Alison Dixon, Chairperson	2017
Rebecca Perry	2017
Richard Pryor, Vice-Chairperson	2018
Vacancy	

Energy Committee

Alvin Blake	2019
Robert Gross, Vice-Chair	2019
Catherine DeFoe	2017
Katherine Hoak, Secretary	2018
Garth Klimchuk, Chair	2018
Ex-Officio Members: Christopher Bouchard, Edward Gibson, William Girard, Dan Parnell	

Conservation Commission Agent

Mallory Larcom, Agent	2017
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Harbor Master

Steve Rosenthal	2017
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Historical Commission

Aaron Beatty	2016
Jennifer Beatty	2016
Rita Furlong	2019

Council on Aging

Paula Bergeron	2019
Eva Bonney	2018
Franklin Daigle	2016
Lorraine Dean	2017
Phyllis Fitzgerald	2016
Celine Godbout	2019

◆ *Town Officers* ◆

Katherine Hoak	2017	Town Administrator	
Sandra Jarvis, Chair	2018	Edward Gibson	2019
Gail Kusek	2018		
Vacancy		Treasurer	
		Christine Bleau	2019
Zoning Enforcement Officer		Kenneth Bilodeau, Assistant Treasurer	2017
William Girard	2018	The Assistant Treasurer is appointed by the Treasurer with Selectmen's approval	
Jacobs Ladder Trail Advisory Committee		Westfield River Wild & Scenic Advisory Committee	
William Robinson	2017	Mercedes Gallagher	2017
WiredWest		Karen Karlberg, Alternate	2017
Jeremy Dunn, Delegate	2018		
Robert Gross, Alternate Delegate	2017	Zoning Board of Appeals	
Municipal Light Plant Manager		Karen Karlberg, Chair	2019
Edward Gibson	2017	Jeff Wilkinson	2019
		Joy Lennartz	2017
Parks & Recreation Committee		George Roberts, Clerk	2017
Tina LeVasseur, Beach Coordinator	2019	Victoria Bleier	2018
Madelaine Elovirta, Clerk	2017	Associate Member Vacancy	
Rita Furlong, Chair	2017	Alvin Blake, Associate Member*	2017
2 Vacancies		*appointed by the Board of Selectmen	
Public Relations Liaison/Officer		<u>Town Administrator's Appointments</u>	
William H. Elovirta		Accountant	Term Expiring
Records Access Officers (term effective 1/1/2017 per Chapter 121 of the Acts of 2016) Town Clerk_(for Town Clerk Records) Town Secretary (for other than Town Clerk Records)		Margaret McClellan	2017
Registrar of Voters		Ambulance Director	
Michelle Smith (D)	2017	James Kupernik	2017
Colleen Cox (D)	2018		
Robin Greenspan (R)	2019	Animal Control Officer	
Town Clerk, George Roberts (U)		Albert Goodermote	2017
Southern Berkshire Solid Waste District Representative		Animal Inspector	
Mark White, Becket Representative	2017	Madelaine Elovirta	2017
Tax Collector		Inspector of Buildings/Trench Inspector	
Kenneth Bilodeau	2017	William Girard	2018
Nina Weiler, Assistant Collector	2017	Gary Danko, Asst. Building Inspector	2017
David Shorey, Deputy Collector	2017		
The Assistant and Deputy Collectors are appointed by the Tax Collector with the Selectmen's approval.		Emergency Management Director	
		Timothy Sullivan	2017
		Fire Chief/Fire Warden	
		Mark Hanford	2017
		Highway Superintendent/Pest Control/Tree Warden	
		Christopher Bouchard	2017

◆ *Town Officers and Town Employees* ◆

Plumbing/Gas Inspector

Mark Levernoch 2017
Brian Middleton, Assistant Plumbing/Gas Inspector 2017

Police Department

Kristopher McDonough, Chief 2017
Marc Portieri, Sergeant (resigned Nov 24) 2017
Travis Derby (resigned July 31) 2017
Cameron Forest 2017
Adam Gonska (resigned Jan. 30) 2016
Chad Heath 2017
Michael Hunt 2017
Nicole Miller 2017
Tyler Miller (resigned Feb. 1) 2016
Kenneth Pettibone 2017
Michael Sawyer 2017
Matt Virginia 2017

Veterans' Agent

Doug Mann 2017

Veterans' Grave Officer

William Mulholland 2017

Wiring Inspector

Dana Spring 2017
Jim LaPier, Assistant Wiring Inspector 2017

Town Employees

Ambulance Department

Joseph Mechare
Vincent Garofoli

Building and Grounds Technician

David Shorey

Clerk of Committees & Highway Dept.

Heather Hunt (resigned Nov 25)

Highway Department

Robert Cooper
Albert Goodermote
Nathan Morawiec
Donald Murray
Jeffery Waite

Town Secretary

Beverly Gilbert

Transfer Station

Siegfried Hoppe
Dean Williams
Mark White

Volunteer Fire Department

Mark Hanford, Chief
Paul Mikaniewicz, Deputy Chief
Madelaine Elovirta, Asst. Chief
Kristopher Massini, Captain
Robert Healey, Sr., Lieutenant
James Atwell
Aurele Bergeron
Richard Beringer
Jan Elovirta
Justin Elovirta
William Elovirta
David Furlong, Jr.
Vincent Garofoli, EMT
Jessica Giarolo
Gene Gobel
Robert Healey, Jr.
Christopher Isner
Robert Johnson
Kyle Kelson
Paul Mazut
Travis Miller
Tyler Miller
Michael Ozner

Probationary Firefighters:

Cameron VanBuren
Carly Falone
Kacey Hatch

Jr. Firefighters:

Jordan Miller
Dutch Davis

Town of Becket, Massachusetts
Annual Report
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◆ 2016 ◆

Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Table of Contents

Agricultural Commission	15
Ambulance Department	5
Animal Control Officer	61
Becket Arts Center of the Hilltowns	21
Becket Athenaeum	26
Becket Cultural Council	24
Becket Land Trust	6
Becket Scholarship Foundation	55
Board of Assessors	14
Board of Health	16
Board of Selectmen	2
Building Inspector	13
Cemetery Commissioners	55
Community Preservation Commission & Act	52
Conservation Commission	19
Council on Aging	62
Energy Committee	23
Finance Committee	28
Financial Report	65
Fire Department	7
Harbor Master	25
Highway Department	20
Historical Commission	59
Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway, Inc.	57
Mullen House Education Center	22
Parks & Recreation Committee	18
Planning Board	11
Police Department	8
Porchlight Visiting Nurse Association	17
Tax Collector	63
Town Administrator	1
Town Clerk	29
Bylaw Review Committee	54
Town Election (May 21, 2016)	33
Town Meeting (May 14, 2016)	39
Town of Becket – <i>Budgeted vs. Actual</i>	74
Town of Becket Combined Expenses Report	78
Town Officers	ii
Transfer Station	56
Veterans' Agent	25
Wages Paid in Calender Year 2016	79
Westfield River Wild and Scenic Advisory Committee	58
Zoning Board of Appeals	61

****Town of Becket Appointment Application*** – At end of report

◆ ***IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR USE (updated 3-27-16)*** ◆

Governor

Charlie Baker
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
TEL: 202-224-4543
www.warren.senate.gov

Edward J. Markey
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
TEL: 202-224-2742
www.markey.senate.gov

Congressman

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

State Senator

Adam G. Hinds
100 North Street, Suite 410
Pittsfield, MA 01201
TEL: 413-344-4561, 413-768-2373
adam.hinds@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	1,882 (as of 12/31/2016)
Registered Voters	1,451 (as of 11/8/2016)
Form of Government	Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator Open Town Meeting
Tax Rate	\$10.46 Fiscal Year 2016
Public Schools	Central Berkshire Regional School District
Police	Full-Time Chief, Three Full-Time Police Officers, and Five Part-Time Officers Non-Emergency Telephone: 623-6010
Fire	Fire Chief Non-Emergency Telephone: 1-413-627-0397 Burning Permits 1-413-627-0397 (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** ◆

All Emergencies, Call 911

Local Public Safety (non-emergency)

FIRE DEPARTMENT	1-413-627-0397
AMBULANCE	623-5027
POLICE	623-6010
STATE POLICE	243-0600

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 623-8988

Becket Town Offices 623-8934

<u>Department</u>	<u>Extension for 623-8934</u>
Selectmen's Office/Secretary	#10
Town Clerk	#11
Treasurer	#12
Town Administrator	#13
Building Inspector	#14
Tax Collector	#15 & #16
Assessors	#17 & #19
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 would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of Becket along with all the staff of the Town and the members of the Boards and Committees for their open, courteous and professional working relationship. Everyone has helped make these three years as Town Administrator pass by very quickly.

2016 saw a number of changes in positions here in Becket. Elizabeth Will retired from the Assessor's Department. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Liz for her eighteen years of service to the Town of Becket and wish her congratulations and the best of luck in her retirement. She will still be serving as a member on the Board of Assessors. Sgt. Marc Portieri left the Police Department after twenty-one years to take another position; Police Chief in West Stockbridge during the year. Heather Hunt also left from her position as Clerk of Committees and Administrative Assistant to the Highway Department to take a position with the Town of Dalton. It has been my pleasure working with all three of these individuals.

Having the Building and Grounds Technician has been a great asset to me and to the town in keeping up and planning repairs and identifying maintenance needs at town owned buildings and facilities. During 2016, Mr. Shorey has been able to spruce up the town facilities including, with the help of the Highway Department, installing gravel pads under the bleachers at the baseball field, and constructing the pad to serve as the foundation for the new shed which was installed at Town Hall. He has helped me oversee the roof replacement and ADA improvement projects at Town Hall along with the

foundation repairs at Fire Station #1. David has also done multiple repairs to improve both the Fire Stations, the Ambulance Garage and the Highway Garage and he painted the concrete foundations of the light pole stanchions at the town ballfield.

The Bonny Rigg Hill Road culvert replacement construction began in December. This project will be paid through a grant which Chris Bouchard, Highway Superintendent, secured (almost \$400,000.00) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and funds we receive from our Massachusetts State Chapter 90 Aid. This improvement or upgrade was mandated by the Army Corps of Engineers after the 2011 Hurricane Sandy. The last portion to complete this project (final paving and permanent guardrails) will be done during the spring of 2017.

It has been an exciting and busy year for me to participate in the completion of some larger projects such as the Town Hall Roof and ADA improvement projects. I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee for the confidence and faith they have bestowed upon me. I would also like to thank Beverly Gilbert, Town Secretary, for being so helpful and a valuable source of information.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Gibson
Town Administrator



◆ *REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN* ◆

The Board of Selectmen faced another busy year with many issues facing the town and many projects being completed and others in the works. The Board could not do their work without the excellent department heads and employees that the town has. Thank you.

At our first meeting of 2016 the Board was approached by representatives from the Becket Athenaeum, Becket-Washington PTO, Becket Fire Association, Federated Church, Becket Arts Center and Washington Cultural Council. They were organizing the Becket/Washington Community Partnership “BWCP” to plan the annual Town Fair at the request of the Federated Church that wished to step back a little. The Board supported the effort and the Becket Washington Village Fair took place on July 9th with a busy daytime event capped by the Becket Fire Association sponsoring a dance in the evening at the Fire Department pavilion.

On February 1st, as a result of an audit report recommending that there should be no cash transactions and a previous vote of the Board of Selectmen, the Transfer Station went cashless. Although there were a few complaints originally, the new policy has worked well. Transfer Station bag stickers are available at Town Hall and all stores in town.

Selectman Elovirta represented the Board at a meeting in Great Barrington set up by Rep. Pignatelli to discuss shared services among towns. One suggestion brought up by many towns was the sharing of ambulance services. A second meeting that was to take place has not yet been scheduled. It was noted at the meeting that many towns do share services now including mutual aid of Fire, Ambulance, Police and Highway equipment.

In March, the Selectmen voted to designate Smith Vocational & Agricultural High School in Northampton as the preferred vocational high school for Becket students.

As always, during budget season (January through April), the Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, and Finance Committee diligently work to prepare the operating and capital expense budgets to present at the Annual Town Meeting in May. The Town Administrator compiles requests, investigates the projected needs against budget limitations and submits the proposed budgets to the Finance Committee and the Selectmen for their input. Before the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator finalize the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, the Finance Committee and Selectmen meet jointly to formulate the Annual Town Meeting Warrant recommendations.

In April the Board adopted a Code of Conduct Policy. This policy was distributed to all town employees, officials and volunteers including committee and board members. The policy

states in summary:

- Show respect for yourself, others and building facilities including public and personal property.
- Avoid causing disturbances or disruptions.
- Use common courtesy when interacting with others by following the general rule that you should treat people the way you would like other people to treat you.
- Do not engage in any lewd or offensive behavior.
- Any form of violence is prohibited.
- Using tobacco products, drinking alcohol or being under the influence of illegal substances is prohibited in Town facilities.

Also in April the Selectmen approved the Board of Health’s request that Charlie Kaniecki be appointed as Special Health Agent. Charlie has brought a wealth of knowledge to the board and professionally resolved several tough problems that have come before the Board.

The Warrant Article (endorsed by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen) to allow the Board of Selectmen to negotiate to acquire the property and residence at 21 Maple Street was approved at the Annual Town Meeting. After negotiations the Town acquired title to the property in late December.

In May Nicole Ledoux was elected to the Selectboard to replace Angela Hilton, who did not seek re-election. The Board reorganized at their first meeting after the election and elected William Elovirta as Chairman, Jeanne Pryor as Vice-Chairman and Nicole Ledoux as Clerk.

In June the Board entered into negotiations with the Town Administrator, Edward Gibson, for a new employment contract to replace his contract ending on June 30th. On June 22nd the Board signed a new contract with Edward Gibson, expiring on June 30, 2019.

On June 29th Lorraine Wechter was presented the Boston Post Cane by the Board of Selectmen. The cane is presented to the oldest living person in town or to the oldest living person that will accept it. The previous recipient was Margaret “Peg” Lynch Ronning who had passed away. The Boston Post cane was originated by the owner of the Boston Post newspaper who gave canes to many towns in New England with the understanding that they would be passed in perpetuity to the oldest living person in the town.

In July, in order to discourage visitor abuse (primarily teens) of the Quarry property, the Selectmen voted to amend the Street Rules & Regulations in order to place “No Parking” signs on both sides of Quarry Road from the Gould Road intersection

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

to the section 2,491 feet in a westerly direction and to place “No Parking” signs on both sides of Gould Road from the Quarry Road intersection to its 989 feet south.

Broadband update - The Selectmen voted in April to send a resolution and letter to the Governor asking for his help in lifting the pause on funding for the Last Mile Broadband project. In early May, the Baker-Polito Administration announced a major reorganization of its approach on delivery of broadband to unserved residents in Western Massachusetts. MBI moved to a more flexible approach allowing for a range of project models, support for a range of technology and operational choices as long as they meet baseline speed, affordability, and sustainability standards. In May, the Selectmen voted to appoint Ed Gibson as the Point of Contact and Jeremy Dunn as the Alternate Point of Contact for the Implementation Liaison of MBI. An ad hoc group consisting of Ed Gibson (Town Administrator), Jeanne Pryor (Board of Selectmen), Dan Parnell (Finance Committee), Jeremy Dunn and Robert Gross (WiredWest Delegates) and John Les (School Committee) has been assisting with this effort. Becket's preferred project model is for a regional network. In July Becket's initial Readiness Assessment Document was sent to MBI. Approval to move forward with last mile projects is needed from the Commonwealth's Division of Local Services (DLS) on certain aspects of the project including Project Budget and Funding Sources, Debt Authorization/Debt Exclusion Certified Vote Documentation, Financial Advisor and Bond Counsel Information, and examples of how the town will account for the on-going revenues and expenses after the network is built. MBI requires each town to complete a Readiness Assessment process before it will survey utility poles in a town to determine their suitability for carrying additional fiber optic cables. In September, following a presentation and discussion, the Selectmen voted to approve the Broadband Ad Hoc group's recommendations for the Becket Broadband Policy. The policy statement includes on which roads the town will provide fiber optic network service, any premises to be excluded, which premises will get network “Drops” (connections between the Road and the Premise) during the initial network build and who pays for the Drop, and a recommendation about underground, dry-buried utilities in private communities. The Selectmen also signed a letter (drafted by Bond Counsel and required as part of the Readiness process) to State Representative Pignatelli and Senator Downing to submit a request to the Governor to file special legislation to validate the results of the Annual Town Election held in the Town of Becket on May 16, 2016. This legislation has been passed by the House and Senate and was signed by the Governor on January 11, 2017. In December, the Selectmen voted to send a letter to members of the Becket Woods Road

Maintenance District Prudential Committee to provide an update on the status of Broadband in Becket and so that this community will be aware of options for the fiber to the premises build as it relates to Becket Woods which has underground utilities. To overcome obstacles to a regional solution for broadband, in mid-January 2017 the Selectmen signed a resolution recommended by the WiredWest Executive Committee to be sent to MBI and our state representatives. Our Broadband Ad Hoc group is working to complete the Readiness process so that pole surveys can be scheduled, evaluate MBI's RFPs for the design and engineering of a fiber network, evaluate a proposal from a local Internet Service Provider to design and engineer, procure, construct and operate a municipal internet network and to review and consider WiredWest's Regional Operations Solution. Bringing broadband to Becket continues to be a priority for our town.

Ipswich Pharmaceutical Associates of Ipswich, MA requested permission on two different occasions for the Board to give them either a letter of support or non-opposition to operate a dispensary (cultivation only) for the growing of medical marijuana. The first hearing in August was for property on Yokum Pond Rd. The opposition was overwhelming from abutters and neighbors and after a lengthy hearing the Board voted 2-1 not to support the request. A second hearing was held in December for the same proposal by IPA for property located on Main St. Other than questions as to whether the land was actually for sale little opposition was presented and the Board voted 2-1 to issue a letter of non-opposition. At this time it appears that the land was withdrawn from sale.

A new roof and handicap access, including railings and new entry doors, to the Town Hall has been mostly completed. Both will be completed in the spring after the frost is gone from the ground. Fire Station #1 received some much needed masonry repair and new insulated windows and entry doors will be installed in the spring along with a fresh coat of paint to the exterior.

The Board opened bids for a new fire/rescue mini pumper in November to replace the aging Rescue #4 in Station #1. The only bid received was more than \$30,000 above the ATM appropriation and was unanimously rejected. The Fire Department truck committee will review the specifications and put it out to bid again.

On November 21st the contractor started the replacement of the temporary culverts crossing Bonny Rigg Hill Rd. that carry Walker Brook and were installed after hurricane Irene. This was in response to a mandate from the Army Corps of Engineers for a permanent fix. With a combination of DEP

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

grant funds and Chapter 90 funds the project will be completed in the spring of 2017.

In November the Selectmen voted to authorize the Town of Becket Health Agent to work with the Attorney General's Office on their abandoned properties and receiverships program charged with helping towns to remedy the issues of residential properties that threaten public health and safety and consequently result in declining property values.

In December the Selectmen voted to send a letter to our State Senator and Representative expressing our concerns regarding Question 4 (legalization of the recreational use of Marijuana) and requesting revisions.

In response to the new Public Records Law, the Selectmen voted to appoint Beverly Gilbert as the Records Access Officer for requests other than Town Clerk specific records and to appoint the Town Clerk as Records Access Officer for Town Clerk specific records. The Selectmen will vote soon on a Street Acceptance Policy and are continuing to work on a Beach Permit Policy.

This is only a partial report of the many agenda items that come before the Board of Selectmen. Board members also attend many other meetings of town boards and travel to seminars put on by state agencies and municipal associations. All minutes of meetings of the Board of Selectmen are available on the Town website.

To ensure that Ambulance, Fire and Police Department personnel can locate your home in an emergency, we ask for your assistance in assuring that your home is in compliance with Section 17 of the Town's Betterment Bylaws: "Numerals indicating the official number for each principal building of each front entrance to such building shall be placed immediately above, on, or at the side of the main entrance of each building so that the number can be seen plainly from the street line. Whenever any building is situated more than fifty (50) feet from the street line, or is not visible from the street, the number should be placed to the right of the driveway or common entrance to such building, or upon a gate post, fence, tree, post or other appropriate place so as to be clearly discernible from the street curb line in both directions of travel."

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Town Secretary, Beverly Gilbert, for her dedication to the town. She is always a helpful and pleasant presence at the front office.

It is our pleasure to serve you, the taxpayer. Please feel free to contact the town office, the administrator or any Board member with questions. Thank you.

Becket Board of Selectmen
William H. Elovirta, *Chair*
Jeanne W. Pryor, *Vice Chair*
Nicole M. Ledoux, *Clerk*



On June 29th Lorraine Wechter was presented the
Boston Post Cane by the Board of Selectmen
(left to right: Nicole Ledoux, Jeanne Pryor, and Bill Elovirta).

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

We responded to 254 calls in 2016. The calls by town were:

Becket – 219

Otis – 18

Washington – 6

Lee – 7

Chester – 4

Effective 4/1/2017, the state is eliminating the Intermediate level for Amulances and replacing it with a higher level (Advanced). The Advanced level has more skills and medicine available to the patient. We have applied for this level. The state has also made changes in the protocols. Our entire staff has taken the training.

Respectfully submitted,

James Kupernik, ***Director***



◆ *REPORT OF THE BECKET LAND TRUST* ◆

The Becket Land Trust's mission is to conserve land in town, make it available to the community, and educate the public of the benefits of land conservation.

Our premier property, The Historic Quarry and Forest, is a 320 acre parcel on Quarry Road. We acquired it in the spring of 2000 to prevent it from being re-opened as a major industrial operation. In the past 16 years, we have created over 7 miles of hiking trails and established over 60 acres of Wildlife and Forestry Management area.

We have hosted work crews from AmeriCorps and Greenagers. Scouts have earned their Eagle badges with projects undertaken at the Quarry. We bring classes from the Becket School to learn about local history. Each year we organize hikes and trail workdays, which are free and open to all. In the center of this property is a Historic Quarry that operated between the 1860's and the 1940's. We have created a self-led Walking Tour with signage describing the historic sights. We also have an indoor museum display in the Mullen House Education Center next to the town's Athenaeum.

The Land Trust is an all-volunteer Board run organization. We depend on tax deductible donations from the community for our operating expenses, and to use for matching funds for grants received. If you would like to learn more about the Land Trust, please visit our website, www.BecketLandTrust.org. Also, like us on Facebook to receive updates about our

activities, and sign up to receive email notifications at landtrust@becketlandtrust.org.

It is only with tax deductible contributions from our residents that we can maintain the quarry and continue to provide a natural and historic setting for all. Contributions of any amount are welcome and can be made at our website, <http://becketlandtrust.org/donation.htm>. We thank you for your support and hope to see you on the trails or at the Mullen House exhibit.

During the summer season we have a Ranger on duty at the Quarry to inform our visitors about the property, enforce our rules and collect a \$10 parking fee. Members of the Trust who donate \$50 or more a year are exempt from this parking fee, and will be granted a parking pass. With this pass, you will be able to park at the quarry without charge for the 2017 season.

Becket Land Trust, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Smith
President
Becket Land Trust



◆ *REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT* ◆

In the year 2016, the Fire Department responded to the following: 5 structure fires, 19 service calls, 11 motor vehicle accidents, 6 chimney fires, 15 brush/forest fires, 6 mutual aid calls, 36 CO2/Smoke Detector calls, 27 medical calls, 6 motor vehicle fires, and 3 miscellaneous calls. The spring forest fire season was busier than usual this year. Many personnel hours were expended to fight these mostly railroad track fires.

The Becket Volunteer Fire Department would like to thank Town Secretary Beverly Gilbert, the Ambulance, Police and Highway Departments for all of their help throughout the year. Without this assistance from all of the above mentioned persons, our job would be so much more difficult.

The firefighters and officers meet every Tuesday night, with each member volunteering 156 plus hours to you the tax payer per year. To help the firefighters with their jobs, the following new equipment was purchased: new pagers, some firefighters received new turnout gear, a power washer for Station #1, a power washer for Station #2 (the Firefighters' Association purchased), and personal safety equipment for

each Firefighter (purchased with money from a matching DCR grant).

The Department of Conservation (DCR) grants were again offered to local municipalities. I am pleased to announce that we were successful in our application for a DCR grant. This grant money will be used to purchase forest fire-fighting equipment for the firefighters.

I would like to thank the firefighters for their dedication that they so freely give and to you, the taxpayers for your continued support and donations to the Firefighters' Association. Further I would like to thank my Assistant Chief Maddy Elovirta who compiles all the statistics/reports and contributes in the writing of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Hanford,
Fire Chief

Officers:

Mark Hanford, Chief
Paul Mikaniewicz, Deputy Chief
Madelaine Elovirta, Asst. Chief
Kristopher Massini, Captain
Robert Healey, Sr., Lieutenant

Firefighters:

James Atwell
Aurele Bergeron
Richard Beringer
Jan Elovirta
Justin Elovirta
William Elovirta
David Furlong, Jr.
Vincent Garofoli, EMT
Jessica Giarolo
Gene Gobel
Robert Healey, Jr.
Christopher Isner
Robert Johnson
Kyle Kelson
Jay Maronde
Paul Mazut
Travis Miller
Tyler Miller
Mike Ozner

Probationary Firefighters:

Cameron VanBuren
Carly Falone
Kacey Hatch

Jr. Firefighter:

Jordan Miller
Dutch Davis

◆ **REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT** ◆

The 2016 yearly breakdown shows the Police Department responded to 2,958 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 is placed into this database and the department can print the statistics monthly.

In addition to the activity breakdown, officers also issued citations for 81 civil motor vehicle violations, 22 criminal motor vehicle violations, and 122 written warnings, for a total of 225 citations.

Officers made 17 arrests including: 1 for domestic assault & battery, 3 for operating under the influence of alcohol, 1 for operating under the influence of drugs, 7 on a warrant, 1 for larceny from a building, 2 for possession of prescription drugs, 1 for cruelty to animals, and 1 for disorderly conduct. Additionally, individuals were summoned to Southern Berkshire District Court on 20 criminal charges.

All of the officers in the department continue to be proactive and responsive 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 November Sergeant Marc Portieri took on a new challenge in his career when he was appointed as the new Chief of Police for the Town of West Stockbridge. Sergeant Portieri served on the police force for 22 years and I wish him all the best in his new position. Officer Michael Hunt started the full-time police academy on November 7th and he is scheduled to graduate in May of 2017. Officer Hunt is doing well at the academy and the department wishes him well while training and looks forward to his graduation and return to patrol in May of 2017.

On October 1st the Becket Police Association held its first car show, "Cops & Rodders." This car show was created and headed by Officer Nicole Miller to raise money to provide a holiday party for the children of Becket and Washington. I cannot begin to tell you the amount of work Officer Miller undertook to make this event a success. I would first like to thank the Town of Washington for letting the association use the Washington Town Park. It is estimated that throughout the day roughly 200 people attended the car show to view the 35 show

cars that had appeared. If not for the weather, which was not the greatest, individuals from the car clubs told us we would have had up to 100 show cars there that day. I would also like to thank my entire department for volunteering their time that day. Officers spent most of their time parking cars, selling raffle tickets, and maintaining the safety of spectators and of course the show cars. At the end of the day the Becket Police Association was able to raise \$2,536.00 for the children's Holiday Party.

In December the Becket Police Association held its first annual Christmas party for the children of Washington and Becket. The YMCA Camp was kind enough to offer their dining hall for use and provide lunch and snacks for the children. Santa Claus arrived in the police cruiser and gave approximately 90 presents to the children. Many who attended the function kept telling me what a great event it was and what a great job we did. Once again I would like to thank Officer Nicole Miller and all the officers of the department who volunteered their time to make this event successful.

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 may be arranged.

As part of my conclusion, 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 all those in the Becket Fire Department, Becket Ambulance, Becket Highway Department, and the Becket Buildings and Grounds Technician 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 2016

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov	Dec	Total
Abandoned Vehicles											1	3	4
Abuse				2		1				2			5
Alarm	15	12	14	9	18	9	16	9	9	10	15	12	148
Ambulance/Medical	15	6	18	11	14	10	22	16	16	12	8	10	158
Animal	3	6	2	8	5	9	17	10	10	3	4	4	81
Assault								1					1
Assault & Battery							1						1
Assist other Department	8	4	2	2	4	8	2	4	8	2	1	5	50
Attempted Burglary				1						1			2
Attempt to locate						2						1	3
Attempted Suicide													
Attempted Theft													
ATV Complaint			1						1				2
Bad Checks	1												1
BOLO	7	7	6	7	11	7	7	8	1	12	11	7	91
Breaking & Entering	1		2		3	8	2	3	2	3	1		25
Burglary		1											1
Call Return	23	15	24	17	19	19	14	11	11	14	25	25	217
Criminal Mischief													
Car Off Roadway	1	1		1						5	3	8	19
Calls for Service	6	5	5	5	5	4	10	4	3	2	2	2	53
Check													
Child Custody			1		3	1	1	2	3		1		12
Civil		3		1	2	4	2	4	2	1	2	1	22
Court	7	3	1	1	3	1	3	4	2	5	2	5	37
Credit Card Fraud													
Desturction of Property								1					1
Disorderly Conduct													
DOA Dead on Arrival													
Detail	6	3	27	22	20	13	17	24	17	21	16	20	206
Disturbance	2	1	1	3		6	3	4	1	4	3	3	31
Drugs													
Disabled Motor Vehicle	5	4	2	2	2	5	2	7	3	6	7	2	47
Escort										1		1	2
Explosives													
Firearms	5	7		2	1	2			1		2		20
Fire	8	7	2	4	2	2	2	2	1		2		32
Follow Up Invest	1	4	3	3	4	3	12	8	6	9	4	5	62
Found Property	2		10	3	1			1	2	1	2	1	23
209A Order Service									1	2	1		4
Fraud				2				1		1			4
Gun Shots	1	1		1	2	1	3	3	6	1	1	1	21
Harassment			3	2		2		1			1		9
House Watch/Check	8	4	7	6	3		2	3	1	1	2	4	41
Indecent Exposure													
Illegal Burn												1	1
Illegal Dumping					1		1	1					3
Information Request	19	31	26	19	19	21	28	27	32	27	24	17	290
Juvenile Calls												1	
Larceny Under 250			1		1		4	1	4	1			12
Larceny Over 250	1			1		2	1	2		1		1	9
Littering					1						1		2
Lock Out	2		1	1	3		2					2	11
Lost	1			1			1	4			1		8
Mail Complaint													
Mental Health Sec 12	3	2			1		1		1	2	3		13

Becket Police Department Calls 2016

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov	Dec	Total
Missing Persons							1	1				1	3
Motor Vehicle Accident	2	7		3	2	7	6	2	6	5	7	8	55
Motor Vehicle Accident (OUI)						1							1
Motor Vehicle Violation	4	1		1			2	2	2	1	1	2	16
Nuisance	13		1	1		1		2	2				20
Odor							1						1
Open Burn													
Operating under the Influence (oui)	1							1				1	3
Paper Work	15	5	12	9	6	4	7	9	5	9	3	6	90
Parade													
Permits LTC, FID, Vendor	4	2	10	7	5	2	5	6	9	6	6	5	67
Parking Complaint					1	2	2	6	1			5	17
Patrol	21	15	24	19	29	95	116	62	44	44	21	24	514
Phone 911 Hang Up	4		1		4	1	2			4	4	2	22
Possible Scam			1										1
Property Damage		1	1	1		1	2			2		1	9
Property Return	2	3	1	5			1	2	2		1		17
Protect from abuse													
Prowler Complaint													
Rape													
Radar	3	2	4	4	4		2	3	2	2	2	6	34
Reckless Driving	1	3			1	1	1			2	2	3	14
Records Request	5	6	1		1		1	3	4	2	3	5	31
Refer to other Dept.									2	1			3
Ride Along													
Road Complaints	3	6	4	10	4	7	5	8	10	5	13	6	81
Runaway													
Scam Complaints			1	1	1	1	1					1	6
Sensitive Call R	1	1			1		1			1	1		6
Sex Offender Registry			1	1			1		1		1	2	7
Snow Mobile Complaint													
Speeding Complaints				2	1	1	1	1		1	1		8
Stolen Motor Vehicle													
Stolen Property													
Suicide													
Summons Service	9	2	8	4			8	6	4	2			43
Suspicious Activity	5	3	2	5	4	5	5	3	3	6	2	6	49
Suspicious Persons	1	1			1	4			1		2		10
Suspicious Vehicle	3	1	3	4	5	9	4	4	7	4	3	4	51
Transport							1			1			2
Trespass			1	1		3	3					2	10
Tow	1												1
Theft						1	1						2
Unattended death													
Unsecure Property		1			1			1			2		5
Underage Drinking						1							1
Unwanted Party					1		3						4
Vehicle Stop										1			1
Vehicles Towed													
Warrant		1	1				3	3			1	3	12
Weather Advisory													
Welfare Checks	5	1	3	4	1	3	5	4	2	4	4		36
Wires Down	1	2	1	6	4	3	1	2	5	2	1	1	29
Total Calls Monthly 2016	242	191	240	225	224	295	268	297	256	257	227	236	2958
Total Criminal Charges 2016	3		1	1		1		2	5	3	2	2	20
Total Arrests 2016	2		1	1		2	2	5		1	2	1	17

◆ *REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD* ◆

The Planning Board consists of five elected members with five-year terms and one associate member who is appointed annually by the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. 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-needed basis.

First, the Planning Board would like to acknowledge Mr. Charles F. Andrews and Ms. Colleen O'Connor for their election to the Board in May of 2016. Mr. Andrews has served the Town of Becket over his life in many different capacities as an elected and appointed public official. His experience, insight and knowledge have certainly been welcome. Ms. O'Connor has been deeply involved in town affairs since she settled into town to be near the Becket-Washington School. Although she has not previously served as an elected official, her participation and involvement has been unparalleled. It is not uncommon to find her in regular attendance at Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, Conservation Commission and other board meetings where she provided ideas from a different and often unique perspective.

Second, I personally would like to recognize Mr. Marty Schlanger, who served on the Planning Board for many, many years before his premature departure when he relocated to a town in eastern Massachusetts. As I said not long ago about Marty, it is rare to have such an exceptional individual serve his community with the level of dedication he has. Marty was an individual who possessed the knowledge, life experience and a sense of fairness one only hopes a public servant has when dealing with complex zoning rules and the idiosyncrasies of each application. Marty also served as the board's clerk, a position that requires additional time and energy. Marty will be sorely missed by all and we wish him and his family well.

Beth VanNess, the clerk Pro Tem, relocated to another town in the Berkshires. Dr. Howard G. Lerner, the board's Associate Member completed his term of office. Both individuals need to be recognized for their many years on the Board and service to the community. The Board welcomed James Levy as the newly appointed Associate Member. The Associate Member attends all board meetings and in the absence of a regular member assumes the duties of the absent individual as needed.

The remaining members of the board are Ms. Gale LaBelle, the Vice-Chair, and Ms. Ann Krawet, the Clerk. Mr. Ronzio was also unanimously elected to serve as the board's Representative to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and Becket's Community Preservation Committee.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize Ms. Heather Hunt,

the Board's Administrative Assistant, who was offered and accepted a position in Dalton. Ms. Hunt has been the mainstay of the Board for what seems like forever. She is most certainly a multi-talented individual who effortlessly managed the daily activities of not only the Planning Board but also the Board of Health, the Zoning Board of Appeals and other departments. Ms. Hunt was the first person an applicant would encounter when either seeking information or submitting an application. Her knowledge of the zoning bylaws was consummate, and she made the process seem easy for those unfamiliar with the morass of governmental bureaucracy. The Board lamented her leaving but wished her the best in her future endeavors. Heather will be deeply missed.

The Planning Board is responsible for the review of land divisions, either via the approval of a subdivision or, where sufficient frontage exists, through the submission of an Approve Not Required (ANR) plan under the Subdivision Control Law statute. The Board also undertakes long-range planning activities including the development of proposed amendments to the Zoning By-laws and other land-use regulations.

In 2016, the Becket Planning Board convened at twelve meetings.

Several ANR plans were received and endorsed by the board for filing at the Registry of Deeds, as these applications did not constitute a subdivision within the meaning of the Subdivision Control Law. One ANR enabled the applicants to redraw an existing boundary line by swapping equivalent parcels of property, which did not impact the frontage or acreage requirements.

Special Permit Applications:

Several special permit applications were presented for review and approved. As in the past a few application proposals were informally discussed but never submitted.

- One special permit was approved contingent upon approval from the Board of Health and the Conservation Commission. The approval enabled the applicant to enlarge a non-conforming structure, as it was determined that the change did not negatively impact the character of the neighborhood.
- A second special permit approval enabled the applicant to create a real lot and construct a common driveway, which served the newly created rear lot property thereby eliminating a second curb cut.
- A third special permit approval enabled the applicant for the

◆ **REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD** ◆

~ Continued ~

Becket General Store to relocate and open the business on a new site along Route 8. The board determined that the special permit would have a positive impact for the town, serve the social, economic and community needs while preserving the characteristics of the neighborhood. Additionally, the applicant also addressed safety, traffic, and environmental impact satisfactorily.

Additional Actions:

The Board issued a Form F, Certificate of Performance, for property located at 1210 Main Street now that the developer had satisfactorily completed all work in accordance with his definitive subdivision plan. This action released the surety deposit (performance bond) that was given to the town back to the applicant.

The Board reviewed and considered Ipswich Pharmaceuticals Associates Inc.'s (IPA) request to operate a non-profit Registered Marijuana Dispensary, specifically a medical marijuana cultivation facility to be located at a site on Main Street (Route 8). The Board determined the site met the by right exempt agricultural use requirements and therefore was suitable for a non-profit medical marijuana cultivation facility only and that retail sale of the products grown or produced at said facility would not be allowed. It also concluded that Ipswich Pharmaceutical's request for small-scale manufacturing would require the IPA to submit an application for a special permit and therefore that operation could not begin until that special permit was approved. Lastly, the Board deduced that the IPA's request for the temporary use of a prohibited accessory structure (modified Connex container or steel storage unit) would also require a special permit and could not be located thereupon as a free standing structure until a special permit under section 4.3.3 was granted. Based on its findings and with unanimous approval, the Board strongly recommended that the Becket Board of Selectmen accept and ratify a Community Host Agreement with Ipswich Pharmaceuticals.

The Board discussed the status of recreational marijuana given the approval of the town's overwhelming approval of the state referendum question regarding recreational marijuana in the fall of 2016.

An inquiry was made to the Board regarding a firearms sales business that would operate as a distributorship but not have a sales office. No action was taken since a special permit was not

forthcoming and further discussion on this topic was suspended after the prospective applicant never met with the board in open session.

The Planning Board also addressed and approved zoning exemptions for the Sherwood Forest Lake District to reconstruct Lancelot Dam. This exemption was statutorily granted because the District as a governmental entity performs essential government functions within the community.

Based on inquiries, the board reviewed the existing Zoning By-Laws regarding driveways. It determined that this matter was solely addressed as it pertained to common driveways. The Board determined that it should develop a single set of standards for all driveways because this impacts public safety. The Board initially drafted a proposed by-law amendment and prepared for a public hearing on the matter so that it could present the amendment at the 2017 Annual Town Meeting.

Informal discussions were held regarding the zoning implication and the impact Air B&Bs might have on neighborhoods within the community.

The board established procedural rules regarding attendance at informational events and meetings based on the relevance of the topics being presented or discussed.

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 Office of the Building Inspector is an active department. I conduct a great deal of town business through the telephone. I often receive inquiries from property owners who have always dreamed about building on their empty lot or who had purchased their property as an investment and are interested in selling it. Many potential buyers of property contact or visit my office.

The main question that I receive is "Is my lot buildable?" Most lots are buildable because they meet the current zoning requirements of two acres. However, smaller lots often require a title search reflecting that the property was not owned by an abutter after the bylaws change in 1971 requiring that owners with 2 or more abutting lots must sell or combine them in order to maintain "vested rights" as a buildable lot. After providing copies of the deeds, a perc test as well as showing a viable water source are required. Another frequently asked question is, "Can I put a camper on the property or a shed until I am ready to build?" The answer to that is no. Our bylaws do not allow for that use, nor do they allow camping on undeveloped lots. There are many abandoned camping trailers and sheds on undeveloped property and the town has voted to allocate money to remove campers and sheds, and other abandoned structures. In order to take action, please submit a written complaint about structures that are

abandoned.

In last year's annual report I said that by the middle of 2016 we will be working with the 9th Edition of the Mass. State Building Code. Yet after many years of research and discussion the Board of Building Regulation and Standards with the assistance of numerous industry volunteers have not been able to get the state to complete the review and promulgation of the new code even though it is based on the International Code Council 2012 Building Code Series. The latest word is that by July 2017 contractors will need to put the new books on the list of expenses for the near future because they need to keep a copy handy when working. Homeowners need to make sure that contractors also have a Home Improvement Contractor Registration and be licensed by the state prior to signing a contract.

Remember, all applications for building permits listed below are filed online and can be found at the town website. As the homeowner you will get an email that asks you to sign off on the permit so you don't have to come in or meet with the contractor again just to sign the permit. Let me know if you have any questions about this process and I will be more than happy to help you out.

Type of Activity	# of Activity	Est. Value	Cost of Permit
Certificate of Inspection	63		\$ 3,200.00
Certificate of Occupancy	8		\$ 200.00
Commercial Building Permit	34	\$ 5,453,573.00	\$ 11,656.00
Residential Building Permit	142	\$ 3,892,588.00	\$ 22,832.00
Sheet Metal Permit	4	\$ 117,700.00	\$ 1,205.00
Sign Permit	3	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 360.00
Solid Fuel Appliance Permit	20	\$ 35,274.00	\$ 928.00
Tent Permit	12	\$ 15,135.00	\$ 800.00
Trench Permit	0		\$.00
Building Permit Total	286	\$ 9,517,820.00	\$ 41,181.00
Electrical Permit	98		\$ 8,550.00
Gas Permit	61		\$ 3,800.00
Plumbing Permit	60		\$ 4,600.00

I would like to thank the Assistant Building Inspector Gary Danko, Plumbing Inspectors Mark Levernoch and Brian Middleton and Wiring Inspectors Dana Spring and James LaPier for their dedicated service. Also many thanks to Heather Hunt who resigned from the town to work closer to home. I will miss all the zoning help that she has given me over the years.

Respectfully Submitted,

William E. Girard
Building Inspector / Zoning Enforcement Officer

◆ **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS** ◆

Staffing: October 2016 brought the retirement of the Board's full-time Assessor, Elizabeth Will. Until a replacement can be found, the Assessor's Office is staffed on a part-time basis. The Town continues to contract Regional Resource Group to assist with assessment functions such as creating bill files and statistical analysis required for setting the tax rate. Jeff Reynolds is our local contact person and he works in the Assessor's office on Wednesdays. Please call ahead to be sure the office is open.

Liz Will will continue serving on the Board of Assessors.

Valuation: The Department of Revenue's Bureau of Local Assessment mandated a full field review of all properties in Town. A Field Review consists of an exterior-only review of the physical characteristics of a dwelling. Approximately 50% of the review was completed in Spring 2016, with the remainder to be completed in Spring of 2017.

Tax Relief: In Massachusetts, there are several exemptions available to residents. Becket offers the following: Elderly 70+,

Veterans, and Blind (with Massachusetts certificate) taxpayers. The Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-off Abatement program is available for persons 60+. Contact our office to see if you are eligible.

Tax Bill Reminders: Motor Vehicle Excise bills are generated by the Registry of Motor Vehicles in Boston, so it is important to contact the Registry with any address changes: online at www.mass.gov/rmv or by phone outside Massachusetts and area codes 339/617/781/857 at 857-368-8000, other area codes at 800-858-3926.

Please remember to submit changes of your mailing address to the Assessor's Office so that tax bills will be forwarded appropriately.

Helpful websites:

www.massrmv.com and www.masslandrecords.com.

A number of our forms and maps can be found at www.townofbecket.org

Total Appropriations and Charges\$ 5,251,221.84

Total Receipts\$ 1,381,085.00

Total Amount to be Raised\$6,632,306.84

CLASS	LEVY %	VALUATION	PARCEL COUNT
Residential	90.4353	454,017,130	3,718
Commercial	3.7864	19,065,514	73
Industrial	0.2132	1,117,000	3
Personal Property	5.5751	27,829,212	966
Totals	100%	502,028,856	4,760

Tax Rate\$10.46

The Board of Assessors processed:

Elderly and Veteran Exemptions	37
Blind	2
Senior Work-off Abatements	4
Personal Property /Real Estate Abatements	18
Motor Vehicle Abatements	78

Respectfully submitted,

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 at 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 operations 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 enterprises.

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 an appropriate budget is for the BAC. Existing budgets range from \$0-\$1000.

Unlike other town committees, AG Coms do not operate under any regulatory authority from the Commonwealth. While town conservation committees implement the state

wetlands protection act and planning boards enforce the local zoning codes, AG Coms are created at town meeting to represent farming interests in the town, but do not have any legal mandate or enforcement authority.

In Massachusetts AG Coms 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 nonpoint 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* ◆

On behalf of the Board of Health, I would like to express our appreciation to all residents of Becket and surrounding towns for entrusting us with the complex set of responsibilities involving the enforcement of state sanitary, environmental, housing, and health codes. We report another busy year.

I wish to acknowledge the following individuals:

- Dr. Howard Lerner who resigned effective January 6, 2016. His assistance with several septic issues is most appreciated.
- Ms. Heather Hunt, our exemplary secretary, with whom I have worked throughout many years, left the town's employ in December 2016

Both are missed.

This year, the Becket Board of Health welcomed our new Health Agent from the Berkshire Health Alliance, Charlie Kaniecki. He brings many years of experience. We also welcomed David Krawet, our newly elected Board of Health official.

The Becket Board of Health received notification that it has been awarded the Food and Drug Administration Grant for 2017-2018. The Board partook and completed a voluntary self-assessment program. Training for Board of Health officials will occur in the Spring of 2017. Computer programming and on-line payments will be a part of the orientation and training process.

Porchlight has been a great resource for teaching and implementing programs for the Council of Aging and the citizens of Becket. Each month presentations on health related subjects are advertised on the Town of Becket website www.townofbecket.org These programs occur in the Town

Hall before Council of Aging luncheons. Once again, the Massachusetts Order of Life Sustaining Treatment, HOLST, was presented and will be repeated in May or June during 2017. In December, Porchlight VNA scheduled a massage therapist for relaxation techniques. We have an on-going exercise program to assist with balance and mobility.

Approximately 50 Title V inspections were conducted. Laurel Burgwardt worked diligently to witness these inspections. 39 new septic systems, including systems for 4 new residences, were installed in the Town of Becket.

All camps, food establishments, smaller kitchens, and farms passed their inspections. We anticipate that several new regulations will be forthcoming in 2017.

We referred our sole beaver nuisance complaint to Mike Callahan, a consultant from Beaver Solutions.

Water quality testing was performed at all public beaches: the water quality appeared to have improved in 2016. In 2017 we will update our Well Bylaws.

Our meeting schedule has changed:

September through May, 1st Wednesday of the month: 7 p.m.
June through August, 1st Wednesday of the month: 10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gale LaBelle
Laurel Burgwardt
David Krawet



◆ *REPORT OF THE PORCHLIGHT VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION* ◆

The following is a report of the services performed in the Town of Becket during the 2015 calendar year 1/01/2016 – 12/31/2016:

HOME VISITS	1st Quarter 1/1/16 - 3/31/16	2nd Quarter 4/1/16 - 6/30/16	3rd Quarter 7/1/16 - 9/30/16	4th Quarter 10/1/16 - 12/31/16	Total
Skilled Nursing	151	137	29	72	389
Physical Therapy	23	42	24	61	150
Occupational Therapy	17	26	13	33	89
Speech Therapy	0	0	0	0	0
Medical Social Work	3	2	1	4	10
Maternal Child Health	1	0	0	0	1
Nutrition Services	0	0	0	0	0
Home Health Aide	0	3	10	0	13
Totals	195	210	77	170	652
NON-BILLABLE	0	0	0	0	0
Nurse-Practitioner Visits	1	0	0	0	1

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE	1st Quarter 1/1/16 - 3/31/16	2nd Quarter 4/1/16 - 6/30/16	3rd Quarter 7/1/16 - 9/30/16	4th Quarter 10/1/16 - 12/31/16	Total
Confirmed	1	1	2	0	4
Probable	0	0	1	0	1
Suspected	1	1	5	6	13
Revoked	0	0	0	0	0

CLINICS	# of Clinics Held / Attendance				
Flu	0	0	0	2/35	2/35
Blood Pressure	2/18	3/29	3/19	3/26	11/92
Presentations	2/18	3/29	3/19	3/26	11/92

Telehealth Monitoring	2	1	1	4	8
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Porchlight VNA/Home Care offers a full continuum of care to the residents of Berkshire, Hampden and Hampshire Counties. We service to the Vermont, Connecticut and New York borders all the way to the outskirts of Worcester. We have offices in Lee, Pittsfield and Chicopee, Massachusetts. We have agreements with all major insurance companies, Medicare, Mass Medicaid, Long Term Care Insurance companies, Veterans Administration, Elder Services and other federally funded grants. Porchlight offers community clinics including but not limited to Falls Prevention, influenza vaccinations, blood pressure and cholesterol and diabetes screenings. Porchlight Home Care has the only home visiting nurse practitioner program implemented by a home care agency in Massachusetts. Porchlight VNA is proud to be recognized by CMS as a 5 STAR agency and once again as “Home Care Elite 2015” Top 500 agencies in the nation. Porchlight Home Care is an accredited agency by the Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

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

◆ *REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE* ◆

Becket is beautiful as it is, but our town parks are improved upon every year with the gardening efforts of Maddy Elovirta and Rita Furlong. Bulbs are planted, shrubs transplanted, weeding done, and mulch and fertilizer added. We know everyone enjoys seeing the gardens, and please offer to help if you are willing.

The town tennis court on Prentice Street has temporary paddle ball lines that were added by Rita Furlong and her granddaughters and the backboard was scraped and painted by Maddy and Bill Elovirta. Hopefully, our Building and Grounds Technician, Dave Shorey, will apply permanent lines for paddleball this spring.

The North Becket Village Park was improved by redoing the 1/7 mile running/walking track for everyone to use. The White Wolf Trucking and Excavating company dug and placed fresh ground stone on it. The school children use the field and track regularly. The old picnic table will be replaced this coming spring. The fitness trail equipment is being repaired and for safety, new wood chips will be added. Signage will state that this equipment is suitable for ages twelve to adult only.

The Becket Center Park stonewall was rebuilt this summer by the local Ledoux Enterprises company. Stonewalls look so natural here in New England and we are proud to have this one repaired at last.

Porta-Potties were rented from the White Wolf Trucking and Excavating company for the Center Beach and Becket Center Park for summer programs and ball games. Lighting will be increased at that park this spring for the new playground that was approved for Community Preservation Funding at the Annual Town Meeting. Installation of the \$75,000.00 playset will occur as soon as the ground thaws.

A new ladder was attached to the floating raft at the beach and new signs describing who may use the town owned beach were installed. To enforce this mandate, we hired two teens to be beach road guards. Trae Balardini and Hunter La Brode worked Thursday – Sunday to turn away anyone without a beach or transfer station sticker. Because we will continue this practice next year, please obtain a sticker if you are eligible.

The town police patrol for stickers on days the guards are not in place.

P & R member Tina LaVasseur was responsible for

setting up the lifeguard and swimming instructor program. We were fortunate to have two Becket residents as lifeguards. Michaela DeFoe was the teaching lifeguard and Zachary “Moses” Greenspan was the weekend lifeguard. Many young folks learned to swim and our goal is for everyone to learn how to swim. This life skill is offered for free to all Becket and Washington residents.

The Summer Parks Program was overseen by P & R member Rita Furlong. Zachary “Moses” Greenspan organized the games with the able assistance of Amber Smith. Both are college students who reside in Becket. An average of twenty children attended the program. They met at the beach one day a week if the weather was suitable. Effective the Summer of 2017, we have changed the age group requirement: Children between the ages of 6 and 12 are eligible to register. Overall the two summer programs have been successful and well attended.

Because we do not have enough interest and/or sufficient number of children to produce full teams in town, children wanting to play sports including soccer, baseball, basketball, lacrosse and swim team, may participate in the Dalton Community Recreation Association program

We seek coaches to establish the below listed activities (Please contact the Parks & Recreation Committee.):

- T- T-Ball program
- Tennis lessons
- Pickle ball lessons

Finally, we have started a Hatha Yoga class at the Town Hall on Wednesdays, from 9-10 a.m. The cost is \$2 for each one-hour session. Attendance has averaged fifteen, but we have room for up to twenty people. Anyone, young or old(er) is welcome to attend.

If you have other ideas for programs please contact us.

Respectfully submitted,

Parks and Recreation Committee Members:

Rita Furlong
Madelaine Elovirta
Tina Lavasseur



◆ **REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION** ◆

The Conservation Commission is composed of volunteers who are responsible for administering and enforcing the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and educating the citizens of Becket on the importance of preserving and protecting our wetlands and waterways. Commissioners conduct site visits and hold meetings and public hearings to issue permits. The town's Conservation Agent provides expert support to the volunteer board. The Agent arranges site visits, posts legal and meeting notices, and follows up on inquiries and violations. Commissioners attend training sessions and participate in workshops organized by the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) when possible.

In 2016, regularly scheduled meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:30 PM in the Becket Town Hall. Special meetings will be held when necessary. Residents are welcome to attend and learn more about the Commission and its responsibilities. In order for public hearings to be posted in a timely fashion, applications for wetland permits are due on the third Friday of the previous

month for the next month's meeting agenda.

The Town website has a section devoted to answering frequently asked questions about the Wetlands Protection Act. Agendas and meeting minutes are posted there as well. All legal notices are posted in the Country Journal.

To contact the Commission, call the office at Town Hall at 413-623-8934 Ext 29 or send an email to conservation@townofbecket.org.

Commissioners: Alison Dixon, Chairperson; Richard Pryor, Vice-Chairperson; Shep Evans, Cindy Delpapa and Karen Karlberg. Conservation Agent: Shep Evans.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Dixon
Chairperson

Permits Issued:

Order of Conditions – 11
Determination of Applicability – 27
Certificate of Compliance – 5
Site Visits – 40
Enforcement Orders – 2
Emergency Certifications – 3

Expenses:

Salaries – \$11,000
Legal Ads – \$1,300
MACC Dues & Conferences – \$422
Office, Miscellaneous – \$385

Filing Fees Collected: \$2,027



◆ *REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT* ◆

We have had a busy year tasked with routine road maintenance including 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.

Thanks to the weather and our equipment, we were lucky mud season was short and not too severe. The multipurpose tractor's ability to smooth out the roads prior to using the grader helps the roads support the heavier weight of the grader which helps remove any excess water and ruts from the road.

In late September we awarded the construction to replace culverts on Bonny Rigg Hill Road. We received final permits in November and started construction to replace the culverts. Due to the impacts of weather (snow, rain, melting snow run-off and flooding of the site) and unanticipated soil conditions, reopening the road was delayed (until mid-February 2017). It is anticipated that the remainder of the project will be completed in the spring of 2017. I wish to thank the residents for their patience with the detour.

In late September we finished paving the last section of Wade Inn Rd. This project was funded from State Chapter 90 money (\$366,000.00 for this last phase/section of paving Wade Inn Road). To help accomplish this we replaced 11 culverts below the road, utilized the method of full-depth recycling with asphalt injection (base stabilizer), paved, and completed shoulder work on this last mile of Wade Inn Road. The entire length of Wade Inn Road has now been restored, repaved and completed.

In Late December our new Loader was delivered and we traded in the old Loader towards this purchase.

During the winter of 2016 (from October 2015 through April 2016), we experienced lighter than normal snow accumulation totaling 42.5". We measured our snowfall at 40.5" during the period from January 2016 through April 2016. However, the winter of 2017 arrived early and we had a large number of snow and freezing rain events. During the period of October 2016 through December 2016 alone we measured our snowfall at 48.25".

I would like to thank Bert, Bob, Don, Heather, Jeff, and Nate for their hard work and dedication to the Highway Department. I would also like to thank the Town Administrator, Buildings and Grounds Technician, Selectmen, and the Ambulance, Fire, and Police Departments for their support and dedication.

Residents with questions or concerns are welcome to call the Highway Department office Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 623-8988.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Bouchard
Highway Superintendent



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

The Becket Arts Center extended its season through the winter during 2016, with new programs that helped to bring the fun and fire of the arts to our more than 2,500 patrons, both children and adults.

We opened in May with our annual Becket Washington School Student Art Show. Families snapped photos of their children proudly standing before their work, which was framed and displayed in BAC's upstairs Philip Barber Gallery. Throughout the summer, the gallery buzzed with crowds enjoying paintings, ceramics, photography and sculpture by gifted Berkshire artists Pat Gilhooly, Nina Evans, Esther Budnick, Mary Anne Dais, Scott Taylor, Arthur Hillman, David Rothstein, Ellen Kaiden, Kristin O'Neill and Harold Ware. Visitors would stop to browse in BAC's delightful "Hilltown Shop" called "the hidden jewel of the Berkshires" packed with beautiful craft items from earrings to cutting boards. Every Friday morning, citizens gathered for Rima Sala's yoga class.

During 2016, we hired an architect to plan for the installation of our long-awaited chair lift. The lift will make it possible for senior citizens and the disabled to access our second floor gallery. Much necessary electrical work was done in the fall, as a result of the approval for funding we received from the Town at Becket's Annual meeting. Dana Spring of County Electrical Contractors replaced unsafe wiring in the basement.

The Marty Lasker series, named for the late Becket painter, featured diverse lectures by local personalities. Julianne Boyd of Barrington Stage spoke about the thrills and terrors of producing a theatrical season. Richard Bourdon of the Berkshire Mountain Bakery lectured on bread-making and handed out delicious samples. Dan Mead and Sally Eagle took us on a photographic tour of the Himalayas. Philip Pryjma of

the St. Francis Gallery lectured on "The Zen of Chaos and Art." A concert by the brilliant young musicians of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute inspired our audience. Funding for these programs came partly from the local Cultural Councils of Becket, Washington, Lee, Chester, Hinsdale-Peru and Otis, which are in turn supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

BAC ran two successful summertime programs for children: our day camps offered young people two weeks of adventures in art, with special scholarships available to full-time Becket/Washington residents; and BAC collaborated with Jacob's Pillow to produce the unique "Families Dance Together" program.

When the weather grew colder, BAC moved its programming to the Becket Town Hall. We hosted a popular wreath-making program. Author Susan Dworkin offered a writing workshop attended by people from as far away as Springfield. At the Becket Washington School, art teacher MaryBeth Eldridge taught afterschool crafts. These lively new programs were funded in part by the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

To the officials of the Town of Becket, to the generous foundations and hundreds of members who support the Becket Arts Center with funds, volunteer labor and unbounded energy, we extend our deepest thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Dworkin,
President



◆ *REPORT OF THE MULLEN HOUSE EDUCATION CENTER* ◆

The Mullen House stands proudly in the center of North Becket Village housing the Becket Quarry Museum, the Becket Ballou Basket Display, and five office paying tenants. The Becket Land Trust maintains and adds to the quarry display regularly and the Historical Commission adds to the Ballou Basket display. There is a waiting list of four individuals who would like to rent the office space.

Becket photographers Barbara Winters and Karen Karlberg displayed their pictures in the gallery. Their outstanding photos of nature were enjoyed by all visitors.

The five faithful renters include the Becket Land Trust, two writers, a lawyer, and a construction company office all of whom engage in volunteer work for Becket including the Broadband Initiative, the Becket Arts Center, the Becket Athenaeum, the Becket Washington School, and the Mullen House.

We added gray and pink granite pieces from the former Becket quarries to the quarry display in the shed portion of the building. Many thanks to the Becket Land Trust for allowing us to carry out these two samples of Becket's fine granite to use in the museum.

We received a grant from the Berkshire Taconic Foundation-Central Berkshire Fund to pay two docents on weekends all summer. The museum, basket display, and gallery were open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays

from one to three hours each day. Nancy Wilson and Leslea Stanton welcomed over two hundred twenty visitors during 2016.

In collaboration with the Becket Washington Brouhaha (Fair) this last July, the Mullen House created a Fairy Garden behind the building. An archway was built and installed by Hartwood owners Will and Michelle Beemer and their apprentices. The cherry trees used in construction were donated by Richard and Rita Furlong. Many thanks for these fine donations. The Fairy Garden will continue to exist in an ongoing effort to allow children to build creative abodes for Becket's woodland creatures. Each summer children will be welcome to stop by and add to or rebuild structures at the Brouhaha. Education takes many forms and the rising opportunities here at the Center help contribute to our Becket History knowledge base.

This building proves that structures can be renovated/restored and become a viable part of our town.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Furlong, *Chairman*
Board of Directors



◆ *REPORT OF THE ENERGY COMMITTEE* ◆

For 2016, the Becket Energy Committee consisted of the following members:

Name	Title	Term
Garth Klimchuk	Chair	2018
Robert Gross	Vice Chair	2016
Cathy DeFoe	Member	2017
Alvin Blake	Member	2016
Katherine Hoak	Secretary	2018
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 BEC met on or about every third Thursday of each month throughout 2016 at 9:30am. Meeting minutes and agendas were posted on the Town of Becket website.

Notable Accomplishments

- Undertook one information session in which town residents were presented with specific solar, energy efficiency and loan financing program information by both BEC members and representatives of the MA DOER private entities. Also presented specific information regarding opportunities to purchase solar energy through community solar projects being constructed in the Eversource service territory.

- With the assistance of third party consultants, completed assessment of town properties and rooftops for possible solar arrays in order to reduce the Town's energy bill and carbon footprint.
- Initiated review of the Town's involvement as an anchor participant in possible community solar projects.
- Endorsed MA Power Forward initiative and other state organizations promoting renewable energy and state renewable energy legislation.
- Initiated discussions with other towns adjacent to Becket regarding possible collaboration on community solar and energy aggregation programs.

Current Priorities

Short Term

1. Complete construction of solar array on the roof of the Town Hall.
2. Continue to explore anchor participant role in community solar array.
3. Continue to identify community solar and other renewable energy projects for the Town and Town residents.
4. Develop potential heat pump participation program for residents.
5. Organize third annual BEC Information Session to be held sometime in the summer of 2017.

Long Term

Continue to determine viability of creating Town of Becket municipal power company/microgrid to control costs, implement Town sustainability and renewable energy objectives and reduce dependency on Eversource.

Respectfully Submitted,
Energy Committee



◆ **REPORT OF THE BECKET CULTURAL COUNCIL** ◆

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

The Becket Cultural Council gives priority to projects and programs that directly benefit local organizations and local citizens of all ages. These 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 support.

BCC members for 2016 are Linda Bacon Chair, Luz Bravo Gleicher, Barbara Craft-Reiss, Mary Manning, Ruth Glazerman, Ann Krawet, Sally Soluri, Barbara Wacholder, Yana DeLuca, and Michelle Raymer. The Council welcomes inquiries for membership especially from Becket residents with children attending the Becket-Washington School.

Below are the projects that received funding from the Cultural Council during 2016:

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Award</u>
Amelia Chandler	The Colonial Theater	\$331
Amelia Chandler	The Colonial Theater	\$410
Becket-Washington School	Old Sturbridge Village	\$750
Becket-Washington School	Berkshire Museum	\$128
Becket Athenaeum, Inc.	Museum Passes	\$750
Becket-Washington PTO	Becket-Washington Village Fair	\$500
Becket Arts Center	How and Why Artists Collaborate	\$400
Becket Arts Center	Becket Town Fair	\$500
Berkshire Music School	Music Enrichment at Becket-Washington School	\$500
Stacy Parsons	Caravan Puppet Show, Folk Tales	\$250
Berkshire Pulse, Inc.	Nessacus Middle School Dance Program	\$200

Total \$4,719

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Bacon, **BCC member**



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

The Veterans' Service Officer serves the needs of the Veterans of Becket and their families. This includes temporary financial assistance, medical reimbursement, and assistance in applying for aid from other state and federal agencies.

The Town of Becket paid benefits to veterans this year totaling \$29,849.00, an increase of almost \$3,000 from last year. Of this amount, 75%, or \$22,387.00, was reimbursed by the state resulting in an actual cost to the Town of \$7,462.00.

This year the caseload of Veterans' Services once again increased. Some veterans need assistance while looking for work, and we have been fairly successful in quickly finding employment for those veterans. The greatest need continues to be for senior veterans or their widows who have very little income and are unable to work. All veterans and their families, who met the requirements, received benefits.

As in previous years, there continues to be a considerable rise in the number of requests for information concerning veteran benefits relating to medical assistance and prescriptions. This office supplied that information and provided assistance with completing the application forms. The Medical Only benefit program, which continues to be one

of the most underused programs, allows veterans to receive Medical Only benefits if their income is too high for regular benefits. This program reimburses co-pays, other medical costs, and can even reimburse the cost of Medicare Part B and some supplemental insurances. Veterans' Services does not directly pay the bills, but reimburses medical bills paid for by the veteran. Becket Veterans' Services has several veterans, and their widows, on this Medical Only program.

The Veterans' Service Officer is available by telephone or in his office on Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The office are located in the Airolldi Building, 45 Railroad Street (P.O. Box 199), Lee, MA 01238. Sometimes, the part-time hours is a hardship for some veterans or their families, and if necessary, an appointment can be made for another day and time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Mann

Becket Veterans' Service Officer (Veterans' Agent)



◆ **REPORT OF THE HARBOR MASTER** ◆

This past year was an extremely active boating season on Becket's four Great Ponds. The early spring thaw brought folks to the water unusually early. It is always great to see so many people enjoying our beautiful lakes. However, should you observe any problems on the water please contact me via Town Hall so the issue can be resolved.

The number of permitted rafts continue to grow. Please remember that raft permitting is an annual process. If you have a floating raft anchored to the bottom of the lake you are required to permit it every spring with the Town via the

Harbor Master. Permanent docks must be registered with the Commonwealth as well as the Becket Conservation Commission.

I look forward to seeing you on the water.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Rosenthal
Harbor Master

◆ *REPORT OF THE BECKET ATHENAEUM* ◆

At the Becket Athenaeum, our commitment to serving the communities of Becket and Washington remains strong. During 2016, we continued to provide outstanding library services and high-quality after-school programming as a result of appropriations received from the towns of Becket and Washington toward both operating and capital expenses, as well as the New York Community Trust, which continues to support our after-school program. The Berkshire Taconic Foundation through the Central Berkshire Fund supports our pre-school program. The Berkshire Taconic Foundation, through the Stuhlman Fund, has funded our exploration of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) with grades 4 -10. Our local LCCs (Local Cultural Council) from both Becket and Washington have also provided support for the museum passes to local attractions we provide to our patrons all year long.

Our staff is similar to last year with several additions. Cathy DeFoe is our Director. Nancy Wilson, our long-serving Librarian, continues in this role. Dawn Greene and her son Jerry serve as our Assistant Librarians and Catalogue Specialists. Katelyn Hamling is working in our grant-funded position as After-School Program Coordinator. Ellen Manley continues as an Assistant Librarian and After-School Program Tutor. Becket resident Jennifer Beatty has joined our after-school program staff as Assistant Coordinator as we begin the staff transition with Katelyn's move to a career in elementary education in the spring of 2017. Our Board of Trustees has also changed with the addition of Becket resident Katherine Hoak.

Our after-school programming continues to serve the needs of students from the local elementary, middle school, and high schools with nutritious snacks, help with homework, and access to the internet. We serve up to 23 students on a single day with the help of a mix of 14 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 would like to acknowledge the YMCA Berkshire Outdoor Center for their continued support and partnership in 2016.

We are now in the second year of the two-year grant cycle of funding for our after-school programming, which allows us to continue the essential staffing, programming, and technology elements of this innovative and growing program. We give our heartfelt thanks to the New York Community

Trust for their continued support of this program.

Our Story Craft program for the pre-school age group has been very successful. 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. Kim Sinopoli of Washington leads this effort devoting time, energy, and enthusiasm to this program. During 2016, our youngest patrons enjoyed a program presented by CJ and Amy Walton from Black Duck Farm in Becket. Raylene Spencer and associates from Crane Hill Christmas tree farm in Washington shared how they start seedlings indoors in the winter, transplant at the base of cut trees in the spring, and prune the trees all year long. Jacob's Pillow interns also performed for our youngsters. The summer session ended with a visit to the Becket Village Fire Station to learn about fire safety. Story Craft is funded by a grant from the Central Berkshire Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Foundation.

In the fall of 2015, the Athenaeum, along with the Arts Center, Becket Washington School PTO, Federated Church, Fire Department, and members of the Washington Community formed the BWCP (Becket Washington Community Partnership). This organization worked together to make the Town Fair on July 9, 2016 a community event with something for everyone! We received a grant from the Berkshire Taconic Foundation Central Berkshire Fund in December 2016 to support this event again in 2017.

We have a dynamic book club group that meets on the first Tuesday of each month. This group is open to all interested in discussing literature new and old with the hot or cold beverage of your choice. We are open to suggestions for group activities of interest to our patrons. Please let us know how we can provide better services and activities.

During 2016, the Athenaeum Director spent considerable time researching the most cost effective options to improve the energy efficiency of our eight large single pane windows. We considered storm windows, window replacement, as well as several types of insulated window treatments. We quickly abandoned window replacement as being too costly for the expected energy savings. Despite our preliminary work used for justification for the Community Preservation grant request, we abandoned storm windows because of the high maintenance requirements for cleaning, risk of condensation, and low energy efficiency gains. We considered cellular shades as a window treatment option but ultimately selected a laminated composite fabric sealed window quilt with a 3.5 R-value from Window Quilts of Brattleboro, VT. These window

REPORT OF THE BECKET ATHENAEUM

(Continued)

quilts have a moisture and light barrier and are sealed to prevent condensation. They were installed in December 2016 and have improved the comfort in the building. We will evaluate heating oil usage through this winter, but expect our usage to decrease due to the improved insulation covering the large window area.

We have plans to upgrade our exterior and interior lighting, as well as improve the reliability of our PWS (Public Water Supply) bleach delivery system in early 2017. We are also evaluating much needed maintenance to our shallow well and replacement of small windows in the kitchen, bathroom, and basement. We also plan to use Community Preservation and capital repair funds allocated by the Town of Becket in 2016 to refinish our wide plank wood floors.

In the fall of 2015, the Athenaeum conducted a survey of our patrons and community members. The results of this survey indicate that adult members of the community are interested in programs held at the Athenaeum on a variety of topics. The Athenaeum has partnered with the Becket Arts Center as grant recipients from the Central Berkshire Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Foundation for a series of eight workshops to be held at the Athenaeum evenings during the winter of 2017.

The Athenaeum also received input from patrons in 2016 concerning our public Wi-Fi service outside the building. Our public Wi-Fi service benefits the Becket Arts Center staff and Mullen House tenants as well as the general public. We have since installed a second router to specifically improve the Wi-Fi signal in our parking lot. We are also working with the Massachusetts Library Service to improve the bandwidth we can offer especially to those patrons that use Skype, Facetime, or streaming video. Increased bandwidth is currently

prohibitively expensive, despite the onsite location of the fiber service hardware.

As an independent non-profit organization, we rely on and so appreciate the many supportive groups that help us deliver the services and programs our community deserves from its library.

Our 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!

Staff

Cathy DeFoe, ***Director***

Nancy Wilson, ***Librarian***

Dawn Greene, ***Assistant Librarian***

Jerry Greene, ***Assistant Librarian***

Ellen Manley, ***Assistant Librarian***

Katelyn Hamling, ***After School Program Coordinator***

Jennifer Beatty, ***Assistant After School Coordinator***

Becket Athenaeum Board of Trustees

Purr McEwen, ***Chair***

Aaron Beatty, ***Vice-Chair***

Robert Gross, ***Treasurer***

Maria Wallington, ***Secretary***

Lee Glazerman

Jan Nelson

Elizabeth Oakes

Allison Mikaniewicz



◆ *REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE* ◆

The year 2016 saw a continued excellent working relationship between the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen for developing the fiscal year 2017 town budget with the guidance and support of the Town Administrator, Ed Gibson. The town operating budget of \$5.24 M (Million) was held at a 2.49% increase over the 2016 budget. The property tax levy was \$5.285 M which resulted in a tax rate increase from FY 2016 of \$0.08 or \$10.54/\$1000 evaluation. The tax levy represents 78.96% of our total FY 2017 appropriations and the Becket tax rate is the 24th lowest in the state out of 351 communities. The average single family residential property in Becket is assessed at \$234,185 with a related tax bill of \$2,468. Education expenses remain the largest item in the budget at 41%.

Among the highlights of the items passed at the Annual Town Meeting were the following equipment purchases: a Fire Rescue Pumper for the Fire Department, a new police cruiser, a used AWD vehicle for use by various town departments, and a Loader for the Highway Department. Building improvements were approved for Fire Station #1 and Town Hall. In addition capital improvements were supported for the Becket Arts Center and Becket Athenaeum. Lastly, the purchase of 21 Maple Street was approved which is the parcel adjacent to our town park and across from the CBRSD Becket/Washington School.

Free Cash available July 1, 2017 was certified at \$417,342. Our Financial Reserve Policy will transfer at least 50% of this to our Stabilization Fund after Annual Town Meeting (ATM) approval. The Stabilization Fund is currently at \$703 K (thousand), which represents 11% of total FY 2017 appropriations.

The Finance Committee supported the proposed Medical

Marijuana Cultivation Facility as it would provide commercial tax revenues to the town and local employment. If properly situated and developed, it would be an economic asset to Becket.

In July of 2016 the Massachusetts School Building Authority (the “MSBA”) voted to invite the Central Berkshire Regional School District into the Eligibility Period for a school building project to renovate or replace Wahconah Regional High School. The first phase of the project is the Eligibility Phase which concludes June 1, 2017. During this phase the district member towns will need to vote to fund a Feasibility Study that will recommend a long term solution for the school building. If the Feasibility Study is approved when the vote in the towns takes place in the spring of 2017, MSBA will provide a major percentage of the funding.

The Finance Committee had one incumbent and one representative, Dan Parnell and Ron DeFoe, who were elected for three-year terms at the 2016 Town Election. Daniel Parnell was selected by the committee to be the chairperson. We wish to welcome Ron to the committee. We again acknowledge the help, guidance and expertise of our Town Administrator, Ed Gibson. His presence and dedication make our work easier and enjoyable.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Parnell, ***Chair***
Maria Wallington, ***Vice Chair***
Mark Karlberg, ***Secretary***
Ron DeFoe
Ann Spadafora



◆ **REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK - 2016** ◆

Elections and Town Meetings

VOTER ATTENDANCE			
<u>Election</u>	<u>Registered Voters</u>	<u>Ballots Cast</u>	<u>Percent Voting</u>
Presidential Primary, March 1, 2016	1387	487	36%
Annual Town Caucus, April 12, 2016	1360	65	5%
Annual Town Election, May 16, 2016	1361	255	19%
State Primary Election, September 8, 2016	1386	132	10%
State Election, November 8, 2016	1451	1047	73%

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Registered Voters</u>	<u>Voters/ Non-voter</u>	<u>% of Voters Attending</u>
Annual Town Meeting, May , 2016	1362	87/9	6.38%

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY, MARCH 1, 2016

DEMOCRATIC **VOTES** 328 Ballots Cast

Presidential Preference (*Vote for one Candidate OR vote for "No Preference"*)

Blanks	1
BERNIE SANDERS	197
MARTIN O'MALLEY	3
HILLARY CLINTON	123
ROQUE "ROCKY" DE LA FUENTE	1
No Preference:	1
Write Ins:	2
TOTAL VOTES	328

State Committee Man (*Vote for One Man*)

Blanks	94
SHERWOOD GUERNSEY, II	234
Write Ins:	0
TOTAL VOTES	328

State Committee Woman (*Vote for One Woman*) 0

Blanks	86
MARY J. PALMER	240
Write Ins:	2
TOTAL VOTES	328

Town Committee (*Vote for not more than 35 OR Vote for Group*)

Blanks	8,681
TOMMIE HUTTO BLAKE	207
BRUCE A. GARLOW	239
MARIA WALLINGTON	216
MICHAEL S.LAVERY	203
BARBARA ROBERTS	229

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

ROBERT M. GRACE	205
JULIA KAY-GRACE	208
ETHAN S. KLEPETAR	205
JEANNE W. PRYOR	240
ANN LOIS KRAWET	214
W. KATHERINE HOAK	207
BARBARA SOPHIE WINTERS	210
MARTIN D. WINTERS	208

Write Ins:	
STEVEN REISS	10
BARBARA CRAFT-REISS	10
OTHER:	1

TOTAL VOTES	11,493
-------------	--------

REPUBLICAN

VOTES

157 Ballots Cast

Presidential Preference (*Vote for one Candidate OR vote for "No Preference"*)

Blanks	0
JIM GILMORE	1
DONALD J. TRUMP	82
TED CRUZ	34
GEORGE PATAKI	0
BEN CARSON	3
MIKE HUCKABEE	0
RAND PAUL	0
CARLY FIORINA	0
RICK SANTORUM	0
CHRIS CHRISTIE	0
MARCO RUBIO	22
JEB BUSH	0
JOHN KASICH	14
No Preference:	0
Write Ins:	
OTHER:	1
TOTAL VOTES	157

State Committee Man (Vote for One Man)

Blanks	24
MICHAEL F. CASE	90
MATTHEW KINNAMAN	43
Write Ins:	0
TOTAL VOTES	157

State Committee Woman (Vote for One Woman)

Blanks	51
ROBIN S. ALMGREN	101
Write Ins:	
OTHER:	5
TOTAL VOTES	157

Town Committee (Vote for not more than 10)

Blanks	1534
Write Ins:	
OTHER:	36
TOTAL VOTES	1570

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

GREEN-RAINBOW	VOTES	1 Ballot Cast
Presidential Preference <i>(Vote for one Candidate OR vote for "No Preference")</i>		
Blanks	0	
SEDINAM KINAMO CHRISTIAN MOYOWASIFZA CURRY	0	
JILL STEIN	1	
WILLIAM P. KREML	0	
KENT MESPLAY	0	
DARRYL CHERNEY	0	
NO PREFERENCE	0	
Write Ins:	0	
TOTAL VOTES	1	
State Committee Man (Vote for One Man)		
Blanks	1	
Write Ins:	0	
TOTAL VOTES	1	
State Committee Woman (Vote for One Woman)		
Blanks	1	
Write Ins:	0	
TOTAL VOTES	1	
Town Committee (Vote for not more than 10)		
Blanks	10	
Write Ins:	0	
TOTAL VOTES	10	
UNITED INDEPENDENT PARTY		
VOTES		
1 Ballot Cast		
Presidential Preference <i>(Vote for one Candidate OR vote for "No Preference")</i>		
Blanks	0	
NO PREFERENCE	0	
Write Ins:	1	
TOTAL VOTES	1	
State Committee Man (Vote for One Man)		
Blanks	1	
Write Ins:	0	
TOTAL VOTES	1	
State Committee Woman (Vote for One Woman)		
Blanks	1	
Write Ins:	0	
TOTAL VOTES	1	
Town Committee (Vote for not more than 10)		
Blanks	1	
Write Ins:	0	
TOTAL VOTES	1	
Registered voters:		
	1387	
Ballots cast:		
	487	
Percent Voting:		
	36%	

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

ANNUAL TOWN CAUCUS, APRIL 12, 2016

For Member, Board of Selectmen (3-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
Nicole Ledoux (write-in)	42	64.6%
Robert Ronzio (write-in)	6	9.2%
All Others (write-ins)	6	9.2%
Blanks	18	27.7%
Total Votes Cast	65	

For Member, Board of Health (3-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
Gale LaBelle (write-in)	4	6.2%
All Others (write-ins)	7	10.8%
Blanks	54	83.1%
Total Votes Cast	65	

For Member, Board of Health (1-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
Colleen O'Connor (write-in)	4	6.2%
All Others (write-ins)	8	12.3%
Blanks	53	81.5%
Total Votes Cast	65	

For Cemetery Commissioner (3-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
William F. Cavanaugh	48	73.8%
All Others (write-ins)	0	0.0%
Blanks	17	26.2%
Total Votes Cast	65	

For Member, Finance Committee (3-year term) Vote for Two	<u>Votes</u>	%
Daniel Parnell	44	33.8%
Ronald DeFoe	45	34.6%
All Others (write-ins)	0	0.0%
Blanks	41	31.5%
Total Votes Cast	130	

For Member, Planning Board (5-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
Colleen O'Connor (write-in)	9	13.8%
All Others (write-ins)	2	3.1%
Blanks	54	83.1%
Total Votes Cast	65	

For Member, Planning Board (3-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
Colleen O'Connor (write-in)	4	6.2%
All Others (write-ins)	3	4.6%
Blanks	58	89.2%
Total Votes Cast	65	

Registered voters:	1360
Ballots cast:	65
Percent Voting	5%

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTIONS, MAY 21, 2016

For Member, Board of Selectmen (3-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
Nicole Ledoux	202	79%
Robert T. Ronzio	52	20%
All Others (write-ins)	1	0%
Blanks	0	0%
Total Votes Cast	255	
For Member, Board of Health (3-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
Gale LaBelle	215	84%
All Others (write-ins)	8	3%
Blanks	32	13%
Total Votes Cast	255	
For Member, Board of Health (1-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
Erving D. Krawet	195	76%
All Others (write-ins)	12	5%
Blanks	48	19%
Total Votes Cast	255	
For Cemetery Commissioner (3-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
William F. Cavanaugh	211	83%
All Others (write-ins)	3	1%
Blanks	41	16%
Total Votes Cast	255	
For Member, Finance Committee (3-year term) Vote for Two	<u>Votes</u>	%
Ronald DeFoe	204	40%
Daniel Parnell (write-in)	57	11%
All Others (write-ins)	5	1%
Blanks	244	48%
Total Votes Cast	510	
For Member, Planning Board (5-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
Colleen O'Connor	149	58%
All Others (write-ins)	20	8%
Blanks	86	34%
Total Votes Cast	255	
For Member, Planning Board (3-year term) Vote for One	<u>Votes</u>	%
Charles Andrews (write-in)	7	3%
All Others (write-ins)	26	10%
Blanks	222	87%
Total Votes Cast	255	
Registered voters:	1361	
Ballots cast:	255	
Percent Voting	19%	

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

STATE PRIMARY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

DEMOCRATIC	VOTES	123 Ballots Cast
Representative in Congress <i>(Vote for One)</i>		
Blanks	15	
Richard E. Neal	108	
Write Ins:	0	
	<hr/>	
TOTAL VOTES	123	
Councilor <i>(Vote for One)</i>		
Blanks	11	
Mary E. Hurley	73	
Jeffrey S. Morneau	39	
Write Ins:		
	<hr/>	
TOTAL VOTES	123	
Senator in General Court <i>(Vote for One)</i>		
Blanks	1	
Rinaldo Del Gallo	13	
Andrea C. Harrington	36	
Adam G. Hinds	73	
Write Ins:	0	
	<hr/>	
TOTAL VOTES	123	
Representative in General Court <i>(Vote for One)</i>		
Blanks	9	
William "Smitty" Pignatelli	113	
Write Ins:	1	
	<hr/>	
TOTAL VOTES	123	
Sheriff <i>(Vote for One)</i>		
Blanks	17	
Thomas N. Bowler	105	
Write Ins:	1	
	<hr/>	
TOTAL VOTES	123	
TOTAL VOTES	0	
REPUBLICAN	VOTES	9 Ballots Cast
Representative in Congress <i>(Vote for One)</i>		
Blanks	7	
Write Ins:	2	
TOTAL VOTES	9	
Councilor <i>(Vote for One)</i>		
Blanks	7	
Write Ins:	2	
TOTAL VOTES	9	
Senator in General Court <i>(Vote for One)</i>		
Blanks	0	
Christine M. Canning	9	

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

	Write Ins:	0	
	TOTAL VOTES	9	
Representative in General Court <i>(Vote for One)</i>	Blanks	7	
	Write Ins:	2	
	TOTAL VOTES	9	
Sheriff <i>(Vote for One)</i>	Blanks	8	
	Write Ins:	1	
	TOTAL VOTES	9	
GREEN-RAINBOW	VOTES		Ballots Cast
Representative in Congress <i>(Vote for One)</i>	Blanks	0	
	Write Ins:	0	
	TOTAL VOTES	0	
Councilor <i>(Vote for One)</i>	Blanks	0	
	Write Ins:	0	
	TOTAL VOTES	0	
Senator in General Court <i>(Vote for One)</i>	Blanks	0	
	Write Ins:	0	
	TOTAL VOTES	0	
Representative in General Court <i>(Vote for One)</i>	Blanks	0	
	Lee Scott Laugenour	0	
	Write Ins:	0	
	TOTAL VOTES	0	
Sheriff <i>(Vote for One)</i>	Blanks	0	
	Write Ins:	0	
	TOTAL VOTES	0	
UNITED INDEPENDENT	VOTES		Ballots Cast
Representative in Congress <i>(Vote for One)</i>	Blanks	0	
	Write Ins:	0	
	TOTAL VOTES	0	
Councilor <i>(Vote for One)</i>	Blanks	0	
	Write Ins:	0	

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

Senator in General Court <i>(Vote for One)</i>	TOTAL VOTES	0
	Blanks	0
	Write Ins:	0
		<hr/>
Representative in General Court <i>(Vote for One)</i>	TOTAL VOTES	0
	Blanks	
	Write Ins:	0
		<hr/>
Sheriff <i>(Vote for One)</i>	TOTAL VOTES	0
	Blanks	0
	Write Ins:	0
		<hr/>
	TOTAL VOTES	0

STATE ELECTION, NOVEMBER 8, 2016

DEMOCRATIC	VOTES
Electors of President & Vice President <i>(Vote for One)</i>	
Blanks	18
Clinton and Kaine	571
Johnson and Weld	37
Stein and Baraka	25
Trump and Pence	368
McMullin and Johnson (write-in)	6
Sanders and Sanders (write-in)	12
All Others	10
TOTAL VOTES	1047
Representative in Congress <i>(Vote for One)</i>	
Blanks	121
Richard E. Neal	629
Fredrick O. Maycock	211
Thomas T. Simmons	84
All Others	2
TOTAL VOTES	1047
Councilor <i>(Vote for One)</i>	
Blanks	289
Mary E. Hurley	749
All Others	9
TOTAL VOTES	1047
Senator in General Court <i>(Vote for One)</i>	
Blanks	123
Christine M. Canning	338
Adam G. Hinds	584
All Others	2
TOTAL VOTES	1047
Representative in General Court <i>(Vote for One)</i>	
Blanks	242
William "Smitty" Pignatelli	803
All Others	2
TOTAL VOTES	1047

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

Sheriff (Vote for One)

Blanks	260
Thomas N. Bowler	781
All Others	6
TOTAL VOTES	1047

Regional School Committee (Becket) (Vote for One)

Blanks	277
John J. Les	764
All Others	6
TOTAL VOTES	1047

Regional School Committee (Dalton) (Vote for not more than Three)

Blanks	1704
Richard Farley	549
Richard Lacatell	392
Nicole Tucker	489
All Others	7
TOTAL VOTES	3141

Regional School Committee (Hinsdale) (Vote for One)

Blanks	390
Richard Peters	653
All Others	4
TOTAL VOTES	1047

Regional School Committee (Peru) (Vote for One)

Blanks	399
Bonney DiTomasso	644
Write Ins:	4
TOTAL VOTES	1047

Regional School Committee (Washington) (Vote for One)

Blanks	357
Michael Case	689
All Others	1
TOTAL VOTES	1047

Regional School Committee (Windsor) (Vote for One)

Blanks	397
Richard Wagner	647
All Others	3
TOTAL VOTES	1047

QUESTION 1 (Law Proposed by Initiative Petition)

This proposed law would allow the state Gaming Commission to issue one additional category 2 license, which would permit operation of a gaming establishment with no table games and not more than 1,250 slot machines.

Blanks	87
YES	364
NO	596
TOTAL VOTES	1047

QUESTION 2 (Law Proposed by Initiative Petition)

This proposed law would allow the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to approve up to 12 new charter schools or enrollment expansions in existing charter schools each year.

Blanks	46
Yes	367
No	634
TOTAL VOTES	1047

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

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

Voter Registration Sessions	4
Candidate Voter Lists prepared	2
Sherwood Forest Road District Voter Lists prepared	1

Census Results

Residents over age 16	1,691
All Residents	1,882

Vital Records

Vitals recorded in Becket:

Births	15
Deaths	15
Marriages	4

	Fees
Marriage Intentions filed (5)	\$125.00
Certified copies prepared:	
10 birth certificates	\$ 50.00
8 death certificates	\$ 40.00
2 marriage certificates	\$ 10.00
Burial Permits issued: (3)	\$ 0
Cemetery Deeds Recorded: (4)	\$ 4.00
Genealogy requests: (0)	\$ 0
	<hr/>
Total Vitals Fees Collected	\$219.00

Other Licenses, Permits, Recordings

<u>Issued</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Fees</u>
259	Dog Licenses (neutered & non-neutered)	\$ 1,547.00	\$ 194.25
2	Kennel licenses	\$ 121.00	\$ 1.50
17	Dog License Late Fees	\$ 110.00	\$ 110.00
0	Raffle Permits (1 renewal)	\$ 0	\$ 0
0	Physician Registration	\$ 0	\$ 0
0	Utility Pole Recording	\$ 0	\$ 0
8	Business Certificate applications:	\$ 160.00	\$ 160.00

Total Other Fees Collected \$ 465.75

Business Certificates recorded:

Contour Lines and Shaded Spaces
Becket Bakehouse
Judd Lafreniere Plumbing
Bailey Building and Remodeling
Terrell & Graham Consulting
Roots and Rust
Pine Brook Farm
Bliere Home Improvement

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 14, 2016

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the Annual Town Meeting was called on May 14, 2016, 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 7:06 p.m. by the Moderator. There were 87 registered voters present (6.38 % of 1,362 registered voters) and a total of 96 people attended the meeting. Town Officials Present: Ethan Klepetar, Deputy Moderator; Jeanne Pryor, and Bill Elovirta, Selectmen; Ann Spadafora, Maria Wallington, Dan Parnell, and Mark Karlberg; Finance Committee Members; George E. Roberts, Town Clerk; Edward Gibson, Town Administrator; Joel Bard, Esq., Town Counsel.

The Deputy Moderator opened the meeting stating the rules to be followed. He welcomed all non-voters and noted that while they could address the meeting, they could not vote. The Deputy Moderator reviewed the warrant and declared it to have been duly posted as evidenced by the attestation of the posting constable.

Dan Parnell 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 and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$127.00 to fund the following bills from previous fiscal years:

<u>Vendor/Reimbursement</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Karen Karlberg		
Con. Com. reimbursement	4/11/2015	\$12.00
Cindy Delpapa		
Con. Com. reimbursement	2/10/2015	\$115.00
Board of Selectmen: Recommends	4/5 Vote Required	
Finance Committee: Recommends		

Article 1 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken by a count of hands with there being 79 votes in favor and one vote against.

Article 1 PASSED BY 4/5 MAJORITY

ARTICLE 2: For Fiscal Year 2016, to see if the Town will

vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$15,000.00 from the FY 2016 Vocational School Transportation Account to the Ambulance Enterprise Fund; Ambulance Expenses to reduce the FY 2016 deficit.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends Majority Vote Required
Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 2 Was moved and seconded. There was a brief discussion with Town Administrator Ed Gibson explaining this Article. A vote was taken and

Article 2 PASSED

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

1.) Board of Health at the rate of \$14.56 per hour for the performance of their duties as Board of Health members that is in excess of their meeting time.

2.) Cemetery Commission at the rate of \$14.56 per hour for the performance of their duties as Cemetery Commission members in maintaining the cemeteries that is in excess of their meeting time.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends Majority Vote Required
Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 3 Was moved and seconded. There was a question from the floor as to why \$14.56 and not an even \$15.00. The Town Administrator explained that this number was a result of a two percent increase in the previous year's rate. A vote was taken and

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 expense of the Town for the 2017 Fiscal Year as set forth in the following line items:

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

TOWN OF BECKET	BUDGET	DEPARTMENT	FIN COMM	Percent
FY2017	APPROVED	REQUESTED	SELECTMEN	(INCREASE)
	FY2016	FY2017	RECOMMENDED	(DECREASE)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
1. TOWN COUNSEL	\$15,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	20.00%
2. LEGAL EXPENSE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
3. TOWN MEETING EXPENSES	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	0.00%
4. SELECTMEN'S SALARIES	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	0.00%
5. SELECTMEN'S EXPENSES	\$2,150.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	-6.98%
6. ADVERTISING	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	0.00%
7. TOWN SECRETARY	\$38,482.56	\$39,108.24	\$39,108.24	1.63%
8. TOWN ADMIN. SALARY	\$63,000.00	\$64,639.26	\$64,639.26	2.60%
9. TOWN ADMIN. EXPENSE	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	0.00%
10. FINANCE COMMITTEE	\$650.00	\$650.00	\$650.00	0.00%
11. ASSESSORS SALARIES	\$72,738.40	\$73,825.68	\$73,825.68	1.49%
12. ASSESSORS EXPENSE	\$59,735.00	\$62,090.00	\$62,090.00	3.94%
13. TOWN TREASURER SALARY	\$40,242.30	\$43,363.84	\$43,363.84	7.76%
14. TOWN TREASURER EXP.	\$5,530.00	\$5,530.00	\$5,530.00	0.00%
15. TAX COLLECTOR SALARY	\$53,448.00	\$54,308.88	\$54,308.88	1.61%
16. TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSE	\$7,575.00	\$7,580.00	\$7,580.00	0.07%
17. ASSIST. TAX COLLECTOR	\$44,498.08	\$45,205.20	\$45,205.20	1.59%
18. TOWN CLERK SALARY	\$27,150.01	\$27,516.84	\$27,516.84	1.35%
19. TOWN CLERK EXPENSE	\$3,445.00	\$2,145.00	\$2,145.00	-37.74%
20. ELECTION-REGISTRATION	\$12,047.73	\$14,274.15	\$14,274.15	18.48%
21. CONSERVATION COMM.	\$13,000.00	\$14,310.00	\$14,310.00	10.08%
22. PLANNING BOARD EXPENSE	\$6,926.63	\$7,202.65	\$7,202.65	3.98%
23. REGIONAL PLAN COM.	\$1,284.14	\$1,316.24	\$1,316.24	2.50%
24. BOARD of APPEALS	\$3,450.00	\$3,510.00	\$3,510.00	1.74%
25. RESERVE FUND	\$35,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	14.29%
GENERAL GOVERNMENT TOTAL	\$520,052.85	\$541,275.98	\$541,275.98	4.08%
HIGHWAY				
26. SUMMER LABOR	\$209,324.96	\$215,720.10	\$215,720.10	3.06%
27. TRANSFER STATION LABOR	\$27,900.16	\$28,489.76	\$28,489.76	2.11%
LABOR SUBTOTAL	\$237,225.12	\$244,209.86	\$244,209.86	2.94%
28. WINTER ROAD SALARIES	\$146,585.51	\$146,879.30	\$146,879.30	0.20%
29. Sand	\$8,000.00	\$8,200.00	\$8,200.00	2.50%
30. Stone Chips	\$13,000.00	\$13,350.00	\$13,350.00	2.69%

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

31. Salt	\$45,450.00	\$46,800.00	\$46,800.00	2.97%
32. Plow Blades	\$4,150.00	\$4,250.00	\$4,250.00	2.41%
33. Misc.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
34. Cold Patch	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	0.00%
35. Parts	\$3,100.00	\$3,150.00	\$3,150.00	1.61%
36. Sander Chains	\$4,150.00	\$4,200.00	\$4,200.00	1.20%
37. Bagged Deicer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
38. WINTER ROADS (TOTAL)	\$79,050.00	\$81,150.00	\$81,150.00	2.66%
WINTER ROADS SUBTOTAL	\$225,635.51	\$228,029.30	\$228,029.30	1.06%
39. Inspections	\$912.00	\$912.00	\$912.00	0.00%
40. Tires	\$8,600.00	\$8,800.00	\$8,800.00	2.33%
41. Oil/Lubricants	\$3,345.00	\$3,400.00	\$3,400.00	1.64%
42. Repairs/Equipment	\$19,474.00	\$31,000.00	\$31,000.00	59.19%
43. Parts/Supplies	\$26,074.00	\$18,540.00	\$18,540.00	-28.89%
44. Welding Supplies	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	0.00%
45. Radios	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
46. Tools/Safety	\$1,550.00	\$825.00	\$825.00	-46.77%
47. Purchase Vehicle Scan Equipment (Updates)	\$800.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	275.00%
48. MACHINERY ACCOUNT (TOTAL)	\$63,755.00	\$69,477.00	\$69,477.00	8.97%
49. RECONST. of GRAVEL ROADS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
50. Fuel	\$94,900.00	\$87,750.00	\$87,750.00	-7.53%
51. Operator Contract	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00	0.00%
52. Maintenance/Repair	\$2,575.00	\$2,575.00	\$2,575.00	0.00%
53. FUEL ACCOUNT (TOTAL)	\$99,325.00	\$92,175.00	\$92,175.00	-7.20%
54. Mowing	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	0.00%
55. Line Painting	\$9,930.00	\$10,180.00	\$10,180.00	2.52%
56. Gravel/Stone	\$27,000.00	\$38,500.00	\$38,500.00	42.59%
57. Hot Mix Patch	\$14,800.00	\$15,200.00	\$15,200.00	2.70%
58. Rental Equipment	\$1,600.00	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00	3.13%
59. Signs	\$3,100.00	\$3,200.00	\$3,200.00	3.23%
60. Culverts	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00	0.00%
61. Beaver Maintenance	\$2,500.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	12.00%
62. Guardrail	\$1,545.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	3.56%
63. Crack Seal	\$14,600.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	2.74%
64. Catch Basin Cleaning	\$4,500.00	\$4,600.00	\$4,600.00	2.22%
65. Sweeping	\$7,100.00	\$7,300.00	\$7,300.00	2.82%
66. Hand Tools	\$720.00	\$730.00	\$730.00	1.39%
67. Misc.	\$1,545.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	3.56%

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

68. Road Improvement (Formerly Recon Gravel)	\$51,000.00	\$51,000.00	\$51,000.00	0.00%
69. GENERAL MAINT MAT. & EQUIP. (TOTAL)	\$145,540.00	\$158,960.00	\$158,960.00	9.22%
70. Legal Ads	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	0.00%
71. Drug Testing	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	0.00%
72. License Reimbursement	\$520.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	15.38%
73. Repairs/Supplies	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00	0.00%
74. Berkshire County Purchasing Group	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	0.00%
75. Office Supplies	\$620.00	\$640.00	\$640.00	3.23%
76. Education & Training	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	0.00%
77. Meeting/Dues Expenses	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	0.00%
78. Safety Gear	\$2,500.00	\$2,550.00	\$2,550.00	2.00%
79. HIGHWAY GARAGE (TOTAL)	\$10,840.00	\$10,990.00	\$10,990.00	1.38%
80. Rental Compactor	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
81. Rental Open Container (2)	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	0.00%
82. Trucking Compactor	\$6,300.00	\$6,300.00	\$6,300.00	0.00%
83. Trucking Open Container	\$5,400.00	\$5,400.00	\$5,400.00	0.00%
84. Trucking Cans & Bottles	\$4,200.00	\$4,200.00	\$4,200.00	0.00%
85. Trucking Scrap Metal	\$2,520.00	\$2,520.00	\$2,520.00	0.00%
86. Trucking Paper Cardboard	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
87. Trucking Fuel Surcharge	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	0.00%
88. Disposal Solid Waste	\$23,400.00	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00	2.56%
89. Disposal Bulky Waste	\$14,820.00	\$15,200.00	\$15,200.00	2.56%
90. Disposal Haz Mat	\$3,100.00	\$3,200.00	\$3,200.00	3.23%
91. Chemicals	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	0.00%
92. Permits	\$1,800.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00	2.78%
93. MRF education	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00%
94. Maintenance	\$1,100.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	36.36%
95. TRANSFER STATION COSTS (TOTAL)	\$72,240.00	\$73,770.00	\$73,770.00	2.12%
MATERIALS AND SERVICES SUBTOTAL	\$391,700.00	\$405,372.00	\$405,372.00	3.49%
HIGHWAY TOTAL	\$854,560.63	\$877,611.16	\$877,611.16	2.70%
96. CENTER CEMETERY	\$3,714.23	\$4,604.52	\$4,604.52	23.97%
97. NORTH CEMETERY	\$6,367.25	\$11,289.64	\$11,289.64	77.31%
98. WEST CEMETERY	\$1,248.48	\$1,273.46	\$1,273.46	2.00%
CEMETERIES TOTAL	\$11,329.96	\$17,167.62	\$17,167.62	51.52%
99. MOTH ACCOUNT	\$1.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-100.00%
100. TREE ACCOUNT	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	0.00%
FORESTRY TOTAL	\$10,001.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	-0.01%

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

EDUCATION				
101. CBRSD OPERATING ASSESSMENT	\$1,914,640.00	\$1,897,741.00	\$1,897,741.00	-0.88%
102. VOCATIONAL TUITION	\$167,560.00	\$193,116.00	\$193,116.00	15.25%
103. VOCATIONAL TRANSPORT.	\$75,000.00	\$56,000.00	\$56,000.00	-25.33%
TOTAL EDUCATION	\$2,157,200.00	\$2,146,857.00	\$2,146,857.00	-0.48%
PROTECT. PERSON & PROP				
104. POLICE DEPT. SALARIES	\$253,114.21	\$290,914.96	\$290,914.96	14.93%
105. POLICE DEPT. EXPENSE	\$17,270.00	\$17,950.00	\$17,950.00	3.94%
106. HARBOR MASTER	\$1,402.00	\$1,414.00	\$1,414.00	0.86%
107. OUTREACH	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	0.00%
108. CONSTABLE EXPENSE	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	0.00%
109. FIRE CHIEF STIPEND	\$4,003.46	\$4,083.54	\$4,083.54	2.00%
110. FIRE DEPT. EXPENSES	\$29,500.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	1.69%
111. FIRE CALL STIPEND	\$14,000.00	\$15,400.00	\$15,400.00	10.00%
112. DRY HYDRANTS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
113. FORESTRY FIRE DEPARTMENT TOOLS & EQUIPMENT	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	0.00%
114. BUILDING INSP. SALARY	\$50,552.32	\$51,356.24	\$51,356.24	1.59%
115. BUILDING & CODE INSP. EXP	\$2,065.00	\$3,272.00	\$3,272.00	58.45%
116. DEMOLITION FUND	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	0.00%
117. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXPENSES	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
118. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	0.00%
119. ANIMAL CONTROL SALARIES	\$7,883.58	\$8,041.26	\$8,041.26	2.00%
120. ANIMAL CONTROL EXPENSES	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	0.00%
PERSON & PROP. TOTAL	\$404,590.57	\$447,232.00	\$447,232.00	10.54%
HEALTH & SANITATION				
121. E911 COMMUNICATION	\$11,268.56	\$11,606.62	\$11,606.62	3.00%
122. INSPECTOR of ANIMALS	\$318.36	\$324.74	\$324.74	2.00%
123. SOUTH BERK. SOLID WASTE	\$7,894.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	1.34%
124. BOARD of HEALTH SALARIES	\$14,000.00	\$17,850.00	\$17,850.00	27.50%
125. BOARD of HEALTH EXPENSES	\$18,500.00	\$18,500.00	\$18,500.00	0.00%
126. NURSING SERVICES	\$4,962.00	\$4,962.00	\$4,962.00	0.00%
127. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
128. VETERANS AGENT SALARY	\$2,016.30	\$2,056.64	\$2,056.64	2.00%
129. VETERANS AGENT EXPENSE	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00%
130. VETERANS BENEFITS	\$20,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	50.00%
HEALTH & SANITATION TOTAL	\$79,059.22	\$93,400.00	\$93,400.00	18.14%

Report of the Town Clerk
(Continued)

UNCLASSIFIED EXPENSES				
131. OUTSIDE PAYROLL SERVICES	\$4,600.00	\$4,830.00	\$4,830.00	5.00%
132. TOWN ACCOUNTANT SALARIES	\$23,045.52	\$23,416.92	\$23,416.92	1.61%
133. TOWN ACCOUNTANT EXPENSES	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	0.00%
134. GENERAL INSURANCE	\$104,000.00	\$114,200.00	\$114,200.00	9.81%
135. STAFF COVERAGE	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	0.00%
136. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS LABOR	\$45,567.04	\$46,290.96	\$46,290.96	1.59%
137. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS EXPENSES	\$63,000.00	\$58,515.00	\$58,515.00	-7.12%
138. MUNICIPAL BUILDING REPAIRS	\$12,500.00	\$11,500.00	\$11,500.00	-8.00%
139. SOFTWARE MAINT. AGREEMENT	\$20,367.00	\$23,096.31	\$23,096.31	13.40%
140. MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	\$73,000.00	\$69,000.00	\$69,000.00	-5.48%
141. STREET LIGHTS	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	0.00%
142. WIRED WEST	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
143. TOWN REPORTS	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	0.00%
144. POSTAGE	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	0.00%
145. COUNCIL on AGING	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	0.00%
146. PARKS & RECREATION	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	0.00%
147. WEED CENTER POND	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	0.00%
148. HISTORICAL COMMISSION	\$700.00	\$1,662.00	\$1,662.00	137.43%
149. INTEREST on SHORT-TERM DEBT	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	0.00%
150. COUNTY RETIREMENT	\$204,432.00	\$203,669.00	\$203,669.00	-0.37%
151. HEALTH INSURANCE	\$384,500.00	\$409,000.00	\$409,000.00	6.37%
152. PAYROLL TAX ACCOUNT	\$23,000.00	\$24,150.00	\$24,150.00	5.00%
153. LIBRARY	\$45,560.00	\$46,700.00	\$46,700.00	2.50%
154. MEMORIAL DAY	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	20.00%
155. ARTS CENTER	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
156. CHILDRENS HOLIDAY PARTY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
157. UNEMPLOYMENT EXPENSE	\$10,000.00	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00	-15.00%
UNCLASSIFIED EXPENSES TOTAL	\$1,075,671.56	\$1,106,130.19	\$1,106,130.19	2.83%

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

Article 4 was moved seconded. 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/ Selectmen recommended amount. Following this, all line items having a “Hold” would then be voted on separately. “Holds” were placed on the following line items:

- 8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S SALARY
- 21. CONSERVATION COMMISSION
- 96. CENTER CEMETERY
- 97. NORTH CEMETERY
- 104. POLICE DEPT. SALARIES
- 128. VETTRAN’S AGENT SALARY
- 139. SOFTWAREMAINTENANCE AGREEMENT
- 146. PARKS AND RECREATION
- 151. HEALTH INSURANCE
- 154. MEMORIAL DAY
- 155. ARTS CENTER

After placing holds on the above referenced line items, a vote was taken and

Article 4 less the held line items, **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Each of the held line items were then considered individually and the following action was taken as follows:

Line Item 8.TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S SALARY:

Line Item 8 was moved and seconded. There was a question from the floor as to why the Town Administrator’s percentage of salary increase was greater than other employees of the Town. It was explained that this increase was the result of negotiated employment contract provisions. A vote was taken and **Line Item 8 PASSED.**

Line Item 21. CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

Line Item 21 was moved and seconded. A vote was taken and **Line Item 21 PASSED.**

Line Item 96. CENTER CEMETERY:

Line Item 96 was moved and seconded. There was a question from the floor as to why the increase was 24% over the previous year’s budget amount. The Town Administrator explained that this increase resulted from calculating the actual hours needed at each cemetery at the \$14.56 Town of Becket employee hourly rate, which was not the way prior cemetery budgets were calculated. A vote was taken and

Line Item 96 PASSED.

Line Item 97. NORTH CEMETERY:

Line Item 97 was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and

Line Item 97 PASSED.

Line Item 104. POLICE DEPT. SALARIES

Line Item 104 was moved and seconded. Mr. Massini questioned how many police officers there were currently, and if additional police expenses also appeared elsewhere in the budget. It was explained that the Town currently employs 4 full time and 5 part time police officers, and that as employees, there would be additional expenses for them appearing in other budget items, such as HEALTH INSURANCE. A vote was taken and

Line Item 104 PASSED.

Line Item 128. VETERAN’S AGENT SALARY

Line Item 128 was moved and seconded. Mr. William Vsetecka asked who the Veterans Agent was. The Town Administrator related that Lloyd Mann was the Town’s Veterans Agent. A vote was taken and

Line Item 128 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Line Item 139. SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Line Item 139 was moved and seconded. Mr. William Vsetecka asked what software was involved. The Town Administrator explained that various Town offices such as the Tax Collector and Treasurer used software that had an annual fee for support and upgrades. A vote was taken and

Line Item 139 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Line Item 146. PARKS AND RECREATION

Line Item 146 was moved and seconded. There was a question from the floor as to whether this budget item would include funding for a person to check for Town of Becket Beach Permits for those availing themselves of the Town Beach. It was explained that this issue would be considered at the Board of Selectmen’s meeting to be scheduled for Wednesday, May 18. A vote was taken and

Line Item 146 PASSED.

Line Item 151. HEALTH INSURANCE

Line Item 151 was moved and seconded. There was a question from the floor as to how many people were covered under the Town’s Health Insurance Policies. The Town Administrator noted that there were 3 active employees enrolled in HMO Single plans; 10 enrolled in HMO Family Plans; and 3 enrolled in PPO Family Plans. He also noted that there was 1 retired employee enrolled in a HMO Single Plan; 2 enrolled in a PPO

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

single plan; and 7 enrolled in Medex. A vote was taken and
Line Item 151 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Line Item 154. MEMORIAL DAY

Line Item 154 was moved and seconded. There was a question from the floor as to what these monies would be used for. The Town Administrator noted that the monies specified would be used for flags, markers and wreaths for graves and monuments together with transportation costs for the Middle School Band. A vote was taken and

Line Item 154 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Line Item 155. ARTS CENTER

Line Item 155 was moved and seconded. There was a question from the floor as to whether the Town would provide financial assistance for the Arts Center to obtain a lift to enable the elderly or disabled to access the second floor of the building. The Town Administrator noted that in last year's Town Meeting the Town allocated funding requested for a lift, and further noted that no further funding has been requested. Sally Solurie announced that the Arts Center had received a grant from the State for \$24,000.00 for a lift. A vote was taken. **Line Item 155 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$378,585.00 to fund the bond payments due in Fiscal Year 2017 for the following previously approved debt items:

Becket Washington School	\$110,896.00	EFP 2025
Nessacus Regional Middle School	\$4,194.00	EFP 2018
Wahconah Regional High School	\$6,967.00	EFP 2029
Wahconah Regional H.S. Sidewalks	\$280.00	EFP 2022
Kittredge School	\$115.00	EFP 2017
Kittredge School MSBA Windows	\$359.0	EFP 2022
District Security	\$917.00	EFP 2025
Dump Truck (Hway Dept.)	\$55,200.00	EFP 2021
Dump Truck & Tractor	\$79,162.00	EFP 2017
Grader (Hway Dept.)	\$120,495.00	EFP 2018

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 5 Was moved and seconded. A vote was taken and
Article 5 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 6: (Removed)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$108,638.00 to fund

the Stabilization Fund for Fiscal Year 2017.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

2/3 Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 7 Was moved and seconded. A vote was taken and
Article PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 8: 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 appropriation 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 Massachusetts General Laws.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 8 Was moved and seconded. Virginia Lavery initiated a brief discussion on this Article. A vote was taken and
Article 8 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$348,696.00, for the salaries (\$302,396.00) and expenses (\$46,300.00) of the Ambulance Enterprise Fund and to fund said appropriation:

To raise and appropriate \$238,696.00 and to appropriate from Fiscal Year 2017 Ambulance Receipts \$110,000.00.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 9 Was moved and seconded. There was discussion on this Article with Jan Elovirta observing that the Ambulance Department was becoming expensive and suggesting that the Town explore other arrangements, including using more volunteers along the lines of how Otis has their ambulance service structured. Bill Elovirta noted that the Selectmen were exploring alternatives including a regionalized service approach. Jeremy Dunn noted that 1/3 of the cost of the Ambulance Service was funded through receipts from insurance companies. A vote was taken and
Article 9 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,500.00 for an audit of the FY2016 financial records.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 10 Was moved and seconded. A vote was taken and **Article 10 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 for legal, advertising and related costs to process tax delinquent accounts.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 11 Was moved and seconded. There was discussion regarding the amount of outstanding overdue taxes. The Tax Collector indicated that after the current tax bills came in there might be approximately \$250,000.00 in outstanding property taxes. Mr. Toomey expressed concern that elderly low income folks might be evicted from their home. It was noted that there was a tax work off program for seniors. Laurel Burgwardt expressed concern for those being taxed on small unbuildable lots. A vote was taken and **Article 11 PASSED.**

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 for capital repairs and improvements at the Becket Athenaeum in order for Library Services to be provided to town residents.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 12 Was moved and seconded. Ms. O'Connor spoke against additional monies being appropriated for the Athenaeum, noting that it was a private building. Kathy Defoe explained what the monies past and current were being used for. A vote was taken and

Article 12 PASSED.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,700.00 for the upgrade and improvement of the electrical system at the Becket Arts Center.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 13 Was moved and seconded. There was discussion on this item. A vote was taken and

Article 13 PASSED.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$8,900.00 to purchase and install a storage shed for maintenance equipment to be located at the Town Hall.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 14 Was moved and seconded. Mr. Kovich inquired if the shed would be secure. The Town Administrator indicated that the shed would be 12 by 22 or 24 feet, have an entry door and a garage door, both of which would be lockable. A vote was taken and **Article 14 PASSED.**

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,000.00 for the repair of the foundation, block and rear chimney at Fire Station #1.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 15 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and

Article 15 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$38,600.00 for the purchase of a replacement sedan cruiser for the 2011 Crown Victoria Cruiser for the Police Department, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade or sell or otherwise dispose of the 2011 Crown Victoria.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 16 Was moved and seconded. There was discussion on this item. The Town Administrator emphasized that the sedan purchased would be an all-wheel drive sedan. A vote was taken and **Article 16 PASSED.**

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$37,000.00 for the purpose of replacing one of the front ramps at Town Hall so it is ADA compliant and adding the necessary handrails and to replace the rear entrance pad.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

Article 17 Was moved and seconded. Mr. Wilkinson opined that the cost of the work was high, and wondered if it could be done cheaper by a Town employee. The Town Administrator explained that renovations to the Town Hall had previously been out to bid and the bids were much higher than anticipated do the project was reduced in scope. A vote was taken and **Article 17 PASSED.**

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of \$18,000.00 to purchase a used vehicle for the purpose of being a pooled use vehicle for the use of the Assessors, Building Inspector, Town Administrator or any town employee inspecting property or attending a training meeting or conference and authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade or sell or otherwise dispose of the 2003 Tahoe. This municipal vehicle shall replace the 2003 Tahoe which has been used for that purpose.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 18 Was moved and seconded. There was some discussion concerning trade in and disposal. It was questioned whether the cruiser being retired could serve in this capacity. A vote was taken and

Article 18 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$7,000 for the purchase of a server and computers and software at Town Hall along with related network work.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 19 Was moved and seconded. There was brief discussion on this Article. A vote was taken and

Article 19 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$186,251.00 to purchase a new Loader for the Highway Department, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow the sum of \$186,251.00 for said appropriation under applicable sections of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade or sell or otherwise dispose of the New Holland Loader.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

2/3 Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 20 Was moved and seconded. Mr. Toomey questioned what the expected life span of a loader was. Mr. Bouchard indicated that generally a loader would be expected to work for 15 years. It was noted that the current loader was a 2003/2004 model. Ms. Lavery asked how much the Town could expect to recoup by trading or selling the loader. Mr. Bouchard expressed the opinion that the Town might receive \$15,000 to \$20,000 for the current loader. A vote was taken and **Article 20 PASSED BY A 2/3 MAJORITY.**

ARTICLE 21: To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$225,000.00 to purchase a new Rescue Pumper for the Fire Department, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow the sum of \$225,000.00 for said appropriation under applicable sections of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade or sell or otherwise dispose of the Rescue Truck.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

2/3 Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 21 Was moved and seconded. Mark Hanford gave a brief presentation noting that this vehicle would replace a 1991 Ford F-350 that had been rebuilt twice. He noted that unlike the current rescue truck, the new truck would have a 1000 gallon tank, and pumping capability. This would provide the Fire Department with the ability to reach residences on back roads that that the larger truck could not physically traverse. A vote was taken and **Article 21 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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 53E1/2 of the General Laws, provided however that said expenditures for the revolving funds shall not exceed the receipts for said fund.

Plumbing Inspector: \$10,000.00

Gas Inspector: \$10,000.00

Wiring Inspector: \$15,000.00

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 22 Was moved and seconded. Mr. Burgwardt inquired as to what gas systems were inspected in Town. It was explained that Propane service was included as “gas” and Propane systems were inspected. A vote was taken and **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 2017, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation.

Appropriations:

From FY 2017 estimated revenues to Committee Administrative Expenses \$500.00

Reserves:

From FY 2017 estimated revenues to Historical Resources Reserve \$4,956.00

From FY 2017 estimated revenues to Community Housing Reserve \$4,956.00

From FY 2017 estimated revenues to Open Space Reserve \$4,956.00

From FY 2017 estimated revenues to Undesignated Reserve \$34,191.00

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

CPA Committee: Recommends

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 23 Was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and

Article 23 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to Transfer \$11,000.00 from the Open Space Reserve and \$64,000.00 from the Undesignated Reserve Account of the Becket Community Preservation Fund for the purchase and installation of a play scape and swing set along with needed site work at the Becket Center Park: Said funds to be

expended under the direction of the Becket Community Preservation Committee and the Becket Parks and Recreation Committee.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

CPA Committee: Recommends

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 24 Was moved and seconded. Mr. Greenspan queried as to what was wrong with the play scape currently at the Park. The Town Administrator explained that current one was not certified, was worn and splintered. Mr. Gorden asked what percentage of CPC funds are currently reimbursed by the State. Mr. Toomey, Chair of the CPC noted that it changed every year, opined that this year it would be 34%. Mr. Wilkinson inquired as to what monies were being spent by the Community Preservation Committee to preserve open spaces. Mr. Toomey explained that recreational space was considered open space for purposes of the Community Preservation Act. A vote was taken and **Article 24 PASSED.**

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to Transfer \$3,000.00 from the Historical Resources Reserve and \$3,000.00 from the Undesignated Reserve Account of the Becket Community Preservation Fund for the refinishing and restoration of the wood floors in the historic Becket Athenaeum: Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Becket Community Preservation Committee and the Board of Directors of the Becket Athenaeum.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

CPA Committee: Recommends

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 25 Was moved and seconded. Ms. O'Connor spoke against authorizing more money for the Athenaeum. A vote was taken and **Article 25 PASSED.**

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to Transfer \$2,000.00 from the Historical Resources Reserve and \$30,000.00 from the Undesignated Reserve Account of the Becket Community Preservation Fund for the repair of and restoration of historic headstones in the West, Center and North Becket cemeteries: Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Becket Community Preservation Committee

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

and the Becket Cemetery Commission.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

CPA Committee: Recommends

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 26 Was moved and seconded. There was general discussion about vandalism at the cemetery. Ms. Karlberg spoke in favor of this Article. A vote was taken and Article 26 PASSED.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Becket By-Laws, Article 17 -- Town Betterment By-Law by adding an additional Section 22 as follows:

Section 22. Per MGL 40:21 (20), owners of land whereon is located an abandoned well or a well in use shall either provide a securely fastened covering for such well capable of sustaining a weight of three hundred (300) pounds or fill the same to the level of the ground. Violation of this bylaw shall be punishable by a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.) for each violation.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen & the By-Law Review Committee

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE 27 Was moved and seconded. A vote was taken and **Article 27 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Becket By-Laws, Article 15 – Conservation Commission By-Law by adding an additional Section 4 as follows:

Section 4. A quorum of the Conservation Commission is defined as a majority of the members then in office.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Majority Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 28 Was moved and seconded. A vote was taken and **Article 28 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to General Laws Chapter 164, Section 134, to grant the Board of Selectmen authority to research, develop and participate in a contract, or contracts, to aggregate the electricity load of the

residents and businesses in the Town and for other related services, independently, or in joint action with other municipalities, retaining the right of individual residents and businesses to opt-out of the aggregation, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Energy Committee

Majority Vote Required

& Board of Selectmen

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Finance Committee: Recommends

The Deputy Moderator explained that there was a typographical error that appeared in some warrants: specifically he noted that this Article was seeking a vote pursuant to General Laws Chapter 164, Section 134, not Chapter 64 as appeared on some warrants.

Article 29 Was moved and seconded. Mr. Gorden questioned the language as being vague. Town Counsel, Joel Bard, stated that he was satisfied with the language of the Article, noting that the language is standard for this type of Article. Ms. O'Malley-Levy expressed the opinion that the Board of Selectmen shouldn't be allowed to enter into a contract of this type without specific approval of the voters. The Town Administrator noted that this is the first step in the process and that if the Article passes the Board of Selectmen will then move forward with the DOE to see if this type of plan makes sense. He noted that there would be further public comment opportunities on the proposal, and that individuals would have the right to opt out of any plan that was ultimately promulgated or entered into by the Town. Mr. Hanford observed that the way the Article was drafted, it gives the Board of Selectmen the right to enter into a contract and he doesn't think that they should be able to do so, especially for power. The Town Administrator repeated that there were 4 steps to the process, and that it would go to a public hearing where residents would be able to voice their opinions. Selectman Elovirta also pointed out that the Article was pursuant to General Laws Chapter 164, Section 134 which specified specific procedures. A vote was taken and **Article 29 PASSED.**

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain, for general municipal purposes, the fee simple interest in a parcel of land, with improvements thereon, located at 21 Maple Street, described in deed recorded with the Berkshire Middle Registry of Deeds in Book 3155, Page 194, and further to appropriate and transfer from the Overlay Surplus Fund the sum of \$154,300 for said acquisition, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to

Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town to effect said acquisition; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

2/3 Vote Required

Finance Committee: Recommends

Article 30 Was moved and seconded. There was discussion in opposition to eminent domain for anything other than emergency. Town Counsel Joel Bard noted that this language was standard language in this type of Article for title-clearing purposes; primarily to clear up any title defects that might crop up at closing. There was further general discussion about how the property was valued. The Town Administrator noted that the appropriation was set at the Town's tax assessment value. Mr. Cavanaugh spoke and related that the building was offered to the town many years ago for a lesser price, and the Board of Selectmen rejected the offer at that time. He believes, in retrospect, that this was a mistake, a mistake that the Town shouldn't repeat now. The Town Administrator provided a presentation showing the layout of the property in relation to the School, noting that the Town currently had a prescriptive easement for the pipe that runs through and under the subject property from the School to the School's leech field. The Town Administrator also explained that it will likely be necessary to renovate or replace the one lane bridge crossing the brook to the school. He noted that the cost to obtain easements to repair or replace the bridge or the septic line could be very expensive, perhaps 50% of the cost of the parcel. He noted that once this parcel was open it would make the Park much more useable. Mr. Dunn questioned if the age of the building would require approval by the Historical Commission, and what the balance of the Overlay Surplus Account would be factoring in all monies appropriated from the Overlay Surplus Account at this Town Meeting. The Town Administrator observed that the Articles at this meeting would reduce the Overlay Account by a little more than half. The Town Administrator noted that the house is not listed in the Historical Registry, nor is it in a historical district. Ms. Spadafora gave an opinion of value that came out very close to the assessed value. Mr. Gorden stated that house, while a nice house, had no intrinsic historical value. Mr. Massini suggested to amend the Article to show the intent to show that the intent to demolish the building. Ms. Jarvis, stated that she is a current member of the Historical Commission and that the house in question is indeed is a historic building and was the Baptist Parsonage. She also suggested that the building might be removed from the lot. The Town Administrator stated that he didn't think the bridge

would hold the building. A motion was made to amend the Article by adding the words "future removal or demolition" immediately following "eminent domain, for" with the amended Article to read:

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain, for future removal or demolition and general municipal purposes, the fee simple interest in a parcel of land, with improvements thereon, located at 21 Maple Street, described in deed recorded with the Berkshire Middle Registry of Deeds in Book 3155, Page 194, and further to appropriate and transfer from the Overlay Surplus Fund the sum of \$154,300 for said acquisition, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town to effect said acquisition; or take any other action relative thereto.

The motion to amend was seconded. A vote was taken and the motion to amend passed. The Article as amended was moved and seconded. A question was raised about the value of the house. The Town Administrator stated that the appropriated amount would not necessarily be the amount actually paid to purchase the property. A vote was taken and

Article 30 as amended 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 21, 2016, starting at 10:00 a.m., with the Meeting to dissolve at the close of polls. A vote was taken and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The checkers were Election Workers Eva Bonney, Ann Krawet, Patricia Clemons and Al Blake.

Respectfully submitted,

George E. Roberts

Town Clerk

◆ **REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE** ◆

The Community Preservation Act is a state law that allows cities and towns to create a dedicated fund for open space, historic preservation, senior housing and recreation. The decision to adopt the CPA is made by each community in the Commonwealth. Any town can enact a surcharge of 1.5%-3% on property tax bills to create the Community Preservation Fund. The money raised locally is matched by the state and the combined fund is spent in three core areas: open space preservation, affordable housing, and historic preservation. Each of these areas must receive a minimum of 10% of the total fund each year, but the remaining 70% can be spent or reserved for future spending in any of the three core areas as well as an additional area of public recreation.

In 2008, the voters of Becket passed the CPA proposal for 1.5% of the annual real estate levy against real property, and the town voted to accept the following exemptions to the CPA: property owned as a domicile by any person who qualifies for low income housing, or low and moderate income senior housing, class 3 commercial and class 4 industrial, and \$100,000 of the value of each taxable parcel of residential real property.

The CPA provides a dedicated funding source for desirable and innovative projects that the community wants but can otherwise not afford. The CPA also brings state matching funds to local projects. The state funds are raised through fee surcharges at the registry of deeds in every county in the Commonwealth. The CPA brings these much needed

funds back into the community. The CPA is a very flexible funding mechanism. The types of projects it can be used for are very broad, and can include many projects that are hard to fund through other means. CPA funds can be used to purchase open space or conservation restrictions, to broaden housing opportunities for residents, to help senior citizens repair their homes, to build playgrounds, athletic fields, trails, or restore historic buildings and landscapes. The CPA funds can also be used as local leverage for state and federal grants, and communities can issue bonds in anticipation of future CPA proceeds. Each community also has control over how the money is spent, since each disbursement of CPA funds needs to be approved by town meeting.

Anyone interested in funding a project through the CPA should contact the committee through the town website, and follow up by attending a CPC meeting, where they will receive information regarding funding criteria and procedures. This information is also on the town website.

I would like to thank the townspeople and the administrative staff at the town hall for their support of the CPA and look forward to future project proposals.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil F. Toomey, **Chairman**
Community Preservation Committee

◆ **COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT** ◆

FY 2016 REPORT

Appropriated by Category	Community Housing	Historical Preservation	Open Space	Recreation	Undesignated Budget Reserves	Committee Admin. Expenses	Total Appropriation
Project:							
Committee Administrative Expenses Article 23						\$500.00	
Becket Athenaeum storm windows & repair roof trim Article 24		\$6,000.00			\$6,108.00		
Total Appropriated for Projects for FY 2016	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,108.00	\$500.00	\$12,608.00

FY 2016 Expenses against approved Projects:

Committee Administrative Expenses						\$300.00	
Becket Athenaeum Exterior Restoration & Painting Art 24 May 2013					\$331.00		
Becket Athenaeum Ext. Restoration & Paint Phase 2 Article 27 May 2014		\$5,000.00			\$10,000.00		
Becket Athenaeum storm windows & repair roof trim Article 24 May 2015		\$1,982.00			\$2,018.00		
Total Expended during FY 2016	\$0.00	\$6,982.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,349.00	\$300.00	\$19,631.00

FY 2016 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	\$4,676.00	\$4,676.00	\$4,676.00	\$0.00	\$32,728.00	\$46,756.00

	Estimated	Actual	Actual vs. Budget
FY 2016 Local Revenue CPA 1.5%	\$40,048.00	\$40,163.40	\$115.40
FY 2016 State Percentage Match of Local Revenue	\$7,208.00	\$12,156.00	\$4,948.00
Totals	\$47,256.00	\$52,319.40	\$5,063.40



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

On April 27, 2016, the Bylaw Review Committee held a public hearing on the proposed addition to the Town's Betterment Bylaw regarding abandoned wells and an addition to the Conservation Commission Bylaw. No public comments were received.

At the May 14, 2016 Annual Town Meeting, the town voted to amend the Town of Becket By-Laws, Article 17 -- Town Betterment By-Law by adding an additional Section 22 as follows: Section 22. Per MGL 40:21 (20), owners of land whereon is located an abandoned well or a well in use shall either provide a securely fastened covering for such well capable of sustaining a weight of three hundred (300) pounds or fill the same to the level of the ground. Violation of this bylaw shall be punishable by a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.) for each violation. At the same meeting, the Town voted to amend the Town of Becket By-Laws, Article 15 -- Conservation Commission By-Law by adding an additional Section 4 as follows: Section 4. A quorum of the Conservation Commission is defined as a majority of the members then in office. These amendments were approved by the Attorney General on October 17, 2016 and took effect on November 16, 2016 upon posting by the Town Clerk.

The charter change legislation approved at the April 5, 2014 Special Town Meeting to amend Chapter 662 of the Acts of 1989 by deleting from ARTICLE 2B, SECTION 4 (the list

of officers and boards appointed by the Selectmen) Items (n) Parks Commission and (p) Recreation Committee and to renumber the remaining items to take into account those deletions, and to add to ARTICLE 2B, SECTION 4 the Parks and Recreation Committee was signed by the Governor on September 21, 2016, and became Chapter 269 of the Acts of 2016.

On September 14, 2016, the Bylaw Review Committee held a public hearing regarding a proposed addition to the Town's Betterment Bylaws regarding vacant properties and changes/additions to the Dog Control By-law and public comments were received. The Committee has considered the comments received at the hearing and is working to finalize these Bylaw changes for submission to the Selectmen so that they can be included on an upcoming Town Meeting warrant.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne W. Pryor, **Chair**

Ann Krawet, **Vice Chair**

Mark Karlberg, **Clerk**

George Roberts, **Town Clerk, ex-officio**

Bruce Garlow, **Moderator, ex-officio**



◆ **REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS** ◆

This past year our three Cemetery Commissioners provided routine maintenance and services for the care of our respective cemeteries. The town's drought conditions caused the well at our North Becket Cemetery to run dry. It is our hope that the well recovers and provides us with water this coming year. Trees that were in danger of falling were removed in all three cemeteries. Several road washouts were repaired at the North Becket Cemetery throughout the wet season as is always the case every year.

We are pleased to report that we are poised to commence an extensive monument and stone repair and straightening project. All three cemeteries will be addressed beginning this spring. The grant money for this much needed project was awarded through the Town of Becket Community Preservation Fund. This undertaking (no pun intended) will bring noticeable improvement to each cemetery.

The Cemetery Commissioners would like to thank the following for providing support, labor, materials and/or equipment to our cemeteries: Board of Selectmen, Town Hall Staff, Highway Department Crew, the Community Preservation Committee, Pioneer Plumbing & Heating, R.J. Peltier, Roger Peltier, Williams Stone Company, Ed Mahoney, Delaney Excavating, White Wolf Trucking, Becket Boy Scout Troop #26, Mark Pike, and A & A Cemetery Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Cemetery Commissioners

Michelle Smith, *West Becket*

William Cavanaugh, *North Becket*

Dean Williams, *Center*



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

The Becket Scholarship Foundation was pleased to award scholarships to two graduating seniors in 2016. The students were Sara LaFreniere, Morgan Powers and Amber Smith. These scholarships are made possible through the generous donations of Becket residents.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Rodhouse

Secretary

Becket Scholarship Foundation

◆ *REPORT OF THE TRANSFER STATION* ◆

The Transfer Station hours of operation during May 15th to October 15th are 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. Vehicle permits may be purchased at the Town Hall or through the town's website www.townofbecket.org. A bag sticker must be affixed to each bag of household trash prior to disposal into the compactor. Bag stickers (\$1 each) may be purchased at the Town Hall, through the town's website, or through several businesses in town (listed on the town's website). **Bag stickers are not available for purchase at the Transfer Station.** Disposing of recyclables (paper, cardboard, cans, bottles, plastic containers and scrap metals) is free of charge. Tires, CRT's, mattresses, box springs, stuffed chairs, couches, bulky waste, and appliances containing Freon require a separate disposal fee **payable by check only because the Transfer Station does not accept cash.** Please check with the attendant about items and their fees before unloading. All scrap metal must be free of wood, plastic, tires, gas and oil.

The Town of Becket belongs to the Southern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District, which assists with recycling, waste reduction and household hazardous waste collection programs. The Center for Ecological Technology (CET) coordinates district activities and DEP required inspections. CET visited the Transfer Station to distribute information re: recycling, and hazardous waste collection events for residents at various locations in the county.

This report is an opportunity to provide a reminder that the Town has a recycling bylaw. By recycling, we reduce our disposal expenses and use of natural resources.

This year we recycled, collected and processed:

- over 60 tons of paper and cardboard
- 42 tons of cans, bottles, and plastics
- 30 tons of scrap metals
- 200 mattresses
- 2 tons of clothing
- 250 tires
- 350 fluorescent light bulbs
- 9.87 tons of electronics
- 281 tons of Solid waste (Household trash)
- 124 tons of Bulky waste

Residents also participated in 6 hazardous waste collections at various sites in Berkshire County.

I would like to thank Mark, Siegfried and Dean for their hard work and dedication to the Transfer Station.

The Becket Highway Department operates the Transfer Station which is under the authority of the Becket Board of Health. If residents have questions or concerns please call the Town Hall (Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm) at 623-8934 or the Highway Department office (Monday through Friday 7 am to 3:30 pm) 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 Russell, Huntington, Chester, Becket and Lee. 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.



During the past year, we continued to work with the Lee Land Trust to create a new parking area on the former Barlow property in East Lee. The new parking area will provide access to an extensive hiking trail system owned by The Trustees of Reservation and the Lee Land Trust, with views of Goose Pond. We have had a few setbacks involving removal of the existing building and receipt of grant funds, but expect to move forward with construction during the 2017 season. This work is supported with funds from the National Scenic Byways Program and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

We continue to support the Town of Lee's efforts to develop a biking/walking path that will traverse the town and link to the neighboring towns of Stockbridge and Lenox. The project is currently in design for a 1 mile segment along the

Housatonic River in the town center, supported again by the National Scenic Byways program and MassDOT. Planning efforts continue to extend the route beyond the town center.

We also continued our participation in the Highlands Footpath Initiative, a regional effort to investigate the possibility of creating hiking linkages along the Jacob's Ladder Trail and Route 112 Scenic Byways to connect the area's existing trails to village centers. This project is inspired by the British concept of linking communities to one another so that visitors can plan multi-day hikes traversing large expanses of publicly accessible lands to go from village to village. As part of our efforts we are pleased to say that the Highlands Footpath group recently submitted a grant proposal to conduct trail improvements in Chester-Blandford State Forest, an area through which the footpath may travel. We will keep all the scenic byway communities informed of our progress as we move forward with this exciting project.

Respectfully submitted,

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



REPORT OF THE WESTFIELD RIVER

◆ WILD & SCENIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ◆

Our Committee's mission is to preserve, protect, and enhance the special qualities and natural resources of the Westfield River Watershed in concert with local communities. In Becket, the West Branch, and Shaker Mill, Depot, and Center Pond Brooks are nationally recognized as Wild & Scenic Rivers. They are part of a state and federal designation of 78 miles of the Westfield River and its tributaries in ten towns.

The Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program of the National Park Service again provided funding to the Committee in 2016 to support projects enhancing the "outstandingly remarkable values" associated with our Wild & Scenic Rivers. Technical assistance and program support was again provided by staff at the Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration and the National Park Service. Highlights of our activities in 2016 are as follows:

Our Stream Team Project Coordinator, Meredyth Babcock, continued our series of Wild & Scenic Saturday trainings and workdays, including naturalist led walks along headwater streams and vernal pool certification training. Two vernal pools were discovered in Middlefield on state lands and our volunteers are in the process of getting them certified.

The focus of our 3rd Annual Watershed Blitz was the West Branch and its tributaries in Becket and Washington. 55 participants and specialists spent the day exploring along our rivers and collecting data. Specialists led walks and a paddle on Center Pond highlighted native and invasive plants, frogs and newts, aquatic insects, wildlife tracking, river ecology and more. The 4th Annual Watershed Blitz will be held on Saturday, September 16, 2017 along the East Branch.

Landowners, interns and volunteers surveyed and inventoried features along tributary streams in Becket and Washington, including Yokum, Shaker Mill, Depot, Watson and Savory Brooks. The Committee provided training, maps, GPS units, and digital and wildlife cameras.

In response to the persistent drought conditions this year, we focused our monitoring efforts to track the impacts on the river communities who rely on river flows for survival. With volunteers, we returned to our three historical monitoring sites to collect aquatic bugs to analyze their density and diversity compared to other monitoring years. These sites are Yokum Brook in Becket, Sanderson Brook in Chester, and the East Branch in Cummington.

In partnership with the Westfield River Invasive Species Partnership (WISP), invasive plants were managed in high conservation value areas along a 5.5-mile reach of the East Branch of the Westfield River, located in Gilbert A. Bliss State Forest, in Chesterfield.

Didymo, also known as Rock Snot, was discovered in the West Branch of the Westfield River in Becket and other towns in 2015, and this year it had spread into Walker Brook. There are precautions that fishermen and other river users can take to prevent its spread to other locations. After leaving the water:

Check – Remove all visible algae and plant material from fishing gear, clothing, waders, sandals, water shoes, floats, boats, and anything else that has been in the water.

Clean – Wash boats and gear thoroughly in HOT soapy water. Soak clothing, felt-soled waders, and other absorbent items in HOT soapy water for 30 minutes.

Dry – Dry equipment completely. Complete drying may take multiple days for some types of gear and equipment such as life jackets, sneakers, clothing, felt-soled waders, etc.

For more information visit our website at www.wildscenicwestfieldriver.org, or call me at 623-2169 or Carrie Banks, our coordinator at (413) 579-3015. Please take part in any of our activities, including workshops, river monitoring and land protection. Our Committee meets once a month and all meetings are open to the public.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mercedes Gallagher
Town of Becket Representative

Karen Karlberg
Town of Becket Representative, Alternate

◆ *REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION* ◆

The Historical Commissioners mourn the passing of former member Harry C. Roff, Jr. (1920 - 2016). He lived for almost twenty years on Route 8 in the colonial Joseph Higley house (circa 1775), one of the oldest residences in Becket.

Did Johnny Appleseed visit Becket? Becket lore states Johnny Appleseed hiked to the top of Jacob's Ladder around 1801. John "Johnny Appleseed" Chapman's father was a Minuteman at Bunker Hill, who lived in Longmeadow until moving west to Ohio in 1805. His sister Elizabeth Chapman (1770-1837) and her husband Nathaniel Rudd, Jr., lived in Becket. It is plausible he would have visited her at her home.

Where did Rudd Pond get its name? Historic maps in the 1700s referred to the body of water as "Island" or "Little" Pond. The first reference to Rudd Pond was found on an 1829 Berkshire County map. All maps dating from 1859 use the name Rudd Pond. The "Becket Vital Records to 1850" show numerous Rudds in Becket. Jonathan Rudd may have arrived in Becket as early as 1743. By 1765 Elisha Rudd was head of a family living on Proprietor's Lot 40 directly east of Island Pond and Center Pond.

Actions

- The showcases in the Becket Room and hallway were organized and updated.
- Information regarding the Becket 250th celebrations in 2015 were compiled for the HC records.
- The "Welcome to Becket" pole banners the 250th Committee entrusted to the HC, were displayed once again thanks to Rita Furlong and the DPW.
- David Cooper, raised in Becket and who appeared as the Civil War Chaplain during the Memorial Day observance in 2015, requested copies of two photo books he had seen at the Becket Athenaeum.
- Will Blake offered to sell two original oil paintings (1801) of Abel and Lydia Dewey, early Becket residents, to the town. They were painted by William Jennys, a famous early American portrait painter. Discussions about the value and possible purchase of the portraits are on-going with the Selectmen.
- Organization of the HC office required archival supplies to protect and store historically important items. Katherine Hoak merits special thanks for filing, creating a content log listing our inventory and archives, and for organizing our newspapers and large maps.
- Developed a Plan of Action to: publicize the HC, link

our information on the town and athenaeum websites, survey the historical properties in town, update our historic inventories and photos with the Massachusetts Historical Commission and review the Becket Demolition by-law.

- Adopted a spreadsheet Archival Index form and a Deed to Donation form.
- Inventory-Gail Kusek is updating HC forms. The ultimate goal is to post the updates online.
- Completed the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission online Survey of Needs for Mass. State Historic Preservation Plan.
- Answered genealogy questions regarding the following Becket people: Alvard Taylor, LaMountain (abt 1917), John Crane (1709-?), and the Harris family
- Answered the Becket Arts Center board's questions about the historical significance of Seminary Hall, its location in the North Becket National Historic District, and found no preservation restrictions from previous state or federal grants in preparation for installation of a chair lift to the second floor.
- Gail has scanned and tagged our postcard collection and Ballou family artifacts loaned by a Ballou/Smith family member.
- Sandi Jarvis scanned the Berkshire Athenaeum Local History department's articles involving Becket.

Buildings and properties

Becket Demolition By-law: a letter was sent to our Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen requesting a policy notifying the HC when Demolition Permit applications are made to enable us to get photos of the property before its demolition. Recent historic buildings lost include:

- The former Brookside Farm a historic two and half story Greek Revival house built in 1857, after the original building was destroyed by an arsonist, was owned by the Geer family. They were active in Becket history during much of the 19th century as farmers and store owners. In the 20th century it was known as the Palmer House on Jacob's Ladder Road. In 1976 the farm land was landscaped for use as a golf course.
- The former North Becket School, District #3 located at the intersection of County and McNerney Roads closed in 1939 when the Becket Consolidated School opened. The residence was severely damaged by fire in late December, 2015 and was demolished in early 2016.
- A historic residence, built between the late 1700s and

Report of the Historical Commission

(Continued)

early 1800s, on the former Camp Tamarac property on Yokum Pond Road was also demolished. The camp was started in 1916.

At the 2016 Annual Town Meeting, residents approved the purchase of the property at 21 Maple Street. The house, circa 1850, was deeded by Henry Bidwell to the deacons of the Baptist Church in 1857. It was the Baptist Parsonage until 1926. It resides inside the North Becket National Historic District and is listed in the town and Massachusetts State inventories as a historic building. Once the town owned the building in mid-December, members of the HC toured the building and took photos to document the structure. Thanks to Town Administrator Ed Gibson and David Shorey for facilitating the documentation process.

Donations

- John Testa of Peekskill, NY contacted us about a large, laundry sized Ballou Basket made in Becket owned by his family since the 1970's. He and his wife Nancy generously donated the basket in memory of his father Joseph L. Testa.
- Russell Burke donated a giant roll of tissue paper from the Golden Fleece Mills, Inc. The original mill on Bancroft Road was built in 1894. It ran on steam until it was converted to electricity in 1946 when the mill ran 24 hours a day and employed about 60 people. After two fires the buildings were demolished in 1996.
- The HC received a postcard and interesting letter from Lowell Joerg from CA, showing the lower Dreamland stone pillars on Brooker Hill Road. An email copy of the postcard was sent to the Lowell family who currently own the property.
- Rita Furlong bought postcards of the former Summit House on Jacob's Ladder Road.
- Ken Smith, president of the Becket Land Trust, gave permission to take pieces of granite from the quarry site to be displayed at town hall.
- Russell Burke donated a copper elevation plaque found in Becket. Rita explored its possible origin at the

Becket Railroad Station with David Pierce of Chester. There is no proof it came from Becket, however, the GPS elevation at the site of the former station is within 10 feet of the engraving on the sign!

- Bob Podolski and family donated bookkeeping logs from a store in North Becket from the 1880s.
- David Devane donated Sherwood Forest maps he had collected through the years.
- Bill Cavanaugh donated an old ruler found in the deep dark recesses of the records room here in the town hall.

Directional Signs

- Dave Drugmand is constructing the frames. The posts are in Becket Center and West Becket.
- Jenn and Aaron Beatty arranged the purchase of new signs from the Windsor Marketing Group in CT.

Equipment and supplies

- Town Hall recycled a computer for HC office.
- The HC is grateful to Jenn Beatty and Ed Gibson for obtaining a printer, and Rita Furlong for her donation of a new scanner.
- Archival supplies to protect and store historically important items.

The Commission wants to extend special thanks to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals for communicating with the HC on pertinent issues.

We thank Historical Commissioner Jennifer Beatty who resigned after nine years of service. We greatly appreciate her dedication and hard work while serving on the HC. She will be missed.

The Commission is looking for a new member to join us at our monthly meetings.

Respectively submitted by,

Sandi Jarvis



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

It is a pleasure to serve the town by investigating and responding to your calls. This is a reminder that in accordance with the provisions of Section 137 of Chapter 140 of the General Laws, all dogs housed within the Town of Becket must be licensed through the Town Clerk's Office.

Seeing the dog tag (license) on the collar aids with identifying and reuniting owners with their furry friends. I would like to offer special thanks to the Becket Police Department, and Animal Inspector Madelaine Elovirta.

Respectfully submitted,
Albert Goodermote,
Animal Control Officer

Animal Control Calls for 2016 were as follows:

Bear	1	Dogs (barking).....	2
Beaver	1	Dogs.....	51
Cat	1	Dog (bite)	1
Coyote	1	Horse	3
Cow	2	Rooster.....	4
Chicken	2		



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

In 2016, the Zoning Board of Appeals received 4 new applications and one application continued from 2015. This may seem like a small number of applications, but the process averaged four months of continuations from submittal to the Board's final decision.

The Public is invited to review the Becket Zoning Bylaws, guidelines, applications, agendas and meeting minutes at the Town of Becket website, www.townofbecket.org

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

The Becket Zoning Board of Appeals processed:

- One application for a variance
- Two applications for Dimensional Special Permits
- One Site Plan Review
- Of the applications received, three were approved and one was denied.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Heather Hunt, our long time secretary, for her exceptional service and commitment to the members of our board and the town residents we served. We came to rely on her for her excellent administrative support and the professional manner she showed at our meetings. Her departure is deeply felt on our board.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Karlberg, *Chairman*

Board Members:

Karen Karlberg, *Chairperson*

George Roberts, *Vice Chairperson*

Jeffrey Wilkinson

Joy Lennartz

Victoria Bleier

Alvin Blake, *Associate Member*

◆ *REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING* ◆

This year the Becket Seniors lost three wonderful people:

- Bernadette Van Wert who was our greeter for many years.
- Franklin Daigle who was a very quiet man. He spoke few words, but when he did speak he captured everyone's attention.
- Bruce Demarest always had a kind word to say to everyone. We will remember him for his big smile. He was a very talented man. He had a beautiful voice, and played the piano.

At our Christmas parties he entertained us.
They all will be greatly missed.

Porchlight VNA (Visiting Nurse Association) gave a presentation on The MOLST Document (Massachusetts Medical Order for Sustaining Life Treatment). It was suggested that all seniors arrange to implement this medical order form. Additional information is available on the website: <http://molst-ma.org>

The VNA obtained a grant for a six-week exercise program for our seniors. This program was very well received. This grant gives us the opportunity to continue this program in 2017. We all look forward to it.

The VNA is scheduled to appear on the third Tuesday of the month for blood pressure testing, and a presentation on Health Issues.

Outings:

We participated in several traditional events. Once again, we accepted invitations from the Otis Veterans for a Valentine's Dinner, and the Russell VFW for an April dinner. We appreciate how these neighboring organizations continue

to include us. We also send a big thank you to our own Rev. Kevin Smail and his wonderful staff for inviting us for a summer picnic. The food is always terrific at all of these functions.

Our Christmas Party was held at Ozzies in Hinsdale. The Prime Rib was great and the Baked Stuffed Shrimp was out of this world. We will return there next year.

This year the Seniors attended two big trips. In July we travelled to Upstate New York and saw a terrific play. In September, 45 seniors cruised and dined for lunch along the Hudson River on The Red Rose Cruise Paddle Boat.

Lunch/Potluck/Bingo:

Our Pot lucks occur every third Friday of the month. Every three months Marc Portieri visits to cook an outstanding Pot luck meal, along with his wife Pat Portieri who prepares several wonderful dishes for us. Everyone looks forward to their meals.

All are welcome to join us for lunch every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00 a.m. followed by Bingo. On Thursdays Rev. Kevin Smail is our caller.

As usual, our programming continues to be a great success. I personally want to thank the Town of Becket for all the support provided to us throughout the year to help us improve our program and services to the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Moylan, *Director*



◆ TOWN OF BECKET TAX COLLECTOR - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS ◆

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Fiscal Year/Tax	Balance 07/01/2015	Commitments	Collected	Refunds	Abatements	Tax Title Transfers	Balance 06/30/2016
2016							
Real Estate		\$4,963,871.37	\$4,698,860.63		\$25,800.46		\$239,210.28
Personal Property		\$291,736.72	\$286,992.35		\$919.11		\$3,825.26
Motor Vehicle		\$223,751.87	\$214,144.17	\$3,694.12	\$5,183.63		\$8,118.19
Fees			\$15,096.67				
Interest			\$11,573.82				
2015							
Real Estate	\$221,130.29		\$76,347.87			\$82,135.33	\$62,647.09
Personal Property	\$3,753.40		\$1,344.97		\$139.24		\$2,269.19
Motor Vehicle	\$10,499.59	\$27,683.65	\$36,182.22	\$1,956.07	\$1,798.65		\$2,158.44
Fees			\$10,154.06				
Interest			\$8,641.48				
2014							
Real Estate	\$40,675.51		\$16,212.25			\$1,184.95	\$23,278.31
Personal Property	\$1,930.51		\$143.36		\$74.46		\$1,712.69
Motor Vehicle	\$3,222.97		\$2,194.29	\$131.87	\$131.87		\$1,028.68
Fees			\$2,718.00				
Interest			\$4,499.37				
2013							
Real Estate	\$13,836.61		\$4,056.31			\$2,507.29	\$7,273.01
Personal Property	\$1,244.71		\$113.61		\$80.26		\$1,050.84
Motor Vehicle	\$1,486.99		\$230.73				\$1,256.26
Fees			\$645.00				
Interest			\$1,808.38				
2012							
Real Estate	\$4,380.38		\$1,991.49			\$1,666.11	\$722.78
Personal Property	\$920.89		\$31.72		\$79.34		\$809.83
Motor Vehicle	\$1,682.31		\$148.75				\$1,533.56
Fees			\$309.00				
Interest			\$947.98				
2011							
Real Estate	\$833.52						\$833.52
Personal Property	\$399.74		\$23.82				\$375.92
Motor Vehicle	\$1,662.00		\$182.50				\$1,479.50
Fees			\$243.00				
Interest			\$92.32				
2010							
Real Estate	\$307.43					\$3.73	\$303.70
Personal Property	\$340.88						\$340.88
Motor Vehicle	\$1,609.29		\$15.42				\$1,593.87
Fees			\$57.00				
Interest			\$9.14				

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

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Fiscal Year/Tax	Balance 07/01/2015	Commitments	Collected	Refunds	Abatements	Tax Title Transfers	Balance 06/30/2016
2009							
Real Estate	\$767.68						\$767.68
Personal Property	\$88.37						\$88.37
Motor Vehicle	\$1,433.13						\$1,433.13
Fees			\$0.00				
Interest			\$0.00				
2008							
Real Estate	\$401.46						\$401.46
Personal Property	\$27.36		\$1.38				\$25.98
Fees			\$0.00				
Interest			\$0.00				
2007							
Real Estate	\$484.63				\$64.74	\$9.04	\$410.85
Personal Property	\$14.54						\$14.54
Fees			\$0.00				
Interest			\$0.00				
2006							
Real Estate	\$132.68						\$132.68
Personal Property	\$75.36		\$55.22				\$20.14
Fees			\$5.00				
Interest			\$75.81				
2005							
Real Estate	\$146.74						\$146.74
Fees			\$0.00				
Interest			\$0.00				
2004							
Real Estate	\$143.84						\$143.84
Fees			\$0.00				
Interest			\$0.00				



◆ **TOWN OF BECKET FINANCIAL REPORT** ◆

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

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		\$3,500.00	300.00		\$3,658.86	\$141.14	96.28
ADVERTISING TOTAL		\$3,500.00	300.00		\$3,658.86	\$141.14	96.28
SELECTMEN SALARIES		\$6,000.00			\$5,999.76	\$0.24	99.99
SELECTMEN EXPENSES		\$2,150.00			\$1,546.54	603.46	71.93
TOWN MEETING EXPENSE		\$3,500.00			\$1,529.78	\$1,970.22	43.70
SELECTMEN TOTAL		\$11,650.00			\$9,076.08	\$2,573.92	77.90
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES		\$63,000.00			\$62,997.90	\$2.10	99.99
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR EXPENSES		\$1,700.00			\$1,341.43	\$358.57	78.90
STAFF COVERAGE		\$6,500.00			\$2,263.44	\$4,236.56	34.82
250TH ANNIVERSARY	\$802.20				\$18.00	\$784.20	2.24
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TOTAL	\$802.20	\$71,200.00			\$66,620.77	\$5,381.43	92.52
FINANCE COMM. EXPENSES		\$650.00			\$129.00	\$521.00	19.84
FINANCE COMMITTEE TOTAL		\$650.00			\$129.00	\$521.00	19.84
TOWN ACCOUNTANT SALARIES		\$23,045.52			\$23,045.52		100.00
OUTSIDE PAYROLL EXPENSES		\$4,600.00			\$4,543.05	\$56.95	98.76
TOWN ACCOUNTANT EXPENSE		\$400.00			\$380.00	\$20.00	95.00
TOWN ACCOUNTANT TOTAL		\$28,045.52			\$27,968.57	\$76.95	99.72
ASSESSOR SALARIES		\$72,738.40			\$72,738.45	\$-0.05	100.00
ASSESSOR EXPENSES		\$59,735.00			\$55,917.82	\$3,817.18	93.60
ASSESSOR TOTAL		\$132,473.40			\$128,656.27	\$3,817.13	97.11
TREASURER SALARIES		\$40,242.30	\$1,380.24		\$41,621.65	\$0.89	99.99
TREASURER EXPENSES	\$4,000.00	\$5,530.00	\$-1,380.24		\$3,791.44	\$4,358.32	46.52
TREASURER TOTAL	\$4,000.00	\$45,772.30			\$45,413.09	\$4,359.21	91.24
TAX COLLECTOR SALARIES		\$53,448.00			\$53,448.00		100.00
ASST TAX COLLECTOR SALARIES		\$44,498.08			\$44,498.13	\$-0.05	100.00
TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSES		\$7,575.00			\$6,290.34	\$1,284.66	83.04
KVS SOFTWARE UPGRADE	\$4,045.00					\$4,045.00	0.00
TAX COLLECTOR TOTAL	\$4,045.00	\$105,521.08			\$104,236.47	\$5,329.61	95.13
TAX TITLE EXPENSES	\$13,628.99	\$25,000.00			\$11,890.70	\$26,738.29	30.78
TAX TITLE TOTAL	\$13,628.99	\$25,000.00			\$11,890.70	\$26,738.29	30.78
TOWN SECRETARY SALARIES		\$38,482.56			\$37,160.64	\$1,321.92	96.56
TOWN SECRETARY TOTAL		\$38,482.56			\$37,160.64	\$1,321.92	96.56

<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>
TOWN COUNSEL EXPENSES	\$1,552.75	\$15,000.00	\$9,000.00		\$22,045.40	\$3,507.35	86.27
TOWN COUNSEL TOTAL	\$1,552.75	\$15,000.00	\$9,000.00		\$22,045.40	\$3,507.35	86.27
AUDIT EXPENSES	\$3,964.03	\$18,500.00			\$17,964.03	\$4,500.00	79.96
AUDIT TOTAL	\$3,964.03	\$18,500.00			\$17,964.03	\$4,500.00	79.96
POSTAGE EXPENSES		\$12,000.00			\$9,684.99	\$2,315.01	80.70
POSTAGE TOTAL		\$12,000.00			\$9,684.99	\$2,315.01	80.70
TOWN REPORT EXPENSES		\$3,500.00			\$3,090.00	\$410.00	88.28
TOWN REPORT TOTAL		\$3,500.00			\$3,090.00	\$410.00	88.28
TOWN CLERK SALARIES		\$27,150.01			\$27,150.01		100.00
TOWN CLERK EXPENSES		\$3,445.00			\$2,046.47	\$1,398.53	59.40
TOWN CLERK TOTAL		\$30,595.01			\$29,196.48	\$1,398.53	95.42
ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION EXPENSES		\$12,047.73			\$5,103.41	\$6,944.32	42.35
ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION TOTAL		\$12,047.73			\$5,103.41	\$6,944.32	42.35
CON COMM EXPENSES		\$13,000.00	\$127.00		\$12,851.88	\$275.12	97.90
CON COMM TOTAL		\$13,000.00	\$127.00		\$12,851.88	\$275.12	97.90
PLANNING BOARD EXPENSES		\$6,926.63	\$300.00		\$5,298.92	\$1,327.71	79.96
PLANNING BOARD TOTAL		\$6,926.63	\$300.00		\$5,298.92	\$1,327.71	79.96
BOARD OF APPEALS EXPENSES	\$96.63	\$3,450.00	\$300.00		\$3,743.04	\$103.59	93.79
ZONING BOARD TOTAL	\$96.63	\$3,450.00	\$300.00		\$3,743.04	\$103.59	93.79
BERK REGIONAL PLANNING COMM		\$1,284.14			\$1,284.14		100.00
BRPC TOTAL		\$1,284.14			\$1,284.14		100.00
MUNICIPAL BLDG LABOR		\$45,567.04			\$45,567.04		100.00
MUNICIPAL BLDG UTILITIES		\$73,000.00	\$-700.00		\$56,818.58	\$15,481.42	78.58
MUNICIPAL BLDG EXPENSES	\$10,000.00	\$63,000.00			\$51,998.62	\$21,001.38	71.23
WIREDWEST MEMBERSHIP		\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00		100.00
MUNICIPAL BLDG REPAIRS	\$2,793.06	\$12,500.00			\$7,797.89	\$7,495.17	50.98
REPLC FRONT AND REAR DBL DOOR	\$6,692.00					\$6,692.00	-
TOWN HALL RAMPS & HANDRAILS	\$24,500.00					\$24,500.00	-
TOWN HALL FIRE ESCAPES		\$6,575.00				\$6,575.00	-
MUNICIPAL BLDG TOTAL	\$43,985.06	\$201,642.04	\$-700.00		\$163,182.13	\$81,744.97	66.62
COMPUTER HARD/SOFTWARE UPGRADES	\$6,119.55	\$6,900.00			\$8,898.00	\$4,121.55	68.34
MUNICIPAL BLDG TOWN HALL CNTRL AIR	\$20,000.00					\$20,000.00	-
SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS		\$20,367.00			\$20,366.83	\$0.17	99.99
MUNICIPAL BLDG ARTICLES TOTAL	\$26,119.55	\$27,267.00			\$29,264.83	\$24,121.72	54.81
RESERVE FUND		\$35,000.00	\$-27,710.80			\$7,289.20	-

<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>
RESERVE FUND TOTAL		\$35,000.00	\$-27,710.80			\$7,289.20	-
POLICE DEPT SALARIES		\$235,114.21			\$250,013.95	\$3,100.26	98.77
POLICE DEPT EXPENSES		\$17,270.00			\$16,641.22	\$628.78	96.35
POLICE DEPT TOTAL		\$270,384.21			\$266,655.17	\$3,729.04	98.62
EMERG MANAGEMENT EXPENSES		\$1,000.00			\$345.31	\$654.69	34.53
EMERG MGT TRAINING	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00				\$4,500.00	-
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TOTAL	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00			\$345.31	\$5,154.69	6.27
CONSTABLE EXPENSES		\$300.00				\$300.00	-
CONSTABLE EXPENSES TOTAL		\$300.00				\$300.00	-
FIRE DEPARTMENT SALARIES		\$4,003.46			\$4,003.46		100.00
FIREFIGHTER STIPENDS	\$550.00	\$14,000.00			\$550.00	\$14,000.00	3.78
FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPENSES	\$11,801.77	\$29,500.00			\$35,111.25	\$6,190.52	85.01
DRY HYDRANTS	\$6,886.85					\$6,886.85	-
FIRE STATION #1 REPLACE/INSTALL WIN		\$15,000.00				\$15,000.00	-
FIRE DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$19,238.62	\$62,503.46			\$39,664.71	\$42,077.37	48.52
DRY HYDRANT PARTS	\$7,000.00					\$7,000.00	-
THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS		\$15,000.00			\$12,104.00	\$2,896.00	80.69
FIRE DEPARTMENT ARTICLES TOTAL	\$7,000.00	\$15,000.00			\$12,104.00	\$9,896.00	55.01
E911 COMMUNICATIONS		\$11,268.56			\$11,268.56		100.00
E911 COMMUNICATIONS TOTAL		\$11,268.56			\$11,268.56		100.00
BUILDING DEPARTMENT SALARIES		\$50,552.32	\$410.00		\$50,960.00	\$2.32	99.99
BUILDING DEPARTMENT EXPENSES		\$2,065.00	\$352.29		\$2,417.29		100.00
BUILDING DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$52,617.32	\$762.29		\$53,377.29	\$2.32	99.99
ANIMAL CONTROL SALARIES		\$7,883.58			\$7,883.58		100.00
ANIMAL CONTROL EXPENSES		\$2,500.00			\$2,289.61	\$210.39	91.58
ANIMAL CONTROL TOTAL		\$10,383.58			\$10,173.19	\$210.39	97.97
HARBOR MASTER EXPENSES		\$1,402.00			\$1,240.39	\$161.61	88.47
HARBOR MASTER TOTAL		\$1,402.00			\$1,240.39	\$161.61	88.47
DEMOLITION FUND	\$29,327.82	\$18,000.00			\$31,150.00	\$16,177.82	65.81
DEMOLITION TOTAL	\$29,327.82	\$18,000.00			\$31,150.00	\$16,177.82	65.81
SCHOOL OPERATING BUDGET		\$1,914,640.00			\$1,914,640.00		100.00
VOCATIONAL TUITION		\$167,560.00			\$146,300.00	\$21,260.00	87.31
VOCATIONAL TRANSPORTATION	\$5000.00	\$75,000.00	\$-20,000.00		\$38,859.40	\$21,140.60	64.76
EDUCATION TOTAL	\$5000.00	\$2,157,200.00	\$-20,000.00		\$2,099,799.40	\$42,400.60	98.02
MOTH EXPENSES		\$1.00				\$1.00	-
MOTH ACCOUNT TOTAL		\$1.00				\$1.00	-

<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		\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00		100.00
TREE ACCOUNT TOTAL		\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00		100.00
FORESTRY		\$500.00			\$500.00		100.00
FORESTRY TOTAL		\$500.00			\$500.00		100.00
HIGHWAY DEPT SALARIES		\$209,324.96			\$173,690.43	\$35,634.53	82.97
GENERAL MAINTENANCE	\$21,238.64	\$145,540.00			\$114,723.52	\$52,055.12	68.78
MACHINERY ACCOUNT	\$2,400.00	\$63,755.00	\$5,000.00		\$68,018.65	\$3,136.35	95.59
RECON OF GRAVEL ROAD	\$4,527.00				\$4,527.00		100.00
FUEL ACCOUNT	\$13,911.00	\$99,325.00	\$-5,000.00		\$59,209.96	\$49,026.04	54.70
HIGHWAY GARAGE	\$650.00	\$10,840.00			\$5,703.39	\$5,786.61	49.63
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$42,726.64	\$528,784.96			\$425,872.95	\$145,638.65	74.51
TRUCK 4 DUMP BODY	\$3,880.50				\$3,880.50		100.00
GRADER		\$122,250.00			\$122,250.00		100.00
HIGHWAY ARTICLES TOTAL	\$3,880.50	\$122,250.00			\$126,130.50		100.00
WINTER ROADS SALARIES		\$146,585.51			\$134,719.24	\$11,866.27	91.90
WINTER ROADS		\$79,050.00			\$77,978.46	\$1,071.54	98.64
WINTER ROADS TOTAL		\$225,635.51			\$212,697.70	\$12,937.81	94.26
STREET LIGHTING		\$9,000.00	\$700.00		\$9,539.53	\$160.47	98.34
STREET LIGHTING TOTAL		\$9,000.00	\$700.00		\$9,539.53	\$160.47	98.34
TRANSFER STATION SALARIES		\$27,900.16			\$23,546.90	\$4,353.26	84.39
TRANSFER STATION EXPENSES	\$2,000.00	\$72,240.00			\$73,541.11	\$698.89	99.05
TRANSFER STATION TOTAL	\$2,000.00	\$100,140.16			\$97,088.01	\$5,052.15	95.05
BECKET CENTER CEMETERY		\$3,714.23	\$650.00		\$4,309.54	\$54.69	98.74
NORTH BECKET CEMETERY		\$6,367.25	\$5,100.00		\$11,444.54	\$22.71	99.80
WEST BECKET CEMETERY		\$1,248.48			\$870.47	\$378.01	69.72
SHED	\$3,000.00				\$2,995.00	\$5.00	99.83
CEMETERY TOTAL	\$3,000.00	\$11,329.96	\$5,750.00		\$19,619.55	\$460.41	97.70
SO BERK SOLID WASTE		\$7,894.00			\$7,692.40	\$201.60	97.44
TRANSFER STATION TOTAL		\$7,894.00			\$7,692.40	\$201.60	97.44
BOARD OF HEALTH SALARIES		\$14,000.00			\$13,767.94	\$232.06	98.34
BOARD OF HEALTH EXPENSES		\$18,500.00			\$14,312.98	\$4,187.02	77.36
BOARD OF HEALTH TOTAL		\$32,500.00			\$28,080.92	\$4,419.08	86.40
INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS		\$318.36			\$318.36		100.00
INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS TOTAL		\$318.36			\$318.36		100.00
NURSING SERVICES		\$4,962.00			\$4,961.25	\$0.75	99.98
VISITING NURSE TOTAL		\$4,962.00			\$4,961.25	\$0.75	99.98

<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>
COUNCIL ON AGING EXPENSES		\$5,000.00			\$4,627.42	\$372.58	92.54
OUTREACH PROGRAMS		\$500.00				\$500.00	0.00
<i>COUNCIL ON AGING TOTAL</i>		<i>\$5,500.00</i>			<i>\$4,627.42</i>	<i>\$872.58</i>	<i>84.13</i>
VETERANS AGENT SALARIES		\$2,016.30			\$2,016.30		100.00
VETERANS BENEFITS		\$20,000.00	\$7,037.36		\$26,458.68	\$578.68	97.85
VETERANS AGENT EXPENSE		\$100.00				\$100.00	0.00
<i>VETERANS TOTAL</i>		<i>\$22,116.30</i>	<i>\$7,037.36</i>		<i>\$28,474.98</i>	<i>\$678.68</i>	<i>97.67</i>
ADA LIFT		\$7,000.00				\$7,000.00	0.00
<i>ARTS CENTER TOTAL</i>		<i>\$7,000.00</i>				<i>\$7,000.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>
LIBRARY EXPENSES		\$45,560.00			\$45,560.00		100.00
<i>LIBRARY TOTAL</i>		<i>\$45,560.00</i>			<i>\$45,560.00</i>		<i>100.00</i>
FY14 LIBRARY CAPITAL	\$16,471.73	\$20,000.00			\$29,338.00	\$7,133.73	80.44
<i>LIBRARY CAPITAL TOTAL</i>	<i>\$16,471.73</i>	<i>\$20,000.00</i>			<i>\$29,338.00</i>	<i>\$7,133.73</i>	<i>80.44</i>
WEED TREATMENT CENTER POND		\$1,500.00			\$1,500.00		100.00
<i>CENTER POND TOTAL</i>		<i>\$1,500.00</i>			<i>\$1,500.00</i>		<i>100.00</i>
PARKS AND REC COMM EXPENSES	\$58.57	\$20,000.00			\$19,738.36	\$320.21	98.40
<i>PARKS COMM TOTAL</i>	<i>\$58.57</i>	<i>\$20,000.00</i>			<i>\$19,738.36</i>	<i>\$320.21</i>	<i>98.40</i>
HISTORICAL COMM EXPENSES	\$1,000.00	\$700.00			\$1,699.71	\$0.29	99.98
<i>HISTORICAL COMM TOTAL</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>	<i>\$700.00</i>			<i>\$1,699.71</i>	<i>\$0.29</i>	<i>99.98</i>
MEMORIAL/VETERAN'S DAY EXPENSES		\$1,000.00			\$954.50	\$45.50	95.45
<i>MEMORIAL/VETERAN'S DAY TOTAL</i>		<i>\$1,000.00</i>			<i>\$954.50</i>	<i>\$45.50</i>	<i>95.45</i>
BECKET WASHINGTON SCHOOL		\$109,728.00			\$109,728.00		100.00
NESSACUS SCHOOL DEBT		\$7,303.00			\$7,303.00		100.00
INTEREST ON SHORT TERM DEBT		\$1,500.00	\$-0.60			\$1,499.40	0.00
FIRE PUMPER/DUMP TRUCK DEBT		\$50,625.00			\$50,625.00		100.00
WAHCONAH REGIONAL HS DEBT		\$4,494.00			\$4,494.00		100.00
KITTEREDGE SCHOOL DEBT		\$170.00			\$170.00		100.00
DUMP TRUCK TRACTOR		\$80,022.00	\$0.60		\$80,022.60		100.00
KITTERDGE MSBA WINDOWS		\$183.00			\$183.00		100.00
FY14 DISTRICT SECURITY		\$1,883.00			\$1,883.00		100.00
<i>DEBT TOTAL</i>		<i>\$255,908.00</i>			<i>\$254,408.60</i>	<i>\$1,499.40</i>	<i>99.41</i>
RMV SURCHARGES			\$2,560.00		\$2,560.00		100.00
AIR POLLUTION			\$847.00		\$847.00		100.00
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY			\$10.00		\$10.00	\$-5,000.00	100.00
SCHOOL CHOICE TUITION			\$10,000.00		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	150.00
<i>TOTAL</i>			<i>\$13,417.00</i>		<i>\$18,417.00</i>	<i>\$18,417.00</i>	<i>137.26</i>

<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>
HEALTH/LIFE INSURANCE	\$222.64	\$384,500.00			\$358,029.31	\$26,693.33	93.06
RETIREMENT		\$204,432.00			\$204,432.00		100.00
PAYROLL TAXES		\$23,000.00			\$20,421.87	\$2,578.13	88.79
UNEMPLOYMENT	\$1,857.24	\$10,000.00			\$10,595.74	\$1,261.50	89.36
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS TOTAL	\$2,079.88	\$621,932.00			\$593,478.92	\$30,532.96	95.10
LIABILITY INSURANCE	\$156.00	\$104,000.00			\$97,543.91	\$6,612.09	93.65
LIABILITY INSURANCE TOTAL	\$156.00	\$104,000.00			\$97,543.91	\$6,612.09	93.65
OTHER FINANCING USES	\$103,950.00					\$103,950.00	0.00
OTHER FINANCING - AMB		\$225,467.00			\$225,467.00		100.00
OTHER FINANCING USES TOTAL	\$103,950.00	\$225,467.00			\$225,467.00	\$103,950.00	68.44
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$336,583.97	\$5,828,565.79	\$-11,317.15		\$5,527,007.29	\$626,825.32	89.81
GIFTS AND DONATIONS							
EDUCATION EXPENSES					\$3,300.00	\$-3,300.00	100.00
EDUCATION TOTAL					\$3,300.00	\$-3,300.00	100.00
AMBULANCE GIFTS EXPENSE					\$549.00	\$-549.00	100.00
AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT TOTAL					\$549.00	\$-549.00	100.00
SCHOLARSHIP EXPENSE					\$2,590.00	\$-2,590.00	100.00
EDUCATION TOTAL					\$2,590.00	\$-2,590.00	100.00
GIFTS AND DONATIONS TOTAL					\$6,439.00	\$-6,439.00	100.00
FEDERAL GRANTS							
BONNY RIGG HILL EXP					\$25,287.21	\$-25,287.21	100.00
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TOTAL					\$25,287.21	\$-25,287.21	100.00
FEDERAL GRANTS TOTAL					\$25,287.21	\$-25,287.21	100.00
STATE GRANTS							
EMERG MANAGEMENT GRANT EXPENSE					\$2,460.00	\$-2,460.00	100.00
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TOTAL					\$2,460.00	\$-2,460.00	100.00
DCR FOREST FIREFIGHTING					\$2,000.00	\$-2,000.00	100.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT TOTAL					\$2,000.00	\$-2,000.00	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>
COA GRANT EXPENSES					\$4,502.00	\$-4,502.00	100.00
<i>COUNCIL ON AGING TOTAL</i>					<i>\$4,502.00</i>	<i>\$-4,502.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
CULTURAL COUNCIL EXPENSE					\$3,835.00	\$-3,835.00	100.00
<i>CULTURAL COUNCIL TOTAL</i>					<i>\$3,835.00</i>	<i>\$-3,835.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
<i>STATE GRANTS TOTAL</i>					<i>\$12,797.00</i>	<i>\$-12,797.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
CPA FUND							
CPA ADMIN EXPENSES		\$500.00			\$300.00	\$200.00	60.00
CENTER POND WEED TREATMENT		\$3,000.00				\$3,000.00	0.00
MULLEN HOUSE RESTORATION		\$20,000.00				\$20,000.00	0.00
LAND PURCHASE		\$8,000.00				\$8,000.00	0.00
BECKET ARTS CENTER		\$10,075.00				\$10,075.00	0.00
BECKET ANTHENAEUM		\$27,439.00			\$19,331.00	\$8,108.00	70.45
OBELISK		\$100.00				\$100.00	0.00
BECKET CTR PARK PLAY/SWING		\$75,000.00				\$75,000.00	0.00
BECKET CTR ANT WIN/ROOF		\$6,000.00				\$6,000.00	0.00
RESTORATION HEADSTONES		\$32,000.00				\$32,000.00	0.00
<i>CPA COMMITTEE TOTAL</i>		<i>\$182,114.00</i>			<i>\$19,631.00</i>	<i>\$162,483.00</i>	<i>10.77%</i>
<i>CPA FUND TOTAL</i>		<i>\$182,114.00</i>			<i>\$19,631.00</i>	<i>\$162,483.00</i>	<i>10.77%</i>
REVOLVING FUNDS							
PLUMBING INSPECTOR EXPENSES					\$2,385.00	\$-2,385.00	100.00
<i>PLUMBING INSPECTOR TOTAL</i>					<i>\$2,385.00</i>	<i>\$-2,385.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
GAS INSPECTOR EXPENSES					\$1,665.00	\$-1,665.00	100.00
<i>GAS INSPECTOR TOTAL</i>					<i>\$1,665.00</i>	<i>\$-1,665.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
WIRING INSPECTOR EXPENSES					\$6,975.00	\$-6,975.00	100.00
<i>WIRING INSPECTOR TOTAL</i>					<i>\$6,975.00</i>	<i>\$-6,975.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
POLICE OUTSIDE DETAIL					\$85,759.00	\$-85,759.00	100.00
<i>POLICE DEPT TOTAL</i>					<i>\$85,759.00</i>	<i>\$-85,759.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
<i>REVOLVING FUNDS TOTAL</i>					<i>\$96,784.00</i>	<i>\$-96,784.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
GRADER							
GRADER	\$1,877.06				\$1,877.06		100.00
<i>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TOTAL</i>	<i>\$1,877.06</i>				<i>\$1,877.06</i>		<i>100.00</i>
<i>GRADER TOTAL</i>	<i>\$1,877.06</i>				<i>\$1,877.06</i>		<i>100.00</i>

<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>
DUMP TRUCKI FY16							
DUMP TRUCK FY16					\$240,000.00	\$-240,000.00	100.00
HIGHWAY ARTICLES TOTAL					\$240,000.00	\$-240,000.00	100.00
DUMP TRUCK FY16 TOTAL					\$240,000.00	\$-240,000.00	100.00
TOWN HALL ROOF							
TOWN HALL ROOF					\$7,076.09	\$-7,076.09	100.00
MUNICIPAL BLDG TOTAL					\$7,076.09	\$-7,076.09	100.00
TOWN HALL ROOF TOTAL					\$7,076.09	\$-7,076.09	100.00
AMBULANCE ENTERPRISE							
AMBULANCE SALARIES		\$296,467.00			\$291,643.55	\$4,823.45	98.37
AMBULANCE EXPENSES	\$0.81	\$28,000.00	\$24,861.15		\$52,861.96		100.00
AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$0.81	\$324,467.00	\$24,861.15		\$344,505.51	\$4,823.45	98.61
AUTOMATIC STRETCHER							
AMBULANCE ARTICLES TOTAL		\$16,536.96			\$16,536.96		100.00
		\$16,536.96			\$16,536.96		100.00
OTHER FINANCING USES	\$20,000.00					\$20,000.00	0.00
AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$20,000.00					\$20,000.00	0.00
AMBULANCE ENTERPRISE TOTAL	\$20,000.81	\$341,003.96	\$24,861.15		\$361,042.47	\$24,823.45	93.56
NON-EXPENDABLE TRUST							
CEM PERP CARE EXPENSES					\$232.88	\$-232.88	100.00
CEMETERY TOTAL					\$232.88	\$-232.88	100.00
NON-EXPENDABLE TRUST TOTAL					\$232.88	\$-232.88	100.00
EXPENDABLE TRUST							
N. BECKET CEMETERY PC INTEREST EXPEN					\$181.16	\$-181.16	100.00
CEMETERY TOTAL					\$181.16	\$-181.16	100.00
EXPENDABLE TRUST TOTAL					\$181.16	\$-181.16	100.00
ROAD DISTRICT AGENCY							
SHERWOOD FOREST PAYMENTS					\$4,927.21	\$-4,927.21	100.00
SHERWOOD GREENS PAYMENTS					\$412.11	\$-412.11	100.00
SHERWOOD FOREST LAKE PAYMENTS					\$2,461.26	\$-2,461.26	100.00
CENTER POND LAKE PAYMENTS					\$944.39	\$-944.39	100.00
TOTAL					\$8,744.97	\$-8,744.97	100.00
ROAD DISTRICT AGENCY TOTAL					\$8,744.97	\$-8,744.97	100.00
AGENCY FUND							
RETIREE INSURANCE AND WITHOLDINGS					\$735.16	\$-735.16	100.00
GENERAL GOVERNMENT TOTAL					\$735.16	\$-735.16	100.00
DEPUTY COLLECTOR EXPENSE							
DEPUTY COLLECTOR TOTAL					\$2,839.00	\$-2,839.00	100.00
					\$2,839.00	\$-2,839.00	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>
TOWN CLERK FEES SALARIES					\$870.75	\$-870.75	100.00
<i>TOWN CLERK TOTAL</i>					<i>\$870.75</i>	<i>\$-870.75</i>	<i>100.00</i>
POLICE OUTSIDE DETAIL EXPENSES							100.00
PISTOL PERMIT EXPENSES					\$3,825.00	\$-3,825.00	100.00
<i>POLICE DEPT TOTAL</i>					<i>\$3,825.00</i>	<i>\$-3,825.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
FIRE DEPT FEES					\$3,344.00	\$-3,344.00	100.00
<i>FIRE DEPT TOTAL</i>					<i>\$3,344.00</i>	<i>\$-3,344.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
<i>AGENCY FUND TOTAL</i>					<i>\$11,613.91</i>	<i>\$-11,613.91</i>	<i>100.00</i>
 <i>GRAND TOTAL</i>	 <i>\$358,461.84</i>	 <i>\$6,351,683.75</i>	 <i>\$13,544.00</i>	 <i>\$0.00</i>	 <i>\$6,318,714.04</i>	 <i>\$404,975.55</i>	 <i>93.97</i>



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

FY 2016

GENERAL FUND

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
PERSONAL PROPERTY REVENUE	0.00	0.00	288,501.58	-288,501.58
REAL ESTATE REVENUE	0.00	0.00	4,805,254.62	-4,805,254.62
TAX TITLE REVENUE	0.00	0.00	46,910.72	-46,910.72
MVE REVENUE	0.00	0.00	247,498.02	-247,498.02
SEPTIC LIEN REVENUE	0.00	0.00	573.63	-573.63
PENALTIES AND INTEREST	0.00	0.00	77,624.69	- 77,624.69
IN LIEU OF TAXES	0.00	0.00	21.00	- 21.00
FEES	0.00	0.00	28,216.85	- 28,216.85
OTHER DEPT. REVENUE	0.00	0.00	66,869.15	- 66,869.15
LIQUOR LICENSES	0.00	0.00	4,833.84	- 4,833.84
LICENSES AND PERMITS	0.00	0.00	53,380.00	- 53,380.00
GARBAGE AND TRASH	0.00	0.00	62,560.28	- 62,560.28
CHAPTER 70	0.00	0.00	76,563.00	- 76,563.00
REVENUE FROM THE STATE	0.00	0.00	188,728.00	- 188,728.00
FINES AND FORFEITS	0.00	0.00	15,669.34	- 15,669.34
INTEREST EARNED	0.00	0.00	8,101.53	- 8,101.53
MISC REVENUE	0.00	0.00	3,027.40	-3,027.40
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	5,974,333.65	-5,974,333.65

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	842,507.41	921,717.82	737,519.70	184,198.12
PUBLIC SAFETY	444,859.13	503,687.86	425,978.62	77,709.24
EDUCATION	2,157,200.00	2,142,200.00	2,099,799.40	42,400.60
PUBLIC WORKS	1,007,641.59	1,065,698.73	901,448.24	164,250.49
HEALTH AND WELFARE	73,290.66	80,328.02	74,155.33	6,172.69
CULTURE AND RECREATION	95,760.00	113,290.30	98,790.57	14,499.73
DEBT	255,908.00	255,908.00	254,408.60	1,499.40
STATE/COUNT ASSESSMENTS	0.00	13,417.00	18,417.00	-5,000.00
OTHER EXPENSES	951,399.00	1,057,584.88	916,489.83	141,095.05
EXPENSE TOTALS	5,828,565.79	6,153,832.61	5,527,007.29	626,825.32

GENERAL FUND TOTALS	-5,828,565.79	-6,153,832.61	447,326.36	-6,601,158.97
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GIFTS AND DONATIONS

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
GIFTS AND DONATIONS	0.00	0.00	7,390.00	-7,390.00
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	7,390.00	-7,390.00

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	0.00	0.00	3,300.00	-3,300.00
PUBLIC SAFETY	0.00	0.00	549.00	-549.00
EDUCATION	0.00	0.00	2,590.00	-2,590.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	6,439.00	-6,439.00

GIFTS AND DONATIONS TOTALS	0.00	0.00	951.00	-951.00
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◆ TOWN OF BECKET BUDGETED VS. ACTUAL ◆

FY 2016

FEDERAL GRANTS

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT	0.00	0.00	6.33	-6.33
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	6.33	-6.33

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	0.00	0.00	25,287.21	-25,287.21
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	25,287.21	-25,287.21

FEDERAL GRANT TOTALS	0.00	0.00	25,280.88	-25,280.88
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STATE GRANTS

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
UNASSIGNED	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	-2000.00
REVENUE FROM THE STATE	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	-30,000.00
OTHER STATE REVENUE	0.00	0.00	11,175.42	-11,175.42
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	43,175.42	-43,175.42

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
PUBLIC SAFETY	0.00	0.00	4,460.00	-4,460.00
HEALTH AND WELFARE	0.00	0.00	4,502.00	-4,502.00
CULTURE AND RECREATION	0.00	0.00	3,835.00	-3,835.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	12,797.00	-12,797.00

STATE GRANTS TOTALS	0.00	0.00	30,378.42	-30,378.42
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CPA FUND

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
REAL ESTATE REVENUE	0.00	0.00	40,610.24	-40,610.24
TAX TITLE REVENUE	0.00	0.00	68.13	-68.13
FINES AND FORFEITS	0.00	0.00	156.60	-156.60
OTHER STATE REVENUE	0.00	0.00	12,156.00	-12,156.00
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	52,990.97	-52,990.97

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	182,114.00	182,114.00	19,631.00	162,483.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	182,114.00	182,114.00	19,631.00	162,483.00

CPA FUND TOTALS	-182,114.00	-182,114.00	33,359.97	-215,473.97
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REVOLVING FUNDS

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
FEES	0.00	0.00	19,730.00	- 19,730.00
DETAIL	0.00	0.00	97,273.22	- 97,273.22
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	117,003.22	-117,003.22

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	0.00	0.00	96,784.00	-96,784.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	96,784.00	-96,784.00

◆ TOWN OF BECKET BUDGETED VS. ACTUAL ◆

FY 2016

REVOLVING FUNDS TOTALS	0.00	0.00	20,219.22	- 20,219.22
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SMART GROWTH

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
	0.00	0.00	102.20	- 102.20
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	102.20	-102.20
SMART GROWTH TOTALS	0.00	0.00	102.20	- 102.20

CHAPTER 90

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
	0.00	0.00	36,507.00	- 36,507.00
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	36,507.00	- 36,507.00
CHAPTER 90 TOTALS	0.00	0.00	36,507.00	- 36,507.00

GRADER

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
PUBLIC WORKS	0.00	1,877.06	1,877.06	0.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	1,877.06	1,877.06	0.00
GRADER TOTALS	-0.00	-1,877.06	-1,877.06	0.00

DUMP TRUCK

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
BOND PROCEEDS	0.00	0.00	240,000.00	-240,000.00
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	240,000.00	- 240,000.00
EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
PUBLIC WORKS	0.00	0.00	240,000.00	-240,000.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	240,000.00	-240,000.00
DUMP TRUCK TOTALS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

TOWN HALL ROOF

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
PUBLIC WORKS	0.00	0.00	7,076.09	-7,076.09
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	7,076.09	-7,076.09
TOWN HALL ROOF TOTALS	0.00	0.00	-7,076.09	7,076.09

AMBULANCE ENTERPRISE

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
	0.00	-1,250.00	133,607.30	-134,857.30
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	-1,250.00	133,607.30	-134,857.30
EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
PUBLIC SAFETY	341,003.96	365,865.92	361,042.47	4,823.45
OTHER EXPENSES	0.00	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	341,003.96	385,865.92	361,042.47	24,823.45
AMBULANCE ENTERPRISE TOTALS	-341,003.96	-387,115.92	-227,435.17	-159,680.75

◆ TOWN OF BECKET BUDGETED VS. ACTUAL ◆

FY 2016

NON EXPENDABLE TRUST

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
FEES	0.00	0.00	300.00	-300.00
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	300.00	-300.00

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
PUBLIC WORKS	0.00	0.00	232.88	-232.88
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	232.88	-232.88

NON EXPENDABLE TRUST TOTALS	0.00	0.00	67.12	-67.12
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EXPENDABLE TRUST

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
INTEREST EARNED	0.00	0.00	2,282.54	-2,282.54
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	2,282.54	-2,282.54

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
PUBLIC WORKS	0.00	0.00	181.16	-181.16
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	181.16	-181.16

EXPENDABLE TRUST TOTALS	0.00	0.00	2,101.38	-2,101.38
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ROAD DISTRICT AGENCY

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
REAL ESTATE REVENUE	0.00	0.00	6,460.30	-6,460.30
TAX TITLE REVENUE	0.00	0.00	1,697.07	- 1,697.07
FINES AND FOREFEITS	0.00	0.00	3,341.34	-3,341.34
PENALTIES AND INTEREST	0.00	0.00	1,009.49	-1,009.49
	0.00	0.00	28,621.22	-28,621.22
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	41,129.42	- 41,129.42

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	0.00	0.00	8,744.97	- 8,744.97
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	8,744.97	-8,744.97

ROAD DISTRICT AGENCY TOTALS	0.00	0.00	32,384.45	-32,384.45
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AGENCY FUND

REVENUE	EST REV	ADJ EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
FEES	0.00	0.00	8,963.08	- 8,963.08
RETIRE HEALTH INSURANCE	0.00	0.00	19,401.94	-19,401.94
	0.00	0.00	3,825.00	- 3,825.00
INTEREST EARNED	0.00	0.00	-65,064.64	65,064.64
REVENUE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	-32,874.62	32,874.62

EXPENSE	ORIG BUDGET	ADJ BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	DIFF
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	0.00	0.00	4,444.91	- 4,444.91
PUBLIC SAFETY	0.00	0.00	7,169.00	- 7,169.00
EXPENSE TOTALS	0.00	0.00	11,613.91	-11,613.91

AGENCY FUND TOTALS	0.00	0.00	-44,488.53	-44,488.53
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GRAND TOTAL	-6,351,683.75	-6,724,939.59	297,239.39	-7,022,178.98
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◆ TOWN OF BECKET - COMBINED BALANCE SHEET ◆

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

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	1,413,727.57	522,317.38	97,846.77	16,148.20	17,537.12	682,118.79	109,039.48	0.00	2,858,735.31
Property Taxes	327,300.05	2,159.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	329,459.10
Allowance for Abate & Exempt	-292,609.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-292,609.63
Tax Liens	1,414,975.81	948.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,415,924.53
Motor Vehicle Excise	28,222.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	28,222.38
User Charges/Liens	10,619.88	6,036.21	0.00	0.00	122,960.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	139,616.39
Amts Prov for Pay of Bonds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	551,300.00	551,300.00
TOTAL ASSETS	2,902,236.06	531,461.36	97,846.77	16,148.20	140,497.42	682,118.79	109,039.48	551,300.00	5,030,648.08
<u>LIABILITIES</u>									
Other Liabilities	4,861.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,861.67
Def Rev Prop Tax	34,690.42	2,159.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	36,849.47
Def Rev Tax Liens	1,414,975.81	948.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,415,924.53
Def Rev MV Excise	28,222.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	28,222.38
Borrowing Authorized and Unissued	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-4,047,747.35	-4,047,747.35
Def Rev User Charges/Liens	10,619.88	6,036.21	0.00	0.00	122,960.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	139,616.39
Borrowing Authorized	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,047,747.35	4,047,747.35
Bonds Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	551,300.00	551,300.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,493,370.16	9,143.98	0.00	0.00	122,960.30	0.00	0.00	551,300.00	2,176,774.44
<u>FUND BALANCES</u>									
Reserved for Encumbrances	248,981.26	162,283.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	411,264.26
Reserved for Expenditures	386,138.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	386,138.00
Designated	0.00	30,741.00	0.00	0.00	17,537.12	650,207.41	0.00	0.00	698,485.53
Undesignated	773,746.64	329,293.38	97,846.77	16,148.20	0.00	31,911.38	109,039.48	0.00	1,357,985.85
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	1,408,865.90	522,317.38	97,846.77	16,148.20	17,537.12	682,118.79	109,039.48	0.00	2,853,873.64
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	2,902,236.06	531,461.36	97,846.77	16,148.20	140,497.42	682,118.79	109,039.48	551,300.00	5,030,648.08



◆ **WAGES PAID IN CALENDAR YEAR 2016** ◆

Board of Selectmen

Board of Selectmen	
Elovirta, William H.	\$ 1,992.92
Hilton, Angela I.	833.30
Ledoux, Nicole D.	1,166.62
Pryor, Jeanne W.	1,992.92

Town Administrator

Gibson, Edward J.	\$ 63,556.39
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Board of Assessors

Walter, Geraldine L.	\$ 27,329.30
Will, Elizabeth A.	44,848.57

Treasurer

Bleau, Christine D.	\$ 42,856.00
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Tax Collector

Bilodeau, Kenneth	\$ 53,533.69
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Assistant Tax Collector

Weiler, Nina M.	\$ 44,564.98
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Deputy Collector

Shorey, David O.	\$ 2,584.00
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Town Secretary

Gilbert, Beverly A.	\$ 38,546.98
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Town Clerk/Elections

Roberts, George E.	\$ 28,019.95
Babcock, Meredyth A.	130.00
Blake, Alvin	470.00
Bonney, Eva J.	265.00
Clemons, Patricia	710.00
Francis, Charles I.	552.50
Garman, Charles A.	130.00
Kay-Grace, Julia	632.50
Krawet, Ann L.	255.00
LaBelle, Gale L.	225.00
LaBelle, Stephen A.	130.00
McEwen, Priscilla J.	130.00
Metcalf, Adrienne K.	65.00
Rosenthal, Ruth	390.00
Schwartzbach, Jerome H.	65.00
VanNess, Elizabeth P.	445.00

Police Department

Derby, Travis P.	\$ 3,579.77
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Forest, Cameron D.	4,087.38
Gonska, Adam D.	1,762.77
Heath, Chad E.	9,221.95
Hunt, Michael	33,113.48
McDonough, Kristopher G.	62,847.52
Miller, Nicole M.	19,072.26
Miller, Tyler S.	1,920.63
Pettibone, Kenneth E.	21,937.73
Portieri, Marc J.	49,707.89
Sawyer, Michael F.	2,605.00
Virginia, Matthew	50,376.06

Conservation Commission

Evans, Shepley W.	\$ 486.48
Larcom, Mallory A.	13,232.96

Fire Chief/Chief Stipend & Fees

Hanford, Mark A.	\$ 5,902.61
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Ambulance Department

Cawthron, Danny R.	\$ 6,816.31
Cooper, Meredydd	15,873.48
Davidson, Erik R.	13,642.91
Ferrin, Raymond E.	1,864.33
Garofoli, Vincent J.	39,413.44
Hart, Hillary T.	5,156.77
Kibbe, Frances J.	32,204.81
Koivisto, Max W	11,594.94
Kupernik, James R.	54,237.39
Litourneau, George L.	5,236.19
Mechare, Joseph W.	51,141.11
Miller, Nicole L.	28,443.48
Mullany, Michael J.	791.20
Robillard Jr. Leo O.	318.82
Sorrentino, Victoria L.	2,992.90
Stanton, Diana L.	2,983.50
Taylor, Juli R.	1,774.70
Van Deusen Crystal L.	3,145.87
Vivier, Edward V.	14,928.54

Building Inspector

Danko, Gary	\$ 149.88
Girard, William E.	51,033.78

Public Safety Inspections

Levernoch, Mark A.	\$ 4,590.00
Spring, Dana	5,175.00
Middleton, Brian E.	990.00

◆ **WAGES PAID IN CALENDAR YEAR 2016** ◆

~ Continued ~

Highway Department

Cooper, Robert R.	\$ 54,789.61
Goodermote, Albert R.	55,648.04
Morawiec, Nathan E.	50,116.24
Murray, Donald L.	37,468.10
Shorey, David O.	3,100.24
VanZandt, Jimmy S.	3,964.79
Waite, Jeffrey	56,381.18

Building & Grounds Technician

Shorey, David O.	\$ 45,634.44
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Highway Superintendent

Bouchard, Christopher	\$ 61,743.92
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Board of Health

Burgwardt, Laurel L.	\$ 5,569.16
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Animal Control Officer

Goodermote, Albert	\$ 7,896.02
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Animal Inspector

Elovirta, Madelaine	\$ 318.36
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Veterans' Agent

Mann, Lloyd D.	\$ 2,036.46
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Cemetery

Cavanaugh, William F.	\$ 9,523.70
Smith, Michelle S.	633.10
Williams, Dean R.	9,161.27

Transfer Station

Hoppe, Siegfried B.	\$ 10,131.76
White, Mark D.	10,996.22

Clerk of Committees

Hunt, Heather	\$ 29,583.67
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Recreation Program & Lifeguards

Balardini, Trae E.	\$1,474.88
DeFoe, Michaela C.	3,182.75
Greenspan, Zachary M.	4,500.00
La Brode, Hunter A.	533.25
Smith, Amber L.	2,524.50

Accountant

McClellan, Margaret A.	\$ 23,165.83
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Harbor Master

Rosenthal, Steven	\$ 612.00
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Fire Department Stipend

Atwell, James R.	\$ 700.00
Beringer, Richard	700.00
Bergeron Jr., Aurele	700.00
Elovirta, Jan R.	700.00
Elovirta, Justin R.	700.00
Elovirta, Madelaine	700.00
Elovirta, William H.	700.00
Furlong Jr., David F.	700.00
Goebel, Gene R.	700.00
Healey, Robert	700.00
Healey Jr., Robert	700.00
Isner, Christopher A.	700.00
Johnson, Robert L.	700.00
Massini, Kristopher M.	700.00
Mikanicwicz, Paul A.	700.00



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

About the Back Cover

Thank you to Jennifer Beatty for sharing her photographs of the July 9th Hilltown Brouhaha also known as the Becket Washington Community Fair which involved a day of fun-filled activities in the North Becket Village. The Becket Washington Community Partnership sponsored this event.

