



# TOWN OF BECKET

## *Massachusetts*

2021  
ANNUAL  
TOWN REPORT  
*of the Town Officials*

## About The Cover

**The Select Board thanks all who submitted entries to the Annual Town Report Photo Contest.**

*Front Cover Photographer and Caption*

**Lee Seidenberg:** Center Pond

*Back Cover Photographers and Captions*

**Ann Spadafora:** Glorious Western View

**Jennifer Spirito:** Mecum Road

# ***IN MEMORIAM***

During the year, we were saddened by the passing of the listed individuals who enhanced the lives of those in our community. We dedicate this Annual Report to their memory:

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## **BRUCE GARLOW**

Bylaw Review Committee

Moderator

250th Anniversary Committee

Edited Becket, Massachusetts: From Colonial Township to Modern Town,  
a history published in 2015, the year of the town's 250th anniversary

*April 23, 2021*



## **CANDICE LEE CAHALAN**

Election Officer

*June 5, 2021*



## **JOHN “JACK” F. DEACON**

Conservation Commission

Harbor Master

*August 9, 2021*



# ***Town of Becket, Massachusetts***

## ***ANNUAL REPORT***

*of the*

***Town Officials***

♦ ***2021*** ♦



**William H. Elovirta**

*Select Board Member*

**Christopher E. Swindlehurst**

*Select Board Member*

**Michael S. Lavery**

*Select Board Member*

**William J. Caldwell**

*Town Administrator*

***For the year ending December 31, 2021***

## ◆ Town Officers ◆

### Elected Officials

#### **Board of Selectmen**

William H. Elovirta, <i>Chair</i>	2024
Christopher Swindlehurst, <i>Vice Chair</i>	2022
Michael S. Lavery, <i>Clerk</i>	2023

#### **Board of Health**

Gale LaBelle, <i>Chair</i>	2022
Robert Ronzio, <i>Vice Chair</i>	2023
Laurel Burgwardt, <i>Clerk</i>	2024

#### **Cemetery Commissioners**

William Cavanaugh, <i>North Becket Cemetery</i>	2022
Michelle Smith, <i>West Becket Cemetery</i>	2024
Dean Williams, <i>Center Cemetery</i>	2023

#### **Constables**

William H. Elovirta	2024
Robert Ronzio	2024

#### **Finance Committee**

Dan Parnell, <i>Chair</i>	2022
Ann Spadafora, <i>Vice Chair &amp; Scheduler</i>	2024
Ronald DeFoe, <i>Clerk</i>	2022
Mark Karlberg	2023
Charles Garman	2024

#### **Planning Board**

Robert Ronzio, <i>Chair</i>	2025
James Levy, <i>Vice Chair</i>	2026
Alvin Blake, <i>Clerk Pro Tem</i>	2022
Ann Krawet, <i>Clerk</i>	2023
Howard Lerner	2024
Gale LaBelle, <i>Associate Member -</i>	2022
<i>appointed by the Select Board</i>	

#### **Moderator**

Ethan Klepetar	2023
Steve Rosenthal, <i>Deputy Moderator -</i>	2022
<i>appointed by the Moderator</i>	

#### **School Committee (Becket Representatives)**

Barbara Craft-Reiss, <i>Chair</i>	2022
Art Alpert	2024

#### **Town Clerk**

George Roberts	2023
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### Board of Selectmen Appointments

#### **Agricultural Commission**

Neil Toomey, <i>Chair</i>	2022
Kristopher Massini	2022

#### **Berkshire Regional Planning Commission**

<i>appointed by the Planning Board</i>	
Robert Ronzio, <i>Delegate</i>	2022
Ann Krawet, <i>Alternate Delegate</i>	2022
<i>appointed by the Select Board</i>	

#### **Berkshire Public Health Alliance**

<i>appointed by the Board of Health</i>	
Gale Labelle, <i>Voting Member</i>	
Laurel Burgwardt, <i>Alternate Representative</i>	

#### **Berkshire Transportation Advisory Committee**

William H. Elovirta, <i>Representative (no expiration date)</i>	
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#### **Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board**

William H. Elovirta, <i>Designee</i>	2022
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#### **Board of Assessors**

Geraldine Walter, <i>Chair</i>	2024
Jessica Perotti, <i>Vice Chair</i>	2023
Beverly Gilbert, <i>Clerk</i>	2024

#### **Board of Survey**

Paul Mikaniewicz, <i>Fire Chief</i>	
David O. Shorey, <i>Building &amp; Grounds Technician</i>	

#### **Bylaw Review Committee**

Madelaine Elovirta	2022
Sarah Hoecker	2021
Maria Wallington	2023
Town Clerk, <i>ex officio, non-voting member</i>	
Moderator, <i>ex officio, non-voting member</i>	

#### **Chief Procurement Officer**

William Caldwell	2025
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#### **Citizen's Advisory Committee**

Alvin Blake	2022
George Roberts	2022
Christopher Swindlehurst	2022

## ◆ *Town Officers* ◆

### Community Preservation Committee

Neil Toomey, <i>at Large member, Chair</i>	
<i>resigned Jan. 29th</i>	2023
Douglas Bessone, <i>Conservation Com. Designee</i>	2023
Rita Furlong, <i>Parks &amp; Recreation Designee</i>	2023
John Garvey, <i>Historical Com. Designee</i>	2024
James P. Levy, <i>Planning Board Designee</i>	2023
Cindy Delpapa, <i>at Large member</i>	2023
Larisa Shpitalnik, <i>at Large member</i>	2022
Vacancy: <i>at Large member</i>	

### Conservation Commission

David Johnson, <i>Chairperson</i>	2024
Cindy Delpapa, <i>Secretary resigned Feb. 23rd</i>	2022
Meredyth Babcock, <i>resigned Nov. 1st</i>	2024
Douglas Bessone	2023
Henry Hagenah	2023
George Roberts	2022
James Schaefer	2022
Henry Scarpo	2024

### Council on Aging

Paula Bergeron, <i>Co-Director / Treasurer</i>	2022
Joan Moylan, <i>Co-Director</i>	2022
Lorraine Dean	2023
Celine Godbout	2022
Marie Grull	2022
William Robinson	2022
Flora Whiffen	2024

### Cultural Council

Cathy Terwedow, <i>Chair</i>	2023
Shelley Chanler, <i>Secretary</i>	2023
Andrea Pecor, <i>Treasurer</i>	2022
Linda Bacon	2022
Mary Manning Cohen	2022
Andrea Nix	2022
Sally Baumer	2022
Roberta Goldman	2023
Carole Rivel	2024
Tracy Wilson	2023

### Election Workers

Meredyth Babcock (D)	2022
Alvin Blake (U)	2022
Barbara Craft-Reiss (D)	2022
Susan Crossley (D)	2022
Tarcisio Ramos dos Santos (D)	2022

Charles Francis (D)	2022
Charles Garman (U)	2022
Patricia Clemons (D)	2022
Timothy Hickey (U)	2022
Lynn Howard (D)	2022
Julia Kay Grace (D)	2022
Ann Krawet (D)	2022
Gale LaBelle (R)	2022
Stephen LaBelle, Sr. (R)	2022
Adele Levine (D)	2022
James Peter Levy (U)	2022
Priscilla McEwen (U)	2022
Adrienne Metcalf (U)	2022
Susan Purser (D)	2022
Steven Reiss (D)	2022
Thomas Henry Rock (R)	2022
Ruth Rosenthal (U)	2022
Jerome Schwartzbach (U)	2022
Flora Whiffen (U)	2022

### Energy Committee

Garth Klimchuk, <i>Chair</i>	2024
Catherine DeFoe, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	2023
Susan Purser, <i>Secretary</i>	2024
Alvin Blake	2022
Robert Gross	2022
Katherine Hoak, <i>Alternate Member</i>	2022
Ex-Officio Members: Edward Pickert, William Caldwell, William Girard, Dan Parnell	

### Harbor Master

Steve Rosenthal	2022
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### Historical Commission

Sandra Jarvis, <i>Chair</i>	2024
Rita Furlong	2022
John Garvey	2024
Katherine Hoak, <i>resigned Aug. 13th</i>	2023
Gail Kusek	2024
Timothy Sullivan	2024

### Jacobs Ladder Trail Advisory Committee

*Vacancy*

### Municipal Light Plant Manager

Robert Gross	2023
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## ◆ *Town Officers* ◆

### **Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee**

Meredyth Babcock	2022
Al Blake	2022
Cindy Delpapa	2022
Michael Lavery	2022
Larisa Shpitalnik	2022
Kenneth Smith	2022

### **Parks & Recreation Committee**

Rita Furlong, <i>Chair</i>	2023
Madelaine Elovirta, <i>Clerk</i>	2023
Tina LeVasseur	2022
Eila May Bell	2023
1 Vacancy	

### **Public Relations Liaison/Officer**

William H. Elovirta

### **Records Access Officers** (*term effective 1/1/2017*)

*per Chapter 121 of the Acts of 2016)*

Town Clerk (*for Town Clerk Records*)

Administrative Asst. (*for other than Town Clerk Records*)

### **Registrar of Voters**

Colleen Cox (D)	2024
Robin Greenspan (R)	2022
Michelle Smith (D)	2023
Town Clerk, George Roberts (U)	

### **Tax Collector**

Kenneth Bilodeau	2023
Nina Weiler, <i>Assistant Collector</i>	2022
David Shorey, <i>Deputy Collector</i>	2022
<i>The Assistant and Deputy Collectors are appointed by the Tax Collector with the Select Board's approval.</i>	

### **Town Administrator**

William Caldwell	2025
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### **Treasurer**

Christine Bleau	2022
Kenneth Bilodeau, <i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	2023
<i>The Assistant Treasurer is appointed by the Treasurer with Select Board's approval</i>	

### **Westfield River Wild & Scenic Advisory Committee**

Cindy Delpapa, <i>Representative</i>	2022
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### **WiredWest**

Jeffrey Piemont, <i>Delegate</i>	2022
Robert Gross, <i>Alternate Delegate</i>	2022

### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

Victoria Bleier, <i>Chair</i>	2024
Sarah Hoecker, <i>Vice Chair</i>	2023
Robin Mathiesen, <i>Clerk</i>	2024
Mary Canty	2023
Jeff Wilkinson	2022
Alvin Blake, <i>Assoc. Member</i>	2022
Christopher Milenkevich, <i>Assoc. Member</i>	2022

### **Zoning Enforcement Officer**

William Girard	2024
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## **Town Administrator's Appointments**

### **Accountant**

Margaret McClellan	2022
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### **Ambulance Director**

Raymond Ferrin	2022
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### **Animal Control Officer**

Nicole Miller	2022
<i>Tania Jakubiec, Assistant – Agreement with The Town of Otis</i>	

### **Animal Inspector**

Madelaine Elovirta	2022
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### **Inspector of Buildings/Trench Inspector**

William Girard	2024
Gary Danko, <i>Asst. Building Inspector</i>	2022

### **Emergency Management Director**

Kristopher McDonough	2022
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### **Fire Chief/Fire Warden**

Paul Mikaniewicz	2022
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### **Highway Superintendent/Pest Control/Tree Warden**

Edward Pickert	2022
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### **Plumbing/Gas Inspector**

Mark Levernoch	2022
Brian Middleton, <i>Assistant Plumbing/Gas Inspector</i>	2022

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## ◆ *Town Officers and Town Employees* ◆

### **Police Department Full-Time**

Kristopher McDonough, <i>Chief</i>	2022
Matthew Virginia, <i>Sergeant</i>	2022
Kurtis Eckman	2022
Michael Hunt	2022
Nicole Miller	2022

### **Police Department Part-Time**

Charlene Auger	2022
Trae Balardini - <i>resigned March 28th</i>	2021
Daniel McClellan	2022
Frank Murphy	2022
Kenneth Pettibone	2022

### **Veterans' Agent**

Doug Mann	2022
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### **Veterans' Grave Officer**

William Mulholland	2022
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### **Wiring Inspector**

Dana Spring	2022
Jim LaPier, <i>Assistant Wiring Inspector</i>	2022
Trevor Clement, <i>Assistant Wiring Inspector</i>	2022

## **Town Employees**

### **Administrative Assistant**

Beverly Gilbert

### **Ambulance Department**

Lisa Michaud

### **Assessors' Clerk/Planning Board's Admin. Asst.**

Jessica Perotti

### **Board of Health/ZBA Clerk**

Terese Lundberg

### **Building and Grounds Technician**

David Shorey

### **Conservation Agent**

Mary Stucklen – *resigned Aug. 20th*  
Nicolas Pietroniro

### **Highway Department**

Tyler Chrystal  
Albert Goodermote  
Christopher Isner  
Nathan Morawiec  
Donald Murray

### **Transfer Station**

George Crochiere  
Robert Will  
Maurice Vandesteene

### **Volunteer Fire Department**

Paul Mikaniewicz, *Chief*  
Kris Massini, *Deputy Chief*  
Bob Healey Sr., *Captain*  
Chris Isner, *Lieutenant*  
David Furlong, *Lieutenant*  
Aurele Bergeron, *Firefighter/Support Staff*  
Craig Calantoni, *Firefighter*  
Tyler Crystal, *Probationary Firefighter*  
Derek Daudelin, *Firefighter*  
Jan Elovirta, *Firefighter*  
Jessica Giarolo, *Firefighter/EMT*  
Gene Goebel, *Firefighter*  
Mark Hanford, *Retired Fire Chief/Support Staff*  
Bob Healey Jr., *Firefighter*  
Darien Houlihan, *Firefighter*  
Buddy Johnson, *Firefighter*  
Nathan Morawiec, *Probationary Firefighter*  
Jason Maronde, *Firefighter*  
Paul Mazut, *Firefighter/Support Staff*  
Travis Miller, *Firefighter*  
Troy Phelps, *Probationary Firefighter*  
Chris Swindlehurst, *Firefighter*



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*Town of Becket, Massachusetts*  
**2021 Annual Report**  
of the  
**Town Officials**  
January 1 through December 31  
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*\*Town of Becket Appointment Application – At end of report*

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◆ **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR USE** ◆

***Governor***

Charlie Baker

Mass. State House,  
24 Beacon St., Room 280  
Boston, MA 02133  
TEL: 617-725-4005

Western Mass. Office, State Office Building  
436 Dwight St, Ste. 300  
Springfield, MA 01103  
TEL: 413-784-1200

***United States Senators***

Elizabeth Warren

309 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
TEL: 202-224-4543  
[www.warren.senate.gov](http://www.warren.senate.gov)

Edward J. Markey

255 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
TEL: 202-224-2742  
[www.markey.senate.gov](http://www.markey.senate.gov)

***Congressman***

Richard E. Neal

Federal Building, 78 Center Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
TEL: 413-442-0946  
[www.neal.house.gov](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:Rep.Smitty@mahouse.gov)

***Annual Town Meeting***

Second Saturday of May

***Annual Town Election***

Third Saturday of May

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◆ **FACTS ABOUT BECKET** ◆

<b>Incorporated</b>	June 21, 1765
<b>Location</b>	Western Massachusetts
<b>Population</b>	2,164 (as of 12/31/2021)
<b>Registered Voters</b>	1,687 (as of 12/31/2021)
<b>Form of Government</b>	Select Board/Town Administrator Open Town Meeting
<b>Tax Rate</b>	\$11.62 per 1,000 - Fiscal Year 2021
<b>Public Schools</b>	Central Berkshire Regional School District
<b>Police Department</b>	Full-Time Chief, Full-Time Sergeant, Three Full-Time Police Officers, and Three Part-Time Officers Non-Emergency Telephone: 413-623-6010
<b>Fire Department</b>	Fire Chief Non-Emergency Telephone: 413-207-1602  Burning Permits 413-623-2185 (January 15 – May 1 weather permitting) <i>To apply for a burn permit online please go to the following link:</i> <a href="http://www.bcburnpermits.com/">http://www.bcburnpermits.com/</a>
<b>Ambulance Department</b>	Fire Station #2 Non-Emergency Telephone: 413-623-5027
<b>Public Library</b>	Becket Athenaeum 3367 Main Street, P.O. Box 9, Becket Telephone: 413-623-5483
<b>Arts Center</b>	Becket Arts Center 7 Brooker Hill Road, Becket Telephone: 413-623-6635
<b>Post Office</b>	Becket Post Office 623 Main Street, Becket Telephone: 413-623-8845
<b>Elevation</b>	1,200 Feet
<b>Area</b>	48.04 Square Miles
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.townofbecket.org">www.townofbecket.org</a> and <a href="http://www.becketbroadband.org">www.becketbroadband.org</a>

If you would like to receive public meeting agendas and/or public notices please subscribe on the town's website at the following link: <https://www.townofbecket.org/subscribe> and to receive updates on the Town-owned broadband project, you may subscribe to [www.becketbroadband.org](http://www.becketbroadband.org)

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◆ **TELEPHONE DIRECTORY OF TOWN SERVICES** ◆

**All Emergencies, Call 911**  
***Local Public Safety (non-emergency)***

<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>	413-207-1602
<b>AMBULANCE</b>	413-623-5027
<b>POLICE</b>	413-623-6010
<b>STATE POLICE</b>	413-243-0600

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 413-623-8988**

***Becket Town Offices 413-623-8934 (see extension)***

<b><u>Department</u></b>	<b><u>Extensions for 413-623-8934</u></b>
Selectmen's Office/Administrative Assistant	#100
Town Clerk	#111
Treasurer	#112
Town Administrator	#113
Building Inspector	#114
Tax Collector	#116
Assessors	#118
Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals	#120
Board of Health	#122
Council on Aging	#127
Conservation Commission	#129
Harbor Master	#140
Animal Control Officer	#156

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## ◆ *REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR* ◆

Coming to Becket, I never expected that we would all be dealing with a pandemic for nearly two years. 2020 was a difficult year in terms of pandemic and the unknowns regarding COVID-19 and how to best manage it. With the development and the distribution of the vaccines we were able to see Becket come back to life in summer 2021 with return of many of our friends and neighbors. Each of the summer camps and Jacob's Pillow were able to resume operations as well.

Over the course of this year we have worked on several projects which will be outlined in this year's report.

The Town has converted its lights to LEDs, converted the oil heating system at Town Hall to propane, and installed insulation at Fire Station 1 and heat pumps in both Fire Station 1 and 2. We have looked into and continue to pursue the possibility of a small scale wind turbine at Town Hall and the potential for solar on other buildings.

Town Meeting approved several capital items including a portion of the funding for the pavilion at the Maple Street Park, funds to continue to HVAC conversion and upgrade at Town Hall and a renovation of the staff breakroom, money to support the purchase of hose and new SCBA equipment for the Becket Volunteer Fire Department, a new Highway truck, and a generator at Town Hall after its failure in the spring. Many of these projects and purchases are underway though the supply chain issues and costs have influenced some of the projects' ability to be completed promptly.

We have pursued several grants over the last year. With a spring application deadline the MassWorks program is meant to support towns for projects that they may not otherwise be able to fund. This year we looked to infrastructure for our application. We submitted for funding a request of \$1 million to repave the Becket portion of McNerney Road. We were awarded it this fall and hope to get the project moving forward next construction season. We hope to pair this with another grant that we were awarded, Complete Streets, to support bikes and pedestrians in this area.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was passed by Congress this year which provides funding to all cities and towns as well as the state. Over the course of two years, Becket will receive just over \$500,000. We will use this money for the broadband project.

We have received two grants over Fiscal Years 2021 and 2022 for the study of a culvert on Benton Hill Road. Eventually we hope to have this replaced. Becket also received funding for an ADA Planning Grant to a plan for disability improvements in town buildings. Lastly, an Open Space and Recreation Plan grant was awarded to the Town for future planning and conservation efforts. This will carry into 2022.

With the passage of the Massachusetts Police Reform Bill, changes will occur with the Becket Police Department regarding staffing. The Annual Town Meeting approved an additional full-time officer. In part due to COVID-19 and Becket's distance from the nearest hospital we pursued the initiative of improving our level of service of the Becket Ambulance Department. This November, we moved from an Advanced Level of care to the Paramedic Level allowing our Ambulance Department to best serve the residents.

Broadband is quite possibly the most important issue regarding the Town of Becket. This year our first customers were connected and as of this writing four fiber service areas have been released for connection.

It has been a pleasure working for the Town of Becket.

*Respectfully submitted,*

**William J. Caldwell**  
***Town Administrator***



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## ◆ *REPORT OF THE SELECT BOARD* ◆

I think everyone is happy that 2021 is behind us and that we can look forward to a better 2022. We have been fortunate, that while some staff have tested positive and had Covid, no one had a serious illness from it.

The hottest topic in town the past few years is, “when will we have operational broadband?” I am pleased to say that many of us are now connected, with more residences being hooked up daily. Everyone will be connected in 2022. We want to thank the Broadband Ad Hoc Group, headed by Municipal Light Plant Manager Bob Gross, for all the many hours they generously have spent as volunteers to see this project through the many phases required.

Last year Dave Shorey, Building and Grounds Technician, reconfigured the Town Hall pavilion to include the broadband hut and expand the size of the Parks and Recreation storage room. In 2022 the open pavilion space will be expanded. The expansion was planned for last year but time ran out. Dave is also in the process of upgrading the staff break room in the Town Hall.

In May, unlike last year, we were able to hold the Annual Town Meeting at the Becket-Washington School Gymnasium.

Also, in May the Annual Town Elections were held. Michael Lavery won a second three year term. The Select Board reorganized as is customary at the first meeting after the election. William Elovirta was elected Chairperson; Christopher Swindlehurst, Vice-Chairperson; and Michael Lavery, Clerk.

New mini-split heat pumps were installed in Fire Station #1 to supplement the propane fired furnaces. Mini-splits were also installed in Fire Station #2 and Ambulance Garage to augment propane furnaces.

The Parks and Recreation Committee went before the Conservation Commission to obtain permission to build a small pavilion at the North Becket Park on Maple St. After a site visit and public hearing, the commission granted approval. The new pavilion was erected this past summer and this year electricity will be installed.

New propane fueled replacement furnaces were installed in the Town Hall to replace the original units

installed when the building was built in 1992. This year air conditioning units will be added to them to provide central air conditioning throughout the building. A new emergency propane fueled generator will be installed in 2022 that will provide emergency power for the Town Hall. The Town Hall is also used as an emergency center.

This year was one of the wettest on record with many heavy rainstorms. One particular storm caused an estimated \$400,000.00 damages to our roads: Our worst hit was our very hilly Leonhardt Road. It was necessary to hire a contractor to repair Leonhardt Road while the Town Highway Department worked on other road repairs. We are hoping that the Commonwealth will provide some financial aid.

In early 2021 the Select Board approved Michael Lavery to petition the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for a grant to improve the town-owned land at Jacob’s Well on Route 20. The CPC unanimously approved his application. Once Annual Town Meeting approved Article 15 (to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the Community Preservation Open Space Reserves for the creation of Esau’s Heel walking path at Jacob’s Well), Michael moved forward with trail improvement. The Greenagers, a non-profit 501 (C)(3) organization that employs youth and teens out of South Egremont, was engaged to do the trail work. Due to the massive record-setting amount of rainfall in the Berkshires and Northeast during July, work did not commence until August and was finished in September with a small wooden surface placed above a wet section in the trail. The existing trail was widened and was extended from a straight, level lane of 1.5 miles out and back to a 2-mile loop trail, with the loop adding a hillier section for more advanced hikers. Signs were installed to mark the entrance to convey that the property was open for use. The name of the trail “Esau’s Heel” ties into the theme of the biblical name Jacob within Becket and surrounding towns (e.g. Jacob’s Ladder Trail, Jacob’s Pillow, Jacob’s Well). The tale of Esau, states that during birth, his twin brother Jacob came out grasping Esau’s heel. This imagery is also the shape of the original trail, a long “leg” with a bend at the end. Hence the name. The CPC funding covers improvements to the trail, a kiosk at the trailhead housing a sign-in sheet, and an educational trail guide with information about the local flora and fauna.

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

It is hoped that the kiosk will be completed before the official opening during 2022 in late spring to early summer.

Due to the Commonwealth mandated police reform law that took effect in July, all part-time police officers are now required to have the same academy training as full-time officers. All part-time officers have three years to become certified or leave police work. This has caused some problems to our department because we have relied on many part-time officers over the years who have done an excellent job. We will eventually be forced to hire only full-time certified officers to maintain 24/7 coverage.

In September, our Ambulance Department obtained its Paramedic level service (a category of Advanced Life Support). This could save lives by reducing intercepts to outside Advanced Life Support entities (usually Pittsfield) especially when taking into account that outside entities are often not available.

We are in discussions with Otis, at their request, to share a police chief. This could save each town a portion of the cost of a full-time chief. This would be on a trial basis with an expected start date in Spring 2022.

Because of spiraling costs associated with the Transfer Station, it was necessary to increase the bag sticker fee to \$2.00/each. We do not have a lot of leeway controlling costs because the majority of how we operate falls under Dept. of Environmental Protection's mandates relating to managing recyclables, testing and reports. The reimbursements we receive for recyclables is at an all-time low. Moreover, our haulers have passed along their rise in their fuel costs to us.

In August, we negotiated with our Town Administrator, Bill Caldwell, to renew his three-year contract to expire on January 27, 2025. Yearly performance appraisals by the Select Board and staff have shown that Bill has done an excellent job, especially with writing and securing various grants that have led to town building and infrastructure upgrades, etc.

We want to thank our Administrative Assistant, Beverly Gilbert, for keeping the Board and Town Administrator up to date with all correspondence, agendas and other matters. Beverly is always ready to assist. And, especially during this past year of Covid-19 inconveniences, we wish to thank all the other employees of the town in and out of Town Hall and the many volunteers on boards and committees for their challenging work and dedication to make Becket a wonderful place to live and visit.

We thank you, the taxpayers, and voters, for putting your trust in us to administer the town for you.

We urge all registered voters in Becket to attend the Annual Town Meeting and Annual Town Elections in May where your vote counts. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the town office, Town Administrator or any Select Board member.

*Respectfully submitted,*

**Select Board**

William H. Elovirta, **Chairperson**

Christopher Swindlehurst, **Vice-Chairperson**

Michael S. Lavery, **Clerk**



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## ◆ *REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT* ◆

The Becket Fire Department responded to a total of 124 calls during the 2021 calendar year:

- 26 Smoke/Fire Alarm activations. These calls include false alarms due to alarm malfunction, faulty alarm, and smoke from cooking or other non-fire issue.
- 26 EMS (medical). These calls include lifting assistance, CPR, medical/ambulance assist.
- 10 CO (carbon monoxide) alarm activations. A majority of these calls are false activations due to alarm sensor malfunction.
- 5 Brush fires. These calls include illegal outdoor fires.
- 24 MVAs (motor vehicle accidents). These include ATVs, motorcycles and person vs. vehicle.
- 1 Structure fire, Washington.
- 1 Structure fire call that was actually blowback from furnace/chimney.
- 7 Mutual Aid calls to other communities:  
Sandisfield, structure fire  
Chester, structure fire  
Lee, stand by in station their station  
Lee, stand by in their station / respond to scene  
Otis, motor vehicle accident  
Otis, outdoor burn at Camp Lenox  
Call received from Hinsdale for a structure fire Washington
- 24 Miscellaneous/service calls. These included calls for:  
Generator fire  
Propane tank leak  
Hydraulic oil spill  
Water in basements (4)  
Searching for lost hikers and stranded parties in October Mountain State Forest.  
Aiding Becket Police in finding a missing individual.  
Aiding State Police in search for occupants of early morning vehicle crash, Washington.  
Respond to fire on Mass Turnpike (cancelled in-route)  
Wires down, trees on wires, trees down. During a significant wind and rain weather event the fire department responded to several calls for trees down, wires down, trees on wires on fire, wires on fire, etc.  
Investigate smoke / odor of smoke indoors / outdoors (3 calls).

Mutual aid/automatic aid to the Town of Washington is included in the above listed calls.

The Fire Department issued 100 permits, this does not include 325 outdoor burn permits:

- 66 Smoke/CO permits (total of 76 inspections to include consultations and follow ups)
- 22 Propane tank (LP tank install and storage) permits (total of 26 inspections to include consultations and follow up)
- 4 Oil (new tank, old tank removal, oil burner/furnace repair and/or replacement).
- 3 Liquor license inspections.
- 1 Inspection for Verizon building.
- 1 Blasting permit.
- 3 Camp inspections.

### **Other Activities:**

- The Fire Chief inspected the Becket Washington Elementary School to include the Head Start classroom and the Fire Department conducted a fire drill at the school.
- Ongoing consultations and inspections with Jacob's Pillow personnel and contractors about continuing work being performed at the Pillow.
- The Fire Chief and the Fire Department obtained multiple consultations for State Fire Code Enforcement regarding smoke/CO detectors for people with disabilities at a private rental residence. Assistance from other Becket Departments, and the purchase of proper detectors by an outside agency helped resolve the matter.
- Answered residents' questions and concerns about fire protection, burn pits, camp fires, and miscellaneous matters.
- The Fire Department put into service 5 new handheld portable radios. The radios were purchased with funds from a private donation and a grant procured by Firefighter/Washington Emergency Management Director Gene Goebel.
- Via private donation, purchased 11 sets of turn-out gear (coats and pants) and 9 pairs of fire fighter boots



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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT** ◆

*~ Continued ~*

- Attended Berkshire County Fire Chiefs meeting and Annual Town Meetings for Becket and Washington.
- Fire Department members took Engine-2 to Pittsfield to participate in a convoy around Berkshire Medical Center to show support for healthcare workers, hospital staff and COVID patients.
- Fire Department members took Engine-2 to Dalton to participate in a parade to celebrate the Wahconah Regional High School Class of 2021 Graduates.
- Retired Fire Chief Mark Hanford and FF Jan Elovirta brought Rescue-6 to the Becket pavilion for a fun informational session for the summer day camp children.
- Fire Department members assembled bags of candy and distributed them at Fire Station 1 on Halloween. A generous Washington resident/business donated money to purchase the candy.
- Fire Department members performed maintenance and some repairs on vehicles and equipment. This provided a savings to the town.

This has been another challenging year for the Fire Department and for everyone due to the continuing coronavirus pandemic. To limit exposure to COVID-19 and for the safety of the Fire Department personnel and to those with whom we serve and interact, we modified our monthly training in accordance with federal and state government, CDC, DPH, local health department, and EMS guidelines.

I would like to thank all Fire Department personnel for their dedication to the department and our towns. Thank you for the opportunity to lead the department. It is an honor to serve our residents and those passing through our communities.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Paul Mikaniewicz,  
***Fire Chief***



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



2021 proved to be one our most challenging years. Much like everyone else, the Ambulance Department certainly felt the continued strains of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as staffing challenges both locally and industry wide. On behalf of the members of this department, we would like to thank the residents of Becket for their continued support. Despite these challenges, we still responded, and we did see a continued increase in the number of calls we responded to this year. We ended the year with 316 responses. A breakdown of those can be found below.

As always, I wish to thank my staff for their continued dedication providing the town with the best emergency care possible. During 2021, we upgraded our service from “Advanced” to “Paramedic” level. The town currently has approximately 30 EMS personnel, who stand ready to keep the ambulance in service and responding on a 24/7/365 basis. They give up holidays and time with their families to be there for the town. I extend that thank you to our partners, the Fire Department, Highway Department, Police Department, and our Buildings and Grounds Technician whose effort and time help make this line of work safer and more effective. We also praise the Friends of Becket Ambulance, who provide financial support for equipment, training, and uniforms. I also need to

*In 2021, the Ambulance Department responded to 316 calls for service. Below is a breakdown of calls by town, and by type.*

Town	# of Runs	Percentage of Total Runs
Becket	188	59.49%
Otis	59	18.67%
Lee	24	7.59%
Washington	9	2.85%
Tyringham	7	2.22%
Chester	7	2.22%
Hinsdale	5	1.58%
Middlefield	4	1.27%
Russell	4	1.27%
Tolland	3	0.95%
Huntington	2	0.63%
Blandford	2	0.63%
Lenox	1	0.32%
Peru	1	0.32%

thank the town as a whole for its continued support and funding. As a reminder, my door is always open, and coffee is always on for anyone wishing to stop and chat, offer suggestions, or to learn more about the department. Regular office hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-1pm.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Ray Ferrin, **Ambulance Director**

Dispatch Incident	# of Runs	% of Runs
Sick Person	47	14.87%
Traffic/Transportation Incident	42	13.29%
No Other Appropriate Choice	35	11.08%
Falls	34	10.76%
Breathing Problem	25	7.91%
Chest Pain (Non-Traumatic)	24	7.59%
Psychiatric Problem/Abnormal-Behavior/Suicide Attempt	13	4.11%
Abdominal Pain/Problems	10	3.16%
Stroke/CVA	6	1.90%
Unknown Problem/Person Down	6	1.90%
Cardiac Arrest/Death	6	1.90%
Hemorrhage/Laceration	6	1.90%
Diabetic Problem	6	1.90%
Medical Alarm	6	1.90%
Back Pain (Non-Traumatic)	6	1.90%
Well Person Check	5	1.58%
Traumatic Injury	5	1.58%
Overdose/Poisoning/Ingestion	5	1.58%
Convulsions/Seizure	4	1.27%
Assault	3	0.95%
Heart Problems/AICD	3	0.95%
Unconscious/Fainting/Near-Fainting	3	0.95%
Drowning/Diving/SCUBA Accident	2	0.63%
Choking	2	0.63%
Heat/Cold Exposure	2	0.63%
Allergic Reaction/Stings	2	0.63%
Standby	2	0.63%
Fire	2	0.63%
Industrial Accident/Inaccessible-Incident/Other Entr (Non-Vehicle)	1	0.32%
Transfer/Interfacility/Palliative Care	1	0.32%
Eye Problem/Injury	1	0.32%
Headache	1	0.32%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>100%</b>

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◆ **REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT** ◆



The 2021 yearly breakdown of the Police Department shows 143 criminal offenses have been logged since January 2021 and 47 arrests have been made. These offenses have either been cleared by arrest, a criminal application, or the case remains open and under investigation. Officers also responded to 32 motor vehicle accidents for the year. In addition to the activity breakdown, officers also issued 239 citations for civil motor vehicle violations, criminal motor vehicle violations, arrest motor vehicle violations, and written warnings.

All of the officers in the department continue to be proactive and responsive while serving the Town and strictly following Covid-19 guidelines. Each officer carries unique skills and qualities that help the department provide the highest level of service to the Town.

I want to reiterate that I have an open door policy for anyone wishing to speak to me in regards to any issue. This year license to carry or firearms identification card renewal applicants may visit the station at any time to begin the process of renewing/applying for their LTC/FID. If an officer is not at the station, please call our business line (413) 623-6010 and the

officer on duty will meet you at the station to assist you. The department may also be reached by emailing [police@townofbecket.org](mailto:police@townofbecket.org).

Finally, I would like to thank all the officers for their continued dedication in providing quality policing to the residents of Becket while maintaining the highest level of professionalism and integrity. I would like to thank the Town Administrator, Buildings and Grounds Technician, and the Fire, Ambulance, and Highway Departments 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*



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## ◆ *REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD* ◆

The Planning Board consists of five elected members with five-year terms and one Associate Member who is jointly appointed annually by the Planning Board and the Select Board. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Becket Town Hall. Additional meetings are scheduled on an as-needed basis.

The Planning Board would like to acknowledge Mr. James Levy for his re-election to the Board in June of 2021. Mr. Levy, first elected to the Planning Board in 2017, has also served the Town of Becket as an appointed official on the Community Preservation Committee. As the Planning Board Vice-Chair, he has assisted in the coordination of the board's activities in dealing with rather complicated zoning issues found in Special Permit applications.

Ms. Jessica Perotti, the board's Administrative Assistant, deserves special recognition for her calm demeanor in dealing with everyone who needs assistance, direction and guidance in zoning matters as well as in preparing applications or gathering specific information about zoning. Unfortunately, while Jessica has continued to perform admirably, she has recently decided to move full time into the Assessors' Office. The entire board wishes her well in her new position.

I would like to recognize the following members in their respective positions on the board and the additional time and energy it takes of them: Ms. Ann Krawet, the Clerk; Mr. Alvin Blake, the Clerk Pro Tem; and Dr. Howard G. Lerner. Additionally, Ms. Gale LaBelle was reappointed as the board's Associate Member. The Associate Member attends all board meetings and if designated by the Chair, may assume the duties of a regular member, who is absent, has a conflict of interest or recuses himself.

I would like to thank Ms. Krawet who served as the Board's alternative representative to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and Mr. Levy who continued serving as the board's designee on the Community Preservation Committee.

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 Approval 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 Bylaws and other land-use regulations and Becket's Master Plan.

In 2021, the Becket Planning Board was scheduled to convene fourteen times for regularly scheduled meetings and additional public hearings. This included one meeting in

August that was rescheduled. In response to and in compliance with the Governor's rules and requirements relating to COVID-19, and the Open Meeting law, meetings were held remotely using two different methods of teleconferencing. Conducting meetings remotely took some time for the board and public to adapt as different communication platforms were tried. The technology did not always perform as anticipated and on two occasions the meetings were photobombed and ended abruptly. The Zoom.us platform proved to be promising as it allowed many to see and be seen and heard but was less satisfactory as the number of participants increased. Technical challenges affiliated with conducting remote meetings added considerable time to some of our meetings. Many have expressed a desire to return to in-person meetings, but others hope that video conferencing will be continued.

Six (6) Approval Not Required (ANR) Form A plans were received and all six (6) were 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. ANRs generally enable the applicants to create new conforming building lots or redraw existing boundary lines that do not affect frontage or existing acreage requirements. Two (2) ANRs allowed the owners to combine smaller adjacent parcels into a larger lot with no new building lots being created. Four other (4) ANRs reconfigured existing conforming lots while conveying smaller parcels to abutters.

Several Special Permit applications were presented for review and approval. Several residents remotely attended the regular meetings to informally discuss Special Permit requirements for projects under consideration. Some of these informal discussions resulted in formal applications but others were never submitted.

A Special Permit application was presented for 229 South Cove Road to reconstruct an existing driveway on a nonconforming lot that has a dramatic forty feet (40') difference in elevation requiring very large retaining walls. Given there was no opposition to the project from any abutters, the application was approved unanimously by the Planning Board.

In January Tetrahydra Agtek LLC, represented by Brian Vincent, initially presented an application to operate a Tier 11 recreational marijuana cultivation and processing facility at 509 Quarry Road on an 87 acre parcel of land. After the applicant presented his proposal, the public was afforded the opportunity to speak. Much time was spent on the lack of specifics regarding areas of concern by abutters. The hearing was continued twice until the applicant asked to withdraw

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◆ **REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD** ◆  
~ Continued ~

because he needed more time to answer the concerns raised. The Planning Board voted to allow his application to be withdrawn without prejudice.

Grow Boys LLC, represented by Spencer Romano, had an informal discussion with the Planning Board to see if he needed to submit another Special Permit application because he wanted to increase the total canopy space needed within cultivation facility at 0 Tanglewood Circle. The Planning Board recommended that the proceed with the facility as approved because some within the community were concerned with the control measures previously approved. The Special Permit which had been approved, was unsuccessful in securing a Host Community Agreement with the Select Board and Grow Boys LLC has not been in contact with the town since that happened.

Black Cat Farms LLC, represented by Anthony Byron and Amy Ritter, informally discussed a Special Permit application to operate a season outdoor marijuana cultivation establishment on a 5.52 acre parcel located at 389 Benton Hill Road. The Community Outreach Meeting was held in the Town Hall's Community Room. Residents raised concerns regarding odor, proximity to adjacent residences, proximity to a youth summer camp, etc. Black Cat Farms LLC never submitted its formal application to the Planning Board after the Select Board tabled voting on the Host Community Agreement and property ownership questions arose with the seller.

In August Tetrahydra Agtek LLC once again represented by Brian Vincent presented a new application to operate a Tier 11 recreational marijuana cultivation and processing facility this time at 0 Quarry Road on a much smaller 5.6 acre parcel of land. After the applicant presented his proposal, the public was afforded the opportunity to speak. Much time was spent on specific items that concerned those in attendance. The hearing was continued again but resumed after the applicant and the Select Board signed the Host Community Agreement. This Special Permit hearing remains unfinished and will continue into 2022.

A Special Permit application was presented for three (3) non-conforming lots on Alan A Dale Drive. The applicants sought relief from Section 3.4.7 to re-establish the grandfathered building status which had been lost after the previous owner did not replace a previously demolished structure within the two (2) year time limit provision specified in the bylaws. The board unanimously approved the special permit as long as the applicant obtains approvals from the Conservation Commission and Board of Health because approving this special permit will reduce the nonconformity of the lots and is in keeping with the characteristics of the surrounding neighborhood

Additional Actions:

At the request of the Select Board, the Planning Board prepared an amendment to Becket's General Bylaws Article 17 Section 6 regarding an increase in the parking fine from ten (10) dollars to twenty-five (25) dollars. The Planning Board held a public hearing to gather input on that topic. The Planning Board then approved the changes for inclusion as a warrant article for the Annual Town Meeting (ATM). The articles were approved at the ATM in May 2021.

At the request of the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Board held a public hearing regarding proposed revisions to Section 6.2 Mobile Home Regulations to gather public input. The revision mostly centered on the ambiguous wording of the bylaw. The confusion centered on how to interpret what constituted "a twelve-month period" for temporary mobile home permits. The boards settled on adding the word "consecutive", so the phrase now reads as follows "up to twelve (12) consecutive months." Several additional minor changes were incorporated, and the bylaw was sent to the Select Board for publication in the next town meeting warrant.

At the request of Crystal Pond Association, the Planning Board discussed the subdivision's previously approved closure of Big Bass Lane, which prohibited thru-traffic to Wade Inn Road seasonally due to heavy traffic occurring primarily during spring mud season and summer months. The board reviewed the design's lack of a hammerhead style turnaround to facilitate the movement of vehicles when the road was barricaded. Further discussion took place regarding the circumstances of road closure safety issues that have arisen in various subdivisions such as Indian Lakes Association, Tanglewood Circle etc.

The Planning Board continued its review of the town's Master Plan. Early discussions centered on digitizing the current plan to make it more accessible, but the project was too time consuming, so it was scanned and converted into a PDF file. Soon thereafter the board learned that the Town of Washington in coordination with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission obtained funding through the District Local Training Assistance program prior to the COVID pandemic. Unfortunately, because the funds obtained did not cover the entire project the town has to submit a large budget request through the finance committee. The Planning Board eventually decided that this project should be deferred until similar funding could be obtained.

The Planning Board reviewed a Select Board and Energy Committee's request for input regarding the placement of a Small Wind Energy System (SWES) turbine to be located on a town owned parcel greater than two acres in size adjacent to the

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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD** ◆

*~ Continued ~*

Town Hall. It was determined that the language of the bylaw specifically grants these systems by-right and exempts any oversight by the Planning Board because of its municipal status.

Residents continue to engage and have informal discussions with the Planning Board regarding growing marijuana on small vacant lots. Others discussed indoor and outdoor cannabis cultivation opportunities and residential cannabis delivery services. Others were concerned about the establishment of separate zoning districts within the town where commercial and industrial sites could be located. One group wanted guidance on setting up a guest lodge style site referred to as Glamping (glorified camping in European designed canvas eco-pods). They proposed to put this high-end campground, on the Dreamaway Lodge's 50 plus acre large parcel. Several other informal discussions took place and centered on the pros and cons of in-person vs virtual meetings during and after the pandemic.

The Planning Board initiated an internal discussion pertinent to Short Term Rentals (STR) because individuals throughout the town questioned the lack of regulations for this growing business model or industry. Several residents had voiced they want to protect and promote the health, safety and well-being of town residents and visitors, to ensure that the primary use of residential properties remains residential not commercial, and to ensure that STR of residential units are not

detrimental to the character and livability of the surrounding neighborhood. Additionally, the board discussed the impact of KP Law's Update regarding a recent court decision *Stylier v. Zoning Board of Appeals of Lynnfield*, No. SJC 12901.

The Board appreciates and encourages public attendance at its meetings and welcomes citizens to offer their constructive comments. Planning Board meetings are posted in Town Hall, and for informational purposes, on the town website, [www.townofbecket.org](http://www.townofbecket.org).

In closing, 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. This year we wish to especially recognize the town's Administrative Assistant, Beverly Gilbert. Please feel free to call the Planning Board Office at 413-623-8934 ext.120, send correspondence via USPS or email [planning@townofbecket.org](mailto:planning@townofbecket.org) with any questions, concerns, thoughts, or ideas.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Robert T. Ronzio  
*Chair*



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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR** ◆

As many of you know, I tried to retire two years ago in January. The time has come for me to make that happen. I have told the Town Administrator that I will work until the end of March. I appreciated very much the opportunity to have worked for the Town of Becket. I love my job and I am sad to be leaving but all good things must come to an end. Until that time I can be reached by phone or email so do not worry about getting answers to your question. Permits are done online and payments can be made online.

There were eleven new single family residences

started in 2021, which is good for Becket and there were a few more that wanted to get started but couldn't pull it off. Unfortunately, our camps and restaurants had another difficult year because they were not able to fully open due to Covid.

Jacobs Pillow is doing a major renovation / addition to the historic Ted Shawn Theatre which will have a new stage with dressing rooms and state of the art lighting and sound system which will make it easier to attract premier performances to lovely Becket.

### Here are the statistics for the year 2021:

Type of Activity	# of Activity	Est. Value	Cost of Permit
Certificate of Inspection	69		\$ 3,450.00
Certificate of Occupancy	8		\$ 200.00
Certificate of Occupancy (C)	2		\$ 200.00
Commercial Building Permit	19	\$ 6,883,031.00	\$ 12,116.00
Residential Building Permit	178	\$ 6,643,242.00	\$ 28,534.00
Sheet Metal Permit	1	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 352.00
Sign Permit	2	\$ 1,950.00	\$ 320.00
Solid Fuel Appliance Permit	13	\$ 15,934.00	\$ 710.00
Tent Permit	4	\$ 10,525.00	\$ 200.00
Trench Permit	3		\$ 105.00
Electrical Permit	97		\$ 11,375.00
Gas Permit	63		\$ 5,120.00
Plumbing Permit	39		\$ 4,615.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>\$13,604,682.00</b>	<b>\$ 67,297.00</b>

I would like to thank Assistant Building Inspector Gary Danko, Plumbing Inspectors Mark Levernoch and Brian Middleton, Wiring Inspector Dana Spring and our new Assistant Wiring Inspector Trevor Clement for their dedicated service. In addition, I wish to say many thanks to all my friends and fellow employees at the Town Hall for being so helpful and keeping me informed. They all made my work so much more pleasant and are the reason that I stayed as long at the job.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

William E. Girard  
**Building Inspector**

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## ◆ *REPORT OF THE BECKET LAND TRUST* ◆

First and foremost, for those of you who know of the Becket Land Trust, we are still an active organization and plan to continue doing conservation work throughout the town, well into the future.

The Becket Land Trust was founded in 1990 by several Becket families. Ten years later, Becket Land Trust purchased the Becket Historic Quarry and Forest property when the town's Board of Selectmen assigned their right of first refusal, under Chapter 61, to the trust. For those who were in town then, it was an exciting time for a major land conservation effort.

Back in 1999, if not for the Becket Land Trust, a company planning to excavate millions of cubic yards of granite for the Big Dig in Boston would have acquired the quarry. This would have been a massive disruption for the sleepy town of Becket.

The Trust was successful in raising over \$300,000 to purchase the 320-acre quarry property. The funding came from a community deeply concerned about having a major industrial operation in town with an estimated twenty loaded tractor trailers an hour rumbling down its rural roads.

The Land Trust opened the quarry to the public and built miles of hiking trails. Then something amazing happened: it became wildly popular as a spot for outdoor recreation. A YouTube sensation, even! And this is to say nothing of its New England Cottontail habitat reserve, and Oak regeneration forestry program.

Over the years since the acquisition, the Trust has received over \$250,000 in State, Federal, and private grants and donations to build over seven miles of hiking trails and a self-led informative Historic Hike focusing on fourteen artifacts; these include a steam powered winch, and a 90-foot tall wood-masted guy derrick. These funds also were used for the two conservation projects, the habitat and forestry program.

Now, each year, the Quarry historically sees over 6,000 visitors. During the summer season of 2020, we had over 14,000 visitors because of Covid19. In the spring 2020, the BLT Board of Directors determined that management of the property would be better with a larger, more experienced organization. After discussions between the Becket Land Trust and The Trustees of Reservations -- and a successful joint fundraising campaign that created a \$270,000 stewardship fund -- the Trustees acquired the Historic Quarry and Forest in October 2021, along with responsibility for managing and maintaining it as a public recreational and protected area.

The Trustees intend to improve the trail network and maintain the wildlife and forestry areas, and the Land Trust will advise The Trustees in improvements, providing historical perspective and information from its twenty years of managing the property.

The Land Trust currently owns and protects two properties in the Town of Becket and will continue to work with landowners who share the interests of land conservation and protection of our natural resources.

The Land Trust Board of Directors is grateful for the tremendous community support we receive from Becket residents and visitors. We depend on your generous donations to continue doing the conservation work we have been doing for the past thirty years.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Kenneth Smith  
*President*



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

The Board of Assessors is responsible for administering the taxes levied by the Town. These taxes include real estate, personal property, and various excise taxes including the annual tax on motor vehicles. In keeping with the office's statutory mandates it is the Assessors' goal to equitably assess taxable properties in conformance with Massachusetts Department of Revenue guidelines.

Secondary responsibilities include maintaining the Town's property database including ownership and billing information, property descriptions, and taxable valuations. The office also maintains tax maps and the Town's Geographic Information System.

### **Sources of the Town's Revenue to Fund the FY2021 Budget**

Property tax levy (real and personal property) .....	6,170,203.43
State aid (cherry sheet revenues) .....	274,675.00
Local receipts (estimated) .....	514,000.00
Enterprise revenues (ambulance/ems) .....	160,242.00
Community preservation funds .....	101,792.57
Free cash and other available funds .....	198,532.00
Stabilization fund .....	100,000.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUES .....</b>	<b>7,519,445.00</b>

### **Aggregate Valuations by Major Property Class (FY2021)**

CLASS	LEVY %	VALUATION	PARCEL COUNT
Residential	90.1090	478,477,452	3,697
Commercial	3.4888	18,525,792	77
Industrial	0.2926	1,553,600	5
Personal Property	6.1096	32,441,731	892
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>530,998,575</b>	<b>4,671</b>

**Tax Rate.....\$11.62**

Tax Relief: In Massachusetts, there are several exemptions available to full-time residents. Becket offers the following:

- Elderly 70+
- Veteran
- Blind

The Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-off Program is available for persons 60+.

### **The Board of Assessors processed:**

Elderly Exemptions	21
Veteran Exemptions	16
Blind Exemptions	0
Hardship	0
Senior Work-off Abatements	1
Personal Property / Real Estate abatements	31

*Respectfully submitted,*

Geraldine L. Walter  
Jessica M. Perotti  
Beverly A. Gilbert

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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH** ◆

The Board of Health welcomed Robert Ronzio as our Vice Chair. His knowledge and extensive research are great assets to our Board. Edward Fahey, our Health Agent through Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, works diligently on percolation tests for potential new residences, viewing septic construction plans, and advising us on other housing issues. At least twenty new home septic plans and wells were reviewed by the Board of Health. Health Agent Charlie Kaniecki has assisted the town with receivership of abandoned properties. The receiver is responsible for rehabilitating a property that has been seriously neglected by the owner. Receivership can be a very effective way of bringing properties back to the tax rolls. Some properties can become an affordable homeownership opportunity.

COVID has taken a toll on our everyday lives. Swabbing, masking, vaccinations, and boosters have been a great part of the health initiatives of the country and community. Berkshire County Boards of Health Nursing became Becket's new contractor for our health initiatives. The nurses from the Berkshire County Boards of Health held vaccine clinics for our children at Becket-Washington School. The Berkshire County Boards of Health nurses administered booster and flu shots to our residents. The Community Health Plan van conducted two outdoor COVID-19 and flu vaccination clinics at the Becket Town Hall.

All Becket's camps (four) offered either family camping or summer camps for six weeks. Throughout the sessions, COVID 19 negative pressure rooms, separate trailers and sanitizing stations were monitored. Summer camping, especially for some who have not seen their friends in a few years, was a great success. Becket's Parks and Recreation Committee operated their Day Camp and Swimming programs last summer. Masks were required, temperatures were taken every day, social distancing was attained, and all camps had a great summer.

The Board of Health sent a letter to the Department of Public Health in November to demonstrate support to start a Narcan and syringe program in Becket. The

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and the Berkshire Opioid Prevention Abuse Program will work with the Becket Ambulance Department on a future opioid and syringe program.

The Becket Board of Health anticipates working toward other programs or reviewing regulations relating to tobacco, ground water, septic plans, green septic systems and sanitary cans.

We wish to convey a special thank you to Tess Lundberg, our Administrative Assistant, who responded to many phone calls, assisted with the Department of Public Health on COVID 19 updates, managed extensive permitting and inspection records, and adapted and employed Zoom meeting technology.

### **Board of Health 2021 Permits or Inspections: 241 Total**

Bathing Beach (All private communities have free permits:

they all pay for weekly water testing)	6
Beaver Emergency	4
Disposal System Construction	42
Food Service Establishment	11
Local Upgrade Approval (9A)	17
Lodging	2
Public or Semi Public Pool Spa	1
Recreational Camp for Children	6
Septage Hauler	5
Septic System Installer	25
Soil Percolation Testing Witnessing	54
Solid Waste Hauler	1
Title 5 Inspection Witnessing	53
Well Permits	14

*Respectfully submitted,*

Gale LaBelle, ***Chairperson***  
Robert Ronzio, ***Vice Chairperson***  
Laurel Burgwardt, ***Clerk***

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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE** ◆

The Parks and Recreation Committee ran a free summer camp program under the strict guidance of the Becket Board of Health. Three counselors presided over approximately fifteen children from Becket and Washington. Activities included sports, crafts, swimming, and reading. Not only does this program offer a summer camp opportunity for our youth, it provides several jobs for area teenagers. One of the camp projects involved a Becket resident overseeing the totem pole painting of Becket fauna at the pavilion at Becket Center Park.

We employed two local teen lifeguards at the Becket Center Town Beach every day until the end of August. Three people shared the Gate Attendant position daily. They all did a wonderful job.

The new pavilion at the North Becket Park is constructed and ready for visitors. During the spring of 2022, electricity and lighting will be installed, the track will be groomed for safe running conditions, and replication planting will occur. A porta-potty will be there for a few months each summer since we will use North Becket Park for the summer camp program (as well as the Becket Center Park).

Volunteer gardeners helped provide care for the planting throughout town. Shirley and John Vachula, and Dave Weiler helped Maddy Elovirta and Rita Furlong this year. Thanks so much for your help.

The tennis/pickleball court is available on a first come basis unless the Becket-Washington School children are using it. Swimming lessons (all ages) will again be offered for free at the beach next year. Be sure to sign up at the Town Hall for swim lessons and summer camp in early May of 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

### ***Parks and Recreation Committee Members:***

Rita Furlong, ***Chairperson***

Maddy Elovirta, ***Clerk***

Eila Bell

Tina LaVasseur

## ◆ **REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT** ◆

2021 activities brimmed with routine road maintenance, snow and ice control, line-painting, brush cutting, grading gravel roads, drainage repair and cleaning, asphalt patching, street sweeping, and catch basin cleaning.

An early spring thaw created mud on the gravel roads. A snowstorm in early May added mud on the gravel roads. After Mother's Day, the Highway Department began grading the gravel roads and summer maintenance which includes hot patching asphalt roads, ditch cleaning, and roadside mowing.

The summer months were extremely challenging. We had a massive amount of rainfall in July and August. During the July 16th storm, approximately 3.7 inches of rain fell within an hour. The heavy rainfall damaged roads throughout the town. This includes a complete washout of a 1,000 foot section of Leonhardt Road: Emergency repairs cost approximately \$200,000.00.

During winter, we had moderate snowfall and several large ice events. When not clearing ice and snow or tending to other exigent matters, we work on brush cutting, and cleanup of the sides of the roads.

I would like to thank Highway Department employees Albert Goodermote, Nate Morawiec, Don Murray, Tyler Chrystal, Chris Isner, and part-time summer employee Bob Cooper for their hard work and dedication to the Town of Becket.

I would also like to thank the Town Administrator, Buildings and Grounds Technician, Select Board, and the Ambulance, Fire, and Police Departments for all their help and support.

Residents with any questions or concerns are welcome to call the Highway Department office Monday through Friday 7:00am to 3:30pm at 413-623-8988.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Edward Pickert,

***Highway Superintendent***

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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS TECHNICIAN** ◆

In addition to the daily and routine (and sometimes surprise) maintenance of town facilities and grounds, below is a listing of projects accomplished during 2021.

- Finished the Police Station remodeling.
- Began the process of running a new electrical service at the Fire Station #1 Pavilion.
- Removed the cupola from the Town Hall roof and filled in and shingled the hole. The cupola structure is rotted and needs repair.
- Remodeled the Town Hall employee kitchen with new cabinets and counter tops, plus a window lunch counter.
- Installed a new compacting garbage receptacle and recycling bin at the beach.
- Installed a drain line from the Broadband ground vault.

- Installed information signs at the Veterans Park and parade grounds.
- Prepared Town Hall for new Broadband Wi-Fi.

It is always gratifying to partake in projects which result in visible improvements to town-owned properties. I would like to thank the Highway Department and all department heads for all their help during the 2021 year.

I look forward to serving the Town of Becket in the upcoming year.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

David O. Shorey,  
***Buildings & Grounds Technician***



## ◆ **REPORT OF THE HARBOR MASTER** ◆

The 2021 boating season was significantly curtailed by some very wet weather. Let us hope for better weather during 2022. Please remember that every boat owner, by law, is responsible for their boat's activity. High speed with excessive wakes can cause accidents, so take it easy, enjoy our beautiful lakes, and boat responsibly.

Rafts or any object anchored in our great ponds must be permitted on an annual basis by the Harbor Master. Permit renewals are mailed during the spring. Please respond promptly to ensure you have your 2022 sticker in time for the summer. Any dock attached to the shore is required to have approval by the Becket Conservation Commission and the

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Protection, and the issuance of a Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 91 license.

Questions related to boating or the permitting of rafts can be addressed to me at Town Hall or by leaving a message at (413) 623-8934 extension 140.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Steve Rosenthal  
***Harbor Master***

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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION** ◆

It is the mission of the Conservation Commission to protect, promote and enhance the quality and quantity of natural resources, wetlands, wildlife, and water resources through planning, acquisition, land management, regulations, research and public education within the Town of Becket for the maximum benefit of its residents.

In addition, the Conservation Commission is responsible for administering the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, section 40 and its regulations 310 CMR 10. The eight interests of the Act are:

1. protection of public and private water supply;
2. protection of groundwater supply;
3. flood control protection;
4. storm damage prevention;
5. prevention of pollution;
6. protection of land containing shellfish;
7. protection of fisheries;
8. protection of wildlife habitat.

The Conservation Commission reviews and deliberates on permit applications, emergency certifications, enforcement orders, and all other projects that are proposed within 100-feet (referred to as the Buffer Zone) of wetlands, intermittent streams, lakes and ponds. In addition, the Commission reviews permit applications within 200-feet (referred to as the Resource Area) of areas subject to flooding, rivers and perennial streams.

Becket has a wealth of wetlands, streams, forests, lakes and ponds. All of these water resources provide important habitat, recreation and a significant financial contribution to the Town of Becket. We are fortunate to have these wonderful resources, which make Becket one of the great gems of the Berkshires. The last two years the Commission has taken an active role in reaching out to residents whose properties are either in the Buffer Zone or Resource Areas. Our purpose has been to create a working relationship with property owners to establish and implement best practices and treatments for our water resources that are in alignment with the legal standards of the Wetlands Protection Act. The goal is to maintain or improve the water quality and the long-term viability of all our water resources. In 2021, we were able develop good working relationships with several lake and pond associations.

The Conservation team had some changes. Meredyth Babcock and Cindy Delpapa resigned from the Commission.

George Roberts and Jim Schaefer joined the Commission in the spring and are two great additions. Unfortunately, Mary Stucklen, our agent, left in August to take a teaching position in Pittsfield. We are all appreciative of the dedication, commitment, and advice she provided to the Commission. In September, we hired Nic Pietroniro as our new agent. Nic is a graduate of Westfield State where he earned a B.S. in environmental sciences.

The Commission is working on two projects this year. The first project is digitalizing our document storage. Our file cabinets are full of applications and documents that go back almost forty years. Due to the space limitations, we are working towards a digital filing system and are scanning important documents from the year 2000 and forward. There are very few documents the Commission is required to maintain past three years. Scanning will allow the Commission to file all documents by map and lot number for any work done on that property; and provide remote access to all files by the Commission. The second project is making our website user friendly and informative.

The Commission has six current Commissioners and is allowed seven. If you have any interest in learning more about serving on the Commission, please call Dave Johnson at 978-424-5752 or Nic Pietroniro at 413-623-8934 Ext 129 or send an email to [conservation@townofbecket.org](mailto:conservation@townofbecket.org) We would like to tell you about a great opportunity.

### **Issued in 2021:**

- 14 Conservation Commission Meetings
- 63 Requests for Determination of Applicability
  - 4 Notices of Intent
  - 2 Notices of Intent extensions
  - 2 Notice of Intents amended
  - 6 Emergency Certifications issued
  - 6 Enforcement Orders issued
- 6 Certificates of Compliance
- 64 Site visits

*Respectfully submitted,*

David Johnson  
***Conservation Commission Chairperson***

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

After a very challenging 2020, the Becket Arts Center (BAC) thrived in 2021 thanks to the participation, support, and enthusiasm of our amazing community members and friends. We are grateful to our grantors: Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, Feigenbaum Foundation, and the local cultural councils of Becket, Chester, Hinsdale-Peru, Middlefield, Otis, and Washington. We also received support from local business sponsors through advertising and donations for our annual silent auction. Some of the highlights of 2021 included:

**Open Mics via Zoom** - Starting in January, we hosted 4 online Open Mic sessions. Musicians were invited to play virtually for an audience of fellow musicians and music enthusiasts.

**BAC Gift Shop** - It was another successful year for the BAC gift shop. Now open online year-round, shoppers can purchase items anytime and then pick them up at the BAC. During the spring, the shop opens for in-person shopping and stays open through October. In 2021, the gift shop was open on Saturdays in November for in-person shopping as well. We hope to be open in December in 2022 if we are able to put heating in Seminary Hall and keep the water on. Local artists and crafters from Becket and the surrounding areas are invited to place items in the gift shop by visiting [becketartscenter.org/gift-shop](http://becketartscenter.org/gift-shop).

**Art Exhibits** - We hosted five group shows in the upstairs gallery of Seminary Hall (4 juried shows and 1 member show). Each art opening was well attended and the BAC reported record sales of artwork for the season.

- Exhibit 1 - Kent Mikalsen, Stacey Silkey, Susan Rostan, Peter Barton, and Barbara Patton
- Exhibit 2 - Olwen Dowling, Kathryn Jensen, Claude Beller, Sam Craig, and Nicole Irene
- Exhibit 3 - Janet Pumphrey, Sally Lebwohl, Harriet Pollack, and Marion Grant
- Exhibit 4 - B. Glee Lucas, Katherine Borkowski-Byrne, Ruth Rosner, Patricia Crotty, Kate True, and Patricia Burson
- Member show including works from 22 member artists

We also had the privilege of hosting a curated exhibit in the McEwen room; photojournalist and local resident Todd Maisel shared his stunning and moving photographs and memorabilia in remembrance of the 20-year anniversary of September 11.

**Community Art Classes** - Despite the challenges of in-person classes, the BAC offered two community art classes

in person in 2021. In June, we offered “Color and Sound” a watercolor class on our front lawn paired with live music from an upright bass. We hosted our annual wreath workshop in person at Washington Town Hall in December.

**Explorations** - Funded by the Feigenbaum Foundation, the BAC Explorations program offered the community a diverse exploration of topics in 2021 including:

- Pest Management by Berkshire Eagle columnist Ron Kujowski presented via Zoom
- Sandi Jarvis from the Becket Historical Commission gave a wonderful presentation on BAC History from 1970-1980 which is available to view online: [becketartscenter.org/contact](http://becketartscenter.org/contact)
- Don Morrison gave a presentation on the media and our relationship with it
- Wandering Star Brewery owner (and Becket resident) Chris Post gave a talk on the history of India Pale Ale and provided beer samples
- Michael Hamburg gave a standing-room only, riveting presentation on the Search for Life in the Universe
- Adam Hinds spoke to an intimate crowd about the MA Legislature and its approach on issues including COVID-19, broadband access, and racial inequities
- JoAnn Schedler from the Munsee Mohican Tribe gave a wonderful virtual presentation about the native tribes that once occupied the lands in Becket and surrounding communities
- Mallory Martillaro shared her experience (virtually) as a new hire charged with cataloging artwork at the Hartley Dodge Museum where she discovered a long forgotten original Rodin bust of Napoleon

**Music Brings Communities Together** - Funded by the local cultural councils of Becket, Chester, Hinsdale-Peru, Middlefield, Otis, and Washington, the Becket Arts Center offered free outdoor music on select Saturday evenings throughout the summer:

- Bobby Sweet with Abe Guthrie, Pete Adams, and Lara Tupper
- Louise Mosrie and Amy Rigby
- Queler Farber Family Band
- Cliff Eberhardt

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

~ Continued ~

- Melissa Brinton and Elaine Morel
- Latinas 413 - music and salsa dancing
- Chantelle McFarland

**BAC Gala** - Hosted outdoors at Papa Bob's, the BAC held its most successful gala to date. The crowd enjoyed the delicious food prepared by Papa Bob's, participated in our amazing raffle, and danced the night away to the music of The Whiskey Treaty Roadshow.

**Free Teen Workshops** - The BAC held a series of outdoor improv workshops led by Paula Langton and Ken Cheeseman on three Fridays in August. These free workshops explored techniques used by performers. Ten local teens participated. In addition, Ali England offered her professional voice coaching virtually from the BAC for aspiring teen performers locally and around the world. We are fortunate to have such exceptional teachers and talented local youth.

**Yoga and Dance** - Rima Sala returned for another season of yoga at the BAC on Friday mornings. Participation was so great, we continued the class through October until cold temperatures forced the class to end. New for 2021, we offered two sessions of "Dance With Us" hosted by Fran Hamburg and Louise Heit. Open to all abilities, this movement class incorporated movement and music in a fun and welcoming environment.

**Storytelling** - Everyone loves a good story, but it is most enjoyable when you hear stories from your friends and neighbors about life in the Hilltowns. We hosted two community story sharing events in 2021, one in July and one in August. These events are led by two BAC board members with vast experience in the performing arts. In 2021, we also hosted local authors who gave a mid-day reading outside at the BAC.

**Partnering with the Pillow** - Jacob's Pillow on the Road came to the North Becket Village twice in the summer of 2021. The BAC was proud to partner with Jacob's Pillow by promoting the free outdoor performances and hosting the dancers in the McEwen room. Ladies of Hip Hop and Kulu Mele entertained crowds of more than 250 people.

**Open Studio DriveAbout** - 2021 marked the third consecutive year the BAC hosted an open studio tour of artist studios in Becket and Otis. It is a unique and immersive way for artists and art-lovers of all kinds to experience and explore the vast talent living and working in our local communities. Artists get to showcase their studios, present their work, and sell their

creations as art-lovers drive from location to location.

**Oysters, Wine & Good Times** - New for 2021, the BAC held a fundraiser on October 31, outside at Canterbury Farm in Becket. East Dennis Oyster Farm provided oysters, while friends and neighbors enjoyed the music by Lady Di & The Dukes. We were fortunate to enjoy unseasonably warm Halloween weather this year.

The current Board of Trustees has made particular progress in growing membership, development, program expansion, and widening grant writing opportunities. The board has also reviewed and adopted a new articulation of the BAC's mission and supported substantial improvement to the facility the BAC leases from the Town of Becket. In 2021, the BAC leveraged Community Preservation Act funds and incentives from Eversource to add insulation to Seminary Hall and install interior storm windows. Investment in staff in 2021 is what has allowed the BAC to offer the amazing programs listed above and the staff and Board of Trustees are prepared to move the BAC into the next fifty years with a strong financial foundation and a clear vision. Moving into 2022, the BAC hopes to add a much-needed heating and cooling system to the downstairs and replace the old, inefficient air conditioner upstairs with a new, efficient heating and cooling system. This would allow the BAC to provide arts and cultural offerings to community members more months out of the year. For more than fifty years the BAC has provided the community with unique art offerings and plans to continue to grow in 2022 and beyond. Memberships, donations, and grants are what make all of what the BAC does possible. Please consider making a contribution to the BAC to keep this valuable community asset alive and well.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Jennifer Beatty, *Executive Director*

**Becket Arts Center Trustees:**  
Mary Manning Cohen, *President*  
Jim Petosa, *Vice-President*  
Drea Pecor, *Treasurer*  
Ann Morrison, *Secretary*

Alison Atlas  
Amy Attias  
Ema Johnson  
Fran Hamburg  
Ken Cheeseman  
Paula Langton  
Rose Borgnis  
Susan Gerstle  
Susan Dworkin



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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE MULLEN HOUSE EDUCATION CENTER** ◆

The Mullen House, located at 12 Brooker Hill Road, continues to serve as a small office building in the Town of Becket. Renters can access the town's high speed WIFI system. Renters include an author, a research provider, the Becket Land Trust Quarry Museum, an artist, and the Town Historical Commission's Becket Basket Museum. The Basket Museum does not pay rent.

Jeff Piemont graciously agreed to help facilitate the installation of the broadband system and we are grateful for his contribution.

The former renter, The Garden of the Goddess, replanted the entryway garden. It is beautiful and the Board of the MHEC gratefully acknowledges their contribution.

At this time there is one office available for rent. To inquire, please call me (Rita Furlong) at (413) 623-5146.

After skipping last year due to COVID restrictions, we hope to resume providing a summer docent on Saturdays from 12pm to 3pm. To arrange a museum visit during other times, you may call (413) 623-5146.

We are proud the town is in a position to offer meaningful uses for this historic building.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Rita Furlong,  
**Director**

### **Board Members:**

Ann Smith, **Treasurer**; Ken Smith, Cathy Halladay, David Willey

## ◆ **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 Select Board. 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; and obtaining technical assistance on nonpoint source pollution, conservation farm planning, manure management, and environmental stewardship.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

Neil F. Toomey,  
**Chairperson**  
Becket Agricultural Commission



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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE ENERGY COMMITTEE** ◆

For 2021, the Becket Energy Committee consisted of the following members:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Term</b>
Garth Klimchuk	Chair	2024
Cathy DeFoe	Vice Chair	2023
Susan Purser	Secretary	2024
Alvin Blake	Member	2022
Robert Gross	Member	2022
Katherine Hoak	Alternate Member	2022
William Pickert	Ex-Officio	
Bill Caldwell	Ex-Officio	
Bill Girard	Ex-Officio	
Dan Parnell	Ex-Officio	

In October, Katherine Hoak changed to Alternate Member status, and Susan Purser changed from Alternate Member to Regular Member status. Alvin Blake served as Chair through September.

### **Mission**

The Energy Committee's charge is to advise the Select Board and make recommendations about energy efficiency in Town buildings and operations, ensure compliance with the Massachusetts Green Communities Program and assist the Town and community to identify renewable energy and conservation funding opportunities. In addition, the

committee may educate residents on ways to save energy, reduce utility payments and provide advice on related issues.

### **Current Priorities**

#### Short Term

1. Continue small scale wind turbine project and funding source(s) investigation for installation and power usage offset at Town Hall.
2. Investigate possible processes to include Seminary Hall (Becket Art Center Building) in Green Community Grant funding.
3. Continue to identify community solar and other renewable energy projects for the Town and Town residents.
4. Organize seventh BEC Information Session to be held in 2022.
5. Continue to assist the Town Administrator with ongoing Green Community opportunities.

#### Long Term

Continue to implement Town sustainability and renewable energy objectives and reduce dependency on fossil fuels.

### **Notable Accomplishments**

- Held sixth BEC Information Session together with the Becket Broadband Ad Hoc committee.

*Respectfully Submitted,*  
**Energy Committee**



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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE BROADBAND AD HOC GROUP** ◆

As the year began, construction of our town's new broadband fiber network was well past the halfway mark. As expected, weather delays since the start of construction have pushed our target completion date back several weeks. We are currently aiming to have the network infrastructure completed by late summer. Of course, it is likely that there will be additional weather delays this winter (some, perhaps, even by the time you read this). Spring and summer rains may also extend the construction schedule. Progress reports and updated target dates are available on our website, [becketbroadband.org](http://becketbroadband.org), via the "FSA Map & Status" heading.

At the start of the year, individual home connections ("drops") were in progress in the first five of our town's ten Fiber Service Areas (FSAs). FSA02, the first in our construction sequence, is over 80% subscribed, and as of this writing, over 60% of households town wide have signed up for service. Drops begin in each FSA after its network fiber is complete and tested. Drops in FSAs with completed fiber will continue even as network construction carries on in other FSAs. All the town's subscriber connections will be complete within a couple of months following the core network's completion.

In October and November we had our first two virtual information sessions on the Zoom Internet platform with approximately 150 participants between them. We expect to conduct more sessions in the spring.

The Becket Broadband website, [becketbroadband.org](http://becketbroadband.org), includes an extensive FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) section which should answer most, if not all, of your questions. The site also features information on pricing, financial assistance, events like upcoming information sessions, and a link to pay your monthly bill. There is a town FSA map where you can type in your address to determine your FSA as well as your FSA's place in the construction and connection sequence.

If you want high-speed Internet and/or digital telephone service but have not yet signed up, you can do it online at [whipcityfiber.com/becket](http://whipcityfiber.com/becket). Call 1-833-991-9378 if you have questions or need assistance.

Once you have signed up for service and your FSA's network fiber is complete and tested, you will be contacted to schedule an in-person consultation. Someone eighteen years or older who can authorize the work will need to be present. If your connection is completely overhead (from a utility pole directly to your house), all work will be done the same day as your consultation. If your connection includes an underground cable run, three visits would typically be scheduled. The first is the consultation; the second is for the underground work; on the third visit the equipment is installed in your home, and the town's network fiber is connected to it. The total cost for most premises is covered by the town's \$2,000.00 subsidy. However, longer, more-complex, (usually underground) drops may not be completely covered by the subsidy.

If you would like more frequent updates on broadband happenings or have questions that our website cannot answer, visit our site's homepage at [becketbroadband.org](http://becketbroadband.org), where, toward the bottom, you can add your address to our emailing list and also ask us questions.

Thank you to the community for your patience and support. We also wish to express appreciation to all the Broadband Ad Hoc Group members along the way who have been instrumental in bringing high-speed Internet to our town. We think you will agree that it has been worth the wait!

*Respectfully submitted,*

***Broadband Ad Hoc Group***

Bob Gross, ***MLP Manager and WiredWest Alternate Delegate***

Bill Caldwell, ***Town Administrator***

Cathy Defoe

Jeremy Dunn

Chuck Garman

Dave Labrecque

Vickie DeLorenzo

Dan Parnell

Jeff Piemont, ***WiredWest Delegate***

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

Are you a Becket resident with an interest in the arts, humanities, or sciences? If so, please consider joining the Becket Cultural Council. All our meetings are open to the public and are posted in advance on Becket's website.

As an all-volunteer organization, we use money allocated by the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) to support local projects and programs related to the arts, sciences, humanities, and the environment. Priority is given to projects and programs that meet the following criteria:

- Offer direct benefit to local organizations and local citizens
- Are of interest to various age groups
- Provide cultural diversity
- Will be held in a local venue with local support and/or in an online format directed to the local community.

The more diverse our membership, the better we can serve the Becket community, so we welcome all inquiries, especially from Becket residents who have children attending Becket Washington School. If you would like more information or are interested in joining the council, or if you know of someone who might be, please email us at [becketculturalcouncil@townofbecket.org](mailto:becketculturalcouncil@townofbecket.org). We would love to hear from you!

Our program year typically begins in September when officers are elected, and applications begin to come in. Allocations are made in the late fall for programming to run the following year. This year's process took some getting used to, as we learned to navigate the MCC's new software system, but 2022 should be a breeze!

Becket Cultural Council members for 2021-2022 are Cathy Terwedow, Chair; Shelley Chanler, Secretary; Andrea Pecor, Treasurer; Tracy Wilson, Publicity; Linda Bacon; Sally Baumer; Roberta Goldman; Mary Manning; Andrea Nix, and Carole Rivele.

The term of membership for a council member is three years; members can serve a maximum of two consecutive terms. Members must remain off the council for a one-year interval before serving additional terms. We will have multiple openings in 2022 as members' terms expire.

For 2021, the council was awarded \$4,800 to allocate to grant applicants. Of the seventeen applications that were received, nine were accepted. Funds were allocated to the following applicants for the 2021 cycle:

<b><u>Applicant</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Awarded</u></b>
IS183, Inc.	ARTcentric: Berkshires at B-W Elementary School	\$700
Becket Arts Center	Music from around the World	\$900
Berkshire Music School	Music for Young Minds (Musical Enrichment Program)	\$650
Becket Athenaeum	Storytelling	\$500
Becket Athenaeum	Museum Passes	\$900
Becket Athenaeum	Program expenses	\$100
Sevenars	53rd Anniversary Music Festival	\$500
Berkshire Ukulele Band	Program requested in Becket	\$250
Windsor Jazz-Blues Workshop	Workshop program requested in Becket	\$300

Funds for 2022 programming were awarded, so rest assured that there will be plenty of local events and programs to look forward to this year!

We thank all the artists, support staff, and program directors who provide cultural activities for our community to enjoy.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Cathy Terwedow, ***Chair***

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

The Veterans' Services Office serves the Veterans of Becket and their families. We assist veterans in processing requests for Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) Chapter 115 benefits. Chapter 115 benefits are needs based, and include temporary financial assistance, medical reimbursement, and assistance in applying for aid from other agencies, both state and federal. Veterans with a dishonorable discharge are not eligible. Spouses and dependent children may be eligible, if the veteran was eligible.

The Town of Becket was able to assist veterans this year with Chapter 115 benefits totaling \$20,336.28. Of the total benefits, 75%, or \$15,252.21, will be reimbursed by the state for an actual cost to the Town of \$5,084.07. This included regular benefits, heating assistance, and medical reimbursements. This was a decrease in total benefits of \$5,294.45 compared to last year, mostly due to a veteran moving to another community.

The Veterans' Services Officer (VSO) also assists veterans and their spouses with federal Veterans' Administration requests. We advise veterans on what is available, and can assist in filling out and submitting the necessary paperwork, but it must be noted that we do not have any input in the approval process. This year there were several requests for copies of a veteran's discharge papers (DD-214), which were needed to apply for various state and federal programs.

As Covid-19 continued for another year, this office continued to assist Becket veterans and their families. The Veterans' Services Office (located in Lee) has remained open and was available for in person meetings, with all Covid-19 protocols being adhered to. While the veteran could email, mail, or phone in their requests, many veterans took advantage of the in-person meetings.

The caseload of Becket Veterans' Services has remained fairly constant. The greatest need continues to be for senior

veterans and their spouses, or their widows, who have very little income and are unable to work. As noted in previous reports, one of the most underused programs available to veterans is a program that allows a Veteran to receive Medical Only benefits, even if their income is too high for regular benefits. Chapter 115 is a needs-based program, with a limit on income and assets. Due to Covid, the asset limit has gone up for singles from \$5,000 to \$8,400, and the limit for couples has increased from \$9,800 to \$16,600. This program reimburses co-pays, other medical costs, and can even reimburse the cost of Medicare Part B and some supplemental insurances. It must be noted that Veteran Services does not directly pay the bills, but reimburses medical bills paid for by the veteran. Becket Veteran Services has several on this Medical Only program.

Last year we assisted in the distribution of coats through the Coats4Vets program, and there are several coats still available. Also, the local Goodwill store had an event where they took donations to help veterans. These were presented to this office in the form of \$20 Goodwill gift cards, which we have given to veterans in need.

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 is located in the Airolodi 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. Those who desire to use email, may contact me at [LeeVetsAgent@wmconnect.com](mailto:LeeVetsAgent@wmconnect.com).

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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

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## ◆ *REPORT OF THE BECKET ATHENAEUM* ◆

At the Becket Athenaeum, our commitment to serving the communities of Becket and Washington remains strong and focused. During 2021, we continued to provide outstanding library services as a result of appropriations received from the towns of Becket and Washington toward operating and capital expenses. The Fairfield County's Community Trust, the Feigenbaum Foundation, Neenah Charitable Giving, and the Central Berkshire Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, all continued to support our after-school tutoring and internship programs, as well as our community enrichment programs for all ages. Our LCCs (Local Cultural Council) from Becket and Washington have provided support for the passes to local museums we provide to our patrons all year long. In addition, the Becket LCC provided grant funds again in 2021 to help the Athenaeum hire several storytellers for the library's outdoor event days throughout the summer.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect the Athenaeum and community members in 2021. The library reopened for walk-in browsing and computer usage for patrons in June 2021, prior to which we had operated by appointment. Staff continued to offer entryway pickup for those patrons who were not yet ready to enter the library due to the pandemic. The Athenaeum successfully ran virtual and outdoor programming throughout 2021, with a gradual expansion to indoor programming for masked, vaccinated attendees. During the summer 2021, Athenaeum staff ran our Summer Reading Program, as well as a weekly outdoor Story & Craft Time for families, co-sponsored with the Becket Arts Center. We hosted multiple in-person, outdoor, family events: three well-attended storytelling programs plus three community drumming workshops. Our Summer Reading and Storytime & Craft programs were so successful that Athenaeum staff redesigned them both to continue year-round.

Due to the pandemic, our afterschool programming shifted to virtual tutoring with several enrichment workshops on Zoom. In-person tutoring was resumed in the 2021-22 school year, with virtual enrichment programs held separately and available for all area youth, without requiring enrolment in the tutoring program.

The families of our afterschool students help support our program by donating time at the library or making a donation to our annual appeal. We also offer grant-funded,

paid internships for high school students to work in either the afterschool and community programs or as librarian assistants, helping with various library tasks. We were pleased to be able to have interns working with us throughout 2021. Our internships are often a teen's first paid job and the mentoring and new job skills are invaluable to them and are a vital piece of our community outreach. The Athenaeum Director, Jodi Shafiroff, writes several recommendations for each intern as they begin applying to colleges, new jobs, and college housing. This program will continue strongly in 2022, and will be accepting applications on a rolling basis.

The Athenaeum continued our partnership with the Dalton CRA as well as the Becket Washington School in 2021, yet this collaboration was limited by the COVID-19 restrictions on afterschool programming held at the school. Kids Club will be relaunched in fall 2022, as a traditional afterschool care program with the option for families to also register for extra tutoring held right in the Kids Club program. These changes will allow families to have afterschool care and tutoring for their children through 5:30pm Monday through Friday.

Our Friday Enrichment (FE) program has been redesigned for 2022 into a program that has two to three sessions monthly, with a different educational focus each month. Families register their children for the month, for specific educational topics, without having to commit to the program for the entire school year. Topics will vary from field trips to Canterbury Farm for ice skating, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing to maple syrup projects/field trips to the science of anatomy and health. Dr. Sarah Reedy is the lead teacher for these programs, assisted by Ellen Manley, the Athenaeum's Head Librarian.

Our collaboration with the YMCA Berkshire Outdoor Center is currently on hold until they reopen in 2023. We look forward to resuming our collaboration with Becket Day Camp in summer 2022.

Our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) program for the pre-school age group resumed in fall 2021 once COVID-19 transmission levels were low enough for in-person preschool programming to resume with the school year. This is a fun, hands-on science exploration program for families. STEAM meets for an hour

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## ***REPORT OF THE BECKET ATHENAEUM***

*(Continued)*

every Tuesday and is led by Wendy Provencher, the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement coordinator for the Central Berkshire Regional School District. Wendy's position is funded through a grant by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.

The Athenaeum staff enjoys hosting BWS class field trips to help foster a love of reading, a familiarity with the library as a source of community (as well as books) and to support the BWS teachers in their needs for their classrooms and students. These walking field trips were put on hold during 2020-21 due to COVID-19, but will resume in 2022. It is our aim that these continue as an ongoing community outreach and educational supplement for local students. For most of the kindergartners, this is their first opportunity to have their own library card and to visit the library regularly.

The Athenaeum, along with the Becket Arts Center, Becket Washington School PTO, Congregational Church, Fire Department, and members of the Washington Community have worked for many years as the Becket Washington Community Partnership (BWCP). These organizations worked together pre-COVID to make the Hilltown Brouhaha a community event with something for everyone. The BWCP will resume collaboration in 2022, with the goal of several joint community events during the summer months. The Athenaeum Staff and Trustees look forward to participating as active members of the community.

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 fiction and non-fiction. We are pleased that the group was flexible during the pandemic, with half of its members meeting virtually, while the other half chose to meet in-person either outdoors or at Guild Hall depending on the weather. Due to interest expressed in our 2020 patron survey, we began a new monthly cookbook club in July 2021. Participants each checked out a copy of the same cookbook and selected which recipe they would make for the meeting. On the second Monday of the month, the group gathered to share the dishes and talk about their experience with the cookbook (clear instructions, difficulty finding ingredients, etc). The group met outside when the weather allowed and then switched to indoor meetings with proof of vaccination.

The Athenaeum continues to receive grant funds from

the Central Berkshire Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Foundation, the Feigenbaum Foundation, and the Fairfield County's Community Foundation for programs held throughout the year. In 2021, these workshops/presentations were held both virtually and outdoors when the weather allowed, with indoor programming resuming in November 2021. Workshops were led by local presenters/educators in mushroom identification, knitting, composting, NASA space programs, storytelling, community drumming, cookbook club, as well as author readings. These workshops were well-attended and provided information on a wide range of interesting topics for our community. Feedback surveys are sent to all registrants asking for their evaluation of both staff organization and presenter merit, as well as suggestions for future programming. We are always open to suggestions for group activities of interest to our patrons.

In fall and winter of 2021, the Athenaeum completed our 2021 action plan goal of a community-wide survey. This was our second annual online survey, shared to the community via links in our monthly newsletters, the towns' monthly newsletters, flyers, and social media posts. We were very pleased with the over 100 responses to the survey and will be reviewing the data collected throughout the winter 2021-22. While the responses were overwhelmingly positive regarding our staff and meeting of traditional library needs, there is a continued mandate by respondents for a larger volume of adult workshops and presentations as well as subject-focused social groups. With this in mind, the Athenaeum staff and board have continued writing several grants for 2022, to expand our role as the Becket Washington library and community center, as requested in the surveys.

In 2021, we were able to complete some needed touchups to the exterior of the Athenaeum, as well as finish the interior painting begun in 2020. Dave Pecor was hired to scrape and paint the areas that were showing wear and peeling. We also were pleased to install new signage with the library's hours, hung on front and back sides of the Athenaeum. The Athenaeum also had an energy audit conducted by MassSave/CET, which resulted in adding insulation to several areas of the building in order to reduce our heat loss in this beautiful, old building. We contracted with New England Security to tie both the new septic system and our basement sump pump into our existing security alarm system. This will allow for early alert to any failure that would cause damaging water levels in the basement.

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## ***REPORT OF THE BECKET ATHENAEUM***

*(Continued)*

As an independent non-profit organization, we rely on and so appreciate the many supportive individuals and groups who 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!

### **2021 Staff**

Jodi Shafiroff, ***Director and After-School Program Coordinator, ACE and FE***

Ellen Manley, ***Head Librarian and FE assistant***

Dawn Greene, ***Catalog Specialist***

Emily Robinson, ***Library Assistant***

Drea Pecor, ***Bookkeeper***

### **2021 Becket Athenaeum Board of Trustees**

Cathy DeFoe, ***Chair (Becket Resident)***

Aaron Beatty, ***Vice-Chair (Becket Resident)***

Robert Gross, ***Treasurer (Becket Resident)***

Katherine Hoak ***(Becket Resident)***

Denise Johns ***(Washington Resident)***

Allison Mikaniewicz ***(Washington Resident)***

Lee Watroba ***(Becket Resident)***



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## ◆ *REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE* ◆

For Becket the year 2021 continued to be a challenge, less due to the COVID 19 Coronavirus pandemic, and more from the torrential summer rains which caused extensive damage to our unpaved roads. This damage had a significant impact on town finances. In January 2022, the Town had a Special Town Meeting to approve the transfer of \$169k from our Stabilization Reserve Fund of \$1,069k to cover excess costs of road repairs. This made the roads passable but more work and expense will likely be needed in the near future.

The Fiscal Year 2022 ATM approved spending totaling \$7,039M which was an overall increase of \$64k or 0.9% from the previous year. Total education spending (regional school operating and capital plus vocational expenses) are \$2,889M or 41% of our spending. One of our biggest challenges in balancing our budget from year to year is the potential swing in the regional school costs as they change annually based upon Becket's student enrollment versus the total enrollment of the seven member towns. Our enrollment has been fairly consistent over a five-year average but some of the smaller towns' enrollments are dropping which could mean larger allocations to Becket in the future. The financial plans for the town have been carried out successfully due to the hard work of the Town Administrator, Bill Caldwell, and the Becket staff

and volunteers of all departments and committees.

The town tax rate for this year has not yet been set due to complications with the 10-year State mandated reevaluation of properties in town. Last year's rate of \$11.62 per thousand was used to generate estimated third quarter tax bills. Given our overall spending level it should be expected that our tax rate will be negatively correlated to our overall property valuations. This means an individual's tax bill should not see large fluctuations from the previous year.

The town's construction of our broadband network is progressing nicely with anticipated completion in 2022. All indications are spending is favorable to the budget. Based on the expressed sign-ups to date for this project, it should be successful both in bringing much needed high speed internet service to the town as well as financially being able to pay for itself.

Becket continues to have a stable financial situation. The town has adequate reserves in the Stabilization Fund which still exceeds \$900k and is 12.7% of the operating budget. We greatly appreciate all the efforts of our town employees and volunteers who make Becket a very special place to live.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Dan Parnell, *Chair*  
Ann Spadafora, *Vice Chair*  
Ron Defoe, *Secretary*  
Chuck Garman  
Mark Karlberg





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**◆ REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK - 2021 ◆**

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

Voter Registration Sessions	1
Candidate Voter Lists prepared	0
Sherwood Forest Road District- Voter Lists prepared	0

**Census Results**

Residents over age 16	1968
All Residents	2164

**Vital Records**

Vitals recorded in Becket:

Births	11
Deaths	18
Marriages	2

	<u>Fees</u>
Marriage Intentions filed: (4)	\$50.00
Certified copies prepared:	
Birth certificates (17)	\$85.00
Death certificates (27)	\$135.00
Marriage certificates (10)	\$50.00
Burial Permits issued: (7)	\$ -----
Cemetery Deeds Recorded: (5)	\$5.00
Genealogy requests: (0)	\$ -----
<b>Total Vitals Fees Collected</b>	<b><u>\$275.00</u></b>

**Other Licenses, Permits, Recordings**

<u>Issued</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Fees</u>
243	Dog Licenses (Neut & Non-Neut)	\$1325.00	\$182.25
0	Kennel licenses	\$0	\$0
19	Dog License Late Fees	\$100.00	\$100.00
0	Raffle Permits	\$0	\$0
0	Physician Registration	\$0	\$0
0	Utility Pole Recording	\$0	\$0
10	Business Certificate applications:	\$200.00	\$200.00

**Business Certificates recorded:**

Red Horse Real Estate  
TuChi  
Fly By Night Enterprises  
Augusta Rose Photography  
Unit Team Apparel LLC d/b/a Kolorking  
The Groom Waggin  
Bleire Home Improvement  
Pine Brook Farm  
Michael Wolski

**ANNUAL TOWN CAUCUS, APRIL 2021\***

**\*CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

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## *Report of the Town Clerk*

### **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, MAY 8, 2021**

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the Annual Town Meeting was called on May 8, 2021, 7:00 p.m. at Becket Washington School, 12 Maple Street, Becket, MA 01223. There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Moderator. There were 84 registered voters present (5% of 1693 registered voters) and a total of 108 people attended the meeting. Town Officials Present: Ethan Klepetar, Moderator, Bill Elovirta, Chris Swindlehurst, and Michael Lavery; Select Board Members; Dan Parnell, Charles Garman, and Ronald Defoe; Finance Committee Members; George E. Roberts, Town Clerk; William Caldwell, Town Administrator; Joel Bard, Esq., Town Counsel.

The Moderator opened the meeting and Municipal Light Plant Manager, Robert Gross, gave an update on the progress of the Broadband build out in Town. A motion was then made and seconded for a resolution honoring the memory of Bruce Garlow, past Moderator. The motion was seconded, and a vote was taken, the motion for a resolution passed unanimously. The Moderator then read the autobiographical Obituary of Moderator Bruce Garlow into the record of the Meeting:

#### **Bruce Garlow 1949 ~ 2021**

My name was Bruce Garlow. Long in Becket but recently of 45 Paul Dr. Lee, I died at 72 due to complications of kidney disease on Friday, April 23, 2021 at BMC. Not quite what I planned when I moved into our new home only 7 months ago, but there you have it.

I started this obit two years ago when my health became a little sketchy and I got to thinking perhaps I should be getting my things in order. Thankfully order was achieved and is now in the trustworthy hands of my son Eric, who shared my life and home for the past dozen years. My brother Tamarack said he would finish this notice when it came time, but beware, I'm no longer around so I didn't get a chance to edit this!

I was born January 23, 1949, in Brooklyn, NY and was the son of the late Lester C. Garlow and Alice V. Garlow. I grew up in Lansing, MI, was a graduate of Lansing Everett High School and Lansing Community College and worked at the U.S. Postal Service prior to moving to Berkshire County in 1976.

My greatest interest and my best gigs concerned local government and community. I retired after 20 years as town administrator in Richmond, where I also worked as

conservation administrator. I also put some time in as administrator for the town of West Stockbridge and as interim administrator in Lanesborough, and had consulted for the law firm of Bernstein, Cushner & Kimmell, PC concerning municipal affairs. I also served as a district aide for former Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins, managing his district office in Lee in the 1980s.

Due to a loud voice, pretty good diction and a desire for fairness and order, I served as the long time elected town moderator in my home town of Becket and had been secretary of the board of the Massachusetts Moderators Association. For my passion and for doing a tolerably good job in small town government, I was elected chair of the board of the Small Town Administrators of Massachusetts, and became a member of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, which generously awarded me its conservation administrator of the year award in 2001.

In earlier years I was a board member of the Berkshire County Regional Housing Authority, co-chairman of the Berkshire Advisory Committee to the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, a member of the MCAD state advisory board, and served on many local and regional governmental committees, commissions and task forces.

I had also been a longtime Democratic party activist, having served on the Monterey, Gt. Barrington and Becket Democratic town committees, respectively, while living in those towns.

I worked on several political campaigns and was a delegate to most of the Democratic state conventions during the 1980s and 1990s.

Never one who failed to have something to say or be shy about his opinions, I had also been a columnist for the Berkshire Courier, the former Gt. Barrington weekly newspaper, the Berkshire Record, a current Gt. Barrington weekly, and the Berkshire Beacon, a former Lenox weekly. I edited Becket, Massachusetts: From Colonial Township to Modern Town, a history published in 2015, the year of the town's 250th anniversary, was a former board member of WAM Theatre, and a longtime member of the Central Berkshire Fund, an advisory committee of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

In addition to my zeal for politics and my years of community

## *Report of the Town Clerk*

(Continued)

activism, I had a love affair with words. I frequently wrote and performed poetry, often through Pittsfield's Word X Word Festival and at Deb Koffman's In Words - Out Words in Housatonic. I was also drawn to write poems for family and friends and for special occasions like retirements, birthdays and memorial services.

I was predeceased by my wife of 28 years, Leslie Rudolph-Garlow, who died in 2008, and my daughter Lisa L. Garlow who we lost at the age of 48 in September 2020. I'm survived by my beloved son Eric J. Garlow who shared my home in Becket and later Lee, and by my brother and best friend Tamarack Garlow and his partner, Annie Brody in Canaan, NY, a nephew, Jakob Garlow-Kent of California, a niece, Malika Kent Limon, and her whole wonderful family of Housatonic, and many cousins.

We don't need another funeral, there's already been enough of those lately, so we won't be having one. Instead there will be one heck of a memorial party later in the summer. Stay tuned for an invite. Also in lieu of flowers, donations may be made in my name to the Berkshire Humane Society, 214 Barker Rd., Pittsfield, MA 01201 or the New England Organ Bank, 60 First Ave., Waltham, MA 02451.

Goodbye everyone and be well, it was a little short, but it was a great run!

The Meeting then observed a moment of silence in remembrance of Mr. Garlow.

### **ARTICLE 1 COMPENSATION**

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Chapter 41, section

108 of the General Laws, to fix the compensation of the Select Board at \$2,215 each and pursuant to Chapter 41, section 4A of the General Laws, to allow the following boards to employ their members at the listed hourly rates.

Board of Health at the rate of \$16.15 per hour for the performance of their duties as Board of Health members that is in excess of their meeting time.

Cemetery Commission at the rate of \$16.15 per hour for the performance of their duties as Cemetery Commission members in maintaining the cemeteries that is in excess of their meeting time; or take any other action relative thereto.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town set wage and salary rates for municipal boards and commissions as presented in Article 1 of the Warrant for the May 8, 2021 Annual Town Meeting.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

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

**Article 1 PASSED.**

### **ARTICLE 2 FY 2022 OPERATING BUDGET**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be needed to defray the expense of the Town for the 2022 Fiscal Year; or take any other action relative thereto.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town raise and appropriate \$7,039,413 for the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022).

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

	General Government	FY2020 Actuals	FY2021 ATM Approved	FY2022 TA Recommended	Dollar Increase (Decrease)	Percent Increase/Decrease
1	ADVERTISING	1,419	4,000	4,000	-	0.0%
2	SELECT BOARD SALARIES	6,427	6,525	6,656	131	2.0%
3	SELECT BOARD EXPENSES	1,537	2,200	2,200	-	0.0%
4	TOWN MEETING EXPENSES	2,913	6,000	6,000	-	0.0%
5	TOWN ADMIN. SALARY	76,512	80,000	81,600	1,600	2.0%
6	TOWN ADMIN. EXPENSES	985	2,200	2,200	-	0.0%
7	STAFF COVERAGE	811	4,000	3,500	(500)	-14.3%
8	CLERK OF COMMITTEES	21,205	22,000	20,000	(2,000)	-10.0%
9	FINANCE COMMITTEE	382	600	600	-	0.0%

**Report of the Town Clerk**  
(Continued)

10	TOWN ACCOUNTANT SALARIES	24,850	25,478	25,988	510	2.0%
11	OUTSIDE PAYROLL SERVICES	6,637	5,200	7,000	1,800	25.7%
12	TOWN ACCOUNTANT EXPENSES	-	400	400	-	0.0%
13	ASSESSORS SALARIES	67,152	68,000	65,000	(3,000)	-4.6%
14	ASSESSORS EXPENSE	58,793	71,000	70,000	(1,000)	-1.4%
15	TOWN TREASURER SALARY	46,452	47,387	48,335	948	2.0%
16	TOWN TREASURER EXP.	1,839	5,000	5,000	-	0.0%
17	TAX COLLECTOR SALARY	57,850	59,070	60,251	1,181	2.0%
18	ASSIST. TAX COLLECTOR	48,145	49,161	50,144	983	2.0%
19	TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSE	5,888	8,280	8,280	-	0.0%
20	TAX TITLE EXPENSES	53,454	30,000	30,000	-	0.0%
21	TOWN ADMIN ASST	46,510	47,502	48,452	950	2.0%
22	TOWN COUNSEL	30,025	20,000	20,000	-	0.0%
23	AUDIT EXPENSES	13,000	23,000	23,000	-	0.0%
24	POSTAGE	7,336	12,000	12,000	-	0.0%
25	TOWN REPORTS	3,120	3,500	3,500	-	0.0%
26	TOWN CLERK SALARY	29,188	29,918	30,516	598	2.0%
27	TOWN CLERK EXPENSE	1,752	2,145	2,145	-	0.0%
28	ELECTION-REGISTRATION	5,667	19,580	15,000	(4,580)	-30.5%
29	CONSERVATION COMM.	15,337	22,410	20,000	(2,410)	-12.1%
30	PLANNING BOARD EXPENSES	3,839	2,500	2,500	-	0.0%
31	ZONING BOARD of APPEALS	238	1,500	1,500	-	0.0%
32	BRPC	1,417	1,900	1,900	-	0.0%
33	MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS LABOR	49,774	50,288	51,294	1,006	2.0%
34	MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	40,212	57,000	55,000	(2,000)	-3.6%
35	MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS EXPENSES	19,079	31,975	31,975	-	0.0%
36	BROADBAND	1,338	2,500	2,000	(500)	-25.0%
37	BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS	31,584	35,000	35,000	-	0.0%
38	TECHNOLOGY	22,641	35,000	35,000	-	0.0%
39	RESERVE FUND		50,000	50,000	-	0.0%
40	General Government Total	<b>805,308</b>	<b>944,219</b>	<b>937,936</b>	(6,283)	-0.7%
	PUBLIC SAFETY					
41	POLICE DEPT. SALARIES	338,852	347,278	405,007	57,729	14.3%
42	POLICE DEPT. EXPENSE	16,964	20,000	21,000	1,000	4.8%
43	EM. MGMT EXP.	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	0.0%

**Report of the Town Clerk**  
(Continued)

44	EM. MGMT. TRAINING	-	1,000	1,000	-	0.0%
45	CONSTABLE EXPENSE	-	300	300	-	0.0%
46	FIRE DEPT. SALARIES/ CHIEF	7,300	7,483	7,633	150	2.0%
47	FIREFIGHTER STIPENDS	8,400	14,000	14,000	-	0.0%
48	FIRE DEPT. EXPENSES	22,665	37,000	37,000	-	0.0%
49	E911 COMMUNICATION	12,683	13,064	13,456	392	2.9%
50	BUILDING INSP. SALARY	54,636	55,000	55,000	-	0.0%
51	BUILDING & CODE INSP. EXP	5,055	2,215	2,350	135	5.7%
52	ANIMAL CONTROL SALARIES	4,933	5,638	5,751	113	2.0%
53	ANIMAL CONTROL EXPENSES	2,494	2,500	2,500	-	0.0%
54	HARBOR MASTER	1,713	1,474	1,474	-	0.0%
55	DEMOLITION FUND	21,215	25,000	25,000	-	0.0%
56	Public Safety Total	<b>497,910</b>	<b>532,952</b>	<b>592,470</b>	59,518	<b>10.0%</b>
	EDUCATION					
57	CBRSD OPERATING ASSESSMENT	2,308,156	2,318,893	2,392,842	73,949	3.1%
58	VOCATIONAL TUITION	180,249	185,000	190,000	5,000	2.6%
59	VOCATIONAL TRANSPORT.	45,918	75,000	75,000	-	0.0%
60	Education Total	<b>2,534,323</b>	<b>2,578,893</b>	<b>2,657,842</b>	78,949	3.0%
	FORESTRY					
61	TREE ACCOUNT	6,670	15,300	15,000	(300)	-2.0%
62	FORESTRY	-	500	500	-	0.0%
63	Forestry Total	<b>6,670</b>	<b>15,800</b>	<b>15,500</b>	(300)	-1.9%
	HIGHWAY					
64	SALARIES & WAGES	234,098	241,000	245,820	4,820	2.0%
65	SUMMER LABOR	-	16,800	16,800	-	
66	Salaries and Wages Subtotal	<b>234,098</b>	<b>257,800</b>	<b>262,620</b>	4,820	1.8%
67	General Maintenance Subtotal	<b>150,222</b>	<b>179,800</b>	<b>176,000</b>	(3,800)	-2.2%
68	Machinery Subtotal	<b>66,563</b>	<b>71,950</b>	<b>71,950</b>	-	0.0%
69	Fuel Subtotal	<b>72,365</b>	<b>95,500</b>	<b>91,750</b>	(3,750)	-4.1%
70	Highway Garage Subtotal	<b>13,242</b>	<b>16,150</b>	<b>16,000</b>	(150)	-0.9%
71	Winter Roads Total	<b>250,363</b>	<b>241,825</b>	<b>246,662</b>	4,837	2.0%
72	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TOTAL	<b>786,854</b>	<b>863,025</b>	<b>864,982</b>	1,957	0.2%

**Report of the Town Clerk**  
(Continued)

73	STREET LIGHTS	9,979	9,000	9,000	-	0.0%
74	Street Lights Total	9,979	9,000	9,000	-	0.0%
	TRANSFER STATION					
75	Transfer Station Labor	30,164	37,714	38,657	943	2.4%
76	Rental Compactor		13,200	13,200	-	0.0%
77	Rental Open Container (2)		4,500	4,500	-	0.0%
78	Trucking Compactor		10,500	11,375	875	7.7%
79	Trucking Open Container		8,250	9,000	750	8.3%
80	Trucking Cans & Bottles		6,300	6,825	525	7.7%
81	Trucking Scrap Metal		3,600	4,550	950	20.9%
82	Trucking Paper Cardboard		4,500	4,875	375	7.7%
83	Trucking Rigid Plastics		3,600	3,600	-	0.0%
84	Trucking Fuel Surcharge		1,400	1,400	-	0.0%
85	Disposal Solid Waste		28,200	30,000	1,800	6.0%
86	Disposal Bulky Waste		17,860	18,000	140	0.8%
87	Recycling Cans, Bottles, Paper		9,500	9,500	-	0.0%
88	Disposal Haz Mat		10,000	10,000	-	0.0%
89	Chemicals		300	300	-	0.0%
90	Permits		1,850	1,850	-	0.0%
91	MRF education		100	100	-	0.0%
92	Maintenance		1,500	1,500	-	0.0%
93	Inspections/Testing		2,500	2,500	-	0.0%
94	Total Expenses	124,806	127,660	133,075	5,415	4.1%
95	Transfer Station Total	154,970	165,374	171,732	6,358	3.7%
96	S. BERKSHIRE SOLID WASTE	5,900	3,200	3,260	60	1.8%
	CEMETERIES					
97	BECKET CENTER CEMETERY	4,944	5,000	5,000	-	0.0%
98	NORTH CEMETERY	19,781	16,500	16,500	-	0.0%
99	WEST CEMETERY	1,572	800	800	-	0.0%
100	Cemeteries Total	26,297	22,300	22,300	-	0.0%
	HEALTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES					
101	BOARD of HEALTH SALARIES	2,866	9,500	9,500	-	0.0%

## Report of the Town Clerk

(Continued)

102	BOARD of HEALTH EXPENSES	29,540	33,500	33,500	-	0.0%
103	INSPECTOR of ANIMALS	345	357	364	7	1.9%
104	NURSING SERVICES	3,826	5,200	5,200	-	0.0%
105	COUNCIL on AGING	4,748	3,500	3,500	-	0.0%
106	OUTREACH	-	500	500	-	0.0%
107	VETERANS AGENT SALARY	2,140	2,194	2,194	-	0.0%
108	VETERANS BENEFITS	34,529	38,500	35,000	(3,500)	-10.0%
109	VETERANS AGENT EXPENSE	-	100	100	-	0.0%
110	BECKET ARTS CENTER		10,000	10,000	-	0.0%
111	Health & Community Services Total	<b>77,994</b>	<b>103,351</b>	<b>99,858</b>	<b>(8,493)</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>
	LIBRARY					
112	LIBRARY	50,292	51,550	52,581	1,031	2.0%
113	CHILDRENS HOLIDAY PARTY	500	500	500	-	0.0%
114	Library Total	<b>50,792</b>	<b>52,050</b>	<b>53,081</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>1.9%</b>
	PARKS AND RECREATION					
115	WEED CENTER POND	2,500	3,000	3,000	-	0.0%
116	PARKS & RECREATION	34,505	30,610	30,610	-	0.0%
117	Parks & Recreation Total	<b>37,005</b>	<b>33,610</b>	<b>33,610</b>	-	0.0%
	HISTORICAL COMMISSION					
118	HISTORICAL COMMISSION	2,580	2,000	2,000	-	0.0%
119	Historical Commission Total	<b>2,580</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	-	0.0%
	MEMORIAL DAY				-	
120	MEMORIAL/VETERANS DAY	910	1,500	1,500	-	0.0%
121	Memorial/Veterans Day Total	<b>910</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,500</b>	-	0.0%
	BENEFITS					
122	HEALTH/LIFE INSURANCE	388,388	425,000	457,213	32,213	7.0%
123	COUNTY RETIREMENT	219,163	237,932	253,604	15,672	6.2%
124	PAYROLL TAX ACCOUNT	25,143	27,700	28,254	554	2.0%
125	UNEMPLOYMENT EXPENSE	4,020	5,000	5,000	-	0.0%
126	GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE	121,532	123,000	125,460	2,460	2.0%
127	OPEB LIABILITY		15,000	15,000	-	0.0%
128	Benefits Total	<b>758,245</b>	<b>833,632</b>	<b>884,531</b>	<b>50,899</b>	<b>5.8%</b>

**Report of the Town Clerk**  
(Continued)

129	<b>TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>5,755,736</b>	<b>6,160,906</b>	<b>6,349,601</b>	<b>183,695</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
	<b>FUNDED THROUGH WARRANT ARTICLES</b>					
	<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>					
130	<b>Town &amp; School Debt Service</b>	<b>406,613</b>	<b>504,318</b>	<b>384,812</b>	<b>(119,506)</b>	<b>-31.1%</b>
	<b>AMBULANCE</b>					
131	<b>From the General Fund</b>	<b>290,000</b>	<b>305,000</b>	<b>305,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
132	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET INCLUDING WARRANT ARTICLES</b>	<b>6,452,349</b>	<b>6,970,224</b>	<b>7,039,413</b>	<b>64,189</b>	<b>0.9%</b>

**Article 2** Was moved and seconded from the floor. There were brief discussions regarding Line Item 41, Town Administrator William Caldwell explained that this charge was for disability benefits for a police officer injured in the line of duty, there were no individual votes taken on these line items. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 2, and the

motion on **Article 2 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ARTICLE 3 DEBT SERVICE**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$384,812 to fund debt service due in Fiscal Year 2022 for the following previously approved borrowings:

<b>Debt</b>	<b>FY2021 Amount</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>
Becket Washington School	\$95,863	FY2025
Wahconah RHS Doors	\$6,605	FY2029
Wahconah Sidewalks	\$760	FY2022
Kittredge School MSBA Windows	\$125	FY2022
Craneville Roof	\$310	FY2023
Craneville Air Handler	\$78	FY2022
Wahconah RHS New Construction	\$126,981	FY2047
District Security	\$916	FY2025
Highway Truck and Plow	\$65,000	FY2021
Broadband	\$86,674	-
Interest on Short Term Debt	\$1,500	-



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## ***Report of the Town Clerk***

*(Continued)*

**MOTION:** Move that the Town raise and appropriate \$384,812 to pay principal and interest on school and Town debt for Fiscal 2022.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 3** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 3, and the motion on

**Article 3 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 4 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds including free cash (FC) and overlay surplus (OS), borrowing premium (BP), Stabilization (ST), or borrow the sum of \$132,000, or any other sum, to be used to fund the Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Plan for the Town of Becket. This plan consists of the following items:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Pavilion – Maple Street Park	\$5,000 (FC)
Town Hall HVAC/Renovation	\$15,000 (FC)
Town Hall Pavilion Extension	\$20,000 (\$10,406 BP) (\$9,594 FC)
Fire Department Hose and SCBA Equipment	\$20,000 (FC)
Highway Truck #5	132,000 (Borrow)
Highway Truck #5 Payment	\$44,858 (FC)
Town Hall Emergency Generator	\$35,000 (ST)

**MOTION:** Move that the Town transfer \$94,452 from Free Cash, \$10,406 in Borrowing Premiums, \$35,000 from Stabilization, and authorize the Treasurer to borrow up to \$132,000, for a total of \$227,000 to be used in the Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Plan.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**2/3 Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 4** Was moved and seconded from the floor. The Moderator pointed out that there was a typo High Truck should read Highway Truck. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 4, and the motion on

**Article 4 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 5 TRANSFER TO THE STABILIZATION FUND**

To see if the Town transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 to be deposited into the Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town transfer \$100,000 from certified Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 5** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 5, and the motion on

**Article 5 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 6 ACCEPTANCE OF CHAPTER 90 FUNDS**

To see if the Town will 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 to be reimbursed to the Town by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in accordance with Chapter 90 of the Massachusetts General Laws; or take any other action relative thereto.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town accept the grant of Chapter 90 funds for Fiscal Year 2022 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 6** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 6, and the motion on

**Article 6 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 7 AMBULANCE BUDGET**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$445,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Ambulance Enterprise; and to fund said appropriation, to raise and appropriate \$305,000, use \$10,000 from Ambulance Stabilization, and to transfer \$130,000 from

## ***Report of the Town Clerk***

*(Continued)*

Fiscal Year 2021 Ambulance Receipts; or take any other action relative thereto.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town raise and appropriate \$305,000, transfer \$10,000 from Ambulance Stabilization, and transfer \$130,000 from Ambulance Receipts to fund operations of the Ambulance Enterprise in Fiscal Year 2022.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Two Thirds Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 7** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 7, and the motion on

**Article 7 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 8 AMBULANCE STABILIZATION**

To see if the Town will transfer the ambulance retained earnings funds sum of \$63,940 to the ambulance stabilization account; or take any other action relative thereto.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town transfer the ambulance retained earnings funds in the sum of \$63,940 to the ambulance stabilization account.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 8** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 8, and the motion on

**Article 8 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

<b>Program or Purpose</b>	<b>FY 2022 Spending Limit</b>
Ambulance Training	\$10,000
Ambulance Details	\$15,000
Plumbing Inspector	\$10,000
Wiring Inspector	\$15,000
Gas Inspector	\$10,000
Police Details	\$20,000

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 9** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 9, and the motion on

**Article 9 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 10 LOCAL OPTION SPECIAL INJURY LEAVE INDEMNITY FUND**

To see if the Town will accept the provisions of G.L. c. 41, §111F (Paragraph 4) to establish a Special Injury Leave Indemnity Fund for the purpose of paying injury leave compensation and medical bills incurred by police officers

### **ARTICLE 9 REVOLVING FUNDS**

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 or take any other action relative thereto.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town 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:

and firefighters; or take any other action relative thereto.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town accept the provisions of G.L. c. 41, §111F (Paragraph 4) to establish a Special Injury Leave Indemnity Fund for the purpose of paying injury leave compensation and medical bills incurred by police officers and firefighters.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 10** Was moved and seconded from the floor. There was brief discussion on this Article. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 10, and the motion on

**Article 10 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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## *Report of the Town Clerk*

*(Continued)*

### **ARTICLE 11 PAYMENT OF PRIOR YEAR BILL**

To see if the Town will transfer from Free Cash a sum of \$461.78 to pay a prior year bill (FY20) for the salary of the Animal Control Officer, or take any other action relative thereto.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash a sum of \$461.78 to pay Fiscal Year 2020 Animal Control Officer Salary.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 11** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 11, and the motion on **Article 11 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 12 RESCIND AUTHORIZED, UNISSUED DEBT**

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authorization for unissued debt that has been determined is no longer needed for the completion of various projects; or otherwise act thereon.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town rescind the authorization for unissued debt for the ambulance totaling \$32,247.35 that has been determined is no longer needed, as approved at the May 13, 2017 Annual Town Meeting.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 12** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 12, and the motion on **Article 12 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 13 PARKING TICKET FINE CHANGE**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 17, Section 6 of the Town of Becket Bylaws by striking the fine of ten (10) dollars and replacing it with twenty-five (25) dollars; or otherwise act thereon.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town amend Article 17, Section 6 of the Town of Becket Bylaws by striking the fine of ten (10) dollars and replacing it with twenty-five (25) dollars.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 13** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 13, and the motion on **Article 13 PASSED.**

### **ARTICLE 14 FY 2022 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AUTHORIZATION**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2022 estimated annual revenues the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for Committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in Fiscal Year 2022, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation, all as set forth below:

#### ***Appropriations:***

Committee Administrative Expenses	\$500
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#### ***Reserves:***

Historical Resources Reserve	\$4,259
Community Housing Reserve	\$4,259
Open Space Reserve	\$4,259
Undesignated Reserve	\$29,316

#### **Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee**

**MOTION:** Move that the Town appropriate or reserve from Fiscal Year 2022 Community Preservation estimated annual revenues the amounts set forth in Article 14 of the Warrant for the May 8, 2021 Annual Town Meeting.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**CPA Committee: Recommended**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 14** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 14, and the motion on **Article 14 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 15 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING FOR WALKING PATH**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from Community Preservation Open Space Reserves for the creation of Esau's Heel walking path at Jacob's Well; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**MOTION:** Move that the Town transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the Community Preservation Open Space Reserves for the creation of Esau's Heel walking path at Jacob's Well.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**CPA Committee: Recommended**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 15** Was moved and seconded from the floor. There was brief discussion on this Article. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 15, and the motion on **Article 15 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 16 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING FOR ENERGY UPGRADES**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$21,887

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## ***Report of the Town Clerk***

***(Continued)***

from the Community Preservation Undesignated Funds to install insulation and window inserts at the Becket Arts Center Building; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**MOTION:** Move that the Town transfer the sum of \$21,887 from the Community Preservation Undesignated Funds for the installation of insulation and window inserts at the Becket Arts Center Building.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**CPA Committee: Recommended**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 16** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 16, and the motion on **Article 16 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ARTICLE 17 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Community Preservation funds the sum of \$100,000 (\$10,000 from Historical Preservation and \$90,000 from Undesignated Funds) to complete needed repairs to the belfry of the First Congregational Church; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**MOTION:** Move that the Town transfer from Community Preservation funds the sum of \$100,000 (\$10,000 from Historical Preservation and \$90,000 from Undesignated Funds) to complete needed repairs to the belfry.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**CPA Committee: Recommended**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 17** Was moved and seconded from the floor. There was discussion on this Article. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 17, and the motion on **Article 17 PASSED.**

### **ARTICLE 18 LOCAL OPTION EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.60A, s.1, eighth paragraph, adding an excise tax exemption for one vehicle owned and registered by or leased to a resident who is in active and full-time military service, as described in said statute, or otherwise act thereon.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.60A, s.1, eighth paragraph, adding an automobile excise tax exemption as described in Article 18 of the

warrant for the May 8, 2021 Annual Town Meeting.

**Select Board: Recommended**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Finance Committee: Recommended**

**Article 18** Was moved and seconded from the floor. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 18, and the motion on **Article 18 PASSED.**

### **ARTICLE 19 CITIZEN PETITION: ENGINE BRAKE BYLAW**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Becket Bylaws Article 17 – Town Betterment Bylaws – by adding a Section 25, “Engine Braking.”

#### **Section 25 – Engine Braking**

1. **Purpose:** The purpose of this bylaw is to prohibit the use of engine retarding and compression braking devices on thickly settled and residential roads of Becket.

2. **Prohibitions:** The use of compression release engine brake is associated with excessive noise that adversely affects the public health, safety, and wellbeing of the residents of Becket and is prohibited on all residential roads with speed limited of 35MPH or lower. The Town of Becket recognizes that compression release engine brakes can be an important accessory safety component of large commercial motor vehicles, but encourages commercial vehicles owners and operators to employ proper lower gear and service braking (as defined in CDL guidelines) and avoid the use of engine braking on all residential roadways except in emergency situations. In approved areas engine braking should be deployed judiciously and respectfully in our community, avoiding unnecessary use in non-emergency situations; in an unloaded or lightly loaded vehicle; to compensate for excessive speed or insufficient braking distances as a result of improper operation.

3. **Enforcement:** The use of engine brakes on prohibited roads shall result in a fine of \$300.00, which shall be recovered by indictment or on complaint before a district court, or by noncriminal disposition in accordance with [M.G.L.A. c 40 §21D]. Audible engine braking in residential areas shall be prima facie evidence of this section.

4. **Signage:** Signs shall be posted at any reasonable location within the Town that indicate the prohibition of engine braking pursuant to this section.

#### **5. Definitions:**

**Engine braking** – the use or operation of any mechanical exhaust device designed to aid in the braking or deceleration of any motor vehicle, changing normal engine compression and subsequently releasing that compression explosively from the vehicle exhaust. Common terms for

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## ***Report of the Town Clerk***

*(Continued)*

these systems include, but are not limited to “Jake Brake”, “Jacob’s Brake”, “C-Brake”, “Compression release brake”, “Paccar Brake”.

**Emergency Situation** – use in which there is imminent danger of a collision with property and persons and/or animals and /or what is necessary for the health, safety, or welfare of the community.

**Residential roads** – any road with a posted speed limit of 35MPH or lower.

**MOTION:** Move that the Town will vote to amend Article 17, by adding Section 25 as listed above.

### **Majority Vote Required**

**Article 19** Was moved and seconded from the floor. There was discussion regarding this Article. During discussion, a motion to Call the Question was made and seconded. A vote on the motion to Call the Question was taken and the motion to Call the Question passed by a 2/3 Majority as declared by the Moderator. A vote was taken on the motion on Article 19, and the motion on

**Article 19 FAILED.**

### **ARTICLE 20 ANNUAL ELECTION**

You are also required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Becket who are qualified to vote in Town elections, to meet at Precinct 1 in Becket Town Hall at 557 Main Street, Becket on Saturday, May 15, 2021 then and there to bring in their votes for the election of the following Town Officers:

**To cast their votes in the ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION**

**for the election of candidates for the following offices on May 15, 2021 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm:**

**1 MEMBER, SELECT BOARD (3-year term)**

**Vote for One**

**1 MEMBER, BOARD OF HEALTH (3-year term)**

**Vote for One**

**1 CEMETERY COMMISSIONER (3-year term)**

**Vote for One**

**2 MEMBERS, FINANCE COMMITTEE (3-year term)**

**Vote for Two**

**1 MEMBER, PLANNING BOARD (5-year term)**

**Vote for One**

**2 CONSTABLES (3-year term)**

**Vote for Two**

The Moderator notified and warned the Meeting of the Annual Town Election for the Offices set forth above.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn to the Annual Town Election which will be held one week from today on May 15, 2021, starting at Noon. A vote was taken and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m. The Tellers were Election Workers Barbara Craft-Reiss, Steven Reiss, Julia Kay-Grace, Susan Crossley.

Respectfully submitted,

George Roberts

Town Clerk

## **ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION, MAY 15, 2021**

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the Annual Town Election was held in the Becket Town Hall, 557 Main Street, on May 15, 2021. The polling hours were 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Prior to the polls opening, the Ballot Box was publicly opened, examined, and found to be empty; the register was set at zero. A total of 102 voters participated and cast ballots for the election of candidates. The results of the election are as follows:

	<u>Votes</u>	<u>%</u>
<b>For Member, Board of Selectmen (3-year term)</b>		
William H. Elovirta	68	67%
All Others (write-ins)	17	17%
Blanks	17	17%
Total Votes Cast	102	

### **For Member, Board of Health (3-year term)**

**Vote for One**

Laurel Burgwardt (write-in)	14	14%
All Others (write-ins)	8	8%
Blanks	80	78%
Total Votes Cast	102	

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## *Report of the Town Clerk*

*(Continued)*

### **For Cemetery Commissioner (3-year term)**

#### **Vote for One**

Michelle A. Smith	85	83%
All Others (write-ins)	4	4%
Blanks	13	13%
Total Votes Cast	102	

### **For Member, Finance Committee (3-year term)**

#### **Vote for Two**

Ann Gwenneth Spadafora	81	40%
Charles Garman	71	35%
All Others (write-ins)	1	0%
Blanks	51	25%
Total Votes Cast	204	

### **For Member, Planning Board (5-year term)**

#### **Vote for One**

James Levy	60	59%
Karen S. Karlberg	38	37%
All Others (write-ins)	1	1%
Blanks	3	3%
Total Votes Cast	102	

### **For Constable (1-year term)**

#### **Vote for Two**

William H. Elovirta (write-in)	14	7%
Robert T. Ronzio (write-in)	6	3%
All Others (write-ins)	19	9%
Blanks	165	81%
Total Votes Cast	204	
<b>Registered voters:</b>	<b>1691</b>	
<b>Ballots cast:</b>	<b>102</b>	
<b>Percent Voting</b>	<b>6%</b>	

A total of 102 ballots were cast. There were two absentee ballots and two spoiled ballots. There were no provisional ballots. The Auto-MARK voter assist terminal was tested at Noon, 12:10 p.m., 12:15 p.m., and the machine failed to recognize the ballots on each test. Election Officials were Julia Kay Grace (Warden), Patricia Clemons (Clerk), Susan Crossley, Susan Purser, Barbara Craft-Reiss, and Steven Reiss. The Constable was Michael Hunt. The polls closed at 4:00 p.m., and the unofficial results were printed and posted.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Roberts, Town Clerk

## **Elections and Town Meetings**

<u><b>Election</b></u>	<u><b>Registered Voters</b></u>	<u><b>Ballots Cast</b></u>	<u><b>Percent Voting</b></u>
Annual Town Election, May 15, 2021	1691	102	6%
<u><b>Meeting</b></u>	<u><b>Registered Voters</b></u>	<u><b>Voters/ Non-voter</b></u>	<u><b>% of Voters Attending</b></u>
Annual Town Meeting, May 8, 2021	1693	84/24	5%

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## ◆ *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, 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 otherwise cannot 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 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; broaden housing opportunities for residents; help senior citizens repair their homes; 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. Communities can issue bonds in anticipation of future CPA proceeds. Each community has control over how the money is spent, since 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.

This past fiscal year the ATM voters approved three requests. (1) Esau's Heel Trail work for the sum of \$10,000.00; (2) First Congregational Church for the rebuilding of the belfry which houses a Paul Revere bell for the sum of \$100,000.00 and (3) Becket Arts Center to continue efforts to insulate the building owned by the town for the sum of \$21,887.00. All three projects have been completed.

I would like to thank the townspeople and the administrative staff at the Town Hall for their support of the CPA. The CPC looks forward to future project proposals.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Rita M. Furlong, *Acting Chair*  
**Community Preservation Committee**



**◆ COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT ◆**  
**FY 2021 REPORT**

<b>FY 2021 Appropriated by Category</b>	<b>Community Housing</b>	<b>Historical</b>	<b>Open Space</b>	<b>Recreation</b>	<b>Budget Reserves</b>	<b>Committee Admin Expenses</b>	<b>Total Appropriation</b>
<b>Project:</b>							
Committee Administrative Expenses Article 10						\$500.00	
<b>Total Appropriated for Projects for FY 2021</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
<b>FY 2021 Expenses against approved Projects:</b>							
Committee Administrative Expenses Article 10							
First Congregational Church Article 13		\$12,000.00			\$3,000.00		\$15,000.00
Affordable Housing Article 14	\$25,000.00						\$25,000.00
<b>Total Expended during FY 2021</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$40,500.00</b>
<b>FY 2021 Est. Revenues Appropriated to Reserves</b>	<b>Community Housing Reserves</b>	<b>Historical Preservation Reserves</b>	<b>Open Space Reserves</b>	<b>Recreation Reserves</b>	<b>Undesignated Budget Reserves</b>		<b>Total Budgeted Reserves</b>
Estimated Revenues to Reserves	\$4,259.00	\$4,259.00	\$4,259.00	\$0.00	\$29,316.00		<b>\$42,093.00</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>Estimated</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual vs. Budget</b>				
FY 2021 Local Revenue CPA 1.5%	\$42,595.39	\$49,609.00	\$7,013.61				
FY 2021 State Percentage Match of Local Revenue	\$10,000.00	\$13,699.00	\$3,699.00				
<b>Totals by Fiscal Year</b>	<b>\$52,595.39</b>	<b>\$63,308.00</b>	<b>\$10,712.61</b>				



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## ◆ **REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING** ◆

In March 2021, we the Seniors resumed our Tuesday and Thursday luncheons. While we were closed at the Town Hall due to COVID-19, we went out for lunches at Carm's in Chester and the Russell Inn. It was very good to see everyone. We did reappeared at Carm's after we returned to the Town Hall.

In December, we went to Papa Bob's for our Christmas party. We had prime rib and stuffed shrimp. It was delicious. Our celebration included a grab bag, a young lady who sang Christmas songs, and a visit from Santa. We laughed and had fun during this special gathering.

On December 23rd, we had a little party at the Town Hall for the Seniors.

In order to play it safe, we did not go on any excursions. We look forward to going on trips when COVID rates are less prevalent.

Please join us for lunch at the Becket Town Hall, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 11AM till 2PM:

Lunch is served at 11AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Becket Town Hall's Community Room on the lower level. We play Bingo following lunch. Reservations are required so that enough meals are ordered. You may sign-up to attend lunch by calling (413) 623-8934 extension 127 or you may call my mobile cell phone at (413) 281-4697. The deadline to sign-up for our Tuesday luncheon is on Friday. The deadline to sign-up for our Thursday lunch is on Monday. The cost for lunch is \$2.00 payable at the door.

We all miss our dear friend Joan Moylan. She took a fall and broke her hip. We sent her flowers and cards.

Newcomers are welcome. We hope you can come out and join us during 2022.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Paula Bergeron,  
***On Site Director & Treasurer***



## ◆ **REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS** ◆

West Becket Cemetery remains in good shape with ongoing maintenance to the grounds.

North Becket Cemetery required more mowing and trimming than usual due to that 2021 was an extremely wet year. Road washouts were a problem. They were fixed by the Highway Department employees. We wish to thank them for tending to this. We purchased lot corner markers and installed them as needed. In addition to the Highway Department and Town Hall employees, we would like to thank Pioneer Plumbing Inc. for generously donating their time and supplies toward turning on and winterizing our well.

Center Becket Cemetery remains in good condition with ongoing maintenance to the grounds.

*Respectfully submitted,*

**Cemetery Commissioners:**  
William Cavanaugh, ***North Becket Cemetery***  
Michelle Smith, ***West Becket Cemetery***  
Dean Williams, ***Center Becket Cemetery***

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

The Animal Control Officer (ACO) is responsible for responding to complaints about, or problems with, all nuisance dogs and cats, including the investigation of animal complaints, dog bite investigations and vicious animal complaints.

This is a reminder that in accordance with the provisions of Section 137 of Chapter 140 of the Massachusetts General Laws, all dogs housed within the Town of Becket must be licensed through the Town Clerks Office. This also helps with identifying and reuniting owners with their animals, if they become lost.

Many complaints have come into the office in regards to unrestrained dogs. Under Town By-Laws Article 20 – Dog Control By-Law Section 2: No owner or keeper shall permit a dog to run at large within the Town of Becket. Unrestrained

dogs are subject to a \$25.00 fine for each offense as well as impound fees.

The Massachusetts Animal Fund dedicates a significant portion of its funds to help low-income residents who receive assistance through state or federal programs (TAFDC, SSI, VS, SNAP, WIC etc.).

Obtain spay/neuter surgery for companion animals free of charge through the spay/neuter voucher program. Those wishing to participate must submit proof of eligibility.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Nicole Miller, *Animal Control Officer*

	<b>Dogs</b>	<b>Cats</b>	<b>Wildlife</b>	<b>Misc</b>
<b>Calls Received:</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>
Transferred Calls		1	15	13
Assisted Calls	15	5	6	7
Surrender				
Lost/ Found	65			
Cruelty/Neglect Inv.	4	4		

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

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) saw an increase in filings this year. The board was presented with new issues that allowed for many learning opportunities. We thank Building Inspector William Girard and Town Administrator William Caldwell for the support and assistance over the past year. It was also a year for growth for the ZBA. We welcomed Robin Mathiesen, Mary Canty, and Chris Milenkevich as members of the board.

The ZBA met in March, April, May, June, July (three times), August, September, October, November, and December. We transitioned back to in-person meetings in June and have held hybrid meetings since that time. The board heard four requests for mobile home special permits. All four requests were conditionally approved. We heard and approved three requests for dimensional special permits. The board also heard and approved one request for site plan approval. Additionally, there were three applications before the board

that ultimately were not ruled on. The board also submitted proposed changes to section 6.2 and section 10.0 of the Becket Zoning By-Laws. The changes were approved at the Special Town Meeting on January 18, 2022.

The Public is invited to review the Becket Zoning By-Laws, guidelines, applications, agendas, and meeting minutes at the Town of Becket website, [www.townofbecket.org](http://www.townofbecket.org). Applications to the Zoning Board of Appeals should be submitted to the Town Clerk. Please contact the board at [zba@townofbecket.org](mailto:zba@townofbecket.org) for additional information. Meetings are held as needed on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Victoria Bleier, *Chairperson*

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## ◆ *REPORT OF THE TRANSFER STATION* ◆

The Transfer Station hours of operation are Tuesday and Saturday from 9am to 5pm. A vehicle permit is required for entry to the Transfer Station. Vehicle permits may be purchased at the Town Hall or the town website [www.townofbecket.org](http://www.townofbecket.org). A bag sticker must be affixed to each bag of household trash prior to disposal into the compactor. Bag stickers (\$2 each) may be purchased at the Town Hall, through the town's website, or through businesses listed on the town's website. **Bag stickers may also be purchased in \$10 increments by check only at the Transfer Station. Cash is not accepted at the Transfer Station.**

Disposing recyclables (paper, cardboard, cans and bottles, plastic containers and scrap metals) is free of charge. Tires, CRTs, 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 your vehicle. All scrap metal must be free of wood, plastic, tires, gas and oil.

The Town of Becket is a member of the Southern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District (SBSWMD), which assists with recycling, waste reduction and household hazardous waste collection programs. We are working with the tri-town Board of Health to arrange for our residents to participate in two hazardous waste collections per year.

During 2021, the town recycled, collected and processed 55.87 tons of paper, 63.96 tons of cans and bottles, 27.90 tons of scrap metals, 176.06 tons of bulky waste, 393.14 tons of solid waste, 669 fluorescent light bulbs, 180 mattresses, and 115 car and truck tires.

I would like to thank Transfer Station Attendants Bob Will, George Crochiere, and Maurice Vandesteene for all their hard work and dedication to the Town of Becket.

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 8:30am to 4:30pm) at 413-623-8934 or the Highway Department office (Monday through Friday 7am to 3:30pm) at 413-623-8988.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Edward Pickert  
*Highway Superintendent*



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

The Becket Scholarship Foundation was pleased to award scholarships to three Becket students: Aiden Betit, Megan Consolati and Christopher Petrescu. Through our coordination with Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, another student, Dillon Rodgers, was recommended by the Becket Scholarship Foundation to receive the Berkshire Taconic award. The total amount of all

four awards was \$5,500.00. These scholarships are made possible through the generous donations of Becket residents.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Kathleen Rodhouse, *Secretary*

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## **REPORT OF THE**

### **◆ WESTFIELD RIVER WILD & SCENIC COMMITTEE ◆**

The Wild and Scenic Westfield River Committee works to preserve, protect, and enhance the special qualities and outstanding natural resources of the Westfield River Watershed in concert with local communities. Appointed representatives from Becket, Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Huntington, Middlefield, Savoy, Washington, Windsor, and Worthington meet monthly with representatives from the National Park Service, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and others. Project funding is provided through the National Park Service's Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program.

2021 welcomed new faces on the committee: Kathryn Koegel, Huntington; Liese Schaff, Worthington; Mary Latham, Becket

The committee invested significant time working with CEI (Comprehensive Environmental Inc.) to complete the update to the watershed stewardship plan. That work has been completed and the committee is working on the implementation. The broad categories within which the committee hopes to work over the next years include:

- protecting our cold water stream habitat
- working to reconnect stream segments isolated by dams and culverts
- invasive species management to protect high-quality riparian habitat
- further citizen engagement to assist with the needed work

The committee's outreach and education efforts continued to be curtailed by restrictions from the pandemic. Outreach Coordinator Meredyth Babcock produced additional engaging and interesting videos about the Westfield River and watershed. There are now 16 videos posted on the Wild and Scenic Westfield River Committee website: [www.westfieldriverwildscenic.org](http://www.westfieldriverwildscenic.org). Several of them cover common invasive plants and how to identify them. Meredyth also worked with three interns from Westfield State on invasive plant mapping and eradication. This year projects occurred in Becket, Savoy and Chesterfield.

With the growth in online connections we are able to meet with our colleagues from other Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers for discussions and training. Other New England Partnership Rivers are: the Sudbury-Assabet-Concord, MA; Upper Missiquoi and Trout, VT; Taunton, MA; Lamprey, NH; 8-Mile, CT; Nashua River, MA & NH, and Farmington, CT.

The committee assisted in the acquisition of an important inholding within the Gilbert Bliss State Forest along the East Branch in Chesterfield and helped to place a hiking trail easement on a parcel in Chester that was acquired by the town and will be transferred to Mass Wildlife.

The Benton Hill Road road-stream crossing upgrade is progressing. The Wild & Scenic Committee provided the initial funding and oversight to hire a consultant to assess the failing road crossing, produce a concept design and draft a grant application to help the town acquire additional design funding. The application was successful last year and the funding has allowed the town to move ahead with the project. The consultant noted the hard work of Wild & Scenic interns was readily noticeable as the area around Center Pond Brook, anticipated to be choked with non-native plants, has a thriving native plant community.

Our committee meets once a month and all meetings are open to the public. We encourage you to take part in any of our sponsored activities, including stream teams, river clean-ups, land protection, and workshops. To learn more about what is happening in the watershed, visit our website at [www.wildscenicwestfieldriver.org](http://www.wildscenicwestfieldriver.org) or contact your town representative to the committee: Cindy Delpapa [cdbecket@gmail.com](mailto:cdbecket@gmail.com) - Becket Representative and Mary Latham ([444mkl@gmail.com](mailto:444mkl@gmail.com)) Becket Alternate Representative.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Jim Caffrey, **Secretary**  
Westfield River Wild & Scenic Committee

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## ◆ *REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION* ◆

The Historical Commission (HC) meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 3 P.M. in its office in the Town Hall. The commissioners are: Sandra Jarvis (2024)-Chair; Rita Furlong (2022)-Treasurer; John Garvey (2024)-Secretary, and CPC representative; Gail Kusek (2024) and Tim Sullivan (2024).

The HC extends a very special thank you to Katherine Hoak who retired from the HC in August after five years of service. She continues, graciously, to volunteer doing what she likes best - helping to organize the files and archives in the HC office. Also in August, the HC welcomed aboard new commissioner Tim Sullivan. Formerly, Tim was Becket's Emergency Management Director and an EMT. He enjoys exploring the history of the area, including Becket and its surrounding towns, metal detecting, and finding old foundations.



In 2020, the HC was contacted by Tyringham resident John Hanson about the treasures among the many 1700s epitaphs in the historic Becket Center Cemetery. What started out as a proposed meeting with the Commission; after a year of delays caused by the pandemic, turned into a major presentation titled "Early Epitaphs in the Becket Center Cemetery" on October 2, 2021. The Becket Arts Center, the Becket Cemetery Commission and the Becket Athenaeum graciously agreed to join the HC in co-sponsoring the event. Approximately 100 people participated in the "Talk" in the sanctuary of the First Congregational Church and "Walk" in the Becket Center Cemetery. John gave a wonderful presentation. As a thank you for his time and expertise the Historical Commission presented John with a signed copy of the book: A Bicentennial History of Becket written in 1965.

### Donations

- Charlie Flint, art and antiques dealer, and his wife Joy of Lenox, presented the HC with a portrait of Helen Day Flynn (1911-1999). It was painted by her father Francis (James Francis) Day, a professional artist, when she was 16 years old. In 1941, she moved to Becket after her marriage to resident Carl Flynn; and lived here until her death. The oil painting is on artist board, 15" x 12", surrounded by its original, ornate gold leaf carved frame. The portrait was on display at the Becket Arts Center during the summer and will be on permanent display in the Becket Room at Town Hall.



- Alice Ballou Morse shared Ballou family and business items.

### Queries

- Request from Mark Rosenman regarding Berkshire

roadhouses (1940s-1960s) including the Dream Away Lodge; HC provided information from the files on the 200-year-old farmhouse at the edge of October Mountain State Forest; converted to a lodge by Mamma Maria Frasca about 75 years ago.

- Query from David Levinson, PhD, regarding the Moorish



Science Temple/Convention held in Becket in 1944 at the farm recently purchased from Samuel and Ida Pill and her brother Arthur Luchter. The Pills were Jewish immigrants from Russia who had faced anti-Semitism in Becket.

The farm, later a summer home on Carter Road, was also known as "Bally Hooly"; and in 1965, a children's camp, "Camp Tomoka" was founded on the property. The main farmhouse was destroyed by a fire in 1969. As a follow-up to the information and photos the HC shared with Dr. Levinson, he shared a link to the Moorish Science Temple article he wrote: [www.africanamericantrail.org/the-story/moorish-science-temple/](http://www.africanamericantrail.org/the-story/moorish-science-temple/).

- Query from Gary Winsor regarding the Revere Bell at the



First Congregational Church of Becket; provided him with information from the HC, church, and personal records. "One of the town's most notable historical treasures is the bell in this church, a Revere bell made by the celebrated Paul Revere of Revolutionary War fame. Xenophon and Stephen Wadsworth, young men of the town, went to Boston with horses and brought home the bell. The raising of the bell was accomplished without accident, but it had been in use only a short time when one of the frightened Wadsworth boys announced he had cracked the bell while ringing it for Sunday service. The bell was later removed and taken to Troy, New York, for remolding. One hundred dollars in silver was subscribed, and Augustus Perkins went to Troy with the bell. While watching the process of remolding, Perkins dropped the hundred silver dollars into the molten metal. The presence of the silver is said to have much to do with the present sweet tone of the bell. The bell is one of only about thirty Revere bells known to be still in existence and in use and is believed to be the only one in Berkshire County." [A Historic Tour of Becket, Massachusetts Edited and Compiled by Beverly K. Lambert and the Becket Historical Commission Drawings and Maps by Philip Buller.

- Query from John Putnam, he is researching his Robbins ancestors who lived near the Becket and Chester Railroad and whose property may have been involved in a fire on the railroad. The HC gave him some guidance and suggested he contact the Chester Railroad Museum for more information

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## *Report of the Historical Commission*

### *(Continued)*

about the Becket and Chester Railroad.

- The HC fielded numerous queries regarding their historic building plaques. Most of the present commissioners were not on the HC when the original program was instituted about 12 years ago. John Garvey volunteered to research guidelines, designs, sources, and cost for new plaques. During discussions various changes were made to the guidelines and the shape and style of the plaques. The HC voted to continue the program, making new plaques available to the public for their private property at least one hundred years old, at their own expense in early 2022. The HC will provide plaques for the two Congregational churches, Guild Hall (the old Town Hall), Seminary Hall (Becket Arts Center), the Becket Athenaeum, the Mullen House and the Brewster House.
- Request from Christine Touponce regarding the Smith family, and the Silk Mill. About 1885 Samuel K. Smith, a silk manufacturer, opened his first silk mill in Becket producing silk thread for sewing, embroidering, and crocheting. His Berkshire and Becket Silk Company employed about 80 people, many of them young women. The Smith family owned the brick mill along Yokum Brook just south of Ballou Park (where the ruins are today), until 1924-1925. In 1927, most of the silk mill was washed away by the Flood and the rest was destroyed by fire a week later.
- Query from David Meyers regarding history of the Indian Lakes Association: HC shared an original association map and noted that the police chief would have information, including the history of the dam.
- Query from David Weissbrod, Washington HC, regarding gravestone repair. It was suggested he contact Worthington Historical Society and Becket Cemetery Commission for assistance.
- Queries regarding Captain Whitney Road, who was it named for? Who was Capt. Whitney? Resident Bruce Lederer provided info to the HC on history of the bell housed at Town Hall. Capt. Whitney (1846-1927) was a merchant marine who kept a ship's bell on the lawn of his farmhouse named "The Anchorage". He regularly rang the bell: each sunrise, when mail was being delivered to the neighborhood, to celebrate holidays and on other occasions. After Lilly Askerlov bought the property, she asked the authorities in Chester to remove the bell in 1973. As Becket had no historical commission at the time, the bell was given to Chester where it was housed in the Old Jail. In 2006 the bell was given to the Becket HC. It is on display in the Becket Room at Town Hall.
- Queries from Jeannette Thomas regarding Jarvis Norcott,

state representative, and year his house at 3425 Main St. was built? The house was built about 1855 during the boom in the North Village after the arrival of the railroad. It is listed as a historic property with the Massachusetts Historical Commission and is part of the North Becket Village Historic District.

- Query from Peter S. Nikitas, Foresight Land Services regarding properties around Cushman and Quarry Roads; also where was Cushman Rd located? HC recommended talking with Ken Smith of Becket Land Trust and Dave Pierce of the Chester Railroad Museum.
- Select Board member Michael Lavery called the commission's attention to a Berkshire Eagle historical article from 1967 about a history of Jacob's Pillow written as a college dissertation by Elsie Johnson of Texas Women's University. He suggested getting a copy of the dissertation. The HC is pursuing a copy either from the Jacob's Pillow archives or from Texas Women's University.

### **Actions**

- Provided copies of the Becket map reprinted in 1994 by the HC to the Becket Athenaeum.
- The Annual Town Report archives maintained by the HC were updated. Copies of the Annual Town Reports from 1860 to the present are available in the Becket Room and the HC office at Town Hall, also at the Becket and Pittsfield Athenaeums.
- Additional articles for the "Historical Facts" page on the HC section of the Town website were completed. The page can be located from the HC page at:  
<https://www.townofbecket.org/historicalcommission/pages/historical-facts>.
- Building permit requests for historic properties:  
  
43 Pleasant St. The HC signed-off on this request with recommendations to maintain the front facade and the wooden windows.  
  
Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Ted Shawn Theatre; The HC signed-off on Jacob's Pillow plans to renovate the historic Ted Shawn Theatre, a timber structure built in 1942 as the first theater in America designed specifically for dance.  
  
Approved the First Congregational Church permit to remove and replace the approximately 160-year-old post and beam belfry to address the severe damage caused by wood-boring, powderpost beetles.

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## *Report of the Historical Commission*

*(Continued)*

- On June 7, Sandi presented a simultaneous live and Zoom PowerPoint program titled “Becket Arts Center, The First Decade”. The presentation honored the Arts Center founders and documented their dream, their creative vision, their ingenuity, and the hard work by which they made their dream a reality during the 1970s. Approximately 30 people attended in person, for the first live event at the Arts Center in months. The presentation may be viewed from the Becket Arts Center (BAC) website at: <https://www.becketartscenter.org/contact>

- The HC wrote a letter of support for the BAC, whose Board of Directors oversee the maintenance of their town owned, historic home, Seminary Hall (a former Becket public school from 1855 to 1940). The directors are trying to solve their heating and cooling issues; funding is the main concern. The HC applauds the BAC leadership for their stewardship-maintaining the building as a thriving asset for the town to enjoy.

- New information signs were installed at Ballou Park, North Becket and the Parade Grounds, Becket Center in time for Memorial Day. The HC thanks Dave Shorey, Building and Grounds Technician, for installing the signs.



- The HC also thanks the Highway Department for hanging the new “Welcome to Becket” pole flags along the roads leading to Becket and at Town Hall.

- In April, Sandi attended the “Outreach and Community Engagement”, a Zoom workshop presented by Chris Skelly, Director of Local Government Programs, Massachusetts Historical Commission.

### **Goals**

- Preserve and publicize Becket’s historical structures. Under discussion, whether to pursue historic properties, those up for sale or those that might be in danger of loss. Town owned historic properties: the Mullen House and Seminary Hall (leased to BAC)

- Becket history awareness-Historical Facts page. it is on their website: <https://www.becketartscenter.org/history>

*Respectfully submitted,*

Sandra L. Jarvis, ***Chair***



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

*July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021*

<u>Fiscal Year/Tax</u>	<u>Balance 07/01/2020</u>	<u>Commitments</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Refunds</u>	<u>Abatements</u>	<u>Tax Title Transfers</u>	<u>Balance 06/30/2021</u>
<b>2021</b>							
Real Estate		\$5,741,093.21	\$5,430,190.78		\$26,946.34		\$283,956.09
Personal Property		\$377,717.41	\$372,848.72		\$913.46		\$3,955.23
Motor Vehicle		\$276,735.33	\$248,352.95	\$3,324.63	\$6,664.24		\$25,042.77
Fees			\$7,449.70				
Interest			\$14,529.71				
<b>2020</b>							
Real Estate	\$347,895.19		\$159,539.92		\$2,496.34	\$79,703.43	\$106,155.50
Personal Property	\$5,702.27		\$2,608.13		\$140.87		\$2,953.27
Motor Vehicle	\$33,734.52	\$26,010.96	\$53,314.92	\$3,292.37	\$4,057.92		\$5,665.01
Fees			\$17,168.68				
Interest			\$13,907.59				
<b>2019</b>							
Real Estate	\$79,738.08		\$18,593.26		\$0.00	\$5,490.78	\$55,654.04
Personal Property	\$2,522.38		\$512.96		\$0.00		\$2,009.42
Motor Vehicle	\$5,762.22		\$3,335.20	\$126.24	\$596.24		\$1,957.02
Fees			\$2,870.47				
Interest			\$5,652.31				
<b>2018</b>							
Real Estate	\$40,587.49		\$19,643.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,517.12	\$16,426.54
Personal Property	\$2,135.80		\$442.17		\$0.00		\$1,693.63
Motor Vehicle	\$5,332.93		\$2,004.17	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$3,328.76
Fees			\$1,427.99				
Interest			\$9,027.75				
<b>Pre 2018 Years</b>							
Real Estate	\$33,175.75		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33,175.75
Personal Property	\$8,194.86		\$361.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,832.93
Motor Vehicle	\$8,552.19		\$55.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,497.19
Fees			\$947.71				
Interest			\$8,941.77				



# ◆ **TOWN OF BECKET FINANCIAL REPORT** ◆

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

## **GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES**

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD.</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
ADVERTISING	\$300.00	\$4,000.00	\$-3,000.00	\$393.50	\$906.50	30.26 %
<b>ADVERTISING Total</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>\$-3,000.00</b>	<b>\$393.50</b>	<b>\$906.50</b>	<b>30.26 %</b>
SELECTMEN SALARIES		\$6,525.00		\$6,525.00		100.00 %
SELECTMEN EXPENSES		\$2,200.00		\$627.00	\$1,573.00	28.50 %
TOWN MEETING EXPENSE		\$6,000.00	\$-3,164.50	\$1,625.00	\$1,210.50	57.30 %
INDIAN LAKES ASSOCIATION	\$1,350.00			\$1,350.00		100.00 %
PRINT AND BIND BYLAWS	\$5,000.00				\$5,000.00	0.00%
<b>SELECTMEN Total</b>	<b>\$6,350.00</b>	<b>\$14,725.00</b>	<b>\$-3,164.50</b>	<b>\$10,127.00</b>	<b>\$7,783.50</b>	<b>56.54 %</b>
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES		\$80,000.00		\$79,999.02	\$0.98	99.99 %
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR EXPENSES		\$2,200.00		\$1,164.00	\$1,036.00	52.90 %
STAFF COVERAGE		\$4,000.00		\$1,247.94	\$2,752.06	31.19 %
CLERK OF COMMITTEES		\$22,000.00		\$12,121.20	\$9,878.80	55.09 %
250TH ANNIVERSARY	\$784.20				\$784.20	0.00%
<b>TOWN ADMINISTRATOR Total</b>	<b>\$784.20</b>	<b>\$108,200.00</b>		<b>\$94,532.16</b>	<b>\$14,452.04</b>	<b>86.73 %</b>
FINANCE COMM. EXPENSES		\$600.00		\$135.00	\$465.00	22.50 %
<b>FINANCE COMMITTEE Total</b>		<b>\$600.00</b>		<b>\$135.00</b>	<b>\$465.00</b>	<b>22.50 %</b>
TOWN ACCOUNTANT SALARIES		\$25,478.00		\$25,478.00		100.00%
OUTSIDE PAYROLL EXPENSES	\$-2,320.50	\$6,069.10	\$8,485.00	\$12,233.60		100.00%
TOWN ACCOUNTANT EXPENSE		\$400.00		\$200.00	\$200.00	50.00 %
<b>TOWN ACCOUNTANT Total</b>	<b>\$-2,320.50</b>	<b>\$31,947.10</b>	<b>\$8,485.00</b>	<b>\$37,911.60</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>99.47%</b>
ASSESSOR SALARIES		\$68,000.00		\$44,001.64	\$23,998.36	64.70 %
ASSESSOR EXPENSES	\$3,800.00	\$71,000.00		\$71,291.10	\$3,508.90	95.30 %
<b>ASSESORS Total</b>	<b>\$3,800.00</b>	<b>\$139,000.00</b>		<b>\$115,292.74</b>	<b>\$27,507.26</b>	<b>80.73 %</b>
TREASURER SALARIES		\$47,387.00		\$47,384.48	\$2.52	99.99%
TREASURER EXPENSES		\$5,000.00		\$2,549.24	\$2,450.76	50.98 %
<b>TREASURER Total</b>		<b>\$52,387.00</b>		<b>\$49,933.72</b>	<b>\$2,453.28</b>	<b>95.31 %</b>
TAX COLLECTOR SALARIES		\$59,070.00		\$59,069.52	\$0.48	99.99 %
ASST TAX COLLECTOR SALARIES		\$49,161.00		\$49,151.52	\$9.48	99.98 %
TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSES	\$3,500.00	\$8,280.00		\$5,507.18	\$6,272.82	46.75 %
KVS SOFTWARE UPGRADE	\$4,045.00				\$4,045.00	0.00%
<b>TAX COLLECTOR Total</b>	<b>\$7,545.00</b>	<b>\$116,511.00</b>		<b>\$113,728.22</b>	<b>\$10,327.78</b>	<b>91.67 %</b>
TAX TITLE EXPENSES		\$30,000.00		\$20,678.96	\$9,321.04	100.00 %
TAX TITLE EXPENSES		<b>\$30,000.00</b>		<b>\$20,678.96</b>	<b>\$9,321.04</b>	<b>68.92 %</b>
<b>TAX TITLE Total</b>		<b>\$47,502.00</b>		<b>\$47,502.00</b>		<b>100.00 %</b>
TOWN SECRETARY SALARIES		\$47,502.00			\$47,502.00	100.00 %
TOWN SECRETARY EXPENSES		\$20,000.00	\$662.88	\$20,662.88		100.00 %
<b>TOWN SECRETARY Total</b>		<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$662.88</b>	<b>\$20,662.88</b>		<b>100.00 %</b>
TOWN COUNSEL EXPENSES		\$23,000.00		\$15,500.00	\$18,000.00	46.26 %
<b>TOWN COUNSEL Total</b>		<b>\$23,000.00</b>		<b>\$15,500.00</b>	<b>\$18,000.00</b>	<b>46.26 %</b>
AUDIT EXPENSES	\$10,500.00			\$7,569.93	\$4,430.07	63.08 %
<b>AUDIT Total</b>	<b>\$10,500.00</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>		<b>\$7,569.93</b>	<b>\$4,430.07</b>	<b>63.08 %</b>
POSTAGE EXPENSES		\$12,000.00				
<b>POSTAGE Total</b>		<b>\$12,000.00</b>				

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
TOWN REPORT EXPENSES		\$3,500.00		\$3,074.00	\$426.00	87.82 %
<b>TOWN REPORT Total</b>		<b>\$3,500.00</b>		<b>\$3,074.00</b>	<b>\$426.00</b>	<b>87.82 %</b>
TOWN CLERK SALARIES		\$29,918.00		\$29,917.92	\$0.08	99.99 %
TOWN CLERK EXPENSES		\$2,145.00		\$1,492.21	\$652.79	69.56 %
<b>TOWN CLERK Total</b>		<b>\$32,063.00</b>		<b>\$31,410.13</b>	<b>\$652.87</b>	<b>97.96 %</b>
ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION EXPENSES		\$19,580.00		\$17,355.96	\$2,224.04	88.64 %
<b>ELECTIONS &amp; REGISTRATION Total</b>		<b>\$19,580.00</b>		<b>\$17,355.96</b>	<b>\$2,224.04</b>	<b>88.64 %</b>
CON COMM EXPENSES		\$22,410.00		\$14,160.81	\$8,249.19	63.18 %
<b>CONS COMM Total</b>		<b>\$22,410.00</b>		<b>\$14,160.81</b>	<b>\$8,249.19</b>	<b>63.18 %</b>
PLANNING BOARD EXPENSES		\$2,500.00	\$-39.96	\$2,143.26	\$316.78	87.12 %
<b>PLANNING BOARD Total</b>		<b>\$2,500.00</b>	<b>\$-39.96</b>	<b>\$2,143.26</b>	<b>\$316.78</b>	<b>87.12 %</b>
BOARD OF APPEALS EXPENSES		\$1,500.00	\$39.96	\$1,539.96		100.00 %
<b>ZONING BOARD Total</b>		<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$39.96</b>	<b>\$1,539.96</b>		<b>100.00 %</b>
BERK REGIONAL PLANNING COMM		\$1,900.00		\$1,417.45	\$482.55	74.60 %
<b>BRPC Total</b>		<b>\$1,900.00</b>		<b>\$1,417.45</b>	<b>\$482.55</b>	<b>74.60 %</b>
MUNICIPAL BLDG LABOR		\$50,985.48		\$50,985.48		100.00 %
MUNICIPAL BLDG UTILITIES	\$743.85	\$57,000.00		\$42,269.67	\$15,474.18	73.20 %
MUNICIPAL BLDG EXPENSES		\$31,975.00	\$-2,205.58	\$22,101.50	\$7,667.92	74.24 %
WIRED WEST MEMBERSHIP		\$2,500.00		\$210.00	\$2,290.00	8.40%
MUNICIPAL BLDG REPAIRS		\$35,000.00		\$24,189.31	\$10,810.69	69.11 %
TOWN HALL PARKING LOT	\$12,062.64			\$9,320.00	\$2,742.64	77.26 %
DRAINAGE - AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT	\$52,390.00			\$13,567.88	\$38,822.12	25.89 %
WELL AND SEPTIC	\$34,748.20			\$24,062.90	\$10,685.30	69.24%
TOWN HALL RENO & HVAC		\$30,000.00		\$21,549.30	\$8,450.70	71.83 %
TWO FURNACES	\$8,679.54			\$8,679.54		100.00 %
<b>MUNICIPAL BLDG Total</b>	<b>\$108,624.23</b>	<b>\$207,460.48</b>	<b>\$-2,205.58</b>	<b>\$216,935.58</b>	<b>\$96,943.55</b>	<b>69.11 %</b>
MUNICIPAL BLDG TOWN HALL CNTRL AIR	\$49,020.17			\$38,633.14	\$10,387.03	78.81 %
TECHNOLOGY		\$35,000.00		\$27,611.25	\$7,388.75	78.88 %
<b>MUNICIPAL BLDG ARTICLES Total</b>	<b>\$49,020.17</b>	<b>\$35,000.00</b>		<b>\$66,244.39</b>	<b>\$17,775.78</b>	<b>78.84%</b>
RESERVE FUND		\$43,894.94			\$28,430.01	0.00%
<b>RESERVE FUND Total</b>		<b>\$43,894.94</b>	<b>\$-15,464.93</b>		<b>\$28,430.01</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
POLICE DEPT SALARIES		\$347,278.00		\$353,654.85	\$-6,376.85	101.83 %
POLICE DEPT EXPENSES		\$20,000.00		\$18,241.35	\$1,758.65	91.20 %
USDA GRAT CRUISER MATCH		\$17,500.00	\$2,205.58	\$19,705.58		100.00 %
<b>POLICE DEPT Total</b>		<b>\$384,778.00</b>	<b>\$2,205.58</b>	<b>\$391,601.78</b>	<b>\$-4,618.20</b>	<b>101.19 %</b>
EMERG MANAGEMENT EXPENSES		\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	0.00%
EMERGENCY MGT TRAINING		\$2,000.00			\$1,000.00	0.00%
<b>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT Total</b>		<b>\$2,000.00</b>			<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
CONSTABLE EXPENSES		\$300.00			\$300.00	0.00%
<b>CONSTABLE EXPENSES Total</b>		<b>\$300.00</b>			<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
FIRE DEPARTMENT SALARIES		\$7,483.00		\$7,482.97	\$0.03	99.99 %
FIREFIGHTER STIPENDS	\$1,400.00	\$14,000.00		\$700.00	\$14,700.00	4.54%
FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPENSES	\$8,200.00	\$37,000.00		\$19,278.44	\$25,921.56	42.65 %
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT Total</b>	<b>\$9,600.00</b>	<b>\$58,483.00</b>		<b>\$27,461.41</b>	<b>\$40,621.59</b>	<b>40.33 %</b>
DRY HYDRANT PARTS	\$7,000.00				\$7,000.00	0.00%
FY19 TURNOUT GEAR	\$11,867.64			\$1,800.00	\$10,067.64	15.16%
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT ARTICLES Total</b>	<b>\$18,867.64</b>			<b>\$1,800.00</b>	<b>\$17,067.64</b>	<b>9.54%</b>

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
E911 COMMUNICATIONS		\$13,064.00		\$13,063.35	\$0.65	99.99 %
<b><i>E911 COMMUNICATIONS Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$13,064.00</i></b>		<b><i>\$13,063.35</i></b>	<b><i>\$0.65</i></b>	<b><i>99.99 %</i></b>
BUILDING DEPARTMENT SALARIES		\$55,000.00		\$48,172.08	\$6,827.92	87.58 %
BUILDING DEPARTMENT EXPENSES		\$2,215.00		\$775.36	\$1,439.64	35.00%
<b><i>BUILDING DEPARTMENT Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$57,215.00</i></b>		<b><i>\$48,947.44</i></b>	<b><i>\$8,267.56</i></b>	<b><i>85.55 %</i></b>
ANIMAL CONTROL SALARIES		\$5,638.00	\$461.78	\$6,024.13	\$75.65	98.75 %
ANIMAL CONTROL EXPENSES		\$2,500.00		\$2,119.00	\$381.00	84.76%
<b><i>ANIMAL CONTROL Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$8,138.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$461.78</i></b>	<b><i>\$8,143.13</i></b>	<b><i>\$456.65</i></b>	<b><i>94.68 %</i></b>
HARBOR MASTER EXPENSES	\$-238.99	\$2,074.00	\$238.99	\$953.00	\$1,121.00	45.94%
<b><i>HARBOR MASTER Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$-238.99</i></b>	<b><i>\$2,074.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$238.99</i></b>	<b><i>\$953.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,121.00</i></b>	<b><i>45.94 %</i></b>
DEMOLITION FUND		\$25,000.00		\$18,850.00	\$6,150.00	75.40 %
<b><i>DEMOLITION Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$25,000.00</i></b>		<b><i>\$18,850.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$6,150.00</i></b>	<b><i>75.40 %</i></b>
SCHOOL OPERATING BUDGET		\$2,318,893.00		\$2,318,893.00		100.00 %
VOCATIONAL TUITION		\$185,000.00	\$16,776.18	\$201,776.18		100.00 %
VOCATIONAL TRANSPORTATION		\$75,000.00	\$-16,776.18	\$29,551.94	\$28,671.88	50.75 %
<b><i>EDUCATION Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$2,578,893.00</i></b>		<b><i>\$2,550,221.12</i></b>	<b><i>\$28,671.88</i></b>	<b><i>98.88 %</i></b>
TREE ACCOUNT EXPENSES		\$15,300.00	\$-295.78	\$4,720.00	\$10,284.22	31.45 %
<b><i>TREE ACCOUNT Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$15,300.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$-295.78</i></b>	<b><i>\$4,720.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$10,284.22</i></b>	<b><i>31.45 %</i></b>
FORESTRY		\$500.00			\$500.00	0.00%
<b><i>FORESTRY Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$500.00</i></b>			<b><i>\$500.00</i></b>	<b><i>0.00%</i></b>
HIGHWAY DEPT SALARIES		\$241,000.00		\$210,540.34	\$30,459.66	87.36 %
SUMMER LABOR		\$16,800.00	\$-4,643.89		\$12,156.11	0.00%
GENERAL MAINTENANCE	\$15,000.00	\$179,480.00	\$-3,403.30	\$158,922.29	\$32,154.41	83.17 %
MACHINERY ACCOUNT		\$71,950.00	\$3,403.30	\$75,353.30		100.00 %
FUEL ACCOUNT		\$95,500.00	\$-24,353.03	\$65,514.58	\$5,632.39	92.08 %
HIGHWAY GARAGE		\$16,150.00	\$79.51	\$16,229.51		100.00%
<b><i>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$15,000.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$620,880.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$-28,917.41</i></b>	<b><i>\$526,560.02</i></b>	<b><i>\$80,402.57</i></b>	<b><i>86.75 %</i></b>
FY21 HWY TRUCK #2		\$240,000.00		\$239,865.00	\$135.00	99.94 %
FY21 PICKUP TRUCK		\$52,500.00	\$473.90	\$52,973.90		100.00 %
FY16 DUMP TRUCK		\$49,152.00		\$49,152.00		100.00 %
<b><i>HIGHWAY ARTICLES Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$341,652.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$473.90</i></b>	<b><i>\$341,990.90</i></b>	<b><i>\$135.00</i></b>	<b><i>99.96 %</i></b>
WINTER ROADS SALARIES		\$160,120.00	\$23,879.13	\$183,999.13		100.00 %
WINTER ROADS		\$85,825.00	\$4,643.89	\$90,468.89		100.00%
<b><i>WINTER ROADS Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$245,945.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$28,523.02</i></b>	<b><i>\$274,468.02</i></b>		<b><i>100.00 %</i></b>
STREET LIGHTING		\$9,000.00	\$1,060.74	\$10,060.74		100.00 %
<b><i>STREET LIGHTS Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$9,000.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,060.74</i></b>	<b><i>\$10,060.74</i></b>		<b><i>100.00 %</i></b>
TRANSFER STATION SALARIES		\$38,122.08	\$201.56	\$38,323.64		100.00 %
TRANSFER STATION EXPENSES		\$127,660.00		\$126,071.38	\$1,588.62	98.75 %
<b><i>TRANSFER STATION Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$165,782.08</i></b>	<b><i>\$201.56</i></b>	<b><i>\$164,395.02</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,588.62</i></b>	<b><i>99.04 %</i></b>
BECKET CENTER CEMETERY		\$5,000.00		\$4,910.40	\$89.60	98.20 %
NORTH BECKET CEMETERY		\$16,500.00		\$13,321.44	\$3,178.56	80.73 %
WEST BECKET CEMETERY		\$800.00	\$229.60	\$1,029.60		100.00 %
<b><i>CEMETERY Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$22,300.00</i></b>	<b><i>\$229.60</i></b>	<b><i>\$19,261.44</i></b>	<b><i>\$3,268.16</i></b>	<b><i>85.49 %</i></b>
SO BERK SOLID WASTE		\$3,200.00		\$1,865.65	\$1,334.35	58.30 %
<b><i>TRANSFER STATION Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$3,200.00</i></b>		<b><i>\$1,865.65</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,334.35</i></b>	<b><i>58.30 %</i></b>
BOARD OF HEALTH SALARIES		\$9,500.00		\$1,932.48	\$7,136.36	21.30%
BOARD OF HEALTH EXPENSES		\$33,500.00	\$-431.16	\$33,110.01	\$389.99	98.83 %

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
<b>BOARD OF HEALTH Total</b>		<b>\$43,000.00</b>		<b>\$35,042.49</b>	<b>\$7,526.35</b>	<b>82.31 %</b>
INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS		\$357.00	\$-431.16	\$357.00		100.00 %
<b>INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS Total</b>		<b>\$357.00</b>		<b>\$357.00</b>		<b>100.00 %</b>
NURSING SERVICES		\$5,200.00			\$5,200.00	0.00%
<b>VISITING NURSE Total</b>		<b>\$5,200.00</b>			<b>\$5,200.00</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>
COUNCIL ON AGING EXPENSES		\$3,500.00		\$1,903.85	\$1,596.15	54.39 %
OUTREACH PROGRAMS		\$500.00			\$500.00	0.00%
<b>COUNCIL ON AGING Total</b>		<b>\$4,000.00</b>		<b>\$1,903.85</b>	<b>\$2,096.15</b>	<b>47.59 %</b>
VETERANS AGENT SALARIES		\$2,194.00		\$2,193.48	\$0.52	99.97 %
VETERANS BENEFITS		\$38,500.00		\$21,359.09	\$17,140.91	55.47 %
VETERAN'S AGENT EXPENSE		\$100.00			\$100.00	0.00%
<b>VETERANS Total</b>		<b>\$40,794.00</b>		<b>\$23,552.57</b>	<b>\$17,241.43</b>	<b>57.73 %</b>
UPGRADE & IMPROVE ELECTRICAL SYSTEM	\$200.00				\$200.00	0.00%
<b>ARTS CENTER Total</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>				<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
WOMEN'S AUX CHILDREN'S PARTY		\$500.00		\$500.00		100.00 %
<b>WOMEN'S AUXILIARY Total</b>		<b>\$500.00</b>		<b>\$500.00</b>		<b>100.00 %</b>
LIBRARY EXPENSES		\$51,550.00		\$51,549.00	\$1.00	99.99%
BECKET ARTS CENTER		\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00		100.00%
ATHENAEUM REPAIRS & MAIN		\$7,500.00			\$7,500.00	0.00%
<b>LIBRARY Total</b>		<b>\$69,050.00</b>		<b>\$61,549.00</b>	<b>\$7,501.00</b>	<b>89.13 %</b>
LIBRARY CAPITAL	\$10,477.10	\$2,432.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,477.10	\$10,000.00	51.16 %
BECKET ARTS CENTER CAPITAL	\$3,268.01	<b>\$2,432.00</b>		\$5,700.00	\$0.01	99.99%
<b>LIBRARY CAPITAL Total</b>	<b>\$13,745.11</b>		<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$16,177.10</b>	<b>\$10,000.01</b>	<b>61.79%</b>
WEED TREATMENT CENTER POND		\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00		100.00%
<b>CENTER POND Total</b>		<b>\$3,000.00</b>		<b>\$3,000.00</b>		<b>100.00 %</b>
PARKS AND REC COMM EXPENES	\$8,000.00	\$30,610.00		\$17,949.17	\$20,660.83	46.48 %
EROSION CONTROL/DRAINAGE	\$3,399.99				\$3,399.99	0.00%
<b>PARKS COMM Total</b>	<b>\$11,399.99</b>	<b>\$30,610.00</b>		<b>\$17,949.17</b>	<b>\$24,060.82</b>	<b>42.72 %</b>
HISTORICAL COMM EXPENSES		\$2,000.00		\$1,286.96	\$713.04	64.34 %
<b>HISTORICAL COMM Total</b>		<b>\$2,000.00</b>		<b>\$1,286.96</b>	<b>\$713.04</b>	<b>64.34 %</b>
MEMORIAL/VETERAN'S DAY EXPENSES		\$1,500.00		\$11.87	\$1,511.87	100.00%
<b>MEMORIAL/VETERAN'S DAY Total</b>		<b>\$1,500.00</b>		<b>\$11.87</b>	<b>\$1,511.87</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>
WAHCONAH RHS NEW CONSTRUCTION		\$110,000.00		\$110,000.00		100.00%
AMBULANCE		\$85,799.00		\$85,799.00		100.00%
TOWN HALL ROOF		\$24,129.02		\$24,129.02		100.00%
BECKET WASHINGTON SCHOOL		\$95,879.00		\$95,879.00		100.00 %
CRANEILE ROOF		\$151.00		\$151.00		100.00 %
INTEREST ON SHORT TERM DEBT		\$16,000.00		\$15,326.68	\$673.32	95.79 %
KITTREDGE MSBA WINDOWS		\$295.00		\$295.00		100.00%
FY14 CRANEVILLE AIR HANDLER		\$38.00		\$38.00		100.00 %
FY14 DISTRICT SECURITY		\$893.00		\$893.00		100.00 %
WAHCONAH REGIONAL HS SIDEWALKS		\$674.00		\$674.00		100.00 %
WAHCONAH RHS DOORS		\$5,883.00		\$5,883.00		100.00 %
RESCUE PUMPER		\$115,425.00		\$115,425.00		100.00%
<b>DEBT Total</b>		<b>\$455,166.02</b>		<b>\$454,492.70</b>	<b>\$673.32</b>	<b>99.85 %</b>
RMV SURCHARGES			\$1,920.00	\$1,920.00		100.00 %
AIR POLLUTION			\$808.00	\$808.00		100.00 %

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CARRY FWD</u>	<u>ORIG. BUD.</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>	<u>EXPEND.</u>	<u>UNENCUM. BALANCE</u>	<u>% EXP.</u>
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY			\$43.00	\$43.00		100.00 %
SCHOOL CHOICE TUITION						100.00 %
<i>Total</i>			<b>\$2,771.00</b>	<b>\$2,771.00</b>		<b>100.00 %</b>
HEALTH/LIFE INSURANCE	\$15,000.00	\$425,000.00		\$372,677.96	\$67,322.04	84.69 %
RETIREMENT		\$237,932.00		\$237,932.00		100.00 %
PAYROLL TAXES	\$-1,128.98	\$27,700.00	\$1,128.98	\$26,555.37	\$1,144.63	95.86 %
UNEMPLOYMENT		\$5,000.00		\$426.08	\$4,573.92	8.52 %
OPEB		\$15,000.00			\$15,000.00	0.00%
<i>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS Total</i>	<b>\$13,871.02</b>	<b>\$710,632.00</b>	<b>\$1,128.98</b>	<b>\$637,591.41</b>	<b>\$88,040.59</b>	<b>87.86 %</b>
LIABILITY INSURANCE		\$123,000.00		\$110,947.56	\$12,052.44	90.20 %
<i>LIABILITY INSURANCE Total</i>		<b>\$123,000.00</b>		<b>\$110,947.56</b>	<b>\$12,052.44</b>	<b>90.20 %</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$267,047.87</b>	<b>\$7,015,425.62</b>	<b>\$2,975.54</b>	<b>\$6,661,244.95</b>	<b>\$624,204.08</b>	<b>91.43 %</b>

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

*July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021*

**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
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>									
Cash	1,426,965.12	619,717.15	148,296.60	1,012,672.42	80,666.21	1,078,675.24	217,083.38	0.00	4,584,076.12
Property Taxes	511,113.00	3,226.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	514,339.73
Allowance for Abate & Exempt	-313,695.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-313,695.16
Tax Liens	1,417,343.67	60.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	881,132.98	0.00	2,298,536.78
Motor Vehicle Excise	71,252.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71,252.14
User Charges/Liens	-14,758.14	15,477.44	0.00	0.00	63,132.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	63,851.44
Amts Prov for Pay of Bonds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,840,000.00	1,840,000.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>3,098,220.63</b>	<b>638,481.45</b>	<b>148,296.60</b>	<b>1,012,672.42</b>	<b>143,798.35</b>	<b>1,078,675.24</b>	<b>1,098,216.36</b>	<b>1,840,000.00</b>	<b>9,058,361.05</b>
<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>									
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	197,417.84	3,261.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,679.79
Def Rev Tax Liens	1,417,343.67	24.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	881,132.98	0.00	2,298,501.56
Def Rev MV Excise	71,252.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71,252.14
Borrowing Authorized and Unissued	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1,730,000.00	-1,730,000.00
Def Rev User Charges/Liens	-14,758.14	15,477.44	0.00	0.00	63,132.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	63,851.44
Borrowing Authorized	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,730,000.00	1,730,000.00
Bonds Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,840,000.00	1,840,000.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,676,117.18</b>	<b>18,764.30</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>63,132.14</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>881,132.98</b>	<b>1,840,000.00</b>	<b>4,479,146.60</b>
<b><u>FUND BALANCES</u></b>									
Reserved for Encumbrances	184,857.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	184,857.48
Reserved for Expenditures	194,452.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63,940.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	258,392.00
Reserved for Appropriation Deficits	-6,376.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-6,376.85
Designated	0.00	78,902.00	0.00	0.00	16,726.21	1,051,096.23	0.00	0.00	1,146,724.44
Undesignated	1,049,170.82	540,815.15	148,296.60	1,012,672.42	0.00	27,579.01	217,083.38	0.00	2,995,617.38
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>1,422,103.45</b>	<b>619,717.15</b>	<b>148,296.60</b>	<b>1,012,672.42</b>	<b>80,666.21</b>	<b>1,078,675.24</b>	<b>217,083.38</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,579,214.45</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>3,098,220.63</b>	<b>638,481.45</b>	<b>148,296.60</b>	<b>1,012,672.42</b>	<b>143,798.35</b>	<b>1,078,675.24</b>	<b>1,098,216.36</b>	<b>1,840,000.00</b>	<b>9,058,361.05</b>



◆ **WAGES PAID IN CALENDAR YEAR 2021** ◆

**Select Board**

Elovirta, William H.	\$ 2,194.98
Lavery, Michael S.	2,194.98
Swindlehurst, Christopher E.	2,194.98

**Town Administrator**

Caldwell, William J.	\$ 80,471.02
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**Board of Assessors**

Walter, Geraldine L.	\$ 5,324.80
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**Treasurer**

Bleau, Christine D.	\$ 47,818.42
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**Tax Collector**

Bilodeau Jr., Kenneth R.	\$ 59,422.32
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**Assistant Tax Collector**

Weiler, Nina M.	\$ 49,440.73
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**Deputy Collector**

Shorey, David O.	\$ 2,040.00
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**Administrative Assistant**

Gilbert, Beverly A.	\$ 47,787.37
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**Town Clerk/Elections**

Roberts, George E.	\$ 31,610.88
Craft-Reiss, Barbara	128.25
Crossley, Susan A.	135.00
Kay-Grace, Julia W.	81.00
Purser, Susan M.	54.00
Reiss, Steven B.	128.25
Whiffen, Flora	90.00

**Police Department**

Auger, Charlene F.	\$ 18,117.92
Balardini, Trae E.	479.76
Courtney, Shaun M.	14,943.66
Eckman, Kurtis L.	55,995.53
Heath, Chad E.	14,981.06
Hunt, Michael	62,308.28
McClellan, Daniel J.	19,433.71
McDonough, Kristopher G.	78,517.40
Miller, Nicole M.	45,507.62
Murphy, Francis J.	3,018.13
Pettibone, Kenneth E.	15,256.52
Virginia, Matthew	62,139.14

**Conservation Commission**

Parsons, Stacy A	\$ 700.00
Pietroniro, Nicolas J.	2,219.50
Stucklen, Mary E.	10,404.21

**Highway Superintendent**

Pickert, Edward C.	\$ 79,962.85
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**Board of Health**

Burgwardt, Laurel L.	\$ 396.00
Labelle, Gale L.	323.20

**Animal Control Officer**

Miller, Nicole M.	\$ 5,835.59
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**Animal Inspector**

Elovirta, Madelaine	\$ 357.00
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**Veterans' Agent**

Mann, Lloyd D.	\$ 2,398.23
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**Cemetery**

Cavanaugh, William F.	\$ 13,810.88
Smith, Michelle S.	977.44
Williams, Dean R.	5,832.64

**Transfer Station**

Crochiere, George A.	\$ 12,863.72
Will, Robert R.	13,199.00
Vandesteene, Maurice O.	14,379.58

**Clerk of Assessing Dept. & Planning Board**

Perotti, Jessica M.	\$ 35,733.88
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**Clerk of the Board of Health, ZBA**

Lundberg, Terese	\$ 12,599.74
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**Recreation Program & Lifeguards**

Cote, Jillian R.	\$ 3,718.50
Drewry, Sheffield M.	3,584.00
Elovirta, Madelaine	90.00
Furlong, Adelyn B.	832.50
Hall, Candace L.	1,147.50
Portieri, Bryanna S.	1,732.50
Strout, Evan M.	990.00
Vandesteene, Beth E. Aitken	1,185.00

◆ **WAGES PAID IN CALENDAR YEAR 2021** ◆

~ Continued ~

<b>Accountant</b>		Stockley, Haylie R.	8,416.69
McClellan, Margaret A.	\$ 25,628.03	Wiley, Peter H.	19,958.84
<b>Fire Department Stipend</b>		<b>Building Inspectors</b>	
Chrystal, Tyler J.	\$ 700.00	Danko, Gary	\$ 496.44
Colantoni, Craig S.	700.00	Girard, William E.	47,954.16
Daudelin, Derek W.	700.00		
Elovirta, Jan R.	700.00	<b>Public Safety Inspectors</b>	
Furlong Jr., David F.	700.00	Clement, Trevor E.	\$ 1,235.00
Giarolo, Jessica	700.00	Levernoch, Mark A.	4,615.00
Goebel, Gene R.	700.00	Spring, Dana	5,455.00
Hanford, Mark A.	700.00	<b>Harbor Master</b>	
Healey, Robert	700.00	Rosenthal, Steven	\$ 600.00
Healey Jr., Robert	700.00		
Houlihan, Darien D.	700.00	<b>Highway Department</b>	
Isner, Christopher A.	700.00	Chrystal, Tyler J.	\$ 61,364.28
Massini, Kristopher M.	700.00	Cooper, Robert R.	17,404.80
Morawiec, Nathan E.	700.00	Cormier, Tyler J.	6,720.00
Swindlehurst, Christopher E.	700.00	Goodermote, Albert R.	62,998.12
		Isner, Christopher A.	60,507.99
<b>Fire Chief/Chief Stipend &amp; Fees</b>		Morawiec, Nathan E.	60,235.75
Mikaniewicz, Paul A.	\$ 7,557.79	Murray, Donald L.	58,868.36
		Shorey, David O.	2,250.15
<b>Ambulance Department</b>		<b>Building &amp; Grounds Technician</b>	
Boland, Chloe A.	\$ 578.52	Shorey, David O.	\$ 51,674.22
Brooks, Logan V.	2,820.28		
Byron, Anthony K.	719.28		
Cawthron, Danny R.	6,916.61		
Cooper, Meredydd	19,022.89		
Cross, Colt A	4,932.57		
Drenen, Matthew L.	469.30		
Ferrin, Raymond E.	62,612.13		
Forsaith, Sarah R.	8,857.60		
Graeff, Kristin E.	2,211.10		
Hebert Jr., John	4,750.35		
Hodgkins, Melinda S.	13,452.93		
Hoppe Jr., Dean H.	6,719.11		
Kibbe, Frances J.	19,635.70		
Koivisto, Max W.	10,033.95		
Lacas, Roseanna K.	3,542.31		
Lucas, Christopher S.	33,609.10		
Marino, Matthew J.	30,578.67		
McDonough, Morgan L.	24,914.26		
Michaud, Lisa J.	60,759.92		
Mullany, Donna J.	3,634.55		
Mullany, Michael J.	38,850.06		
Norcross, David	128.56		
Robillard Jr., Leo O.	5,668.36		



