

**Town of Becket  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
June 19, 2019  
7:00 p.m.  
Town Hall  
557 Main Street, Becket**

**Attendees**

**Board of Selectmen:** William Elovirta, *Chairperson*; Michael Lavery, *Vice Chairperson* and Chris Swindlehurst, *Clerk*

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

**Conservation Commission:** Cindy Delpapa, Meredyth Babcock

**Board of Health:** Gale Labelle

**Other:** June Wolfe - Construct INC Housing Director

**1. Call to order**

Bill called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. He specified that the BOS was recording this meeting.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Bill led the pledge of allegiance.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Michael moved to approve the 6-5-19 meeting minutes. Chris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. June Wolfe, Construct, INC Housing Director re: Affordable Housing**

June Wolfe, Construct, INC's Housing Director presented on Construct, INC. and Affordable Housing. June stated that Construct INC is acting as Receiver for the 2442 Main Street Property in Becket which may present an opportunity for the Town to create an affordable housing unit at this property. June offered to assist the town with applying for grants to pay for the expenses relating to the work, and costs entailed with establishing this affordable housing unit. Chris moved for June Wolfe to work with the Town Administrator on the affordable housing process, and to work on applying for grants for creating an affordable housing unit at 2442 Main Street, Becket. Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. Broadband Update**

The BOS reviewed the MLP Manager's Broadband Report. The state wired \$696,000 in funding for the Broadband Project. The BOS will send Bill Ennen, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Last Mile Liaison, a thank you letter for expediting this funding to the town and for his continued support relating to the Broadband Project.

**6. BOS to announce the winning bid of the Bond Anticipation Note to fund the Broadband Project**

The BOS announced that the lowest bidder, Easthampton Savings Bank, won the bid for the \$600,000 Bond Anticipation Note to fund the Broadband Project. The interest rate is 2.2 percent.

7. **Discussion to generate suggestions to offer to the BOH re: BOH enforcement of the Dept. of Agricultural Resources' policy stating that CBD based-foods are not allowed to be sold in Massachusetts**

The BOS and Board of Health Chairperson Gale Labelle and Bill Caldwell discussed possible BOH enforcement of the Dept. of Agricultural Resources policy stating that CBD based foods are not allowed to be sold in Massachusetts. There are three entities that have rules relating to marijuana: the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health (Medical side of marijuana), the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Cannabis Commission (Retail side of marijuana), and the Department of Agricultural Resources (deals with Hemp) which appear to have different regulations which are not coordinated with each other. Gale indicated that there are products that have CBD (hemp) vs. THC. Gale researched this matter with Tri-Town Board of Health and the Berkshire Health Alliance and they are taking no action at this time. Gale indicated that the products are pre-packaged and it is not against the law to sell them in Massachusetts. The Department of Agricultural Resources gives the BOH powers to rule whether it allows CBD in its town. Gale indicated that the BOS may let the BOH know if they would like them to prohibit CBD or regulate it within the town. Chris moved to take no action with respect to BOH enforcement of the Dept. of Agricultural Resources' policy stating that CBD based-foods are not allowed to be sold in Massachusetts. Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **BOS to Discuss the Town Beach Permit Policy**

The BOS discussed the Town Beach Policy. Chris reported that Police Chief McDonough advised that increasing parking fines requires a change in the Town Bylaws. The BOS agreed that the Gate Attendant will make sure that cars have the necessary permit to enter the beach. If they do not, the police will be called, and the police may ask them to leave, and if necessary, the police will issue the \$10 parking fine. The enforcement at the beach will fall first to gate attendant who should, per the job description, check for a permit and call the police as necessary. The Board of Selectmen asked Bill C. to convey that it is not the role of the gate attendant or members of the Parks and Rec. Committee to confront people at the beach who violate the beach policy

The BOS will review the Town Beach Permit Policy at its October 2, 2019 meeting. Discussion will include exploring the potential to change to a wallet card system of which the Collectors had communicated that they researched and favor, as well as a potential grace period. This year, the BOS will allow residents with more than two cars to place their permits on their dashboard rather than affix the permits to their car.

9. **BOS to review and vote on One-Day Wine & Beer Permit Applications**

- Wandering Star Brewing, Shannon Post, 5 p.m. till midnight, July 13<sup>th</sup>, Becket Fire Department's Beer Garden, Fire Department's Pavilion
- Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Inc., Ariana Massery, 8 p.m. till midnight, Doris Duke Theatre, 358 George Carter Road

Michael moved to approve the following One-Day Wine & Beer Permit Applications:

1) Wandering Star Brewing, July 13<sup>th</sup>, and 2) Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Inc., June 20<sup>th</sup>. Chris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

10. **Inter-departmental Transfers of Funds**

Michael moved to approve the below listed Interdepartmental Transfers for FY19. Chris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

<u>Amount</u>	<u>account from</u>	<u>account to</u>
\$153.57	ZBA	Planning Board
\$399.00	Town Report	Postage
\$625.81	Administrator's Salary	Street Lights
\$987.80	Administrator's Salary	Tax Title Expenses
\$10,000.00	Winter Road Salary	Winter Roads Expenses
\$10,635.19	Vocational Transportation	Winter Roads Expenses
\$12,000.00	Tree Account	Winter Roads Expenses
\$12,500.00	Fuel Account	Machinery Account
\$19,000.00	Emergency 911	Winter Roads Expenses

**11. BOS to authorize Town Employee requests to carry over unused vacation leave into Fiscal Year 2020**

The BOS reviewed the list of Town Employees requesting to carry over unused vacation leave into Fiscal Year 2020. Michael moved to approve the list of Town Employee requests to carry over unused vacation leave and comp hours into Fiscal Year 2020 with the codicil that Bill C. will formulate a Comp Time agreement with the Highway Superintendent. Chris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**12. BOS to Review and consider voting to appoint Committee and Board Members effective 7/1/2019:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Last name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>End</u>
Kristopher	Massini	Agricultural Commission	6/30/19
Neil	Toomey	Agricultural Commission	6/30/19
		Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Alternate	
Alvin	Blake	Member	6/30/20
William	Elovirta	Berkshire Reg. Transit Authority Advisory Board Designee	6/30/20
Elizabeth	Will	Board of Assessors	6/30/22
Neil	Toomey	Community Preservation Committee - At Large Member	6/30/22
Cynthia	Delpapa	Conservation Commission	6/30/22
Karen	Karlberg	Conservation Commission	6/30/22
Paula	Bergeron	Council on Aging	6/30/22
Celine	Godbout	Council on Aging	6/30/22
Marie	Grull	Council on Aging	6/30/22
Joan	Moylan	Council on Aging	6/30/22
William	Robinson	Council on Aging	6/30/22
Betty	Sheperd	Council on Aging	6/30/22
Linda	Bacon	Cultural Council	6/30/22
Mary	Manning Cohen	Cultural Council	6/30/22
Barbara	Wacholder	Cultural Council	6/30/22
Alvin	Blake	Energy Committee	6/30/22
Robert	Gross	Energy Committee	6/30/22
Steve	Rosenthal	Harbor Master	6/30/19
Rita	Furlong	Historical Commission	6/30/22
Robert	Gross	Municipal Light Plant Manager	6/30/19
Tina	LeVasseur	Parks & Recreation Committee	6/30/22
Gale	LaBelle	Planning Board Associate Member	6/30/20
Christine	Bleau	Treasurer	6/30/22
Jeff	Wilkinson	Zoning Board of Appeals	6/30/22
Alvin	Blake	Zoning Board of Appeals Associate Member	6/30/20
Katherine	Warden	Zoning Board of Appeals Associate Member	6/30/20

Bill Elovirta stated that he will read the names/position/end dates of re-appointments listed under this agenda item, and all members of the BOS may hold on any of the appointments for discussion.

Bill E. read the above captioned list and he placed a hold on himself (Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Designee), and the Conservation Commission appointments.

Michael moved to approve the listing of the above re-appointments except for the three of which Bill Elovirta placed a hold. Chris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chris moved to re-appoint William Elovirta as the Designee to the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority for FY20. Michael seconded. Motion carried with Bill recusing himself.

The BOS discussed the Conservation Commission re-appointments with Conservation Commission Cindy Delpapa and Meredyth Babcock.

Chris moved to re-appoint Cindy Delpapa to the Conservation Commission for a term ending 6/22/2019. Michael seconded. Motion carried with Bill abstaining.

Chris moved to re-appoint Karen Karlberg to the Conservation Commission for a term ending 6/22/2019. There was no second for this motion. The BOS will send Karen Karlberg a letter to notify her that she had not been re-appointed, and to express their appreciation for her service to the town.

**13. BOS to consider voting on the Tax Collector's Recommendation to appoint David Shorey Deputy Tax Collector and Nina Weiler Assistant Tax Collector**

Michael moved to approve the Tax Collector's Recommendation to re-appoint David Shorey Deputy Tax Collect and Nina Weiler Assistant Tax Collector through FY20. Chris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**14. BOS to review and approve FY20 Pay Rates**

Michael moved to approve the FY20 Town Wage Rates, with an amendment of David Shorey's hourly rate changed from \$23.52 to \$23.77. Chris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**15. BOS to discuss and vote on the Ambulance Department Emergency Medical Technician position description. BOS to discuss recruitment of this position**

Chris moved to approve the Becket Ambulance Department AEMT/Training Officer Job Description. Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Bill Caldwell will recruit for this opening.

**16. Discussion and possible vote re: Development of the Fire Chief's position description and requirements**

The BOS reviewed and agreed upon the Fire Chief's position description which will incorporate the Fire Chief's suggested changes:

- Standard Operation **Guidelines** (instead of Standard Operation Procedures)
- Other applicable duties as assigned by the Town Administrator **in accordance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 48, Section 42.** (words in bold are added)

Chris moved for the Volunteer Fire Department to be in charge of its own recruitment of the Fire Chief. There was no second to this motion.

Michael moved to send the Job Description to the Fire Department. He added to his motion that the Town will conduct an internal recruitment: The posting of the Fire Chief position description will be posted on the Fire Department's bulletin Board, the Town Administrator e-mailing the job posting and position descriptions to the members of the Becket Volunteer Fire Department, and the Town Administrator will meet with applicants to review the expectations as outlined within the position description. Chris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**17. BOS to discuss and vote on the Seasonal Labor position description.**

Michael moved to approve the Seasonal Laborer Job Description. Chris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**18. BOS to review and authorize the Town Administrator to sign the approval of the Proposed Plans & Specs - Electric Vehicle Charger Stations at the Becket Town Hall**

Chris authorized for the Town Administrator to sign the approval of the Proposed Plans & Specifications for the Electric Vehicle Charger Stations at the Becket Town Hall. Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**19. Board of Selectmen's Comments and Announcements**

Chris suggested that Town Hall employees may promote the Town website and newsletter subscriptions to those visiting the Town Hall. Chris and Michael will campaign for the website and newsletter at the Town of Becket table at the Becket Washington Brouhaha

Chris inquired about the hiring process of the Conservation Agent. Beverly indicated that this position was posted. A person had approached Chris to indicate that she had not received a reply to her e-mail application for this position.

Michael brought up that June 30<sup>th</sup> is the end of the grace period for those having more than one unregistered vehicle. Chris asked how the Town found the unregistered vehicles. Bill C. and Bill E. advised that the Town created the list through complaints and from the police canvassing around town. Chris stated that he does not agree that this is the job of the Police Department. Michael indicated that the Building Inspector is the code enforcer. Bill E. indicated that if the Building Inspector observes a violation, he should take action since he is the Zoning Enforcement Officer. Chris stated that he thinks if the Town receives a complaint, then the town may act on it. Bill C. indicated that many have removed their unregistered vehicles, and the town will re-check after the grace period ends.

Michael provided an update and he will work with the Town Administrator to obtain funding from the Massachusetts Trails Program for a proposed new hiking trail entitled Esau's Heel.

The Energy Committee is interested in adding an Alternate Member. Bill C. will send the Energy Committee a letter in response.

**20. Town Administrator's Report**

Bill C. reported on several items he has been working on including Town Buildings light upgrades, FY2017 Audit, FY20 Capital Project, Becket Arts Center, Vocational Transportation, ACO position, Meeting with Solar Vendor about TH/Town solar projects. He had visited all Summer Camps with the BOH, and attended MEMA trainings.

**21. Public Input**

None.

**22. Any other business to come before the Board**

None.

**23. BOS to review and sign payable warrants**

The BOS reviewed and signed payable warrants.

**24. BOS to adjourn the Meeting**

Chris moved to adjourn. Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously. At 9:55 p.m., Bill E. adjourned the meeting.

Date of Approval 7-3-2019

Respectfully submitted,  
Beverly Gilbert, *Administrative Assistant*

  
William Elovirta, *Chairperson*

**Documents discussed at this meeting:**

- Becket Ambulance Department AEMT/Training Officer Job Description
- Becket Fire Chief Position Description
- Town Administrator Report dated 6/19/19
- Seasonal Laborer Job Description
- Tax Collectors letters of recommendation for Deputy Tax Collector and Assistant Tax Collector
- Administrative Assistant's e-mail 6-19-19 re: Alternate for Energy Committee
- Vacation Carry-Over Requests
- Becket MLP Manager's memo dated 6/19/19 re: Broadband Update
- June Wolfe's letter dated 5-15-19
- One Day Liquor License Applications: 1) Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival 2) Wandering Star Brewing
- FY20 Wages for Board of Selectmen Approval
- Requests for Transfer Forms (Agenda Item 19)
- Meeting minutes 6/5/19
- Municipal Note Sale Information UFASI bid results
- Town Administrator's e-mail date 6-10-19 re: Broadband Note
- MDAE Policy Statement re: The Sale of Hemp-Derived Products in the commonwealth date 5-1-19
- Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health CBD in Food Manufactured or Sold in Massachusetts Advisory dated June 2019
- Eversource T-1, C-2 & C-3 pages of the Electric Vehicle Charging station Specifications for the Town Hall