

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

**Meeting Minutes for June 6, 2019**

**PRESENT:**

Finance Committee (FC): Dan Parnell (DP); Ron DeFoe (RD); Ann Spadafora (AS); Chuck Garman (CG); Mark Karlberg (MK)  
Absent: Town Administrator William Caldwell (WC)

Meeting was called to order by DP at 5:10 PM

**AGENDA:**

- 1. Election of positions for upcoming fiscal year**
  - a. Chairman – Dan Parnell. Moved by CG, Seconded by AS; passed unanimously
  - b. Vice Chairman – Ann Spadafora. Moved by DP, Seconded by CG; passed unanimously
  - c. Clerk – Ron DeFoe. Moved by DP, Seconded by CG; passed unanimously
  - d. Scheduler – Ann Spadafora. Moved by DP, Seconded by CG; passed unanimously
- 2. Meeting minutes**
  - a. Approve minutes May 2, 2019 FinCom meeting
    - i. Accepted minutes as written
    - ii. Moved by CG and seconded by DP. Approved unanimously
  - b. Approve minutes March 28, 2019 FC meeting
    - i. Accepted minutes as written
    - ii. Moved by CG and seconded by AS. Approved unanimously
  - c. Corrected December 12, 2018 minutes
    - i. November meeting incorrectly noted as November 5 and actual date was November 7; minutes corrected to reflect accurate date
    - ii. Moved by AS and seconded by CG. Approved unanimously
- 3. Administrator's input**
  - a. Work needs to be done on tax/title
  - b. We have 6 additional children going to vocational school in 2019/2020 school year
    - i. Will result in a \$100k shortfall in our current FY2020 budget
    - ii. Also possible issue with transportation to Mccann Technical School
- 4. Correspondence and Transfers**
  - a. Request to transfer \$8565.46 from Finance Reserve to Selectman Expenses
    - i. Cost of recruiter for TA
    - ii. AS moved, CG second; passed unanimously
  - b. Request to transfer \$203.93 from Finance Reserve to TA Expenses
    - i. Cost of classes for WC to obtain certification
    - ii. Moved by MK and seconded by AS; passed unanimously
  - c. Request to transfer \$3,905.65 from Finance Reserve to for Tax/Title possession
    - i. AS moved, CG second; passed unanimously
  - d. Request to transfer \$40.62 from Finance Reserve to Software Maintenance
    - i. MK moved, CG second; passed unanimously
  - e. Request to transfer \$200.00 from Finance Reserve to Streetlight Account
    - i. MK moved, AS second; passed unanimously
  - f. Request to transfer \$49.09 from Finance Reserve to Nursing Services
    - i. CG moved, MK second; passed unanimously
  - g. North Becket Cemetery mower
    - i. Bill Elovirta and Chris Bouchard have identified a 4 wheel drive mower for \$6k that will meet the requirements
    - ii. Motion made to spend up to \$6k from Finance Reserve for a replacement mower
      1. Previous request for \$25k tractor with bucket/backhoe was been rescinded
    - iii. CG moved, MK second; passed unanimously
- 5. Broadband Project Update**

- a. Pole work is starting in Becket
- b. Massachusetts is supposedly providing up to \$1 M additional for Make Ready costs
- c. Management fees from Westfield Gas and Electric is increasing from 6% to 8%
- d. Eversource and Becket Woods are in discussion
  - i. Eversource will be replacing cable and will allow Becket to put fiber optic cable in their trenches
- e. Bonding process is underway
  - i. A lot of work needs to be done on policies and procedures to get a good bond rating
    - 1. Lenox is a good benchmark
  - ii. We need to protect the tax exempt status of the bonds (1+ point difference in rate)
- f. Overall progress is being made but it is slower than we would like

**6. Other Business**

- a. None

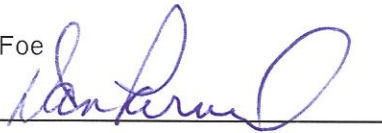
**7. Adjourn meeting**

- a. DP moved to adjourn meeting at 6:20 PM. CG seconded. Approved unanimously

**Next meeting:** July 11, 2019 at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Ron DeFoe

Approved by Dan Parnell, Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Parnell", is written over a horizontal line.