

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

**Meeting Minutes for December 7, 2017**

**PRESENT:**

Finance Committee (FC): Dan Parnell (DP); Ron DeFoe (RD);; Ann Spadafora (AS)  
Town Administrator: Ed Gibson (EG)  
Selectman: William Elovirta (WE)  
Absent: Maria Wallington (MW) Mark Karlberg (MK)

Meeting was called to order by DP at 6:06 PM

**AGENDA:**

**1. Meeting minutes**

- a. Approve Minutes for November 2
  - i. Accepted minutes as amended
  - ii. Moved by AS and seconded by RD. Approved unanimously

**2. Correspondence and transfers**

- a. New Finance Committee handbook is available via download
- b. Budget request letters have been issued
- c. EG detailed the following Reserve Fund Transfer request:
  - i. Request to transfer \$5,000.00 from the Reserve Fund (acct # 01-941-5500) to the Fire Rescue Pumper Capital (37-220-5500) to pay for mounting of equipment on the new Fire Rescue Pumper. This is the first of five Add Alternatives. The Becket Firefighter's Association will pay \$6,187.00 for the remaining 4 Add Alternatives
    1. Acceptance moved by DP and seconded by AS. Approved unanimously

**3. Administrator's input**

- a. Ed Gibson's last day is January 5 and we will miss him – job well done!
- b. Final payment for Bonny Rigg Hill Road project has been received
- c. A special town meeting may be required to transfer funds for:
  - i. Veteran's benefits account
  - ii. Health insurance
  - iii. Transfer station operating costs
- d. Did not receive \$6900 MIIA grant to purchase a radar trailer for work zone safety
- e. Did receive MIIA grant for flammable liquid cabinets
- f. Verengo pilot solar farm on Tanglewood Circle is being negotiated. \$100k payment has been received. Board of Selectman has opted for a flat annual payment
- g. 2018 Tax rate appears to \$10.87. Average single family home increase is \$81/year
- h. We have several pieces of obsolete equipment from computer to auction off
- i. Fire Station #1 (North Becket) window and door project is almost complete
- j. HVAC upgrade bids due at December 20, 2017 Board of Selectman meeting
- k. Financial Audit major highlights
  - i. Improve procedures over tax title properties
  - ii. Improve procedures related to ambulance activity

**4. Broadband Update**

- a. Mount Washington up and running with speed of 0.5 Gb/s
- b. Additional state funding for broadband from state of Massachusetts will be available for some towns
- c. Becket pole survey still in process (probably complete by end of December)
  - i. Taking physical measurements
  - ii. Pole applications will be submitted in blocks to expedite process

**5. Any other business**

- a. 21 Maple Street will be demolished late spring/early summer 2018
- b. Double Finance committee meetings will commence in February

