

TOWN OF BECKET

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING



SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018

7:00 P.M.

**BECKET WASHINGTON SCHOOL
12 MAPLE STREET
BECKET, MASSACHUSETTS**

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Town of Becket Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Berkshire, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Becket in said County of Berkshire,

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Becket, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet in the **BECKET WASHINGTON SCHOOL, 12 Maple Street, Becket, on the 12th Day of May 2018, at 7:00 P.M.**, for the following purposes:

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 Board of Selectmen at \$2,080 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 \$15.15 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 \$15.15 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.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 2 FY 2019 OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be needed to defray the expense of the Town for the 2019 Fiscal Year as set forth in **APPENDIX A**, which is on file with the Town Clerk and on the Town Website (www.townofbecket.org); or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 3 DEBT SERVICE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$305,692 to fund debt service due in Fiscal Year 2019 for the following previously approved borrowings:

Becket Washington School	103,867	<i>EFP 2025</i>
Wahconah Regional High School	7,876	<i>EFP 2029</i>
Wahconah Sidewalks	838	<i>EFP 2022</i>
Kittredge School MSBA Windows	456	<i>EFP 2022</i>
Craneville Roof	161	<i>ERP2023</i>
Craneville Air Handler	41	<i>ERP 2022</i>
District Security	999	<i>EFP 2025</i>
Dump Truck (Highway Department)	51,456	<i>EFP 2021</i>

Loader (Highway Department)	58,800	<i>EFP 2020</i>
Town Hall Roof	25,284	<i>EFP 2020</i>
Ambulance	43,209	<i>EFP 2021</i>
Short Term Debt Service	<u>1,500</u>	
	\$294,487;	

or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 4 TRANSFER TO THE STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be deposited into the Stabilization Fund for Fiscal Year 2019; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 5 ACCEPTANCE OF CHAPTER 90 FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to accept any monies appropriated by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for Chapter 90 use; these funds to be used for maintenance and reconstruction of Town roads and to fund the appropriation by transferring said amounts from available funds with any unspent funds to carry over from year to year until spent by the Town; these sums 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.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 6 AMBULANCE BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$405,574 for the salaries and expenses of the Ambulance Enterprise; and to fund said appropriation, to raise and appropriate \$300,574 from the General Fund and to transfer \$105,000 from Fiscal Year 2018 Ambulance Receipts; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 7 CAPITAL REPAIRS TO THE BECKET ATHENAEUM

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,000 for capital repairs and improvements at the Becket Athenaeum, including all incidental and related costs, in order for Library Services to be provided to Town residents; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 8 PURCHASE OF A NEW POLICE CRUISER

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$48,866.55 for the purchase and equipping of a new police cruiser and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade or sell the old police cruiser; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 9 PURCHASE OF MOBILE SOFTWARE FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$26,223 for the purchase and installation of IMC Mobile Software for the Police Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 10 PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Ambulance Stabilization Account the sum of \$21,227 for the purchase of: 1) an evacuation chair (\$4,760); 2) a chest compression system (\$14,712); and 3) new software (\$1,755) for the Ambulance Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

2/3 Vote Required

ARTICLE 11 PURCHASE OF TURNOUT GEAR FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$27,000 for the purchase of replacement turnout gear for the Fire Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 12 PURCHASE OF A NEW BACKHOE FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$115,000 from the Overlay Surplus and \$12,500 from Free Cash for the purchase and equipping of a new backhoe for the Highway Department and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade or sell the old Highway Department backhoe; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
Finance Committee: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 13 FY 2019 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AUTHORIZATION

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2019 estimated annual revenues the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for Committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in Fiscal Year 2019, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation, all as set forth below:

Appropriations:

Committee Administrative Expenses \$500

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

Board of Selectmen: Recommended
CPA Committee: Recommended
Finance Committee: No Recommendation

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 14 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING FOR NORTH BECKET PARK

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$22,000 from the Undesignated Reserve Account of the Becket Community Preservation Fund for the rehabilitation of land for recreational use at the south end of North Becket Park, specifically to purchase new exercise equipment to replace wooden, outdated, and uninsurable equipment; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

Board of Selectmen: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

CPA Committee: Recommended

Finance Committee: No Recommendation

ARTICLE 15 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING FOR A SHED AT TOWN BEACH

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$17,000 from the Undesignated Reserve Account of the Becket Community Preservation Fund for the rehabilitation of land for recreational use at the Town Beach, specifically for the purchase and installation of a new, larger shed; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

Board of Selectmen: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

CPA Committee: Recommended

Finance Committee: No Recommendation

ARTICLE 16 ANIMAL CONTROL BY-LAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Becket By-Laws, Article 20, Dog Control By-Law, as shown in **APPENDIX B**, which is on file with the Town Clerk and on the Town Website (www.townofbecket.org); or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Bylaw Review Committee

Board of Selectmen: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 17 MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENTS AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING CODE

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Becket Zoning By-Laws by adding a new subsection, as shown in **APPENDIX C**, which is on file with the Town Clerk and on the Town website (www.townofbecket.org); or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Planning Board

Planning Board: Recommended

Board of Selectmen: No Recommendation

2/3 Vote Required

ARTICLE 18 RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA EXCISE TAX LOCAL ACCEPTANCE

To see if the Town will vote to accept G.L c. 64N, Section 3 to impose a local sales tax upon the sale or transfer of marijuana or marijuana products by a marijuana retailer operating within the Town to anyone other than a marijuana establishment at a rate of three percent (3%) of the total sales price received by the marijuana retailer as consideration for the sale of marijuana or marijuana products; or take any other action relative thereto.

Planning Board: Recommended

Majority Vote Required

Board of Selectmen: Recommended

ARTICLE 19 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING BY-LAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Becket Zoning By-Laws by replacing in its entirety Section 6.6 LARGE-SCALE GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS with a new

Section 6.6 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS re-codifying existing practices into an understandable format, as shown in **APPENDIX D**, which is on file with the Town Clerk and on the Town website (www.townofbecket.org); or take any other action relative thereto.

Planning Board: No Recommended
Board of Selectmen: Recommended

2/3 Vote Required

ARTICLE 20 AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY-LAW USE REGULATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Becket Zoning By-Law SECTION 3.0, Use Regulations, by adding in 3.1.3 Table of Use Regulations new lines in the Residential, Commercial, Industrial & Accessory Uses sections as follows:

Table A: Table of Use Regulations

Residential Uses

Roof or Building Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation.....Y/PB

Commercial Uses

Roof or Building Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation.....Y/PB

Small-Scale Solar Photovoltaic Installation.....PB

Industrial Uses

Large-Scale Solar Photovoltaic Installation.....PB

Accessory Uses

Small-Scale Solar Photovoltaic Installation.....Y/PB

Planning Board: Recommended
Board of Selectmen: No Recommendation

2/3 Vote Required

ARTICLE 21 TITLE REPLACEMENT FOR SOLAR INSTALLATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Becket Zoning By-Law Table of Contents SECTION 6.6, replacing the title LARGE-SCALE GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS with a new title SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS; or take any other action relative thereto.

Planning Board: Recommended
Board of Selectmen: No Recommendation

2/3 Vote Required

ARTICLE 22 DRIVEWAYS AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING BY-LAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Becket Zoning By-Laws by adding the following subsection 4.2.11 Driveways to the existing Dimensional Requirements section codifying existing practices, as shown in **APPENDIX E**, which is on file with the Town Clerk and on the Town website (www.townofbecket.org); or take any other action relative thereto.

Planning Board: Recommended
Board of Selectmen: No Recommendation

2/3 Vote Required

ARTICLE 23 AMENDING ZONING BY-LAW TABLE OF CONTENTS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Becket Zoning By-Law Table of Contents SECTION 4.0, DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS, by adding a new subsection 4.2.11 Driveway

Table of Contents

SECTION 4.0 DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS14

Add new subsection:

4.2.11 Driveway Permits..... 15;

or take any other action relative thereto.

Planning Board: Recommended

Board of Selectmen: No Recommendation

2/3 Vote Required

ARTICLE 24 GRANT OF AN EASEMENT AT 344 WELLS ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant an easement on such terms and conditions, and for such consideration, as it deems appropriate, including nominal consideration, for the benefit of property located at 344 Wells Road, Becket, for the purpose of constructing, operating and maintaining a well house, said easement shown on a plan entitled "Wells Road A.k.a. Sherwood Drive," prepared by BEK Associates, and on file with the Town Clerk, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute any and all documents and take such other action as may be necessary to carry out the vote taken hereunder; and further, that said easement will hold the Town harmless for any pollution in the easement area; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended

2/3 Vote Required

ARTICLE 25 ROUTE 20 SPRING

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to prepare a plan for the installation of an ultra violet light water purification system at the Route 20 Spring to combat coliform bacteria and bring the Route 20 Spring into compliance with Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) standards for a "public water supply;" and further, to authorize the Select Board to expend up to \$15,000 from the Stabilization Fund for an engineering study and to obtain cost estimates for the installation of an ultra violet system; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended

2/3 Vote Required

Finance Committee: Not Recommended

ARTICLE 26 PETITIONED ARTICLE

We, the undersigned citizens of Becket, Massachusetts:

To see if the Town will Vote to authorize the Selectmen to petition the Legislature to enact amendments to the Special Act numbered as Chapter 380 of the Acts of 1982 and entitled "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE Sherwood FOREST ROAD MAINTENANCE DISTRICT IN THE TOWN OF BECKET."; as shown in **EXHIBIT A**, a copy of which has been provided to the Board of Selectmen which is on file with the Town Clerk and on the Town website (www.townofbecket.org); provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition; or take any action relative thereto.

Lead Petitioner: Steven Rosenthal

Majority Vote Required

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 19, 2018, 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:

1 MEMBER, BOARD OF SELECTMEN (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
1 MEMBER, PLANNING BOARD (4-year term)	Vote for One
2 CONSTABLES (3-year terms)	Vote for Two

All of said officers to be voted for on the official ballots furnished at the polls. The polls will be opened at 10:00 AM and closed at 7:00 PM.

The Annual Town Report for 2017 is posted on the town website www.townofbecket.org (Forms & Documents). Reports are available in the Town Hall. A Becket resident who wishes to have a report mailed to him or her must submit a written request to the Board of Selectmen, 557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223.