

## Special Town Meeting Minutes 5/10/03

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, a Special Town Meeting was called on May 10, 2003, 7:00 p.m. at Becket Town Hall, 557 Main Street, Becket. There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the Moderator. A total of 73 voters were present.

Present: Bruce Garlow, Moderator; Robert Beckwith, William Cavanaugh and John Murray, Selectmen; Jeanne Pryor, Town Clerk; Cheryl Powers (arrived late) and Joseph Maiorella, Finance Committee; and Sally Bell, Town Attorney. The Moderator noted that Town Administrator, Richard Furlong, was unable to attend due to illness and wished him a speedy recovery.

The Moderator opened the meeting stating the rules to be followed. He asked for a showing of hands of non-registered voters and welcomed them, indicating that they could participate but not vote. Town Clerk, Jeanne Pryor, read the call of the meeting and officer's return of service and the Moderator noted the warrant as having been duly posted. The following articles were voted on:

**Article 1:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$27,000.00 for the Ambulance Department Salary Account and to fund this appropriation by transferring \$4,200.00 from Vocational Tuition and \$22,800.00 from free cash.

**Article 1** was moved by Robert Beckwith and seconded by William Cavanaugh. There was no discussion. **Article 1 passed unanimously.**

**Article 2:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following sums to the following accounts:

Municipal Building	\$ 2,000.00
General Insurance	12,000.00
Payroll Tax Account	2,500.00
Advertising	600.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,100.00</b>

and to fund this appropriation by transferring \$15,100.00 from Vocational Transportation and \$2,000.00 from Free Cash.

**Article 2** was moved by Robert Beckwith and seconded by John Murray. Discussion followed and Selectmen Beckwith and Cavanaugh gave explanations concerning the need for transferring of funds. **Article 2 passed unanimously.**

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,800.00 for installing the old school cupola on the Town Hall and to fund this appropriation by transferring \$3,800.00 from Vocational Tuition.

**Article 3** was moved on the floor and seconded by William Cavanaugh. Rita Furlong explained that the Historical Commission voted to pay to have the cupola painted and refurbished. She noted that the cost is to build a frame and rent a crane to install the cupola. Rob Gorden, Chair of the Historical Commission, noted that the original plans were to put the old school cupola on the new school but that the school architect said that it was not possible to do so. Discussion followed on the reasons for placing the cupola on Town Hall. **Article 3 passed.**

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 for purchasing accounting software for the Town and to fund this appropriation by transferring \$15,441.00 from Short Term Interest and \$7,800.00 from Vocational Transportation and \$1,759.00 from free cash.

**Article 4** was moved and seconded on the floor. Madeleine Swindlehurst asked if the Finance Committee can tell us what the balance of free cash will be after all articles have passed? Rita Furlong noted that the Town Administrator indicated that \$16,000 would remain. Jeremy Dunn asked what software was being purchased. Sue Donnelly, Assessor, explained that the software to be purchased would be used in conjunction with previously purchased accounting software and is needed to enable interaction of software used by the Tax Collector and the Treasurer. **Article 4 passed unanimously.**

A motion to adjourn was moved and seconded on the floor. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The Poll Workers were Gale LaBelle and Jonathan Melle.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne W. Pryor

Town Clerk

