

**Minutes**  
**West Tisbury Finance Committee Meeting – August 12, 2008**  
**at Public Safety Building**

Present: Members S. Estrella, A. DeVito, B. Athearn, Ann Nelson, G. Orcutt. Also present: B. Stone, Town Accountant, S. Manter, Selectman.

The meeting began at 4:30 p.m. Mr. DeVito chaired the meeting and acted as secretary.

A motion was made and seconded to transfer \$6,500 from the Reserve Fund to the Tree Warden so that dangerous, dead trees could be removed from Town property. These funds had been allocated to insect control, which the Tree Warden feels is not needed. At the next Town Meeting there will be an article to replenish the Reserve Fund in the amount of \$6,500. The motion passed 5 – 0.

A motion was made and seconded to not pursue the survey at this time. The motion passed 5 – 0. It was felt that a more proactive approach to the public, perhaps via fora or symposia, would be more productive.

We requested Mr. Manter to arrange a meeting on September 17 with the Finance Committee and the Selectmen to renew our discussions of the budget process.

We discussed the meeting with the Up-Island Regional School District held last month. This has led to an attempt by Mr. DeVito to make the issue of a more understandable budget format one for the Martha's Vineyard Finance Association. A meeting is scheduled on September 10 to discuss this issue.

Mr. DeVito was nominated to serve as Chair for the next year. The vote was 4 - 0, with 1 abstention.

Ms. Nelson was nominated to serve as Vice Chair. The vote was 4 - 0 - 1. There is an understanding that, because of personal issues, Ms. Nelson would like Mr. DeVito to serve two terms.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.