

Minutes
West Tisbury Finance Committee Meeting
January 20, 2009
Howes House

Present: Al DeVito - chair, Ann Nelson, Sharon Estrella and Greg Orcutt.

Guests: Bruce Stone, Town Accountant; Dianne Powers and Richard Knabel, Selectmen; Jen Rand, Executive Secretary; John Powers and Eric Lowe, Board of Health; Don Hatch, MV Refuse District.

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

Board of Health #510:

Level funded. Ann, seconded by Sharon, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Board of Health budget. The motion passed 4-0

Health Services #522:

Level funded. Greg, seconded by Ann, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Health Services budget. The motion passed 4-0

Town Landfill #433:

Greg, seconded by Ann, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Town Landfill budget. The motion passed 4-0.

MV Refuse District #439:

Sharon, seconded by Ann, made a motion to preliminarily approve the MV Refuse District. The motion passed 4-0.

Other Business:

The meeting schedule was discussed and it was decided that all meetings would be at the Howes House, if possible

A discussion of the COLA highlighted the inequality of asking the town employees to forego COLA this year but not the schools. Ann moved to recommend to Dr. Weiss that he consider eliminating the COLA for FY10 for all school employees. The motion was seconded by Greg and passed 3-0-1, with Sharon, a school employee, abstaining. Both the BoS and the FinCom will send a letter to Dr. Weiss.

Minutes:

Minutes of the January 13 meeting were approved.

Library #610:

Greg questioned the large increase in fines revenue. Beth explained this was based on actual receipts for this year. When asked about receiving state grants, Beth felt sure that she would receive the grants for which she has applied. She further explained that line item #5580 books/subs./videos, must be 20% of her budget in order to be state certified. Greg, seconded by Ann, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Library budget. The motion passed 4-0.

Highway Superintendent #421:

Level funded. Greg, seconded by Ann, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Highway Department budget. The motion passed 4-0.

Highway Department #422:

The insurance premium, line item #5740 increased from \$800 to \$1850 due to the chipper. Sharon, seconded by Ann, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Highway Department budget. The motion passed 4-0.

Snow & Ice #423:

Level funded. Richard explained that this line item could be overspent, then reimbursed next year. Greg, seconded by Sharon, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Snow & Ice budget. The motion passed 4-0.

Skipper Manter asked to reconsider line item #421 and suggested an increase of \$500, noting the Highway Supt. has not had an increase in quite some time. Mr. Manter would like to work towards getting this salary up to a level more commensurate with the duties of the job. All agreed that the job responsibilities and time spent had increased significantly and should be better compensated. Sharon made a motion, seconded by Ann, to reconsider the vote on line item #421 from \$5500 to \$7000. The motion passed 4-0.

Street Lights #424:

Level funded. Greg, seconded by Sharon, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Street Lights budget. The motion passed 4-0.

The next meeting is Tuesday, January 27, 2009, 4:30pm at the Howes House.

There being no other business, a motion for adjournment was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Rogers, Administrative Clerk