

Minutes
West Tisbury Finance Committee Meeting
February 18, 2010
Howes House

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

Guests: Bruce Stone, Town Accountant; Dianne Powers, Richard Knabel and Skipper Manter, BoS; Jennifer Rand, Executive Secretary; Michael Colaneri, WT Affordable Housing Trust; Ewell Hopkins, chairman of Island Affordable Housing Fund; David Vigneault, Dukes County Regional Housing Authority; Dale Julier and Peter Rodegast, Community Preservation Act Committee; Norman Perry, Maria MacFarland, Jennifer Haynes and Brian Smith, Personnel Committee; TJ Hegarty, Dukes County Rodent Control; Sarah Kuh, Vineyard Health Care Access.

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m.

Article 34: \$225,000 from CPA to WT Affordable Housing Trust Fund

The intent of this article would be to provide money for the trust to use for purchase, pre-development and construction costs. Having an account with a comfortable balance would allow for the purchase of properties as they present themselves, rather than possibly having to wait until the next fiscal year.

Al, seconded by Greg, moved to preliminarily approve Article 34. The motion passed 2-0-1.

Article 33: \$104,000 for rental assistance

This article seeks to provide rental assistance to 17 WT households using funds from the CPA Community Housing reserve (\$22,000) and the CPA undesignated reserve (\$82,000). David added that he is preparing a Q&A document for the town meeting to answer the many questions he has received.

Al, seconded by Greg, moved to preliminarily approve Article 33. The motion passed 2-0-1.

Article 13: \$34,988 DCRHA admin. expenses

This is WT's share of the DCRHA admin. expenses and must be passed by all six towns.

Al, seconded by Greg, moved to preliminarily approve Article 13. The motion passed 2-0-1.

Article 29: \$70,000 to support 2nd mortgage loans under the Helm Loan Fund

Ewell Hopkins explained that these funds would be withdrawn at the application level, not the program level, and would only be used at the point of approval of a qualified applicant. The members felt this article needed clarification and asked that it be resubmitted with a revision to the language.

Greg, seconded by Al, moved to preliminarily approve Article 29. The motion failed 0-2-1.

Articles 4 & 5: \$21,877.61 Personnel By-laws for Reclassification

Article 4 requests \$21,877.61 to fund revisions to the Year Round Classification Plan effective July 1, 2010, and to delete the present Section 26, which uses numbers to categorize steps and grades, and replace it with a new Section 26, which would use letters for this purpose.

Article 5 seeks to change language in the Personnel By-law for the purpose of clarification.

No action was taken.

Article 41: \$4663.43 County Integrated Pest Management Program

TJ Hegarty explained that net income-to-date is up 5% over last year. This year the county will pay 30%, next year 20%, the next 10%, and finally, this program will be paid for entirely by the town.

Al, seconded by Greg, moved to preliminarily approve Article 41. The motion passed 3-0.

Article 42: \$8,833.08 Vineyard Health Care Access Program

This is WT's share of the Vineyard Health Care Access Program level funded budget. This, too, is a program that the county is relinquishing to the towns at 10% per year.

Article 43: \$9,635.04 Vineyard Health Care Access Program - current level of service

To continue the Vineyard Health Access Care Program at the current level of service. Town's propionate share is based on a 50/50 formula. WT pays 15.76% using this formula. An average of 2500 clients are served each year.

Al, seconded by Greg, moved to preliminarily approve Articles 42 and 43. The motion passed 3-0.

Article 24: \$4,500 Library/Howes House parking lot lighting

Jen explained that the lighting would be put in along the south side when the ground is dug up for a new well, making it less expensive.

Al, seconded by Greg, moved to preliminarily approve Article 24. The motion passed 3-0.

Article 25: Town Buildings Maintenance Inspection

This article would provide a sum of money from Free Cash to pay for an inspection of each town-owned building to develop a long-term plan for the maintenance of each building. Jen explained that she had sent out RFP's, but that they had come back well beyond the expected amount for this project. She will rewrite the RFP and send it out again.

The FinCom postponed a decision on this article.

Article 26: \$25,000 Town Buildings Facilities Manager

This article would provide \$15,000 for a Facilities Manager position to implement the maintenance plan formulated as a result of Article 24.

The FinCom postponed a decision on this article.

Other Business

Bruce informed the committee that he has two revised budgets. #510 Board of Health has been lowered and Debt Service has been down \$125,000. The projected tax levy number is up3%. The entire budget is up 1.7%

Minutes

Minutes of the February 2 and 11 meetings will be considered at the next meeting.

Future meetings

Tuesday, March 2, 4:30 at the Public Safety Building.

There being no other business, a motion for adjournment was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:32pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Rogers, Administrative Clerk