

Approved 6/6/07
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, May 16, 2007, 4:30 p.m.

Present: Selectmen Glenn Hearn, Skipper Manter, Dianne Powers, Jen Rand

Guests: Dan Cabot, Dr. Weiss, B. Stone, K. Logue, C. Riggs, E. Mendenhall, R. Knabel, J. Rappaport, B. Potts, J. Ames

Minutes: *S. Manter motioned to approve the minutes of 5/2/07. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous.*

Event Permit: *S. Manter motioned to authorize the Garden Club plant sale and Open House on Memorial Day weekend. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous.*

Access to Counsel: *S. Manter motioned to authorize the Library to access counsel. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous.*

School Funding Formula: Glenn said he had attended a meeting in Edgartown to discuss possible strategies for dealing with the wealth formula vote in Oak Bluffs. He said that the budget required a 2/3 vote prior to July 1st, and if 4 towns don't vote it might force the State to come to the island to try and work a more equitable formula out. At this time it would appear that Edgartown, Chilmark and Tisbury might not vote. Bruce said that if WT didn't vote, and the State doesn't make a decision early in December our tax bills would not go out in time, which could necessitate borrowing money. Skipper said the resolution of this will take some time and meanwhile there will be impacts to the school, they won't be able to sign contracts or hire any staff, and the school budget is not what's at issue. Glenn said at the meeting there had been a discussion about paying more than the State imposed 1/12 budget, but he wasn't sure the town should operate that way. Kathy said not voting would punish the wrong people. Dan Cabot said the voters should be given the choice. Dr. Weiss said he had asked the DOE what had happened when this came up in other districts. He said they told him it generally was a hassle for the school and the member towns ended up holding meetings.

Warrant: *S. Manter motioned to remove the warrant article adding money to the reserve fund. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous.*