

**Approved 2/21/18**  
**TOWN OF WEST TISBURY**  
**SELECTMENS MEETING**  
**Wednesday, February 7, 2018 4:30 p.m. – 5:55 pm**

**Present:** Selectmen Skipper Manter, Cindy Mitchell, Kent Healy, Jen Rand

**Also Present:** Dan Rossi, Matt Mincone, Kathy Logue, Bruce Stone, Michael Colaneri, Jesse Holtham, Derrill Bazy, Merit Bezahl, Tara Whiting, Holly Pretsky, R. Saltzberg, Mark Lovewell

**Minutes:** *C. Mitchell motioned to approve the minutes of 1/17/18. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

*\*\*Skipper recused himself for this portion of the meeting\*\**

**Police Chief Appointment:** Cindy reminded everyone of the process the Board took to get to this appointment. She said the Board was now at the end of the process and it was time to make an appointment. She said it was a pleasure to have had such a peaceable process; she credited Matt for his years in the department and Dan for his leadership.

*K. Healy motioned to appoint Matt Mincone to the position of Police Chief effective march 31, 2018. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

**Scott's Grove Affordable Housing:**

DEP Well Contribution Area Lease Amendment: *C. Mitchell motioned to sign the lease amendment that protects land area outside the current lease are for Scott's Grove. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Loan Documents: *K. Healy motioned to sign the landlord agreements to allow Island Housing Trust to proceed with their loan. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Electric Easement for the Holthams: Jen said that Island Housing Trust (IHT) was proposing to install underground conduit, which would allow the neighboring Holtham family to run utilities underground to the pole that will service the Scott's Grove project. This would mean they could upgrade their utilities from the current sagging overhead wires they currently have. This will require a vote at town meeting to allow an easement across town property. Derrill noted that the Holthams are the most impacted neighbors; he said they have been very supportive and have allowed IHT to run power from their pole to begin construction.

*K. Healy motioned to allow the easement article to remain on the warrant. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

**Event Permit – Prom at the Ag. Hall:** Merit Bezahl said that she had asked to be put on the agenda to discuss the possibility of having an all- night prom at the Ag. Hall. Since that time she has found that neither the school nor the students support the idea so she is withdrawing her request.

**James Pond Funding Request:** Tara said that the James Pond project had finally been permitted and in order for the project to move forward this spring before the herring run there was a need

for an additional \$4,000 to pay for plantings and possibly a shore bird monitor. She said the Jen suggested that there be a reserve fund transfer into the Herring Warden expense line so that the funds track in the appropriate department.

*K. Healy motioned to authorize the Herring Warden to request a reserve fund transfer of \$4,000. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

**Treasurer/Collector Budget Discussion:** Kathy explained the budget submittals that combined the budgets of the Treasurer and the Tax Collector into one new budget for next year. She noted that there would be a warrant article to fund the tax collector in the unlikely event that the vote to combine the two positions fails. Skipper asked if it was appropriate to begin the new position at Step 7, Kathy said provided the Board chose her for the position she would consider it a promotion. She said she would not be inclined to want the job if there were a pay cut. Skipper note the budget should be submitted by Jen instead of Kathy.

*K. Healy motioned to approve the budget as presented. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

**FY 2019 Budgets:** Bruce said that this year's spending would require an override of about \$400,000 if all the articles pass at Town Meeting. Skipper asked about short term borrowing as a possible solution. Bruce said that doesn't necessarily get rid of the problem it just moves it out a year. Jen said that solution also doesn't increase the town's levy capacity, which is an issue that has been discussed for a few years now. Cindy said perhaps a split between a general budget override and warrant articles would be a solution. Kathy noted that if the articles were put to an override vote they run a risk of failing at the ballot box. The board will make a decision next week.

**Tri Town Fire Department:** Skipper noted that the request from Chilmark to consider a TriTown Fire Department was not supported by the WT Fire Chief nor did he think the volunteers supported the idea. Cindy said that given the general reaction to the idea in the different towns she did not think now was the time to pursue the idea. Kent said he was in favor of each town having their own department. Jen was asked to send a letter to Chilmark indicated the Board's feelings on the matter.

**MV Regional High School (MVRHS) Agreement Study Committee:** *C. Mitchell motioned to appoint Skipper as the Town's representative to the MVRHS Agreement Study Committee. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):** *C. Mitchell motioned to sign the CDBG. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

**Private Cemetery:** Jen said the Board was the final approval needed for a private cemetery request for Tsissa Inc. The State and the Board of Health had already approved the request.

*C. Mitchell motioned to approve the request for a private cemetery. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

**Town Hall Parking Lot Lights:** Skipper said that when he left the building the other night he was struck by how dark it was. He said that he would like to look into pole lights for the lot. Kathy said it would also be helpful to light the stairs as you leave the building. Jen was asked to come back to the Board with a proposal.

**Police Education Incentive:** Kathy said that in discussions with Bruce while doing payroll they realized they were not sure how the proposed incentive would apply to overtime and retirement. She asked permission to access Counsel for clarity prior to the warrant being finalized in case there was a need to clarify the language.

*K. Healy motioned to allow access to Counsel. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was KH & CM in favor SM abstained.*