

Approved 11/7/18
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, October 24, 2018 4:30 p.m. – 6:01 pm

Present: Selectmen Cynthia Mitchell, Kent Healy, Skipper Manter, Jen Rand

Also Present: Gary Montrowl, Doug Ruskin, Jane Dreeben, Greg Orcutt, Leah Smith, Wayne Smith, Prudy Burt, Carolyn Flanders, Holly Pretsky, Richard Saltzberg

Minutes: *S. Manter motioned to approve the minutes of 10/3/18 & 10/10/18. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Library Landscaping Application to the CPC: Leah explained that the proposed project would build on the original landscape plan for the Library. The Library had gone out to bid earlier in the year, but the prices came in quite a bit higher than the money they had already raised in grants. The application to the CPC was for \$37,000 to supplement the funds they already have. The application falls into the Open Space and Recreation funding areas. Skipper said he was concerned the area looked crowded. Beth noted that the plantings were of all different heights, and the aerial view was deceiving. The lower plants were designed to block the view of the cars from the Field Gallery, and then taller trees were proposed for shade. Skipper asked if any existing trees were to be removed, Beth said no.

S. Manter motioned to co-sponsor the Library's application to the CPC for the Landscaping. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Mill Brook Watershed CPC Application: Cindy said a smaller group had met as planned after the last discussion to develop a project outline for funding from the CPC. The project was developed using the Study's recommendations, and the budget was increased to \$40,000. The project submittal indicated the full cost of the work proposed would be \$80,000; the hope was that the CPC committee would commit the following year's \$40,000 for planning purposes. Doug said if this was going to be an annual request it should go in the town's budget. Cindy said that over the long term it would likely be moved there and added that in this proposal there was some expectation of budgeted funds being used for legal work as an example. She noted that a few of the small committee members had sent her technical corrections, and she was planning to make those amendments.

S. Manter motioned to submit the application as amended. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Conservation Commission Access to Counsel: Skipper said he did not think the water withdrawal bylaw required review by Counsel, he noted that the entire warrant would be reviewed before town meeting. Kent said the issue of who owns the water is a tricky one.

S. Manter motioned to send the bylaw to Counsel for review. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Meeting with Finance Committee to Discuss Budget Process Cover Letter: Bruce noted that when the Department of Revenue had done a review of town financial procedures they recommended a joint "budget goals" letter from the Selectmen and Finance Committee. Gary said he supported this approach, particularly asking for warrant articles to bring potential issue

such as an override to the fore as early in the process as possible. Bruce summarized his understanding of the budget based on his assumptions about school expenses using the current formula and student census numbers. He noted that while the population drop in the high school will benefit us in the short term, in a couple years we are likely to see a notable increase in students as they move through and out of the middle school. He said his calculations do not include an increase in staff but do take into account step increases and the assumed COLA. Jen noted there were two departments likely to see a staffing change, she said the Shellfish Department would hopefully have a staff person next year and the Highway Superintendent wished to add a third person. Cindy noted that in years past the Board has made it clear that they trusted staff to budget appropriately. Gary said that has been the FinComm's approach as well. Doug noted that a letter was sent to the Selectmen and Board of Health asking the fees be increased to cover the full cost of the permit. Skipper and Kent disagreed with that request. Jen was asked to draft a letter for both Boards to review asking the departments continue to budget as they have in the past with a request to look with fresh eyes at the revenue portion of their budgets. They also will be asked to submit any warrant articles they know about with their budgets. Gary noted that is budgets are level and submitted with a good narrative they will not have to come in to see the FinComm.

Shellfish Laborer Job Description: Jen said the Shellfish Committee felt the term Laborer was pejorative and asked that it be changed to Agent. They also asked that the enforcement duties be removed. The Board was fine with those changes.

S. Manter motioned to submit the job description as amended. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

One Day Beer & Wine Process: Jen said she was asking for guidance regarding the issuance of one day permits. At the last meeting it was indicated that the permits would be granted on a case by case basis. She asked for clarification as to what would cause a denial so people planning events would have some idea if they were eligible for one. Skipper said maybe only one per property, Jen said that would mean that only one event at the grange would get a permit. Skipper asked why they were necessary. Jen noted that the voters had wanted this. For now the Board will continue to grant them.