

Approved 1/27/16
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, January 13, 2016 4:30 p.m. – 5:32 p.m.

Present: Selectmen Cindy Mitchell, Richard Knabel, Jennifer Rand

Also Present: Manny Estrella, Pat Mitchell, Scott Young, John Hoy, Maria McFarland, Kathy Logue, Edie Prescott, Heather Hamacek

Minutes: *S. Manter motioned to approve the minutes of 12/19/15 and 12/30/15 with one amendment. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Facilities Maintenance Committee: Jen explained that she had met briefly with the new Committee and they suggested that the charge was really more like a job and too much for a committee to accomplish. Jen then explained that she thought the Board should submit a new warrant article for \$15k to re-fund the position as the originally funding from town meeting had expired after 5 years. Richard asked if that was enough money, Jen will investigate further. Cindy asked if this was intended to replace the work described in the Building Inspector's job description. Jen said no, this was intended to "kick-start" the process. Hopefully the town meeting will fund a Local Inspector, and then the Building Inspector will have time to take over the responsibilities once the plan is created. Pat asked about the timing of the consultant and the hiring of the local inspector. Jen said that she thought the consultant would be funded from free cash, so work could begin immediately, and the Local Inspector could not begin until after July 1st. The plan would hopefully be developed in time for the Fiscal Year 2018 budget season allowing for creation of a buildings maintenance budget line to pay for all the town building's maintenance versus each building manager having their own maintenance expense line. Kathy asked if the Facilities Committee could remain in an advisory capacity. Skipper said they could perhaps they could vet the responses to the Request for Proposals.

James Pond Project to Restore Herring Run: John Hoy said he had gone out to the pond and opened it the prior weekend when it was really high. He said he was hoping to be able to get the work done to dig out the channel in March prior to the herring run season, David Merry has estimated a cost of \$3k and he thought the excavator could access the area over Mr. Graham's property or over Lambert's Cove Beach. Jen said there were a few potential snags to that plan. First, she said the permitting might not be done by March, and further, there is no funding for the work at this time. She said she would probably be able to pay any of the permitting fees from the Selectmen's discretionary fund, but the work should not come from the same line. Jen will continue to assist with the process.

Access to Counsel – Personnel Board: Maria Mcfarland, staff to the Personnel Board, requested access to Counsel to determine if there is a conflict of interest if an employee conducts a performance review of another employee when they are a member of an elected or appointed board. Skipper said he is familiar with the law and does not believe there is a conflict, he added that he would like the Board to determine which section of the Ethics Law is in question.. Richard asked if the Ethics Board could answer the question. Maria said her Board wished to pose the question to Town Counsel.

R. Knabel motioned to authorize access to Counsel. S. Manter seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Community Development Block Grant: Jen said that West Tisbury was now eligible to participate in the grant annually; in the past the town was only able to join every third year. This grant allows residents access to funds for home improvement and child care.

R. Knabel motioned to authorize the Chair to sign the grant application. S. Manter seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Cemetery Regulations: The Board discussed whether the town bills for grave opening, Jen will ask the Cemetery Superintendent. Jen will incorporate suggested changes from Richard and will create a definitions section.

Streetlight at Intersection of Old County and State: Jen asked for guidance regarding the placement of a new light. She said that Skipper had asked for a light across the street from the intersection that would illuminate both the intersection and the bus stop. She said she went to the site, and the distance between the two was more the 100', so she didn't think she could accomplish that. The Board asked Jen to ask if the Land Bank would allow a pole behind the fence on their property by the intersection and if the VTA would assist with a light at the bus stop.

Island Housing Trust: *S. Manter motioned to accept the resignation from Vicki Thurber from the Island Housing Trust, with appreciation for her work. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*