

**Approved 1/10/18**  
**TOWN OF WEST TISBURY**  
**SELECTMENS MEETING**  
**Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 pm**

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

**Also Present:** Bob Ogden, Jim Neville, Peter Graczykowski, Tony Cordray, Joe Tierney, Michael Colaneri

**Minutes:** *C. Mitchell motioned to approve the minutes of 11/29/17. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

**Sheriff's Budget Request:** Dukes County Sheriff Bob Ogden presented the Board with his request for funding for the communications center. (*documents attached*). He said that before the transfer of control to the State the department was funded by assessments through the county. He said that the State only recognizes the department as a House of Corrections and does not fund it as a full public safety department complete with a communications center. He noted that the communications equipment was outdated and not supported any more. Cindy asked how the department was covering their expenses now. Bob said they had one grant and the jail is not fully staffed. He said they have been operating at a deficit for years. Skipper said he did not think the towns should pay for what is a State obligation. Bob said he agreed that is was the State's obligation but it could take 5-10 years to be funded properly and the system was likely to fail prior to that. Skipper said that he feared once the towns began to pay the State would never honor their obligation. He asked for a copy of the Acts of 2009 when the State took over the department. He also noted that if the towns did pay he felt the formula was not fair and at least 50% of the cost is fixed so it should be shared equally with each town. Cindy agreed that a formula based on call volume was not nuanced enough.

**Budget Review:**

**Animal Control Officer:** Tony said that he had changed the personal services line to reflect consistent hours year-round. He said the position has changed a lot in the last few years and the hours spent needed to reflect that. He wished to update systems based on the news laws passed a couple years ago, and the call volumes have risen at a rate that was probably not fully documented by the previous ACO, because she frequently worked without being paid. He noted that the job would probably go up a grade once the revised job description was graded. He also said he wanted to pay the Assistant \$75 on any day she was on call and then hourly if she was called out. Cindy said she thought the changes made sense. She noted the Fire Chief and Highway Superintendent are having their jobs updated in anticipation of changes that will be coming to those departments. Skipper said he works with Tony and sees his commitment to the job. He supported the budget as well.

**Building Inspector:** Joe said he had left funding in place for 30 hours weekly for the Local Inspector, he is currently not using the full 30 but when he is certified he may. Skipper asked how much time zoning enforcement took. Joe said it was huge, once there was an enforcement issue it often took a great deal of time to fully resolve. Skipper asked if it would make sense to hire a separate person for that. Joe said it wouldn't make sense as they would have to be a certified building inspector. He made note of the expense line where he added funds for the lease vehicle maintenance. Skipper said those expenses should be in the Selectmen's budget.

**Selectmen's Budgets:** Jen reviewed the budget with the Board. The Selectmen's budget line 122 will be increased to cover maintenance expenses for the lease vehicles. She then said she had an estimate for the speed study work to establish speed limits on all town roads, the Board said they did wish to go forward with a warrant article.

**Cottle House:** Jen updated the Board on the house facing foreclosure. She said that the current owner has not yet given permission to the Town to assist with finding a buyer.

**Event Permit – Town Party:** *C. Mitchell motioned to approve an event permit for the town party. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*