

Approved 6/1/16
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, May 11, 2016 4:30 p.m. – 5:26 p.m.

Present: Selectmen Richard Knabel, Skipper Manter, Cindy Mitchell, Jennifer Rand

Also Present: Michael Colaneri, Bruce Stone, Henry Geller, Joan Ames, Heather Hamacek, Edie Prescott

Minutes: *S. Manter motioned to approve the minutes of 4/27/16. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Retired Employee Reserve Fund Transfer: Bruce explained that an employee had retired and there was \$11,584 due to that employee in separation benefits. He was asking the Board to vote to use up to the amount due as there was a small chance there would be some funds available in the Police Department budget at the end of the fiscal year.

County Assessment: Bruce said that the County had sent its second assessment request, but the request did not show a decrease in the amount requested for the Center 4 Living. He noted that the budget had been structured to accommodate the move into the new building and the costs associated with the increased programming in that building. Since that move has not yet taken place he thought there would likely be funds leftover and he did not know if the Selectmen want to sign the warrant to pay the second assessment without understanding when and if those funds would be refunded to the town. Skipper said the County Advisory Board had not discussed this. Richard asked how much money was in question. Bruce said the assessment was \$28k, he did not know how much excess there would be. Cindy noted that the Health Care Access Program has a system in place to reduce the next assessment if there is an excess at the end of the year. The Board asked to hold off payment until Bruce could gather more information.

Affordable Housing Production Plan (HPP): Henry Geller said that the All-Island Planning Board had formed a subcommittee to work on developing an island-wide plan for the development of affordable housing to bring the towns up to the goal of 10% of housing stock being affordable. He said the committee is planning to work with the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC), which has funding available to create the plan. Richard asked what the study would provide for information that we didn't already know. Skipper asked if the money might be better spent on actually creating housing. He also asked if the State counts a town's contribution towards affordable housing in another town toward a town's goal of 10% of stock. Henry said he wasn't sure what would come out of the plan, hopefully new ideas, and he said he didn't think the state would count projects in other towns even if there were outside contributions. He noted that the HPP, once approved by the State might help protect the town from unsuitable 40B development projects. Cindy said she liked the fact this was an island-wide project.

Taxi Rates & Taxi Meters: Skipper said he would like to look at adjusting the taxi rates, he said the last time they were adjusted it was to accommodate the very high price of gas, which is not a factor right now. Jen noted the last time the rates were discussed they were not adjusted because the taxi company owners said that while the price of gas had decreased, the rest of their operating costs had risen, so they were, on balance, making about the same money. Skipper then said he would still like to pursue requiring meters for companies licensed in West Tisbury. Richard said he agreed that meters made sense, but only if all island companies used them. He said that the cost of the meters could be covered by waiving fees for the companies until they are reimbursed for the amount they spend. Cindy suggested meeting with the cab companies after labor day, she

said at this point they have begun their season, if a change was going to be made, there was enough time in September to address the issue for next year.

Event Permit: *S. Manter motioned to approve an event permit for a Candidate's Forum on 8/17/16 at the Grange. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

MV Land Bank Signage: *C. Mitchell motioned to approve signs proposed for Old Courthouse, Old Holmes Hole and Roger's Path. S. Manter seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Lambert's Cove Beach "Coastal Barrier Resources System Mapping Project": Jen explained that the town does in fact own the parcel next to the beach path, which the Department of Fish and Wildlife would like to add to its "system unit" to increase development protections.

S. Manter motioned to add lot 3-1-1 to the "system unit". C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.