

Approved 10-13-21
Town of West Tisbury
Select Board Meeting
Wednesday October 6, 2021 4:30 pm
Via Zoom

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

Also present for part or all of the meeting: Jeremiah Brown, Matt Gebo, John Christensen, Dianna Braillard, Joyce Albertine, Atty. Jack Collins, Jim Klingensmith, Cathy Minkiewicz, Eunki Seonwoo, Louisa Hufstader, Janice Haynes

Chair Skipper Manter called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Minutes: Vote to Approve: September 22, 2021
There were no questions or correction needed

Kent made the motion to approve the Minutes of September 22, 2021. Cindy seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor.

New Business:

- **Letter of Support for State Forest Housing:**

This has been an ongoing issue with the house in the State Forest; it requires the action of legislature to allow it to be used as housing. This would allow the people working for the State and maintaining the forest to have a place to live.

Cindy moved to authorize Jen to sign the letter of support on behalf of the Board. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor.

- **State Rd Restaurant Request to Close for the Winter:**

The State Rd restaurant has a year-round license but this year they just do not have staff to stay open. They would be closing this week and would re-open no later than March of 2022. They would like to retain their year-round license. As the local licensing authority the Board can allow it.

Cindy moved to allow the State Rd Restaurant to close effective tomorrow. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor

- **Trees Removal at Town Hall and Field Gallery/Tree Replacement:**

Jen showed pictures of the trees in question and explained the issues with each of them and the plan for replacement when feasible. Jeremiah Brown, Tree Warden has recommended some new trees that are space appropriate and/or sturdier and hardier. Removal should not require a full public hearing with the Historic District Commission as these trees are a public safety risk. As for funding, Jen has money in the Facilities Maintenance budget for the removal and Jeremiah has money in his budget for the new trees.

Cindy moved to approve the removal of the trees. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor

Jen mentioned that the shrubs in front of the Field Gallery had already been removed as the owner misunderstood about having to get approval first.

Cindy moved to retroactively approve the removal of the shrubs in front of the Field Gallery. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor

Cindy moved to allow Jeremiah Brown, Tree Warden to recommend the replacement trees and new plantings in front of the Field Gallery. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor

- **Facilities Committee Appointment – Greg Pachico:**

As Manny has retired and no longer wants to serve on the committee the new chief, Greg Pachico is willing to be appointed.

Cindy moved to appoint Greg Pachico to the Facilities Maintenance Committee. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor

- **WT Police Department Appointments - Dan Durawa, Roshawn Groce:**

Skipper recused himself as he is employed by the Police Department. Cindy took over as vice chair and read the request from Chief Mincone.

Kent moved to accept Chief Mincone's recommendations to appoint Dan Durawa, Roshawn Groce as Reserve Officers for a three-year term. Cindy seconded. Roll Call vote: 2 in favor

Topics Not Anticipated: There were none.

Old Business:

- **Tri Town Ambulance Agreement:**

There will be a joint meeting of the Select Boards with Aquinnah and Chilmark but they wanted to have a preliminary discussion of the funding agreement. Cindy, as the Tri-Town rep explained the new funding proposal. Discussion followed. Cathy Minkiewicz representing the Finance Committee, said that she and Chair Greg Orcutt who could not be

present feel that the people of the town should have a say. There was more discussion but no action taken.

- **Howes House Funding Agreement:**

Skipper believes that the division of cost should be similar to what they come up with for the Tri-Town funding. Cindy thinks this conversation should wait until after the feasibility study is completed. After discussion it was decided that the joint Select Board meeting would be limited to just the Tri-Town funding topic. No action taken.

Correspondence:

- **Tabares Resignation from the Highway Department:**

Kent moved to accept the letter of resignation from Robert Tabares. Cindy seconded. Roll Call vote: All in favor

Public Comment: There was none.

- **Executive Session:**

The Board discussed going in to Executive Session to discuss the possible dismissal of a public employee. The employee has the right to request Executive Session. Skipper made his regular statement about feeling that the discussion should be public and they should not go into Executive Session.

Cindy moved to go into Executive Session and not return to Public Session. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: Cindy -Yes, Kent -Yes Skipper -No. (2-1-0)

Respectfully Submitted by Janice Haynes, Administrative Assistant