

Approved 10/30/19
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, October 9, 2019 4:30 p.m. –6:38 pm

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

Also Present: Robert Hauck, John Rau, Kate Warner, David Stanwood, Geoff Rose, Michael Colaneri, Brian Dowd

Minutes: *C. Mitchell motioned to approve the minutes of 9/18/19. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

ZBA Alternate Appointment: John said he had spoken to Larry Shubert who was concerned about two people from the Affordable Housing being on the ZBA as there may be a perception of bias towards affordable housing projects. The Board did not share those concerns.

C. Mitchell motioned to appoint John Rau to the ZBA as an Alternate for 5 years. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Library Access to Counsel: Robert said the Trustees were beginning their search for a new library director and needed some assistance regarding the law about contracts for the Director.

C. Mitchell motioned to authorize access to Counsel. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Housing Allowance Proposal: Michael said he had developed a proposal (*attached to these minutes*) to provide a housing allowance to all full time employees that make under a set amount of money. He said he had spoken with the Police Chief who thought it might help with employee retention and the Personnel Board who did not have any opposition to the idea. He noted that Nantucket provides a housing allowance for their Nursing Home Director. Kent said that the town pays employees for the work they do, it is not up to the town to determine how those employees spend their money. Cindy asked if there were any other towns that offer this to all full time employees, Mike said no. He said there would be a set of criteria applied that is similar to the rental assistance program run by the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority. Cindy said the spirit behind the program was fine, but to ask the taxpayers who may not have the good fortune of holding a well-paying municipal job to pay for it may be difficult. She noted that we have a history of working together to help employees find housing, and she would prefer to see more progress being made in developing housing that people can afford.

Climate Change/Municipal Vulnerability: Jen said she had met with Kate and due to the lack of a clearly defined project and the short time line they thought it did not make sense to try and apply for grant money in this funding round. Instead the focus should be on creating the committee that will work to identify the projects that should be funded. Kate said that there was a possibility of an intern this spring at the MV Commission that might be able to assist with grants. The Board discussed the make-up of a climate change committee, Jen was asked to send the charge to the Energy Committee, the Planning Board, the Emergency Manager, and police and fire to see if they wished to have an appointee to the committee.

Recreational Marijuana Host Agreement: Jen said that the host agreement had been reviewed by Counsel for the town and by Mr. Rose's Counsel. The edited version was before the Board for

a final vote. Kent said he was not in favor of the voluntary contributions for drug education, that was the Town's responsibility. Jen noted it was not a requirement; it was an offer from Mr. Rose. Cindy said we would accept donations from anyone if they were offered. Skipper said they can donate if they want to it doesn't need to be in the host agreement. Cindy felt strongly the offer should remain in the agreement.

S. Manter motioned to change the word "shall" to "may" regarding the voluntary donations. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was SM & KH in favor, CM opposed.

Job Descriptions: The Board reviewed the job descriptions for those jobs under their direct supervision. They made a few small changes on the Highway Superintendent and determined they did not wish to change the job title of the Shellfish Agent.

C. Mitchell motioned to accept the job descriptions as written or amended. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Sheep Crossing Signs: David Stanwood asked for signs near his house on Lambert's Cove Rd to alert people he may be moving his sheep to other pastures. The Board was fine with that. Jen will talk to the Highway Superintendent.