

*Approved 12/15/21*  
**Town of West Tisbury**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday December 8, 2021 4:30 pm**  
**Via Zoom**

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

**Also present for part or all of the meeting:** Leah Smith, Jane Rossi, Amy Upton, Ginny Jones, Nevette Previd, Brian Ditchfield, Omar Johnson, Casey Decker, Susan Silk, Kathy Logue, John Abrams, Laura Silber, Jeffrey Dubard, Doug Ruskin, Susanna Sturgis, Eunki Seonwoo, Louisa Hufstader, Janice Haynes and other members of the public that did not speak.

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

**Joint Meeting – Planning Board Appointment Amy Upton**

Leah Smith co-Chair of the Planning Board called their meeting to order with a quorum present.

Leah explained that they want to appoint Amy Upton who is currently an Associate member to a full member to fill the vacant spot on the board.

*Cindy moved to approve the appointment of Amy Upton to full board member for the Planning Board until the next election in the spring, 2021. Skipper seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor (2-0-0)*

*The Planning Board also voted; All in favor. They then adjourned the Planning Board meeting and most members left.*

**Minutes:** Vote to Approve: December 1, 2021

There were no edits or corrections offered.

*Cindy moved to approve the minutes of December 1, 2021. Skipper seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor (2-0-0)*

**New Business:**

- **Vineyard Trust re: the Grange Hall:**

Nevette spoke representing the Vineyard Preservation Trust who own and manage the Grange. She explained that the Vineyard Film Festival has leased the second floor of the Grange Hall for their use. The down stairs will continue to be used by the current leases.

Brian Ditchfield, representing the VFF thanked Nevette and said they are honored to be part

of the legacy of the space. He has spoken to neighbors and they support the use. Skipper has some reservations, as the area is zoned residential and there will be night time events, increased traffic and noise. He will be monitoring the situation. Others in the audience spoke to support the use. No action taken.

- **FY 2023 Budget Approval:**

The Board decided to come back to this item after completing the other agenda items as there were many present for those other items.

- **Covid Booster:**

Omar Johnson, Health Agent spoke saying that the CDC and others are not advocating mandating boosters at this time as they feel there is not enough info available. The Town has mandated vaccines for employees and the question is whether they should mandate the booster. He does not think it should be a mandate at this time. Cindy agrees that they are not quite there yet. She does think it important for people to get the booster. She would stand down on requiring the booster, but things could change quickly. The Board took no action at this time but will keep in touch with Omar.

- **Casey Decker ZBA Conflict Question:**

Casey Decker is a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. He is also a paid consultant for Schofield, Barbini and Hoehn. He has filed disclosures and has consulted with the Ethics Commission. He was advised to speak with the appointing authority (the Select Board). Cindy suggested he just disclose at each instance for the plans he has been involved with.

*Cindy moved to allow Casey to act on matters in front of the ZBA provided he acknowledge the conflict . Skipper seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor (2-0-0)*

- **Tiah's Cove Culvert:**

Jen is asking that the Board award the contract to White Lynch Bros Corp. The amount is for \$ 99,904. Work will begin after March 1<sup>st</sup> and be completed by April 30<sup>th</sup>. Signing now allows the company to purchase the special parts needed.

*Cindy moved to award the contract to White Lynch Bros Corp. Skipper seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor (2-0-0)*

### **Old Business:**

- **Further Discussion of Housing Bank Bylaw:**

Skipper is in favor of the project but believes they are putting it together badly. John Abrams says the legislation will be ready after the first of the year. Town Council has raised some issues when he reviewed for the Town of Edgartown. Cindy brought up those issues and gave

her opinions too. She believes all 6 towns should be in agreement, for one. There was much discussion of the issues which John tried to explain if he could. Skipper also had many questions. In the end, both Select Board members say they support the idea of a housing bank but more work needs to be done.

## **Return to New Business**

- **FY 2023 Budget Approval:**

Most of the budgets submitted so far were pretty straight forward. The Highway Superintendent stipend needed to be discussed. Jen thinks that for a stipend it has become too high for liability issues and shouldn't go any higher. She acknowledged that it was too low as a salary, and that Richie should be paid more. Skipper disagreed and says that it will self-correct when Richie retires. Cindy wanted more time to think about it so the Highway budget only will be held over till next week. As for the other budgets, Jen explained why some went up or down.

*Cindy moved to approve the budgets as listed excepting the Highway Department. Skipper seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor (2-0-0)*

## **Topics Not Anticipated:**

Cindy expressed gratitude to the town employees for their help with the service for Kent Healy. Jen Rand, Simone DeSorcy' (former employee), Jane Rossi, Tara Whiting-Wells, Omar Johnson and others. It was nicely done.

## **Correspondence:**

- C. Hodgkinson re: Housing Bank. Chuck wrote a letter outlining some concerns with the proposed legislation.

## **Public Comment:**

There was none.

*With no further business to attend to Cindy moved to adjourn the meeting. Skipper seconded. Roll Call vote: All in favor. (2-0-0)*

*Meeting adjourned at 5:44 pm*

*Respectfully Submitted by Janice Haynes, Administrative Assistant*