

Approved 3/6/19
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, February 13, 2019 4:30 p.m. – 5:25 pm

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

Also Present: Martina Thornton, Rhonda Conley, Caroline Flanders, Larry Shubert, Holly Pretsky, Lucas Thors

Minutes: *S. Manter motioned to approve the minutes of 1/30/19. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

County Manager re: Center for Living Building & Administrative Fee on County

Administered Programs: Cindy disclosed that the proposal about to be discussed was being headed by Island Health Care, where she is a director. The Board felt she had no conflict as she did not stand to gain financially. Martina said that she had been out to bid twice for the office space on the second floor of the building with no interest. She then went out with a less than fair market value bid for non-profits with no interest. So, she has a proposal that would require sign-off from the Board of Selectmen to lease it at no cost to a new program that would act similarly to a public health program. (*details attached to minutes*). She said the Island Boards of Health are in favor of the program. The fair market value is roughly \$43,000/year, she was asking the Towns to vote to forego that income for three years. She noted that if the time came in those three years that the program could begin paying rent they would do so. Island Health Care would be providing furniture, equipment, paying utilities and providing some staffing. They have applied for a Vineyard Vision Fellowship to help cover some costs. Kent asked if this program would absorb some of the other island non-profits doing similar work. Cindy said that is not the plan right now. Skipper said he thought this sounded like a good program that would provide value to the Island.

S. Manter motioned to amend the Inter-municipal Agreement currently in place regarding the property at 29 Breakdown Lane, Tisbury, to allow for the county with approval of County Advisory Board to lease the excess space for a less than fair market value, or without monetary consideration, to a not-for-profit organization to provide a public purpose service. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Program Admin Fee: Skipper said that the warrant articles for programs that are being administered by the County include an administrative fee of 5%, which he said was added to help the County close a funding gap when the sheriff no longer provided alarm fees to the County. Martina said there is a \$130k funding gap that the County couldn't completely close. The County's assessment has not been raised in 8 of the last ten years and funds have been returned to towns. The services the County provides for these programs have not been paid for in the past, and they have management and administrative costs for the County. She added that there is a value to both the programs and the town's when the County provides these services. She said that 5% is a modest fee, most State and Federal programs have a similar fee, and Community Services has a 14% fee. Cindy asked if the County Advisory Board had voted to submit the articles. Martina said yes. Cindy said she did not have a problem with the 5% and did not want to change the article now so that it would be different than what is on the other town's warrants. Martina said that if the County Advisory Board wanted an override next year that could be looked at.

Town Administrator Vacation Carry-Over: *S. Manter motioned to authorize the Town Administrator to carry over 104 hours of vacation time. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Personnel Board Appointment: *S. Manter motioned to appoint Dianne Powers to the Personnel Board until April 2020. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Executive Session: *S. Manter motioned to go into executive session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property (57 Rustling Oaks Rd) w/ Affordable Housing & Island Housing Trust. K. Healy seconded the motion.*

Skipper said he was opposed to the executive session, he said it didn't meet the definition as the property was not being proposed to be purchased by the town. Larry said it involved the financial interest of the town and may involve the Affordable Housing Trust. Cindy proposed postponing the discussion until Larry could speak with Counsel.