

Approved 4/29/20
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
March 18, 2020 4:30 – 4:53

This meeting was conducted on freeteleconference.com

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

Also Present: Russ Hartenstine, Omar Johnson, Rich Saltzberg, Mike Bellisimo, Bruce Stone, Will Sennott

Minutes: *K. Healy motioned to approve the minutes of 3/4/20, 3/11/20 & 3/13/20. With amendments to 3/13/20. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Town Accountant Request to Access Compensated Absences Reserve Fund for

Librarian: *C. Mitchell motioned to authorize the expenditure of \$31,970.65 from the Reserve Fund for Payment of Accrued Liabilities for Compensated Absences for the payment of separation benefits due Beth Kramer.” K. Healy seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Fire Department Donation: Jen told the Board that the Fire Department had received donations in the amount of \$100k, which will be used to purchase the new gear needed by the Fire Department. The Fire Chief asked that a letter of thanks be sent from the Board.

C. Mitchell motioned to accept \$100k for the Fire Department to be used to purchase extra gear for the fire department. K. Healy seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Corona Virus Updates:

Declaration of Emergency: Jen said that by declaring a State of Emergency the Town may better be able to access emergency funding among other, as yet to be known benefits. The Board of Health is in full support of this Declaration.

C. Mitchell motioned Board of Selectmen of the Town of West Tisbury, Massachusetts, hereby declares that as of March 18, 2020 a State of Emergency is declared to exist by the Board of Selectmen in West Tisbury and authorizes and directs, under the direction of the Town Administrator, all Town personnel and agents to take action appropriate to respond to this situation and ratifies, confirms and adopts any related action taken prior to the formal adoption of this Declaration. This Declaration of Emergency shall remain in effect until notice is given, pursuant to the Board of Selectmen’s judgment, that the State of Emergency no longer exists. K. Healy seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Closing of All Town Buildings: Jen noted that when the Board had voted last Friday to close offices to the public the order did not include all town buildings. She asked that they vote to have a ban to the public apply to all town buildings. The one notable exception will be during the town election if that goes forward on April 16, 2020. Jen also explained about the Mill Pond Building and Field Gallery. Skipper said Mill Pond not open to the public

C. Mitchell motioned to close all town buildings to the public except as described for elections and appointments as previously discussed. K. Healy seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Bills: Skipper asked about signing bill warrants & payroll. Bruce said the law allows the Board to vote to authorize one person to sign and report back to the Board at their next meeting. Jen asked about Skipper signing payroll. Bruce said he was allowed to do so.

C. Mitchell motioned to allow the Chair to sign bill and payroll warrants and report back at a later Selectmen's meeting. K. Healy seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Mike – doe SOE mean curfew, alcohol sales etc? Jen explain

Continuity of operations? Jen explain

Rich – does it confer law enforcement powers? Skipper, possibly, but wouldn't be needed.

Is this the first time the Board has signed electronically? Jen, don't know.

Will Sennott: To what extent will police will enforce gatherings and restaurant size? Omar, I have been to all town restaurants that are still open and have reviewed requirements to assure they are in compliance. Some have chosen to close.

Rich – guidance from USPS? Jen, no.

Will Sennott – donation related to pandemic? Jen no.

Skipper appreciate the work being done.

Roll call to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted by Jennifer Rand, Town Administrator