

Approved 3/27/24
Town of West Tisbury
Select Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 20, 2024 4:30 pm
At the Town Hall and via Zoom

Present: Select Persons, Skipper Manter, Jessica Miller, Cynthia Mitchell and Town Administrator Jen Rand

Also present or on Zoom for all or part of the meeting: Richard Andre, Ron Rappaport, Isabelle Lew, Bea Phear, Beth Kramer, Chief Matt Mincone, Alexandra Pratt, Dan Waters, Laura Silber, Eunki Seonwoo, Ethan Genter, Janice Haynes and other members of the public that did not speak.

Skipper called the Select Board meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Minutes: Vote to Approve: March 13, 2024

There were no edits or corrections offered.

Jessica moved to approve the minutes of March 13, 2024. Cindy seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

New Business:

- **Chief Mincone Contract Renewal:**

The new contract mimics the old, just the dates have changed, and the starting salary reflects the current conditions and provides for a 2.5% increase annually along with any wage adjustments given the other police officers. There was no discussion.

Jessica moved to approve new contract for Chief Mincone, pending Counsel review. Cindy seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

- **ATM Warrant Review:**

The Annual Town meeting is April 9th. Skipper read through the warrant to see if there were questions and to see who would be speaking for each article when it came up. The following articles were discussed:

- Article 2: Reports of the Town Officers and Committees: No reports that Jen knows of so far, tho it is likely the Visioning Committee will speak. There will be also be acknowledgement of the retirees.
- Articles 6 & 7: Department Administrator: the board asked Jen to speak to those.
- Article 8: Specialized Energy Code: Dan asked that the referenced CMR's be posted with the warrant on line.
- Article 9: dry hydrant on Tiah's Cove: Chief Pachico will speak for this one.

- Article 11: Jen and Bruce will speak.
- Article 12: Library HVAC: After the article is introduced, Jen will speak and get into the FAQ. The OPM will also be there and someone from the Library.
- Articles 14- 23: CPC: Jen will get a list of who will speak to what from their Administrator.
- Article 35: Short Term Rental Bylaw: Ron and Isabelle explained that a recent case has ‘muddled’ the situation and went on to outline the options. A Land Court judge has ruled that STRs are not allowed as they are considered commercial. The new STR bylaw is being presented as a general bylaw rather than a zoning bylaw. The new case has remanded it back to their ZBA to decide if short term rentals are allowed as an accessory use. There was much discussion about the best way to handle this. Dan asked about amendments on the floor at ATM. It is too late to change this bylaw to a zoning bylaw before ATM so Bea would like to propose an amendment on the floor to add the word accessory rather than commercial. There was also discussion about the no less than 7 day rentals requirement. It was suggested that further changes could be made at a special fall town meeting, but there was no guarantee there would be one. Skipper asked Counsel to speak about the court case and explain the difference between commercial and accessory use before the amendment is made at the meeting.
- Article 36; OB road resiliency: Jen believes they will have someone at our meeting to speak.
- Article 43 & 44: Zoning Bylaw amendments: Heikki from the Planning Board will speak.

- **Library Project FAQ Sheet:**

Jen presented a draft to the board that she has worked on with others. She wants to know if the board feels she has gotten all the info they thought necessary into it and for the most part they thought it was good. There was discussion about ‘lay-speak’ vs technical info and Jessica suggested the FAQs be on the first page rather than the second. Jen was authorized to do a few more tweaks for things that came up in discussion and edits sent by Doug Ruskin and then get it to the Library and on the website as soon as possible.

- **Up Island Council on Aging Bylaws:**

The board went through the draft and offered some edits. There was discussion about the number of members and Beth and Skipper worked to clarify that part. Jessica questioned the legality of setting an age limit and was told that question may have to go to counsel. Beth was thanked for her hard work.

Topics Not Anticipated: There was none.

Old Business:

- **Annual Town Meeting quorum:**

Skipper shared that the idea of offering a gift basket raffle was something they couldn’t do, per counsel. He is still working on the electronic sign. Any other ideas are welcome.

Correspondence:

- K. Hoffman Certification Notice:
Jen read the letter that Kate has received National Animal Care Certification. Skipper said ‘Goody for her!’ She was congratulated.
- Email from Doug Ruskin re: the Library HVAC FAQ – referred to in the earlier conversation.

Public Comment:

- Skipper mentioned that the new Chilmark Principal has been selected. The board wishes the UIRSD well with their choice.
- Richard wanted to ask the board for permission to have a booth at the Farmer’s market for the Cape Light Compact. He was referred to the ZBA. If they allow it, the board would support it.

With no further business to discuss, Jessica moved adjourn the meeting. Cindy seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

*Janice Haynes,
Administrative Assistant*