

Approved 4/22/20
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
April 08, 2020 4:40 pm – 5:45
Virtual meeting

Present: Selectmen Skipper Manter, Cindy Mitchell, Jen Rand

Also Present: Russ Hartenstein, Bruce Stone, John Rau, Matt Gebo, Doug Ruskin, Greg Orcutt, Dawn Barnes, Brian Dowd, Kathy Logue, Maria McFarland, Will Sennott, Mike Bellisimo, Matt Merry, Debra Cedeno, Nick Puner, Tucker Hubble, Janice Haynes

Skipper called the meeting to order at 4:40 pm

Approval of the Draft Minutes of March 21, 24 & 25, 2020 was deferred until Kent Healy arrived (he was unable to attend) or the next meeting.

New Business/Covid-19 Update:

Employee Status – Extension of Work From Home:

Jen explained about the employees being paid while asked to stay home and work from there. She requested that the Selectmen vote to continue pay thru May 4th, the extended time of the Stay at Home order.

C. Mitchell motioned to extend the work from home directive for town employees until May 4 2020. S. Manter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and was unanimous in favor.

Extension of Tax Due Date: Kathy explained the new provisions as quoted below. She said that Financial Management Team (FMT) agreed that this should be done. Dawn said that most of the people filing for exemptions/extensions had already gotten their applications in so she is ok with it.

Moved: that the Select Board, in accordance with Sections 10 and 11 of Chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020, waive any interest and penalties on property tax bills due May 1, 2020 from May 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020 and waive the interest and any other penalties for late payment of any excise tax or water use bill with a due date on or after March 10, 2020 when payment is made after its respective due date but before June 30, 2020.

C. Mitchell motioned to extend the due date for tax bills to June 1, 2020. S. Manter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and was unanimous in favor.

Budget for FY 21: Bruce said the FMT had discussed looking at the budget for next year and the warrant articles to see if there were cuts that could be made. Skipper asked if they should send a letter to all Boards/ Dept. Heads asking them to review their budgets regarding cutting back. Cindy asked if this was because taxpayers are being affected financially by the virus. Jen said yes. Kathy said that other towns and the Schools are also looking at their budgets. Skip asked if the letter should go out jointly from the Selectmen, Financial Management Committee and the Finance Committee. All agreed that a letter should be sent to all Department Heads and Regional entities. A draft letter will be written in the next couple of days. The Fin Com will set a meeting for Monday to approve and then it can be approved by the Selectmen at next weeks meeting.

C. Mitchell motioned to send the letter as described. S. Manter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and was unanimous in favor.

Non-Essential Board Meetings: Jen asked if the Selectmen would ease the restriction on holding non-essential board/committee meetings as there is work they could be accomplishing during this time and the virtual meetings have been working well. Cindy thought it would be fine. Skip felt that attendance was actually higher on some of the virtual meetings. Maria thought it should be at the discretion of the Department heads.

C. Mitchell motioned to recommend that Board/Committees can get back to work provided they are sensitive to controversial issues that can wait until the public can more easily attend. S. Manter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and was unanimous in favor.

Review of Construction Regulations for When Ban is Lifted: Jen wanted to update the Board on what was being done for when the ban is lifted. She explained that there is a committee that has been meeting regularly that includes all of the Island Building Inspectors, some BOH members and some construction industry people, including the MV Builders Association. They are drafting a plan for reentry into work and the BOH will be the ones who decide on exactly how it will happen.

Short Term Rentals: Jen said that both AirBnB and VRBO had finally posted a notice about possible rental restrictions. Because there were not many in West Tisbury Jen said she logged into each system and sent an email to all of the listings she saw posted including the Governor's notice on the ban.

Regular Business:

Lambert's Cove Inn (LCI) Seasonal Renewal for Beer & Wine: Jen said the LCI had applied for the renewal of their seasonal license. Skip asked if there were any changes to the license. Jen said no, it's just the renewal and that approving it now doesn't mean they are opening yet.

C. Mitchell motioned to authorize the LCI to renew their seasonal beer and wine license. S. Manter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and was unanimous in favor.

C. Mitchell motioned to authorize the Chair to sign the renewal documents on behalf of the Board. S. Manter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and was unanimous in favor.

Lambert's Cove Inn Entertainment License:

Jen explained that the new license reflected changes approved by the Special Permit granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals. Jen asked if there was any input/questions from the audience. Nick (neighbor) said he was ok with it as long as it conforms to the ZBA Special Permit. John Rau had questions about the parking plan. Jen was unable to answer and after some discussion it was decided to defer this vote until they could get clarification from the ZBA.

Motion to approve the Payroll Warrant of 4/3/20: *C. Mitchell motioned to sign the payroll warrant of 4/3/20 S. Manter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and was unanimous in favor.*

Other Business:

Debra asked about how the word would be gotten out regarding the construction ban and the new guidelines. Jen said up-to-date info was posted on the town's website almost daily and that the newspapers had daily updates too. She didn't know of any other plans but suggested that she reach out to the working group for the construction ban and speak to Reed.

Skipper praised the employee Zoom meeting held earlier that day and said that he thought it had been a great idea and very beneficial to all. He thanked Jen for setting it up. Jen said that it had been Kathy Logue's idea and that we would do it again.

With no other business *C. Mitchell motioned to adjourn the meeting. S. Manter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted and was unanimous in favor.*

Adjourned 5:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Jennifer Rand, Town Administrator