

Approved 7/31/19
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, July 10, 2019 4:00 p.m. –5:56 pm

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

Also Present: M. Colaneri, R. Conley, L. Schubert, A. Sylverster, J. DuBard, R. Townes, J. Edwards, R. Bonnell, K. Kavanaugh, A. Bonnell, D. De Moe, J. Chalifoux, E. Raposa-Brigoli, C. Douglas, J. Gothard, K. Warner, R. Thomson, R. Dagostino, S. Hruby, N. Blake, S. Hart, C. Kennedy, J. Stanwood, R. Rappaport, I. Lew, T. Jochsberger

Executive Session (ES) re: 57 Rustling Oaks Rd.: Skipper read the notice for Executive Session “*to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares*”. Before taking the vote to go into ES he asked Town Counsel Ron Rappaport to summarize the issue. Ron said the property owner had two mortgages, one at Rockland Trust and one at JP Morgan. JP Morgan has foreclosed on the property but the house, which sold at auction, has not closed because the buyer’s attorney was concerned that the affordable housing restrictions remained on the property. He noted that the issues were similar to the Cote lot which was an affordable lot in the same neighborhood that had been foreclosed on. He said that under the foreclosure, the mortgage to Rockland would still need to be satisfied after the auction. Kent asked the total amount, Isabelle said about \$295,000. Skipper declared that discussing this in open session would have a detrimental effect on the town.

C. Mitchell motioned to go into Executive Session with Town Counsel, The Town Administrator and the Affordable Housing Committee and to return to open session. K. Healy seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the motion was C. Mitchell & K. Healy in favor, S. Manter opposed.

The Board returned to regular session at 4:30

Housing Bank Committee: Larry said the Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) had discussed the Housing Bank Committee at their last meeting. They thought the name should be changed to Housing Fund and added they did want the Short Term Rental tax to be used for this. They thought there should be one member from the AHC, the Planning Board, the ZBA, the FinCom, The Cpc, the Selectmen and the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority. The Board felt a committee size of 7 was good but they wanted to have members of the public on the Committee. The decision was made to remove the seats for the CPC and the ZBA as they were the least relevant to the discussion. The rest of the seats will be as discussed with either a Board member or their designee. The charge for the committee will be as voted at town meeting. Larry said funding should be part of the charge, Skipper said it didn’t need to be and Cindy noted the voters could have made that part of the motion but they didn’t. The name will remain until and unless the committee wished to change it.

K. Healy motioned to create the committee as described. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Minutes: *K. Healy motioned to approve the minutes of 6/12 & 6/19/19. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Historic District: Josh Gothard introduced himself to the Board. He said he went to Parson School for Architecture and was pursuing his license. The Board thanked him for volunteering.

Event Permit & 1 Day Beer & Wine- Arrowhead Farm: Charlene Douglas said she wanted to have three dinners at the farm that would go from 5:30-8:30. She wasn't sure the number that would attend but perhaps 30-40. Skipper asked if there would be amplified music, Charlene said no. Skipper said he was concerned that the number of events in town is increasing and the town is generally a quiet rural town. He asked if this was becoming a commercial activity. Jen said that she had spoken to the zoning enforcement officer who said he was not sure what the right number was for "uses incidental to the property", he did note that he has issued at least 4 permits for weddings on another piece of property. Skipper said he didn't think that was commercial because the guests didn't pay for the venue. Jen noted the property owner likely charged for the use of the property. Cindy said she had no problem with this request but agreed the Planning Board could be asked to look at the issue.

C. Mitchell motioned to approve event permits and 1 day beer & wine permits for Arrowhead Farm dinners on 7/31, 8/2 & 8/13 with the number of attendees capped at 50. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was CM & KH in favor, SM opposed.

Energy Committee Appointment: *C. Mitchell motioned to appoint Rebekah Thomson to the Energy Committee for one year. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Energy Committee Update: Sue gave an update on the Green Community projects, and the Committees longer term renewable goals. (*Handouts attached as part of these minutes*). She said the stated renewable energy goals were not things they wanted to just put on paper, but they wanted to make a real commitment to change. She said they are working on a resolution for the next town meeting to present to the voters.

Vulnerability Report: Kate gave the Board a report showing what she had discovered from resources that address the town's emergency planning for short and long term events and those that address our long term vulnerability to climate change. (*Attached as part of these minutes*). She noted that the Town's emergency management plan posted on the website is out of date. She said the Island needs a vulnerability coordinator but the town also needs one of their own. She said in order to continue the work she would need to be paid. She thought that Community Preservation Funds might be used, or grants, perhaps from Vineyard Wind. Cindy said that Kate should try and identify funding as the Town does not have funding for such a position. Kent said that the Town would eventually need to put it in the budget. Rebecca said for now perhaps more volunteers could do the work with the help of the Climate Change network. Kate said she was a member of the committee.

Trustees of Reservations 1 Day Beer & Wine Permit Date Change: Sam Hart said the morning event for July 12th was moving to the 13th due to weather and asked that their permit be amended to allow this.

K. Healy motioned to authorize the 1 day beer & wine permit for July 13th. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Clamming Season: *K. Healy motioned to open the clamming season with the following limits: commercial limit of 80 lbs of clams (crowned wash basket) on 3 days per week: Monday, Thursday and Friday. Family clamming be allowed with a limit of 1/4 bushel (a peck or 2 1/3 gal*

containers) one day per week, to be harvested using a plunger only and not jetted out. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Skipper thanked John Keene for helping a stranding motorist with a flat trailer tire on Middle Road, and he thanked Cheryl Lowe for driving the Board in the Parade.

VTA: Skipper asked when the last negotiating meeting had been held. Richard Townes said 13 days prior with a mediator. He said the drivers had offered to meet with an arbiter and end the strike but they haven't heard back from the company. Skipper said he would like to meet with the VTA Board to have the opportunity to ask questions. Richard said the drivers had asked the chair to schedule a meeting but she had not yet done so. Jen was asked to request the Board hold a meeting to give everyone a chance to ask questions and hear an update. Other town Boards of Selectmen will be invited to send a similar request.