

*Approved 9/8/21*  
**Town of West Tisbury**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday September 1, 2021 4:30 pm**  
**Via Zoom**

**Present:** Selectmen Skipper Manter, Kent Healy, Cynthia Mitchell, and Town Administrator Jen Rand

**Also present for part or all of the meeting:** Omar Johnson, Doug Ruskin, Kathy Logue, Bob Wasserman, Kate Warner, Cathy Minkiewicz, James Klingensmith, Matt Gebo, Louisa Hufstader, George Brennan, and other members of the public that did not speak.

Chair Skipper Manter called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

**Minutes:** Vote to Approve: Aug 18 & 25, 2021  
There were no questions or corrections needed.

*Cindy made the motion to approve the Minutes of Aug 18 & 25, 2021. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor.*

**New Business:**

- **Employee Vaccine Mandate in all Town Buildings (Library, Howes House, Fire Station 1, Public Safety Building, Police Station and Highway Barn)**

There was some discussion and clarifications made. Kent once again objected to a mandate.

*Cindy made the motion to extend the mandate made last week (to establish a rule that all town employees working in or conducting business at the Town Hall at a time when other town employees or members of the public are present in the building must be fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus no later than September 30, 2021.*

*Any applications for medical or religious exemptions shall be submitted to the office of the Town Administrator who shall, in consultation with the Town's Special Labor Counsel, investigate and make a report to the Select Board and such employee's appointing authority concerning what accommodations, if any, might be reasonable) to all of the above listed Town Buildings*

*Kent seconded. Roll Call Vote: Cindy; Yes, Kent; No, Skipper; Yes (2-1-0)*

- **Public Access to Town Buildings Restrictions to those with Proof of Vaccination:**

Skipper suggested that the board restrict public access to Town buildings and require visitors to show proof of vaccination and make appointments to be allowed inside. Cindy advised that perhaps they should wait, but would defer to Omar (BOH). It would be difficult to implement. Omar pointed out that they already have safeguards in place (plexiglass dividers etc.) After discussion it was decided that they would bring the issue up again at a later date. No action taken.

- **Appointments: UIRSD Environmentally Friendly Task Force Committee, Vineyard Transit, MVTV, Cultural Council:**

They held off till next week on the vote to appoint the MVTV rep but made the follow appointments:

*Cindy moved to appoint Doug Ruskin to the UIRSD Environmentally Friendly Task Force Committee. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor.*

*Cindy moved to appoint Bob Wasserman to the Vineyard Transit as West Tisbury's representative. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor.*

*Cindy moved to appoint Harriet Bernstein to the Cultural Council. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor.*

- **Zoning Violation Complaint, Discussion about Next Steps:**

Item was postponed.

- **Green Communities Grant – Discussion about Which Project to Prioritize:**

Kate explained the 3 projects under consideration and why they had prioritized the West Tisbury School as first priority. They are not sure what the analysis will cost; there will be a \$25,000 grant and they are not sure yet where the other money will come from.

*Cindy moved to make the West Tisbury School the first priority for the Green Communities Grant. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor.*

- **Energy Committee Request to include Mailer into Tax Bill:**

The Energy Committee wants to include their survey with the next quarterly tax mailing. Kathy is OK with it as long as the Select Board approves.

*Cindy moved to allow the Energy Committee to include their survey with the next quarterly tax mailing. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor*

**Topics Not Anticipated:** There were none.

**Old Business:**

- **Lambert's Cove Cemetery Lot Inventory and Sale Policy:**

Alan Gowell has done an inventory. There are 10, 4 casket plots available and 4, 2 casket plots for a total of 48 'spaces'. Alan is recommending they limit sales to taxpayers, not just residents. Skipper pointed out that there is plenty of room at the Village cemetery on State Road. He was in favor of limiting sales to residents of Lambert's Cove Rd. Jen noted that the Board has consistently not supported a split tax rate because there are many taxpayers that have been our neighbors for years and they are as much a part of the community as those who moved here a week ago.

*Cindy moved to allow sales of cemetery plots at the Lambert's Cove Cemetery to residents and taxpayers. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor.*

Alan has also recommended that they limit sales to 2 plots per household at the Lambert's Cove Cemetery and says that it's not a bad idea for the Village cemetery too. The 5' x 10' plots can also be divided depending on how people are buried (cremated or stacked) so a family can actually fit more members in if needed. After discussion it was decided to just limit Lambert's Cove for now and wait on deciding for the Village cemetery.

*Cindy moved to limit sales of cemetery plots at the Lambert's Cove Cemetery to 2 plots per household. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor.*

- **ARPA Funding:**

Jen has gotten input from one department regarding lost wages and the Planning Board. The Planning Board suggested they recommend funding for the Howes House, the school for PPE and funding to create a map indicating the location of water sources and pools in the event of a forest fire. Jen feels that all of these items had other avenues for grants and none quite fit the ARPA funding. She continues to see the island wide fiber network upgrades come up from other towns and also upgrading the Edgartown waste water system. After discussion it was decided to put wastewater before the fiber network upgrades as there may be federal moneys earmarked for that. Kent will vote no because he does not agree that waste water is the priority.

*Cindy moved that they send a letter to recommend the ARPA funds go toward wastewater and a fiber network upgrade provided there isn't other funding for the fiber project. Kent seconded. Roll Call Vote: Cindy; Yes, Kent; No, Skipper; Yes (2-1-0) Motion passes by majority.*

**Correspondence:**

- Letter from L. Mayhew Re: Vaccine Mandate

**Public Comment:** There was none.

*With no further business Cindy made the motion to adjourn. Kent seconded. Roll Call: all in favor.*

Meeting Adjourned at 5:22 pm

*Respectfully Submitted by Janice Haynes, Administrative Assistant*