

~Approved 2-17-22~  
**West Tisbury Finance Committee Meeting**  
**Zoom meeting**  
**January 20, 2022, 5:00 pm**

**In Attendance:** Greg Orcutt, Doug Ruskin, John Christensen, Cathy Minkiewicz and Clark Rattet

**Also present:** Bruce Stone, Chief Matt Mincone, Chief Greg Pachico, Ben Retmier, Matt Gebo, Skipper Manter, Jen Rand

**Greg called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm**

**Budget Review:**

- **Review of West Tisbury Police Department 2023 Budget**

Greg thanked Matt for his very complete and careful narrative. Doug had a few small clarification questions. Bruce was able to explain the money questions and Matt explained others, regarding Mental Health checkups.

- **Review of West Tisbury Fire Department 2023 Budget**

Greg was also thanked for a good narrative. He explained how he was changing payroll to try and give incentive for members to do more. Also spoke about the money spent for updated iPads in the vehicles and how they use them. Doug asked about the over-budgeting for personnel and the returning of money to free-cash every year and Greg explained his new plan with payroll.

- **Review of Tri-Town Ambulance 2023 Budget**

One of Ben's biggest issue is retaining members and filling shifts. He is raising pay per shift to compete with the other towns. Spoke about staffing with Covid. He is planning for another busy summer.

- **Review of the West Tisbury Building Department 2023 Budget**

Joe apologized for not doing a narrative but gave a report on the Building Department and how much work they have been doing. Inspections are way up and they may run out of money this year and need a Reserve Fund transfer. Doug asked for a narrative to be written before they vote to approve. Joe will get it to them within a week. Joe spoke about the FOI requests and the need for administrative assistance. They may be asking for money for that next year.

**New Business:**

There was none.

**Scheduling:**

They reminded everyone of the upcoming scheduled budget hearings for January 25<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting after that will be February 8<sup>th</sup> to speak with the schools.

## **Old Business:**

- **Editing of Fin Com Warrant Article:**

Doug shared the article he had drafted. To paraphrase, he is proposing that they request the Select Board and Building Department raise fees to cover expenses better and have the voters respond. John feels this would be advocating for a specific cause and opposes it. They are supposed to be neutral and only advise. We also did no analysis of what other towns are charging. There was lots of discussion but eventually no one could agree on wording so they decided to bring it back to next meeting. John also shared some analysis that he had done on permit fees for other towns.

- **Finance Committee Report for Annual Report:**

Most members thought the report was good. They will vote to approve at next meeting.

**Committee Reports:** None

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

*With no further items to discuss, Clark made the motion to adjourn. It was seconded.  
Roll call vote – all in favor*

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Janice Haynes  
Administrative Assistant