

**West Tisbury Finance Committee Meeting**  
**Zoom meeting**  
**October 20, 2020, 5 pm**

**In Attendance:** Greg Orcutt, Doug Ruskin, Clark Rattet, Doug Finn, John Christensen

**Greg called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm**

**Minutes:** Minutes of September 15, 2020

*Doug F. made the motion to accept. Clark second. Roll call vote, all in favor.*

**New Business:**

- **Finance Committee Meeting Schedule:**

After much discussion of possible dates and everyone's schedule it was decided to change the regular meeting date to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. The next meeting will be Monday November 16<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm.

- **Fall Special Town Meeting Review:**

Greg thought that it was relatively painless. There was discussion about the SUP article and the fact that there was nearly a full quorum.

**Old Business:**

- **All Island Finance Committee Letter/ Field Project:**

Doug R. said that in his opinion the other Fin Coms are not recognizing the future ramifications on this and not feeling any pressure to weigh in as it's not a warrant article. He believes as elected officials they have a moral obligation look into it. He thinks they should still send a letter, even if the other towns do not. Greg said he would be willing to revisit the topic but doesn't want to fight this battle on their own. There was discussion of whether the \$350K of E&D funds approved at the 4/30/19 STM for planning the artificial turf field and track had been misused as the ultimate plan included multiple other fields, a clubhouse and other items not specified in the Warrant Article. Doug R. suggested sending a letter asking how accountability is determined to Kathy, Treasurer and Bruce, Accountant but Greg said he would rather not have it come from the Fin Com so Doug may do it on his own as a taxpayer.

- **Committee Reports:**

- Selectmen meetings; John said that he hasn't attended a lot but has watched the videos later. He had nothing of interest to report.
- MVRSC; Clark reported on their plans for getting kids back into school. Greg asked about funding and Clark said there was a contingency budget line but they were also waiting to see what comes from the State and Federal agencies.
- Up Island Regional School Committee; Greg said their biggest issue was student safety and they were also working on getting kids back in the buildings.

- Community Preservation Committee; Doug said at their last meeting they reviewed the qualifications of applications. He went into detail about the various applications and said that they totaled about \$734,000 and they had about \$800,000 available.

**Correspondence:**

None.

**Other Business / Topics not anticipated:**

- Greg spoke about the Residential Exemption and referred to documents emailed to the board a few days ago (attached) John asked if the town had considered it before. Doug R. pointed out that it's not a Fin Com issue, it's the Assessors who bring it up to be approved by the BOS and they have turned it down every year. Clark suggested they go to the BOS themselves to bring it up. After more discussion *Doug R. made a motion to request a slot at a Selectmen's meeting in November to discuss it. The motion was seconded and a roll call vote taken. All in Favor.* Janice was asked to draft a letter to the BOS. It was decided to request time at the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm

*Approved 11/16/20*

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Haynes  
Administrative Assistant  
11/6/20