

~Approved as amended 2-23-23~
West Tisbury Finance Committee Meeting
February 13, 2023, 5:00 pm
via Zoom

Present: Greg Orcutt, John Christensen, Clark Rattet, Cathy Minkiewicz and Skipper Manter (Skipper arrived late so was not in on some of the votes)

Also: Bruce Stone and Janice Haynes

Greg called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm

Minutes to approve: January 26th and February 7th, 2023:
There were no edits or corrections offered.

Clark moved to approve the Minutes of January 26th, 2023. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor. (4-0-0)

Clark moved to approve the Minutes of February 7th, 2023. Cathy seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor. (4-0-0)

Reserve Fund Transfer:

- **Requested by Kathy Logue to cover workman's comp. \$ 951.:**
Bruce explained that we usually pay an estimated amount. After the fiscal year is over it is adjusted by the insurance company and there was not enough left in the fund.

Clark moved to approve the Reserve Fund transfer for \$ 951. Cathy seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor. (4-0-0)

Review and/or Approval of Warrant Articles

John had re-worked the numbered order. Numbers could still change.

- **Article #4 – Personnel Bylaw- 4.4% COLA:**

Little to no discussion

Clark moved to recommend Article #4. Greg seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor. (4-0-0)

- **Article #5 – Personnel Bylaw -10% payroll increase:**

All agreed that they would like to speak with someone from the Personnel board. Janice will request someone come to the next meeting with more information. No action taken.

- **Article #6 – Personnel Bylaw- Vacation upon termination:**

Little to no discussion

Clark moved to recommend Article #6. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor. (4-0-0)

- **Article #7 – Personnel Bylaw- Addition of Building Dept. clerk and Community Police Officer:**

Little to no discussion

Clark moved to recommend Article #7. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor. (4-0-0)

- **Article #8 – Tree Planting:**

Little to no discussion

Cathy moved to recommend Article #8. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor. (4-0-0)

- **Article #9 – Assessors line item transfer:**

Little to no discussion

John moved to recommend Article #9. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor. (4-0-0)

- **Article #10 – Assessor’s re-evaluation:**

Little to no discussion

John moved to recommend Article #10. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor. (4-0-0)

- **Article #11 – Building maintenance:**

Greg asked how long it could on. Skipper who had just arrived, said for some time. Cathy suggested the town establish a ‘kitty’ in the budget to add money yearly, but Skipper pointed out that budgeted money expires at the end of each fiscal year. They have a Facilities Committee who plans out the maintenance and prioritizes so they do not need to second guess them.

Clark moved to recommend Article #11. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor. (5-0-0)

- **Article #12 – Library HVAC:**

Little to no discussion. Bottom line is it has to be done.

Clark moved to recommend Article #12. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #13 – Howes House Renovations:**

Everyone agreed they would like more info. Skipper is Chair of the HH building committee but we will have further discussion at next meeting. Janice will make sure someone is there from the committee, if not Skipper. No action taken.

- **Article #14 – Zoning bylaw Table Amendments:**

Little to no discussion

Clark moved to recommend Article #14. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #15 – Zoning bylaw / Affordable Accessory Apartments:**

Little to no discussion

Clark moved to recommend Article #15. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #16 – Zoning bylaw / Pools:**

Little to no discussion

Clark moved to recommend Article #16. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #17 – Visioning (Planning Board):**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #17. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #18 – Affordable Housing – Accessory Building Grant Program:**

Most of the board agreed that they needed more info and would like to call someone in. Janice will contact Jeffrey Dubard to attend. No action taken.

- **Article #19 – MVRHS -borrowing \$ 2 million:**

They had talked about this a bit when the MVRHS folks came to talk about budget so no additional discussion needed.

Skipper moved to recommend Article #19. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #20 – AISC – Adult Education:**

Little to no discussion. Greg wanted to be sure the language was added to the article that if the other towns did not vote for it, WT would not be on the hook for the entire amount.

Janice will touch base with Jen.

Greg moved to recommend Article #20. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #21 – UIRSD - HVAC:**

Little to no discussion

Clark moved to recommend Article #21. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #22 – UIRSD Space Needs Study:**

Skipper has issues with this article which he has already told the school committee. He would like parameters set and doesn't like the idea of expanding the current footprint. Bruce mentioned that the Capital Improvements Committee gave this project a low priority and wanted more info. The board agreed they needed more info and asked Janice to have some come in to speak with them. No action taken.

- **Article #23 – MVRHS Funding Formula agreement:**

Skipper doesn't like this one either and has raised his concerns at school committee meetings. He does not object to Oak Bluffs receiving something for the services they provide to the high school, but it doesn't say anywhere how much. It's based on percentage and he believes it should be 'no more than or no less than' and based on a dollar amount. Also, the high school pays Oak Bluffs \$100,000 yearly for the services of a police officer; is that amount included or on top of what Oak Bluffs share will be?

Skipper moved to recommend Article #23. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #24 – WT School EV chargers:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #24. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #25 – Fire Department vehicle:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #25. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #26 – Police cruiser:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #26. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #27 – Highway Department truck:**

When asked why they need another vehicle, Skipper explained that when Richie retires they won't have his personal vehicle to use and will need another.

Clark moved to recommend Article #27. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #28 – Lamberts Cove Beach dune lowering:**

The dunes are getting so high they are becoming a hazard and are difficult to climb. They must be lowered manually as the Con Com won't allow machinery.

Clark moved to recommend Article #28. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #29 – Unemployment Insurance fund:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #29. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #30 – Funding for the Unemployment Insurance:**

Bruce explained that they are taking the line out of the budget and creating a new fund that will get paid into yearly.

Skipper moved to recommend Article #30. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #31 – MV Commission Engineering:**

Little to no discussion

John moved to recommend Article #31. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #32 – CPC Reserves:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #32. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #32 – CPC Administrative Expenses (both this article and the previous were numbered 32 on Johns list):**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #32. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #33 – CPC – DCRHA Rental Subsidies:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #33. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #34 – CPC WT field irrigation program:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #34. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #35 – CPC Harbor Homes:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #35. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #36 – CPC Scotts Grove:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #36. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #37 – CPC Grange Roof:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #37. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #38 – CPC Lambert Cove Beach rope railings:**

Little to no discussion

Skipper moved to recommend Article #38. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #39 – County – Dukes County Supplemental Income:**

Little to no discussion as the county articles were discussed when they came to discuss budgets.

Clark moved to recommend Article #39. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #40 – County – DC HealthCare Access building improvements:**

There was additional discussion of adding the provision for an OPM to their recommendation but as it had been voted at previous meeting no further action was taken.

Later in the meeting they came back to this item and had further discussion.

John moved to rescind the recommend vote on Article #40. Cathy seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

Clark then moved to recommend Article #40 provided they hire an OPM. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #41 – County – Healthy Aging MV:**

Little to no discussion as the county articles were discussed when they came to discuss budgets.

Skipper moved to recommend Article #41. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #42 – County – Homelessness prevention:**

Little to no discussion as the county articles were discussed when they came to discuss budgets.

Skipper moved to recommend Article #42. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #43 – County – SUD prevention:**

Little to no discussion as the county articles were discussed when they came to discuss budgets.

Skipper moved to recommend Article #43. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

- **Article #44 – County – MV Senior Services:**

Little to no discussion as the county articles were discussed when they came to discuss budgets.

Skipper moved to recommend Article #44. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

- **Article #45 – County – CORE:**

Little to no discussion as the county articles were discussed when they came to discuss budgets.

Skipper moved to recommend Article #45. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

- **Article #46 – County – County building debt payment:**

Little to no discussion as the county articles were discussed when they came to discuss budgets.

Skipper moved to recommend Article #46. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

After all County articles had been voted it was realized that they wanted to talk more about # 40, the DC HealthCare Access building improvements article. They wanted to amend the article include more money for the hiring of an Owners Project Manager (OPM). They tossed around numbers but in the end, it was decided to simply recommend provided they hire the OPM.

John moved to rescind the vote on Article #40. Cathy seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

Clark then moved to recommend Article #40 provided they hire an OPM. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

- **Article #47 – Employee Compensation Balance Reserve:**

Little to no discussion.

Skipper moved to recommend Article #47. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

- **Article #48 – Wetlands Bylaw Administration:**

Little to no discussion.

Clark moved to recommend Article #48. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

- **Article #49 – Transportation related projects:**

Little to no discussion.

Clark moved to recommend Article #49. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

- **Article #50 – Bylaw petition – No Construction Noise:**

Skipper pointed out that tho there is no money involved with this article, the police will still have to respond to violations and that will cost the town. After discussion, they decided they wanted more info and asked for Mark Rosenbaum, who started the petition, to come in and speak with them. No action taken.

- **Article #51 – ZBA Adopt the ‘Mullin Rule’:**

Little to no discussion.

John moved to recommend Article #51. Clark seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

- **Article #52 – Free Cash to Decrease 2024 Tax levy:**

- Little to no discussion.

Greg moved to recommend Article #52. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

New Business: There was none

Old Business:

- **Tri-Town final Budget:**

Clark mentioned that it had not changed much from what Ben had presented before. Skipper disclosed that he is a member of the Tri-Town Ambulance Committee but receives no compensation for it.

Clark moved to approve the Tri-Town Ambulance budget. John seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor

- **Fin Com Annual Report:**

Clark had a few edits for John who will present the final version next meeting. No action taken.

Topics Unanticipated:

- Greg said that a former member of the Fin Com had contacted him asking for the committee to not recommend the MVRHS field budget because they are suing the town of Oak Bluffs. Greg said he is not interested in getting involved and the other members agreed they did not want to either.

Committee Reports: There were none.

Correspondence: There was none.

Schedule: The next meeting will be on for February 23rd and Janice will get as many of the call-backs confirmed as possible. They will schedule another meeting if need be to finish up the recommendations.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Haynes
Administrative Assistant