

Tisbury Finance and Advisory Committee
6:30PM, Wednesday, March 23, 2022
by Zoom Cloud Conference due to Covid-19 Restrictions

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Present: Chair Nancy Gilfoy, Louise Clough, Jynell Kristal,
Mary Ellen Larsen, Rachel Orr, Allan Rogers, Lesley Segal,
Dan Seidman, Sarah York,
Others: Recorder – Marni Lipke,
Town: Town Administrator – Jay Grande, Select Board – Jeff Kristal,
Treasurer – Jonathan Snyder, Moderator – Deborah Medders,
Building Inspector – Ross Seavey, Fire Chief – Greg Leland,
DPW Director – Kirk Metell, Wastewater – Jared Meader,
Planning Bd. - Ben Robinson,

* TFC members late arrivals or early departures.

Call Meeting to Order

• The Tisbury Finance and Advisory Committee (FinCom) was called to order at 6:34PM. (*Recorder's note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.*)

Vote on Tisbury School Budget

(See documents on file & 2/2/22 Minutes p.1-2.)

• The Tisbury School Committee (TSC) reduced Preventive Maintenance Line #358 by \$100,000 to account for the move to the temporary school, which, after tweaking other lines, reduced the budget \$97,390—by announcement on Annual Town Meeting (ATM) floor. Remaining maintenance funds could be spent on: cost of use of Emergency Services Facilities (ESF) as cafeteria, trailer maintenance, fuel costs, etc. The FinCom appreciated the reduction.

• MARY ELLEN MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE **TISBURY SCHOOL FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET**; LOUISE CLOUGH SECONDED; **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS**: MARY ELLEN LARSEN—AYE, LESLEY SEGAL—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE, SARAH YORK—AYE, DAN SEIDMAN—AYE, LOUISE CLOUGH—AYE, RACHEL ORR—AYE, ALLAN ROGERS—AYE, NANCY GILFOY—AYE.

The Personnel Board budget vote was inadvertently missed at the last meeting

• MARY ELLEN MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE **PERSONNEL #152 FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET**; RACHEL ORR SECONDED; **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS**: MARY ELLEN LARSEN—AYE, LESLEY SEGAL—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE, SARAH YORK—AYE, DAN SEIDMAN—AYE, LOUISE CLOUGH—AYE, RACHEL ORR—AYE, ALLAN ROGERS—AYE, NANCY GILFOY—AYE.

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Vote Warrant Articles

(See documents on file.)

There was further information and discussion on the Mud Puddle Lane/Short Hill Rd. land swap ATM articles #13 & 14 (see Minutes: 2/16/22 p.4, & 3/9/22 p.8). Wastewater Superintendent Jared Meader, Town Administrator Jay Grande and Department of Public Works (DPW) Director Kirk Metell explained the following:

- The acquisition request was targeted for the wooded/sloped portion of the Mud Puddle Lane lot to be counted as leaching reserve. The entire lot was slightly more than 1 acre.
- The lot was valuable to the Wastewater Dept. as leaching into the Harbor rather than increasing nitrogen loading in Lagoon or Tashmoo Ponds.
- The slope contour was immaterial to leaching capacity/installation or wicks.
- The swap was instigated in response to a neighborhood meeting decrying over-development.
- Outright purchase (rather than swap) would be expensive and complicated.
- A number of points were raised.
- These articles were substantially different from the draft voted by the FinCom for example the inclusion of money and the restriction to up to 2 acres.
- These articles were substantially different from the draft voted by the FinCom for example the inclusion of money and the restriction to up to 2 acres. Counsel had advised language changes to authorize possible: \$1 symbolic payment, and/or appraisal, transfer or documentation fees, etc.
- The current version had a typo stating disposal of Town property was 5 acres, not 2 acres. Mr. Grande stated this was a typo and committed the Select Board to rectifying the error on ATM floor.
- Planning Board member Ben Robinson emphasized that the Planning Board had not been consulted, that Town owned land was scarce and should not be encumbered, that equalized value should be further explored, that as part of a former dump it should be environmentally examined and that this parcel figured in the Master Plan.
- The FinCom was dissatisfied with swapping 2 Town acres for 1 acre.
- The FinCom debated whether to revoke the article but agreed to let it stand.

Special Town Meeting (STM) #5 Personnel Bylaw

STM #12 Community Preservation Committee (CPC) Bylaw

The Personnel bylaw article was not included in previous drafts and there were 2 articles on CPC Bylaw changes.

• LOUISE CLOUGH MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE ***FOLLOWING SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES:***

- ***PERSONNEL BYLAW AMENDMENT #5,***

- ***COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE BYLAW AMENDMENT #12,***

MARY ELLEN LARSEN SECONDED: MOTION PASSED ***UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS:*** LOUISE CLOUGH—AYE, DAN SEIDMAN—AYE,

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LESLEY SEGAL—AYE, MARY ELLEN LARSEN—AYE, SARAH YORK—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE, RACHEL ORR—AYE, ALLAN ROGERS—AYE, NANCY GILFOY—AYE.

Annual Town Meeting (ATM) #25 Fire Administrative Assistant

The Article was unchanged (see Minutes: 1/19/22 p.2, & 3/9/22 p.9).

- LOUISE CLOUGH MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE FIRE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT #25 FOR \$51,478.18 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE: JYNELL KRISTAL SECONDED; MOTION WITHDRAWN.

- The FinCom supported the need and the formation of the position as described but objected to the article language which described it as solely under the Fire Dept—originally crafted to clarify who supervised the position.

- Precedents included the Shellfish/Harbor Natural Resources and the DPW/Wastewater shared Assistants.

- Although current department heads were collaborative, a change might leave the position vulnerable.

- Mr. Grande offered to work with Fire Chief Greg Leland and Ambulance Director Tracey Jones to document the number of hours allotted to each department.

- An amendment was proposed, to which Chief Leland and the article sponsor agreed.

- LESLEY SEGAL MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE **FIRE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT #25 FOR \$51,478.18** ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE **WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS:**

- **HEADER:** "SECRETARY POSITION FOR THE **DEPARTMENTS IN THE EMERGENCY SERVICES FACILITY...**", AND

- **TEXT:** "TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO ESTABLISH THE POSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY **UNDER DIRECTION OF** THE FIRE DEPARTMENT...";

RACHEL ORR SECONDED: MOTION PASSED **UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS:** SARAH YORK—AYE, LOUISE CLOUGH—AYE, DAN SEIDMAN—AYE, MARY ELLEN LARSEN—AYE, LESLEY SEGAL—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE, RACHEL ORR—AYE, ALLAN ROGERS—AYE, NANCY GILFOY—AYE.

ATM #29 Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) Budget

- JYNELL KRISTAL MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL **AS PRESENTED** OF THE **TOWN OF TISBURY FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET #29 FOR \$34,324,306.70** ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE; MARY ELLEN LARSEN SECONDED: MOTION PASSED **UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS:** SARAH YORK—AYE, LOUISE CLOUGH—AYE, DAN SEIDMAN—AYE, MARY ELLEN LARSEN—AYE, LESLEY SEGAL—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE, RACHEL ORR—AYE, ALLAN ROGERS—AYE, NANCY GILFOY—AYE.

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ATM #8K Rubbish Truck

(See documents on file & 3/9/22 Minutes p.8 #9k.)

A FinCom member attested to the need, the DPW responsiveness, and number of runs required keep the downtown district trash free, especially during the busy summer season.

- Kirk Metell estimated a good rubbish truck lifespan as 7-10 years. The truck could be fitted with a snow plow and the DPW had performed due diligence in choosing it.

- Other DPW vehicles were used for such things as food pantry deliveries so a solely dedicated trash pickup truck was required for sanitation and public health.

- *RACHEL ORR MOVED TO REVISIT AND RESCIND THE MARCH 23, 2022 VOTE ON THE RUBBISH TRUCK FOR \$110,000 CAPITAL #9K ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE; MARY ELLEN LARSEN SECONDED: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: SARAH YORK—AYE, RACHEL ORR—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE, LOUISE CLOUGH—AYE, DAN SEIDMAN—AYE, MARY ELLEN LARSEN—AYE, LESLEY SEGAL—AYE, ALLAN ROGERS—AYE, NANCY GILFOY—AYE.*

- *ALLAN ROGERS MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL **AS PRESENTED OF THE RUBBISH TRUCK FOR \$110,000 CAPITAL #8K ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE**: LOUISE CLOUGH AND JYNELL KRISTAL SECONDED: MOTION PASSED **UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS**: SARAH YORK—AYE, LOUISE CLOUGH—AYE, DAN SEIDMAN—AYE, MARY ELLEN LARSEN—AYE, LESLEY SEGAL—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE, RACHEL ORR—AYE, ALLAN ROGERS—AYE, NANCY GILFOY—AYE.*

Voter Guide Review and Feedback

(See documents on file.)

- The Guide would be revised to include tonight's votes, which would also be announced on STM/ATM floor. The FinCom noted a number of edits and corrections.

- Finance Director Jon Snyder reviewed the override protocol to pay for the debt interest increase 8% of which was the new school (see 3/2/22 Minutes p.5-6). The override would permanently raise taxes and increase the levy limit, giving the Town a little flexibility.

- General financial uncertainty, as well as fluctuations in State assessments and local receipts suggested caution about mentioning there might not be an override next year.

- Education expenses included Tisbury School staff benefits, and were a lower portion of the budget this year due to proportional changes in other departments as well as a lower Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) assessment.

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- The FinCom noted the short lead time for the unfunded State mandate regarding Police Specials (see 1/26/22 Minutes p.2-4).
- Changes to the Financial Assistant Article would be read on ATM floor.
- STM/ATM votes allowed stabilization funds to be spent for any lawful purpose. The Town had several specific stabilization funds for organizational and tracking purposes.
- There was a pagination problem on the warrant and the ballot.

Approve Minutes from: 2/9/22, 2/16/22, 2/23/22, 3/2/22, 3/9/22

- *MARY ELLEN LARSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:*
 - *FEBRUARY 9, 2022 AS AMENDED,*
 - *FEBRUARY 16, 2022,*
 - *FEBRUARY 23, 2022 AS AMENDED,*
 - *MARCH 2, 2022 AS AMENDED,*
 - *MARCH 9, 2022 AS AMENDED;*
- ALLAN ROGERS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT; SARAH YORK—AYE, RACHEL ORR—AYE, LOUISE CLOUGH—AYE, DAN SEIDMAN—AYE, MARY ELLEN LARSEN—AYE, LESLEY SEGAL—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE, ALLAN ROGERS—AYE, NANCY GILFOY—AYE.* The FinCom thanked Marni Lipke for the excellent minutes.

Committee Reports

- The Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) was looking for feedback from all Town organization for its climate action plan (see below: Meetings/Events).
- The FinCom would miss Lesley Segal who chose not to run for re-election.

Future Meetings (See below: Meetings/Events.)

Chair Nancy Gilfoy thanked everyone for their attendance and endurance. The FinCom highly praised her leadership, attention to detail, responsiveness, and amazing work as liaison to Town Hall. The next meeting would be in-person.

Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair - None

Adjournment

- *MARY ELLEN LARSEN MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 8:26PM; LOUISE CLOUGH, JYNELL KRISTAL AND RACHEL ORR SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYE, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: SARAH YORK—AYE, RACHEL ORR—AYE, LOUISE CLOUGH—AYE, DAN SEIDMAN—AYE, MARY ELLEN LARSEN—AYE, LESLEY SEGAL—AYE, ALLAN ROGERS—AYE, NANCY GILFOY—AYE.*

continued

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Appendix A: Meetings/Events:

- MVC Climate Action – 10:00-11:30AM, Friday, April 1, 2022 - Zoom
- **TFC – 6:30PM, Wednesdays, April 6, 2022 – ESF Building**
- STM/ATM – 7:00PM, Tuesday, April 12, 2022 – Tis. School Gym

Appendix B: Actions

Jay Grande/Select Board – correct ATM Article 14 Short Hill Rd. “5” acre typo.

Rachel – send Voter Guide notes to Nancy and Fire Asst. edits to Marni.

All – encourage/recruit people to run for FinCom.

- Agenda

Minutes: 3/23/22

\$100,000 FY22 Reserve Fund spending tally – Balance: \$75,000

8/25/21 – Selectmen Other/Finance - \$25,000 Insurance shortfall

Appendix C: Documents on File:

- Agenda 3/23/22
- Tisbury School FY’23 Budget Analysis Version #4.0 Tisbury Certified (2 p.) March 15, 2022
- Tisbury School Budget for 2022-2023, Version #4.0 – March 15, 2022 (Shared Services revised on 12-02-21) (6 p.)
- Voter Guide Special Town Meetings and Annual Town Meeting, Tuesday April 12, 2022 (8 p.) Draft 1
- Voter Guide Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting, Tuesday April 12, 2022 (8 p.) Draft 2
- Voter Guide Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting, Tuesday April 12, 2022 (8 p.) Final
- Gilfoy email re: Agenda for FinCom meeting 3/23/22 3/19/22
- Gilfoy/Metell emails re: Trash Truck (2 p.) 3/16/22
- Town of Tisbury Special Town Meeting Warrant, Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 7:00PM (11 p.)
- Town of Tisbury Annual Town Meeting Warrant, Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 7:00PM (17 p.)

Nancy Gilfoy – Chair

Date

Minutes approved 10/19/22