

**Tisbury Finance & Advisory Committee
at the Tisbury Emergency Services Building
6:30PM, Wednesday, April 12, 2017**

Present: Chair – Jeff Kristal, Pamela Brock, Paul Cefola, Barbara Fortes,
Nancy Gilfoy, Tom Keller, Jynell Kristal, Mary Ellen Larsen,
Lesley Segal;
Town: Selectman –Larry Gomez, Town Administrator – Jay Grande,
Treasurer – Jonathon Snyder,
Others: Minutes – Marni Lipke

* Late arrivals or early departures

• Call to Order

The Tisbury Finance and Advisory Committee (FinCom) was called to order at 6:35PM. *(Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.)*

• Minutes of April 5, 2017 – Not available

• Voter Guide Review

The FinCom thanked and applauded Nancy Gilfoy for the excellent Guide and she asked for comments, typo edits, and omissions (see below: Actions).

- The explanation on avoiding the override with a 6.3% Budget increase was:
 - FinCom pressure on Departments to reduce budgets;
 - careful culling of Warrant Articles,
 - use of Free Cash to reduce the tax rate,
 - last year's unnecessary override (see 3/30/16 Minutes p.1), which was none-the-less passed at the ballot box.
 - More comprehensive explanations of the levy capacity and Proposition 2 ½ were omitted as very technical and difficult to follow.
- Unreserved Funds meant Free Cash.

• Final Discussion and Questions Pertaining To:

Special Town Meeting (STM) Warrant

- The Planning Bd. Secretarial position could be addressed at Town Meeting. Jeff Kristal stated that all Planning Board members were not in support of the new position.
- There was the possibility that STM Article #14 on rental unit regulation might be pulled by the Selectmen. There was a brief discussion on pending State legislation.

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Annual Town Meeting (ATM) Warrant

- Reasons for voting against the Library addition design were reviewed: ongoing repairs, private funding, construction moratorium pending Tisbury School decision. The Library was part of the Town government and budget but was governed by an elected Board of Trustees.
- There was some confusion over when Paul Cefola left the April 5th meeting, but there was general agreement that he was present to vote for the Town Budget.

• Ballot Questions Discussions

• Ballot #1 – Authorize the Sale of All Alcoholic Beverages

The question was petitioned by Jeff and Jynell Kristal, Marian Jackson, the owners of Beach Road, and Attorney Howard Miller among others. Reasons to favor the question included:

- increased tax revenue from higher liquor sales and prices, larger tips, etc.;
- retaining tourists in Vineyard Haven: not losing them to Oak Bluffs or Edgartown; supporting of other Town businesses and lodgings.

• Ballot #2 – Beach Rd. Utility Bond Exclusion (See 3/15/17 Minutes p.7 #34.)

• Ballot #3 – Regional Housing Bank

• Issues included:

- formation of another bureaucracy;
- affordable housing qualifications;
- unclear process.

• Ballot #4 – Moped Ban – no comment.

- Chair Jeff Kristal asked if anyone else would like to speak at Town Meeting.
- The next All Island FinCom (AIFC) meeting (see below: Meetings/Events) would cover:
 - possible time cut-off for town funding of non-profits (e.g. three years only);
 - how different FinComs voted on regional entity funding;
 - how different Towns put their warrants together, for example Oak Bluffs STM dealt with the current fiscal year and their ATM dealt with the next fiscal year. Oak Bluffs did not vote Embarkation Fund distribution.
 - West Tisbury rejected the Martha's Vineyard Museum roof.
- FinCom vacancies and re-election slots were reviewed.

• Public Comment - None

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• Adjourn

• *NANCY GILFOY MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:44PM; PAMELA BROCK SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.*

Meetings/Events:

- TSBC/TSC - 5:00PM, Wednesday, April 26, 2017 - Tisbury School
- **FinCom - 6:30pm, Tuesday, April 25, 2017 - Tis. School**
- **Tis. ATM/STM - 7:00pm, Tuesday, April 25, 2017 - Tis. School Gym**
- TSBC/TSC - 5:00PM, Wednesday, May 10 & 24, 2017 - Tisbury School
- **AIFC - 5.30pm, Tuesday, May 16 2017 - TBD West Tisbury**
- TSBC/TSC - 5:00PM, Wednesday, June 6 &/or 21, 2017 - Tisbury School

Action List:

- Nancy – Voter Guide edits:
 - Budget explanation - put 6.3% & actual budget figure in the same sentence.
 - ATM Article #13E - typo: “for for”;
 - ATM Article #19 - add: “Library is in the first phase of ongoing repairs.”
 - leave out private funding.
 - ATM Article #32 - typo: change “teen” to Town;
 - ATM Article #36 - change to: “Townwide staffing needs should be assessed prior to creation of a full time position.
 - STM Article #10 - change to: “Townwide staffing needs should be assessed prior to creation of a full time position.
 - STM Article #14 – add: “waiting for pending State legislation”.
- Nancy – print same number of Voter Guides as last year.

Documents on file:

- Agenda 4/12/17
- Tisbury Finance and Advisory Committee’s Voter Guide, Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting Tuesday, April 25, 2017 (8 p.)

Minutes approved 9/25/17.