

Tisbury Finance and Advisory Committee
By Zoom Cloud Conference due to
Gov. Baker's Covid-19/Corona Virus Executive Order
6:30 pm, Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Present: Chair Mary Ellen Larsen, Nancy Gilfoy, Jynell Kristal, Laura Rose, Sarah York,

Town Staff: Treasurer Jonathan Snyder,

Others: Recorder Marni Lipke

* Late arrivals or early departures of FinCom members

Call to Order

• The Tisbury Finance and Advisory Committee (FinCom) was called to order at 6:33PM. Attendance was called. *(Recorder's note: discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.)*

Minutes-Review and Approval - Minutes of May 8, and May 12, 2020

• NANCY GILFOY MOVED TO APPROVE THE TISBURY FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2020 AS WRITTEN; JYNELL KRISTAL AND LAURA ROSE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT: NANCY GILFOY—AYE, LAURA ROSE—AYE, SARAH YORK—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE.

• NANCY GILFOY MOVED TO APPROVE THE TISBURY FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MAY 12, 2020 AS WRITTEN; JYNELL KRISTAL AND LAURA ROSE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT: NANCY GILFOY—AYE, LAURA ROSE—AYE, SARAH YORK—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE.

Elect a New Chair, Vice Chair

Mary Ellen Larsen announced she was stepping down as Chair and:

• MARY ELLEN LARSEN NOMINATED NANCY GILFOY AS CHAIR; SARAH YORK SECONDED; NANCY GILFOY ACCEPTED;

- NANCY GILFOY NOMINATED SARAH YORK AS VICE CHAIR; LAURA ROSE SECONDED; SARAH YORK ACCEPTED;

- NOMINATIONS WERE CLOSED;

NOMINATIONS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY; 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: NANCY GILFOY—AYE, LAURA ROSE—AYE, SARAH YORK—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE.

• The FinCom thanked Mary Ellen Larsen for navigating them through an unusual year.

• Lolly Hand, Larry Gomez and Seth Gambino had resigned leaving three vacancies (see below: Actions). Anna Cotton had expressed interest in joining the FinCom.

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New Fiscal Year – Town Financial State of Affairs – *Jon Snyder*

Treasurer/Collector Jonathan Snyder wished everyone happy first day of Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21). He reviewed the unusual FY20 year, reporting that so far the Town had not been unduly financially impacted by the pandemic. Real estate tax collection was at 95% maybe 1-2% lower than a year ago, and there were few new expenses (except for the postponed and outdoor Special/Annual Town Meeting (STM/ATM)). The Town had received \$65,000 in State funds for Covid related reimbursements.

- Mr. Snyder was cautious about FY21 but felt the Town was well-positioned.
- The Tisbury tax rate had been set conservatively last November before the crisis and ATM approved a FY21 Budget cut by 3%.
- State aid was expected to drop about \$100-200,000 but it was a small percentage of the Town budget.
- Rooms, meals and short term rental taxes were expected to drop.
- The Town budget was primarily based on car excise, real estate, and personal property taxes, which would be closely monitored.
- The FinCom asked if Mr. Snyder could project a tax rate, but he declined noting consistent errors in previous projections.
- There was a brief discussion on Charter School tuition which was calculated at the rate of Town per-pupil costs.
- The Tisbury School project price had been estimated and Mr. Snyder was glad a consultant would be hired to look for other funding.
- Jon Snyder thanked the FinCom for being part of the Town year.

Committee Assignments

Personnel – FinCom appointee Bill McConnell will step down. Mary Ellen Larsen suggested retired Fire Chief John Schilling.

Embarkation – Jynell Kristal would continue.

Community Preservation Committee (CPC) – Mary Ellen Larsen would continue.

Wastewater Planning – Nancy Gilfoy would continue. Jon Snyder urged her to continue on Wastewater and Sewer committees, as they were facing big years.

Sewer Advisory – Nancy Gilfoy would continue.

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHSC) – possibly Anna Cotton who was a MVRHS teacher.

Tisbury School Committee (TSC) – Jynell Kristal would continue.

Tisbury School Building Committee (TSBC) – Sarah York would continue. Sarah York reported the TSBC voted to adopt a design and the cost estimate had been released—at about \$54,000,000. She strongly

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urged the TFC to meet on the subject early in the process. The recent TSBC meeting was contentious but the Committee was reminded of their charge which was to present a design for a renovation/addition that fit the Education Plan—without reference to a budget.

Energy – Nancy Gilfoy was happy to cede the appointment to someone else. (The first check from the Emergency Services building solar array was received into the General Fund— in addition to the ESF energy invoice reduction.

Natural Resources – Laura Rose would continue.

Affordable Housing – Lesley Segal was looking to be a Housing Committee member. Sarah York was also interested.

Other - Planning Bd. meetings conflicted with TFC meetings. At the moment Lesley Segal was liaison.

- The TSC confirmed that Wednesdays at 6:30 was a convenient meeting time. Members agreed to take a break for the summer, with the exception of finalizing membership and a Tisbury School building project discussion.

Adjournment

- *SARAH YORK MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:14PM; LAURA ROSE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, ABSTENTIONS: NANCY GILFOY—AYE, LAURA ROSE—AYE, SARAH YORK—AYE, JYNELL KRISTAL—AYE.*

Appendix A: Meetings/Events:

- **TFC - TBD 6:30PM, Wednesdays,**

Appendix B: Actions

- Sarah York – contact Anna Cotton re: letter of interest to Selectmen.
- Mary Ellen Larsen/Nancy Gilfoy – send Marni resignation letter copies.
- Mary Ellen Larsen – contact John Schilling re: Personnel Bd. appointment.
- Nancy Gilfoy – contact Lesley Segall and Laura Barbera re: Affordable Housing membership/liaison.
- Nancy Gilfoy – contact TSBC Chair Rachel Orr FinCom meeting invite.
- All – consider FinCom candidates and Energy Committee appointee.

[FY21 \\$100,000 - Reserve Fund spending tally](#)

Appendix C: Documents on File:

- Agenda 7/1/20

continued >

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Appendix C: Documents on File (cont.):

- Tisbury Board of Selectmen Meeting Agenda 5/12/20
- Larsen/Grande/Bellebuono emails re: ACE MV Update (3 p.) 5/28/20
- Appendix A – Article 25 Fiscal Year Operating Budget (4 p.)
- Preliminary Budget Overview Sunday, May 24, 2020
- Gilfoy cover email re: 2020 Voter's Guide 5/30/20
- Voter Guide Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting
postponed to Saturday June 13, 2020 (5 p.)
- Gomez letter of resignation 6/24/20
- Gambino letter of resignation 6/25/20
- Gilfoy letter re: Appointments 7/6/20

Nancy Gilfoy – Chair

Date

Minutes approved 10/14/20