

Present: Riggs Parker, Frank Fenner, Warren Doty, Tim Carroll, Jonathan Revere, Emmett Carroll, John Armstrong, Jim Morgan, John Larsen, Jennie Greene, Ebba Heirta, Norman Freed, Jane Slater, Dennis Jason, Mark Lovewell, Stanley Larsen.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by Mr. Parker.

Library

Mr. Freed read a memorandum to the Board of Selectmen about the Library Trustees' authority to expend funds and to recommend Ebba Heirta for completion of her probationary period of six months.

Ms. Heirta read a "time-line" memorandum of events using extra funds in the budget because of the retirement of the past director (\$13,000). Mr. Parker asked Mr. Carroll to explain the Town Accountant's concerns and memorandum asking that the Selectmen vote to approve the use of this excess budget funds for a new purpose. Mr. Carroll recounted past practices, similarities with other elected boards, and the purpose of the checks and balances in town finance.

Mr. Doty said that this sounded like a food fight. Mr. Parker said that we need written policies going forward.

Mr. Freed said that the Trustees were only trying to use \$800 to fund an extra hour a week for the Library Associate. He said they had no plans for the rest of the \$13,000. Mr. Freed said that libraries have lots of state laws that apply to them.

Mr. Parker said that it was not profitable to debate this now, and that he would like to approve it and refer to the FinCom for written procedures to be adopted. He asked for a motion to move funds from the library director's salary line to the Library Associate and Library Assistant lines and for the town to draft a general fiscal policy for referral to the FinCom and review by town legal counsel.

Mr. Freed said that legal counsel should review statutory conflicts and not the FinCom. Mr. Parker said that legal counsel will review the policies but that the FinCom needs to look at the wider picture. Mr. Freed objected. Mr. Doty asked if the Library Trustees thought the Library was not subject to the town's Personnel Bylaw. Ms. Heirta said that a DOR lawyer told her that some town bylaws could have greater authority over the library than the statutory model. Mr. Freed said that the town's personnel bylaw talks about the Selectmen being the appointing authority and he questioned if that should be changed to the Trustees.

Mr. Doty said that he personally admires the Town Accountant for furthering his education and knowledge of municipal accounting. Mr. Doty said he admired Ms. Heirta's leadership at the library over the past six months. Mr. Doty said that these are two good employees.

Mr. Parker asked the Selectmen to vote to approve this plan whether approval was needed or not. Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to move funds from the library director's salary line to the Library Associate and Library Assistant lines and for the town to draft a general fiscal policy for referral to the FinCom and review by town legal counsel. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to affirm the completion of Ebba Heirta's six month probationary period and designate her a permanent employee. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Jennie Greene asked the Selectmen to seek legal counsel opinion before writing policies. Mr. Parker said that counsel needs to see the drafts.

Library - State Aid

Ms. Heirta reported that the State requires that the Library's three year average budget must exceed the prior year's budget by 2.5%. She said that this year, that will not be a problem.

Shellfish Restoration Committee

Chairman John Larsen made a verbal report to the Selectmen and submitted two draft documents. "List of items to be tried by Shellfish Department" with seven items and possible position descriptions for a Propagation Officer and Shellfish Constable/Assistant Propagation Officer. Mr. Larsen said he welcomed the Personnel Board to come to a Shellfish Restoration Committee meeting to go over the needs. Mr. Larsen said the committee recommends the town establish a pool of volunteers to help with propagation and to hire students part-time in the summer. Mr. Larsen said the committee recommended the Selectmen appoint a standing steering committee to meet monthly with the Shellfish Department.

Mr. Armstrong explained how he had drafted the position descriptions. The committee asked for one full-time and one half-time staff for the shellfish department to start with so the voters aren't asked to fund too much to begin with.

Mr. Fenner asked what the cost was to buy 45mm bay scallops instead of 1mm seed. Emmett Carroll said that he believed it was \$47 vs. \$6 per thousand animals from Taylor.

The steering committee was discussed and the selectmen agreed on five members, in between the Selectmen and the department. It was agreed that a warrant article could be drafted to create the steering committee. Another warrant article could be drafted to fund the equipment recommended by the committee and another for the staffing in FY2007 and FY2008.

The Shellfish Restoration Committee asked for permission to select or be part of the selection process for the Propagation Officer. Mr. Parker said that the position needs to be advertised and process will include the Shellfish Restoration Committee representative.

Shellfish - Oyster Season

Stanley Larsen reported that the oyster season in Tisbury Great Pond was not good. He said that the small animals from Squibnocket Pond were selling for much less than the farmed oysters and were not in demand against the salty taste of the farm oysters. He said the two fishermen harvesting oysters had moved to bay scallops. It was noted that West Tisbury had opened its season.

Harbor

Mr. Parker asked if the channel dock had a waiting list. Mr. Carroll explained that the annual waiting list was published each year since the dock was created with the statement that people on the floating dock waiting list would be given the option to be voluntarily assigned to the channel dock without effecting their status on the waiting list. Mr. Carroll said that so far, only people on the A list had been offered the opportunity.

The board discussed the railing for the steel bulkhead above the new floats on the west dock. It was to be the same simple design as the bridge railing. Mr. Parker told Mr. Jason to get an estimate for drafting specifications from Kent Healy & the County Engineer.

The board discussed the dredging quotes received by Mr. Jason. AGM \$68,000, Keene \$25,000, Cuttyhunk Marine \$24,943 and Gemini \$24,750. It was agreed to start January 1st and be complete by January 14th. Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to award the job to

Gemini at \$24,750. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Mr. Fenner asked that the sailboat wintering on the new floats be moved to prevent additional damage to the power pedestal. Mr. Parker asked that it be done quickly. Mr. Jason said he was going to do it next week.

Aquinnah DCPC Request

The board discussed the request of Aquinnah Selectman Jim Newman to designate the island as a DCPC for energy planning. There were many concerns and questions. Mr. Fenner commended Mr. Newman for the effort and intentions. Mr. Parker said he would be talking to legal counsel.

Traffic Calming

Mr. Carroll reported that he had held two meetings with a group of department heads and citizens regarding the idea of trying some sort of traffic calming devices on Middle Road. The result was that the group made two recommendations.

First that the Police department purchase a computerized traffic counter from available grant funds that would be located at various points along Middle Road over the next 8 months to attempt to quantify the problem that is expected. This data would be analyzed by the Police Chief and the Traffic Calming Group in the fall to determine what if any action was warranted based on the collected information.

Second it recommended that the Selectmen contact the MV Commission and ask that they begin a traffic study of the Beetlebung Corners area with the intention of improving pedestrian safety and use.

Mr. Fenner said he looked forward to reviewing the results of the data collected by the police department. The Selectmen discussed asking the MV Commission to study Beetlebung Corners and to come up with a pedestrian/vehicle plan.

MV Commission

Mr. Fenner expressed his preference that the annual Selectmen's appointment be advertised. Mr. Doty said that it was too late at this point and that he personally viewed this as a three year assignment even though it was appointed annually. He asked that the position be advertised every three years. There was discussion. Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to appoint Chris Murphy the Selectmen's appointee to the MV Commission for the ensuing year. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

DCR Housing Authority

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to request the County Commissioners reappoint Zee Gamson as the Chilmark Representative on the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

NIMS

Mr. Carroll reported that the ICS-200 class was scheduled for February 10 & 11.

Cape Light Compact

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to authorize the new rates and authorized the Executive Secretary to sign. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Grants

Mr. Fenner discussed a Historical preservation notice. Mr. Doty discussed the Cultural Council and a housing block grant.

School Budget Formula

The Selectmen discussed the letter being sent by the Tisbury Selectmen to their voters. It was agreed to not be necessary.

Distributed Antenna System

Mr. Fenner reported on his meeting earlier today with a possible vendor interested in doing DAS here. They have a system in Hilton Head.

Annual Town Meeting

The Selectmen discussed warrant articles for the Comfort Station, Shellfish Restoration Committee and maybe the Middle Line Road.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM

APPROVED: January 23rd 2007