Minutes

Chilmark Selectmen

November 25<sup>th</sup> 2008

Present: Warren Doty, Frank Fenner, Riggs Parker, Tim Carroll, Jonathan Revere, Chuck Hodgkinson, Jan Burman, Marina Lent, Katie Carroll, Dennis Jason, Virginia Jones, Jack Shea, Chuck Hodgkinson, Isaiah Scheffer, John Armstrong,

Minutes of November 12<sup>th</sup>, and November 12<sup>th</sup> continued to November 18<sup>th</sup> 2008 were approved with minor changes.

## Board of Health

Mr. Doty asked for a report from the Board of Health on the hiring process for the new Administrator/Inspector. Katie Carroll, chairman of the Board of Health, reported that the board, along with Planning Board chair Janet Weidner, Personnel Board member Stephen Lewenberg and the Executive Secretary, had interviewed 5 super candidates out of 17 applicants. She praised the Executive Secretary for his work with the Board of Health throughout this hiring process.

Katie Carroll said she was before the Selectmen with a request to appoint Marina Lent as the new Administrator/Inspector for the Board of Health. Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to appoint Marina Lent Administrator/Inspector to the Board of Health at Grade 6 step 3 with the expectation she would be raised to Grade 8 step 1 once certified in her duties. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

## Personnel Board

The Selectmen received a letter from the Personnel Board asking them to appoint Marina Lent as their Administrative Assistant at Grade 6 step 3 and considering her start date for the purposes of probation to be August 21<sup>st</sup> 2008.

Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to appoint Marina Lent as requested by the Personnel Board. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

## Library

Library Director Ebba Hierta brought the new position description for the "Library Assistant" with the re-grading of the position from Grade 3 to Grade 5 effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 to the Selectmen for their approval. She told the board that the Personnel Board had approved the changes to the position description and had re-graded the Library Assistant as a result of those increased duties.

Mr. Doty raised the question of how this would affect the policy adopted by the board to limit all departments to a zero increase in their budgets for the next fiscal year (FY2010) if the positions were all getting a two grade increase in pay. Ms. Hierta said that the Personnel Board had decided that the positions were at Grade 5. Mr. Parker asked the Director if she was going to be able to fund the increases from within her existing budget. Ms. Hierta said that she would be required to reduce staffing next year to accomplish that. She said that she had not sought increases in the hours or grades of staff last year because of the increased cost of necessary repairs to the library.

Mr. Parker said that more than 20% of our voters are over 70 years old and can not go out and get a second job. He said that the town needed to be cautious. Ms. Hierta said that lean times create a greater demand for library services. She said that the cost of this increase in FY2009 would have been approximately \$5,500. Mr. Parker said that not all of our taxpayers and voters will be able to afford increases. There was discussion.

Mr. Parker moved to approve the grades but to possibly reduce the hours budgeted in FY2010. There was discussion. Ms. Hierta said that she had been shooting for a Grade 4 for the Library Assistant. Mr. Doty said that we need to be serious about this and that it was up to the Selectmen to make the tough decisions.

Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to send the "Library Assistant" position description back to the Personnel Board for further discussion in light of the comments made tonight. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

#### Harbor Dredging

Harbor Master Dennis Jason presented the Selectmen with a request to award a contract for maintenance dredging in Menemsha Harbor to Gemini Marine in the amount of \$14,000. Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to grant the request subject to the approval of the Chief procurement Officer (Executive Secretary). SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Mr. Carroll told the Harbor Master he would have his review done by noon tomorrow.

#### Boat Loan Agreement with Tribe

The Board took notice of an email from Bret Stearns of the Tribe asking to meet with a Selectman to discuss existing concerns he had about the Harbor Department not cooperating on the upkeep of the Hurricane RIB.

Harbor Master Dennis Jason said that the tribe was not satisfied with the situation. He said that the Harbor department had been providing Aquinnah with responses to calls for service with the Hurricane. Mr. Jason said that the partnership doesn't work. He suggested dissolving the agreement.

Mr. Jason said that the Hurricane is going to cost us money in the future and said that the motor rpm sensor would shut the engine down if it ran above 1,800 RPM for long. He said that the small grey inflatable boat and the jet ski were enough for the Harbor department's needs. He also said he could borrow back the aluminum boat being used by the Shellfish department when any heavy lifting was needed. He said that the Harbor department could do without the Hurricane RIB. Mr. Jason said that there were grants that he would pursue to replace the 15 foot RIB with something bigger and better.

Mr. Doty suggested that the Selectmen discuss this more with Bret Stearns and that a decision was not necessary tonight. He questioned how the jet ski would be used. Mr. Jason said that it was used to check moorings and patrol the shoal areas of Menemsha Pond this summer. The Selectmen asked if this was legal under the Waterways Rules and Regulations.

Mr. Carroll asked the Selectmen to speak to the Police and Fire Chiefs before making a decision as they were part of the agreement on the boat use. Mr. Jason and Mr. Carroll disagreed over the potential use of the Hurricane RIB by the Police and Fire departments. Mr. Jason said that he had given the Selectmen all the advice he could on this now and that they could have conversations with the Fire and Police Chiefs themselves.

#### Shellfish Assistant Constable

Shellfish Constable Isaiah Scheffer told the board that he would be away December 3, 4 &5 and would like to have the Assistant provide coverage. He recommended that the Assistant be allowed to fish commercially. Mr. Fenner agreed. John Armstrong of the Shellfish Advisory Committee also agreed. Mr. Fenner said that we should try and do this through scheduling where he won't fish on days he was working for the town. Mr. Scheffer said that was ok, but that he would be away in January for a week attending Shellfish Constable training and that would take more days away from the Assistant to fish.

Mr. Parker said that from the standpoint of this being a state job/enforcement officer position, he was troubled by the concept of the Assistant Shellfish Constable fishing commercially while working for the town. He said that the Assistant should be a constable and not a shell fisherman. Mr. Fenner asked if Mr. Parker meant at all or while on duty for the town. Mr. Parker said that the town had the policy before to not allow any fishing. He said it put the Assistant in a bad position. Mr. Parker reminded the board of a problem the town had had with a buyer being employed by the town as a constable.

Mr. Parker suggested referring this issue to the Personnel Board. Mr. Fenner said he did not see what the Personnel Board could add to this discussion. Mr. Doty said that the Shellfish department is focusing on mostly summer propagation with some winter work. He said the job only paid about \$250 a week and shell fishing could provide \$200 a day fishing bay scallops. He recommended that the town try allowing the Assistant to fish commercially. Mr. Scheffer said that the commercial fishermen were a self-policing group to some extent and could be relied on to keep an eye on the Assistant's commercial fishing. He said that he was not suggesting any double dipping on town time.

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to authorize Assistant Shellfish Constable Jeffrey Lynch to fish under the supervision of Shellfish Constable Isaiah Scheffer and for Mr. Scheffer to set guidelines for Mr. Lynch. SO VOTED: Two Ayes - One Nay.

Mr. Scheffer reported that as of November 24<sup>th</sup> 646 bushels of bay scallops had been harvested. The market is paying \$13.70 a pound and 16 people were out this morning in the foul weather fishing.

## Middle Line Road

Chuck Hodgkinson presented a short report on the status of things for the Middle Line Road. Mr. Fenner said that the 1/3 bedroom duplex had not been drawn yet. Mr. Doty said that the Selectmen should ask Mr. Hodgkinson to pursue more options and to include some drawings.

Mr. Carroll asked permission to request the prevailing wages for this project and was told to do so.

Mr. Doty said he would like the wells put in soon. Mr. Carroll said he would have a plan for the next meeting. Mr. Carroll said he was concerned about the quotes for the infrastructure and would go over them with Mr. Hodgkinson to be able to comment on having three IFB's.

Mr. Carroll reminded the board that an Owner's Project Manager was required to be hired before a designer was selected for the project. As we already have a designer onboard doing the work pro bono the town should consider hiring the OPM before the designs are further developed, especially if the architect will be paid to do this work. Mr. Fenner said that he had some one in mind that might be the OPM as a volunteer for the three duplex project. Mr. Hodgkinson spoke about the West Tisbury job description for their town hall OPM.

Mr. Hodgkinson will update the Selectmen on the MLR Affordable Housing at each future board meeting.

## Nab's Corner Affordable Housing

Mr. Hodgkinson showed the board the preliminary concept prepared by Vineyard Land Surveying for the layout of lots, wells, septic systems and building envelopes. The closing off of Ridge Hill Road to vehicles where it crosses the property line to the East was discussed.

Step one will be to discuss with the MV Land Bank. Step two will be the perc tests. Step three will be a form c subdivision. Step four will be the installation of wells.

### Community Center

Nan Doty wrote the board asking to be appointed to the Community Center Advisory Committee. There was discussion about possible conflict with setting rental rates as she is a user of the building. Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to appoint Nan Doty to the Community Center Advisory Committee. SO VOTED: Two Ayes – One Abstention (Mr. Doty).

## Fire Department

Mr. Carroll reported that the Fire Chief had requested the Selectmen declare the 1976 Ford F-750 Brush Breaker as surplus and put it out to bid. Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to declare the 1976 Ford F-750 Brush Breaker as surplus. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Mr. Fenner said that the Fire Chief could dispose of the 32 year old wooden ladders as he saw fit.

#### Zoning Bylaw

The Planning Board submitted a request for a zoning bylaw to the Selectmen pursuant to Chapter 40A to control the building of wind turbines and a second bylaw to control noise produced by accessory equipment on homes (pool pumps, A/C, etc).

Mr. Fenner commented that there were no limits on height or kilowatts in the current wind turbine draft. He suggested that the height of the structure could possibly control the distance to notify abutters. He explained that a 50 foot structure could be 600 feet and a 100 foot structure could be 1,000 feet, the higher up it is, the further out the notification would be. It was discussed that zoning requires a 300 foot notification for a 24 foot ridge now and that could be the ratio the town adopts for taller structures.

Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to proceed on the proper zoning procedure for wind turbines and refer this back to the Planning Board with Mr. Fenner's comments. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to proceed on the noise bylaw. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

### Housing & Planning Department

Mr. Carroll reported on his meeting with the Planning Board the day before. He had discussed seeking funding to hire someone to finish the Master Plan Update and not have it part of the duties of the new Administrative Assistant. Mr. Parker suggested he pursue volunteers.

Mr. Carroll reported that he had discussed his plan to advertise the position at 25 hours a week instead of 27. Mr. Carroll requested the Selectmen authorize the posting of a vacancy for the Administrative Assistant position created by the resignation of Christina Soulagnet. Mr. Parker criticized Mr. Carroll's failure to provide a written staff report in advance of the meeting for the board's consideration. There was discussion.

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to authorize the posting of the vacancy at 25 hours a week. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

### Assistant/Receptionist

Mr. Parker asked when the Assistant/Receptionist position would be filled. Mr. Carroll said that he could not give that hiring the attention it deserved until the Administrative Assistant process was completed. There was discussion. The board directed Mr. Carroll to post the vacancy for the Assistant/Receptionist right after the Administrative Assistant position was filled.

### Schedule

The board decided to not meet on their regular schedule in December. It agreed to meet on December  $9^{th}$  and  $23^{rd}$ .

#### **Flaggers**

Mr. Parker directed Mr. Carroll to ask labor counsel if anything in the police collective bargaining agreement would allow or disallow the use of flaggers.

## Line Painting

Mr. Parker inquired as to the status of having the lines painted on North Road. Mr. Carroll reported that the company had recently moved and had not returned Mr. Emin's phone calls. The board directed Mr. Carroll to pursue having the lines painted.

## School Energy Efficiency

Mr. Doty reported that he was pursuing funding to possibly insulate the attic spaces of the Chilmark Elementary School with the Cape Light Compact and the Commonwealth. He said if it could be split between the Town, Cape Light Compact and the School District, it might be affordable this year.

#### School Leadership

The Selectmen discussed the memorandum distributed by the Superintendent regarding the future leadership of the Chilmark School. The plan was for a 10 month principal who would teach language arts if possible, for the West Tisbury School Assistant Principal to provide coverage in the summer and a custodian from West Tisbury School provide coverage for the Chilmark Custodian when out.

## School Superintendent's Officer

The Selectmen reviewed the letter requesting they approve a warrant article authorizing the sale or disposition of the existing Superintendent's office. The board agreed that it would need a plan before it would approve a warrant article that amounted to a blank check.

# Appreciation

Mr. Parker asked the Selectmen to write a letter of appreciation to Christian Soulagnet for her service as the Administrative Assistant at the Town Office. The board agreed and noted her last day of work was December 12<sup>th</sup> 2008.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:33 PM.