

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen  
Minutes of Meeting 10/18/2011  
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Jim Newman, Chairman, Spencer Booker, Beverly Wright

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator; Building Inspector Jerry Wiener, Town Clerk Carolyn Feltz, County Pest Mgt Supervisor TJ Hegarty, Sgt. Paul Manning, Spa Tharpe, Chief Randhi Belain

The meeting began at 5:30 pm.

-The minutes from the 9/6, 20 and 10/4 meetings were reviewed.

-Beverly made a motion to accept the minutes from September 6<sup>th</sup>. Jim seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 - 1 to approve. The motion passed.**

Beverly made a motion to accept the minutes from September 20<sup>th</sup>. Spencer seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 - 1 to approve. The motion passed.**

Spencer made a motion to accept the minutes from October 4<sup>th</sup>. Jim seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 - 1 to approve. The motion passed.**

-1st on the agenda was a review and discussion of the Town's Building Inspector's position. Beverly stated her ideas about the job position possibly being changed with Jerry's retirement. She quoted the salary for the position and the number of permits issued last year. Jim stated that there are more building applications issued because of the Planning Board's involvement in the building permit process. Jerry stated the different jobs he has as Building Inspector. Jerry talked about the hours he has on Wednesdays and periodically on the weekends. He talked about the number of inspections needed for a new housing start and the people he supervisors (plumbing & wiring inspectors). Jerry said that Gladys Widdess interviewed and appointed him for the job. Beverly noted there was more to the job of bldg inspector then she knew, especially all the inspections that have to be paid before a certificate of occupancy can be obtained.

The Board talked about how the vacant job will be advertised and the some of the steps needed to have Jerry reapply once his retirement tenure is finished.

-Next on the agenda was a presentation by TJ Hegarty for the pest management program he has run for the County this year. He talked about the mosquito program and the increase in rodent trappings. There was discussion about the integrated pest management program as being level funded and the support the Town has given towards the close to 100% funding the trapping programs need. He thanked the BOS for the Town's support of his programs the last 11 years.

-There was discussion about adding the recently gifted wampum belt to the Town's special property insurance coverage. The Board, by consensus, agreed to have it included. There was discussion about having it appraised and what the cost for the materials would be plus the man hours to make the belt. Adam was instructed to find out from Kate Taylor what it would cost to replace it. Adam was also asked to have the other insured paintings reappraised and the insurance adjusted accordingly.

-Geoffrey Spa Tharpe came to the Board with the idea of putting speed bumps on Church Street. He said it's a forced easement so that people could get to their homes. Spa asked that the town put in a speed bump for safety reasons. Adam pointed out that Church St. has a street address listed in the Assessor's

Map and is a town accepted road. Spencer pointed out that Old South Rd is also listed but in fact belongs to Dukes County. Jim suggested that Spa gather together a petition from all abutters agreeing to the bumps. There was discussion about how the Town has accepted responsibility for Church St. as far as plowing it in winter and other maintenance issues. Jim said if it's a safety issue then action needs to be taken, especially if it's hazardous to children.

-Jim spoke to Beverly and Spencer about the Police request for cell phone money and the acting fire chief appointment.

-At 6:10 pm Jim excused himself from the meeting to go to the planning board meeting.

The Board reviewed the vote to make Jim Vercruysee acting Fire Chief.

-Adam reported that Town Counsel wants to have an executive session to discuss impending litigation.

There was discussion about putting on every BOS agenda an item about going into executive session.

Beverly says that by doing that there would be no need to wait 48 hours. Adam stated that Town Counsel should be asked if it's okay for the Board to format an agenda that way without 48 hour notice.

There was agreement that the meeting with Ron Rappaport would be next Tuesday sometime after 3:00 pm but before 7:00.

-Adam brought up a request for the Board to vote to support the MV Commission's hazard mitigation plan.

Beverly made a motion for the Board to endorse the Martha's Vineyard Commission planning grant application for the hazardous mitigation plan. Spencer seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-The Board moved onto a discussion about advancing the police officers their stipends for cell phone use for the whole year. There was consideration in the change of the language in the bargaining agreement that protected the Town from loss should an officer who has been prepaid leaves the force before the end of the pay period. Both Beverly and Spencer questioned the need to do this. There was discussion about the Treasurer trying to find a simpler way to make the payouts. Adam stated that there was no problem with the current payment arrangement.

By consensus the Board agreed to maintain the status quo of the CBA.

-There was discussion about the status of the Tribe/Town safety agreement. Randhi gave a brief update and if progress was being made for storage of town documents at the airport park. Adam said he would contact the airport storage business and get a quote for renting space.

-Adam announced he's on vacation from Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> to Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

By consensus the Board agreed not to meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in November (1<sup>st</sup>).

Beverly made a motion to adjourn. Spencer seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 to approve. The motion passed.**

The meeting ended at 6:20 pm.