

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 2/1/2011
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Camille Rose, Chairman, Spencer Booker

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Richard Skidmore, Derrill Bazy, Carolyn Feltz, Virginia Yorke, Wendy Swolinzky, David Vigneault, Judie Jardin, Mike Hebert, Joanie LeLacheur. Barbara Bassett

The meeting began at 5:00 pm

- 1st agenda item was review of the ComCast/Aquinnah RFP as negotiated by the Cable Advisory Board. Richard spoke about the progress made by the CAB. He spoke of the specific points the town is looking for regarding better services. He talked about the time frame for negotiations of the 10 year contract. The hope is to have the contract done by June.

-Adam reported on what the document has in it and what the town is looking for in terms of better services and more PEG channels as well as the request to add the Library to the cable feed system.

Camille talked about a few changes that need to go into the document. Town population was off and the emergency alert services being a town financial obligation was discussed.

Spencer made a motion to approve the RFP with the suggested changes discussed. Camille seconded.

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

-Next on the agenda was the Affordable Housing Committee's awarding of the 20 State Rd. affordable housing lot to Virginia Yorke. Derrill Bazy spoke of Virginia's winning the lottery for the affordable lot. He talked of the work performed to make the site clean and spoke of the support the selectmen gave to the project. He stated that plans are under way to create more affordable lots in the years to come. Virginia talked happily about her future and looking forward to making mortgage payments instead of rent. Joan presented Virginia with a handmade tile to go with the home she plans to build. David from the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority thanked Derrill and his committee for their hard work over the years. Derrill asked for a formal approval from the Board for the lot award.

Spencer motioned to accept the awarding of 20 State Rd to Virginia Yorke based on the AHC lottery results. Camille seconded.

The board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-Next on the agenda was Richard Skidmore's request for Board approval being re-appointed to the DCRHA for another 3 year term.

Spencer motioned to approve the reappointment. Camille seconded.

The board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-Derrill announced that Richard was taking over the chairmanship of the Aquinnah Housing Committee from him. Richard talked about the number of people who have gotten housing through the AHC and the hard work done to provide housing for residents. Camille praised Derrill's work over the years.

-Another agenda item was the January 18th request from Patrolman's Association for a follow-up contract negotiation meeting. It was agreed by Spencer and Camille that with Jim returning Feb. 15th, the full Board could meet with the Patrolman Saturday, February 19th at 9:30 am.

-Other business was next on the agenda and 1st up was Treasurer Judie Jardin's report showing cash balances, receipts and payments made by the town through December. She reported the town is ahead of last year in terms of revenues which was due in large from the big increase in collected parking fees. She also reported that the town's payments for assessed fees have all been paid in full and that everyone in Town Hall is working hard and well together keeping the town on a straight and well guided fiscal path. There was discussion about the improvements being done to the Town Hall's lights, windows and painted walls.

-The Board reviewed minutes presented by Adam from their 10/5/2010 meeting.

Spencer made a motion to accept the minutes from October 5th, 2010. Camille seconded.

The board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-In the Town Administrator's report Adam told the board there would be a meeting of the Selectmen from the three up-island towns + Town Administrators to go over the proposed Tri-Town Budget Thursday, February 3rd at 7:00 pm in Chilmark. Adam also gave feedback about his trip to Boston for the Mass. Municipal Association Conference. He told board members about the different workshops he went to dealing with budgeting and strategic planning, reports from the town insurers and some of the networking he did with other town's administrators and board selectmen.

-The Board reviewed Peter Temple's resignation from the Planning Board. Camille talked about the importance of having Peter on the board and the work he's done in prior years.

-By consensus the Board accepted the resignation letter from Peter Temple. Camille said there needs to be an appointment to the Board for an interim chairman until the next election. She said it's important to have a full board to consider the upcoming MVC proposed DCPC island wide wind regulations. She also said the planning board needs to look at possible changes to the by-laws for cluster zoning for affordable housing and solar panels by right instead of special permit.

-Judie said Friday is wear red day in recognition of breast cancer awareness. Everyone in town hall wearing red that day is eligible for a prize drawing to win two Red Sox tickets.

-Adam reported on the meeting he and other members of Town Hall had with Chilmark and Tribal officials discussing a planned exercise to deploy various equipment in the case of a oil spill event in Menemsha pond. He said a geographic response plan exercise is planned for sometime in May.

-Adam reported that department budgets for next year are coming back to him and that there has formed a public safety building committee to investigate the construction of a new police building on the town campus.

-Under Selectmen's new business, Camille talked about the problem of the size and height of the new telephone poles on Moshup's Trail. She pointed out they are not the DAS poles the town has been planning for several years to install on the state road leading up to the Circle. There was discussion on the lack of information NSTAR provided to the town about the change in its policies and regulations from the State's Department of Energy and Telecommunications requiring all replacement poles be at least 40' in height. Camille asked Adam to write a letter to the public utilities company stating the concerns board members have in not receiving this kind of information to pass on to constituents and that the height of the new poles are not in harmony with

the community's respect for the fragile nature of the area in which they are being installed. Spencer said when they asked for permission to park in the circle parking lot, there should have been information passed on in the changes that would occur with the replacement poles.

-Mike Hebert handed in his budget as Moderator for the town. He asked when the DAS system would become active and what providers would sign up. There was discussion about the system going active before the start of the summer.

With no other business, Spencer made a motion to adjourn. Camille seconded.

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm