

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 3/29/2016
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Chairman Spencer Booker, Julianne Vanderhoop, Jim Newman

Also present: Town Administrator Adam Wilson, Police Chief Randhi Belain, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, Police Sgt Paul Manning, Assessor Chairman Michael Stutz, Gazette Reporter Alex Elvin, Town Accountant Emily Day, Treasurer Sibel Suman, DPW Director Jay Smalley, Healthy Aging MV Rep Tom Hallahan, ACE Director Sam Hart, Town Residents Macy Dunbar, Spa Tharpe and Elise LeBovit and Asst. Assessor Angela Cywinski.

The meeting began at 5:00 pm.

-1st on the agenda was a call for an executive session to review the contract for the Police Chief and return to a public meeting shortly thereafter.

Juli made a motion to go into executive session for contract negotiation with non-union personnel. Jim seconded.

The roll call vote was Jim (aye), Juli (aye) and Spencer (aye).

The Board went into executive session at 5:03 pm

The Board returned to the public meeting at 5:34 pm

1st on the agenda under Old Business was a review of the minutes from the March 8th meeting.

Spencer made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Juli seconded

The Board voted 2 – 0 – 1(Jim) in favor. The motion passed.

-Next on the agenda under Old Business was a review of the Town Line Change in Menemsha. Adam explained the engineered site plan and how it equally divided the square footage between Aquinnah and Chilmark

Juli made a motion to approve the Town of Chilmark engineered site plan from Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering dated 2/18/2016. Jim seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

The Board signed the site plan.

-Next on the agenda was a meeting to review budget requests from several regional agencies providing services for seniors. Tom Hallahan spoke about 1st stop's budgeting and a \$10K reduction in this year's budget for money not spent last year. He explained what the reference service is for those 65 and over. He talked about the web site for the program and how active it has already become.

-Tom stated that the program's budget receives funds locally and through state and federal resources. The budget for FY '17 is \$76,990 of which Aquinnah is being assessed at \$2,515. The Healthy Aging organization has a contracted a vendor to provide the service through MV's Community Services.

-Tom said Healthy Aging is having a community meeting April 11th at the Hebrew center for all seniors 65 and over. It is from 1 – 4:30pm.

-Adam talked about how this assessment and others may go into the budget as opposed to being separate warrant articles.

-Next up was Sam Hart who talked about the (A)dult (C)ommunity (E)ducation program and costs. Like 1st Stop, the assessment is based on the 50/50 formula.

-Next on the agenda was a meeting with Fire Chief Simon Bollin to review the borrowing needed for a new fire pumper truck. Simon talked about how the loan will work over 10 – 15 years. Sibel said the shorter the note the better as interest rates are rising. Simon said the truck itself has a life expectancy of 25 – 30 years. Simon said the old pumper could become a sanding truck for the DPW by converting the back of the truck with a spreader and putting a plow on the front.

Sibel was asked to find out how much the loan will cost per person per year for the loan. She went through the borrowing numbers for a 10 year loan. Adam said there will be both a warrant article and a question at the polls for

debt exclusion. Simon said it's a front line piece. He said even though it is needed now it will probably take up to a year for the delivery of the truck.

-Next on the agenda was a review of the Lighthouse Tours RFP process and a scheduling of a meeting with the 2 stakeholders and Lighthouse Advisory Board Chairman Len Butler. Adam said Len was off island and unable to attend this meeting. Juli said she wanted to go ahead and vote. Jim said out of respect for Len, who has been instrumental in saving the lighthouse, the board should wait and schedule everyone together. Spencer agreed with Jim.

-The Board scheduled a meeting for the evaluation of the RFP for the Lighthouse Tours Tuesday, April 5th at 5:30 pm.

-Adam said he'd notify the Museum, the Headers' group and Len Butler the date and time of the meeting.

-In Selectmen's Other Business, The proposed budget was discussed. Adam went through the departmental budgets that had come in at over 4.5%. Sibel explained the fixed costs portion. Emily explained different line items in the budget. There was discussion about free cash and its uses. Jim thought the request for the new DPW truck should be a borrowing instead of from free cash. There was discussion about how much the town could borrow. Sibel reported that the loan for the truck purchased in '06 was finishing this year. She said she'd find out about the Town's borrowing limit.

-In Other Business, Julie asked about having fencing for the open part of Lobsterville Rd because sand is clogging up the road. Jay said there is a planned dune replenishment program occurring April 24th and it is hoped that will alleviate the sand drift problem.

-Simon handed in continuation credits he has received in relation to his position as fire chief. There was discussion about how additional training is problematic because of the multiple days one needs to take the courses and the loss of work time as a result. Can the town give fire staff compensation for attending? Pay an hourly rate similar to the EMT's pay received for training. Can this be budgeted? There was discussion about \$15 an hour to take certification and continuing education classes.

Jim made a motion to allow money from the Fire Department's budget to pay for certified courses, Juli seconded.
The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-In Other Business, Jay handed over a contract to be signed for the seasonal painting of the interior of the lighthouse

Juli made a motion to accept the contracted as presented. Jim seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-In Other Business, Adam handed in a contract for a renewal of a shellfish propagation contract from the FWE.

Jim made a motion to accept the contract as presented. Juli seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

In Other Business, Spencer read one of the thank you letters to the 3 fires departments (Chilmark, West Tisbury and Edgartown), who assisted in the house fire that occurred at 4 Towhee Lane. He then signed the letters.

-Spencer asked if there was anything else to come before the Board.

Hearing none, a motion was made and seconded to end the meeting.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-The meeting ended at 6:40pm.