

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 4/26/2017
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Meeting Room

Members present: Chairman Julianne Vanderhoop, Gary Haley

Also present: Town Accountant Emily Day, Elise LeBovit, Assessor Angela Cywinski, Treasurer Sibel Suman, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, FinCom Chairman Allen Rugg, and Police Chief Randhi Belain.

The meeting began at 5:30 pm.

1st on the agenda was a review of the warrant draft for May 9th. Emily asked that Article 3 dealing with the budget and override question be tabled since the FinCom was meeting Friday to finalize their budget recommendations. Moving to Article 4 and the CPC expenditure allocations, Juli read that the allocation of \$175K is divided into the 3 CPA categories with 10 % minimum going to each. In Article 5, the CPC project for Historic Preservation for the lighthouse was read + an administrative expense of \$2K. In Article 6 the community housing projects were looked at. Article 7 for projects for Open Space was read. There was discussion about what is happening with the Manning property and the current work being done there for the 3 houses.

-Moving to Article 8, Juli read the CPC Article that redirects money from finished projects back into the 3 reserve funds.

-Article 9 was reviewed for DPW Highway funds reimbursed by Chapter 90 funds. Article 10 was \$50K to go to the OPEB Trust fund. Article 11 was for \$25K to go into the compensated absence fund. #12 & 13 was the matching funds for the lighthouse grant application to Mass Historic.

-Article 14 was read for the revolving fund for the inspections done by the various town inspectors. #15 was free cash for the new police car. Next was \$20K for the ambulance stabilization fund. There was discussion about changing the funding for the new generator through the Buildings & Grounds Stabilization Fund and the next article for the circle pedestrian guardrail come from free cash. The Board, by consensus agreed to change the two funding mechanisms for the two articles.

-The next article #19 is an appropriation for the Assessor revaluation. A 2nd article for \$3K for Assessor's training was discussed as being lowered to \$1,500 and only send one assessor this year. The Board decided to keep it at \$3K.

-#21 was for 1st Stop. #22 was for ACE. #23 was for the Center 4 Living program. #24 was for the VHCAP. #25 was for the swimming program and the next article was for the sailing program, all from free cash. #27 was for the CORE program.

-#28 was reviewed for the OPEB contribution to the schools elementary school assessment.

-#29 was to vote to accept the Classification & Compensation plan approved by the Personnel Committee and The Selectmen. There was discussion about approving the article but disagreeing with the pay scale at town meeting. Elise wants to still be able to change employee's pay in spite of the pay scale. Allen said there will still be an opportunity to question pay scale line items during the budget presentation at town meeting.

-#30 and #31 was reviewed. In amending the personal by-laws, Angela complained that the ½ day by-law was never reviewed by the PC. She complained that the classification system didn't take enough time to review employees' job descriptions.

-The next articles to review were the articles for senior tax breaks. Allen said the FinCom has tabled these articles for consideration and will meet Friday to thoroughly review them for the revenue impact to the town. There was discussion about how complicated they are and what the other towns have done to adopt the statutes and the potential rebate from the state on the cherry sheet for those eligible to participate. Elise went through the benefits for seniors for each article. There was discussion about how few people will qualify for the benefits. Angela said maybe 8 people will qualify and the cost will be paid for through the Assessor's overlay.

-Moving onto #38, the article is to confirm the boundary line for property assessment between the two towns and property that was once split between the towns but is now in their respective towns. Elise asked that a copy of the new map be available for the town meeting.

#39 is the Refuse District article that will cost the town \$75K over the life of the loan.

#40 is another free cash article for the cemetery. Emily said it should be \$3K, not \$2,500.

#41 is free cash to replace the tiling on the 2nd floor of the fire station. There was discussion about the current condition and what would be put down. Simon said it will have to be light because more weight can't be added to that 2nd floor.

#42 was the land transfer article. There was discussion about the article being tabled last year. Angela said it shouldn't go to affordable housing and should be sold at public auction. Sibel said that it is better to have it for affordable housing to honor the family that used to own it. There was discussion about the size of the lot and other lots possibly available for public auction.

-#43 (The article to ask whether or not the BOA should be appointed vs elected), was talked about. Angela asked that the article be pulled. Elise explained her role as a member of the BOA.

The Board, by consensus, agreed to keep the question on the warrant.

-#44 (the Clerk's position going to appointed), was not discussed. #45 was the police/ICE article.

#46 was the return of the Fresnel lens. There was no discussion.

#47 was discussed as an article that was passed last November. Sibel said it reads the same.

-Emily said she needs to add an article for a prior year bill for \$5,500 for shellfish seeding. It will be paid with 4/5ths majority.

-In Other Business, Simon brought forward paperwork to join the group that is part of the purchasing agency buying the new fire truck in an interlocking agreement.

The Board, by consensus, agreed to the agreement. Juli signed it

Elise asked what's happening with the Parks & Recreation committee. Juli said the Board is still working on putting that committee together.

-Juli asked if there was anything else to come before the board. Hearing none, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

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

-The meeting ended at 6:40 pm.