

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 5/9/2011
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Camille Rose, Chairman, Spencer Booker, Jim Newman

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Martha Vanderhoop, Berta Welch, Marjorie Spitz, Gordon Perry, June Manning, Faith Vanderhoop, Cully Vanderhoop, Adrianna Ignacio, Donna Mazza

The meeting began at 7:00 pm.

-Margie went 1st and told the Board that there is a free cash certification now and that certain warrant articles funding don't have to be funded from stabilization and other revenue sources. She said that if free cash was used now then there is more flexibility for the town when the tax rate is set in December. There was discussion about whether or not the moderator can allow an increase in an appropriation so that more could go into stabilization. There was discussion as to what the moderator can do in his role. Jim said that the changes in appropriations look good but to get more in stabilization. Margie was complimented for her hard work.

Next on the agenda was a discussion about the cliff leases. Camille said that the Town wants to increase the lease by 5%. Jim said there has been a big increase in costs related to trash removal. Gordon talked with Bruno's and said a 6 yard dumpster at the landfill costing \$70 per haul away would alleviate the problem. There was discussion on what it costs to haul away recyclables. The leaseholders talked about how they sometimes take their stuff to West Tisbury because of its easy off loading. June said it costs \$65.00 per ton to haul away trash. There was talk about the refuse district having to pay more and if the increased costs have occurred recently or over a period of time.

-Spencer said the increase in tourists riding the VTA use has brought more trash to the Cliffs. Camille talked about the trash problem and how it has stretched Jay's services to the limit. Faith talked about her efforts to separate recyclables from returnables. There was talk about the Town purchasing the returnable storage bins; the same that are used at other public places.

-There was more discussion about a separate dumpster at the dump. Jim said there could be a schedule of having a person (Natalie?) to be available at certain times to allow trash to be discarded. Spencer asked what time works best for everyone. Berta asked if the dumpster could be at Town Hall in an "out of sight" location.

-There was discussion about the lease rate increase. Jim said there are increases in town costs that merit the increase. (trash, police, fuel, bathrooms)

-Dona asked about the due dates for payment. She wants the 1st payment being June 15th and the second July 30th. There was discussion about moving the due payment dates to later in the summer. Camille suggested the 15th of July and the 15th of August for the second payment. Does this conflict with projected revenues for 2011?

Margie said she'd run the #'s to see if there is a way to cover the shortfall of projected revenue this fiscal year.

-There was discussion about the cost to run the bathrooms. Who should foot the bill? There was talk about having another type of restroom facility that could be built but who would pay for it. There was talk about the costs offset by the revenues. There was talk about the Land Bank and VTA as sources of pedestrian use at the bathrooms.

-There was agreement that the town would put a trash can at the bottom of the Cliff stairs.

-Back to the percentage. 3 vs. 5%. Jim said 4% and that 1st payment is June 30th.

Jim made a motion to increase the lease by 4%. Spencer seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 – 1 to approve. The motion carried.

By consensus the Board Agreed to move the payments up to June 30th and July 31st.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.