

Minutes
West Tisbury Finance Committee Meeting
February 24, 2009
Public Safety Building

Present: Al DeVito - chair, Ann Nelson, Brian Athearn and Greg Orcutt.

Guests: Bruce Stone, Town Accountant; Kathy Logue, town Treasurer; Kristina West, Assessor; Dianne Powers, Skipper Manter and Richard Knabel, BoS; Jen Rand, Executive Secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

Treasurer #145:

The budget presented reflects a 4.6% COLA which might be changed. Kathy is now fully certified as a collector and treasurer and therefore will not need to attend classes. Revenue to date is considerably lower since it is investment income and has suffered the same decline as other investments.

Ann, seconded by Greg, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Treasurer budget. The motion passed 4-0.

Data Processing #155:

Kathy amended budget line#5240 from \$43,200 to \$45,600 to cover a license fee for an island wide GIS software system. Line #5580, Other Department Supplies, has increased in anticipation of more GIS licensing for software and hardware.

Brian, seconded by Ann, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Data Processing budget. The motion passed 4-0.

Tax Title Foreclosures #158:

Kathy continues to work at cleaning up title foreclosures.

Greg, seconded by Ann, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Tax Title Foreclosures budget. The motion passed 4-0.

Debts Service #710/751/752:

There is \$50,000 in unused CPA funds that can be used in FY11 to lower the tax levy.

Brian, seconded by Ann, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Debt Service budget. The motion passed 4-0.

Employee Benefits #911/912/913/914/915/916:

Kathy reported that health came in lower than expected. Medicare has increased as people retire and new hires come on.

Brian, seconded by Greg, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Employee Benefits budget. The motion passed 4-0.

Assessors #141:

Kristina amended the Total Personal Services from \$127,744.77 to \$126,469.16 due to fewer hours for the administrative assistant. If the town does not approve the 4.6% COLA this line will be level funded.

Greg, seconded by Ann, made a motion to preliminarily approve the Assessors budget. The motion passed 4-0.

Other Business:

Al reported the All Island School Committee voted not to reopen negotiations to eliminate the contracted percent increase, an equivalent of COLA, for school staff. Al and Ann expressed their concern that town employees could not be asked to forego their COLA raises if the schools were not willing to do the same. Jen pointed out that the voters would have the opportunity to make that decision at the ATM. Bruce added that non-passage of the UIRSD budget as presented could result in using the statutory assessment which would not be beneficial.

Bruce handed out a draft of the warrant showing all money articles in a spreadsheet to illuminate the fact that the budget was only one part of the tax levy. He explained the impact of decreases in receipts/other funds and made suggestions to decrease the tax levy. The budget as-is is up .3%, the tax levy 3.3%.

The next meeting is Tuesday, March 3, 2009, 4:30pm at the Public Safety Building.

There being no other business, a motion for adjournment was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:48pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Rogers, Administrative Clerk