

Minutes
West Tisbury Finance Committee Meeting
March 2, 2010
Public Safety House

Present: Sharon Estrella - chair, Brian Athearn, Al DeVito and Greg Orcutt.

Guests: Bruce Stone, Town Accountant; Dianne Powers and Skipper Manter, BoS; Jennifer Rand, Executive Secretary; Russell Smith, Dukes County Manager; Dr. James Weiss, MV Schools Superintendent; Bob Lane, acting Principal and Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, interim Asst. Principal, West Tisbury School; Amy Tierney, MV Schools Treasurer; Simone DeSorcy, Kent Healey, Jim Powell and Larry Schubert, Planning Board; Tony Nevin, chair, Community Preservations Act.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Article 31: Courthouse Windows \$8,150

Russell informed the members that he has applied to all the CPA's for funding. The cost of the work, as assessed by a local contractor, includes \$4800 for brick masonry and \$46,000 for the windows. Russell has used the 50/50 formula to determine the assessment to each town, West Tisbury's share being \$8,150. This building is listed with the National Historic Trust, therefore, what glass is reusable will be used, and otherwise will be replaced with period glass. Though there is a desire to keep the work local, the contractor must be DECAM certified, which may necessitate using an off-island contractor. Bruce noted that the windows being replaced are the original windows of the 1869 portion of the courthouse. If this does not pass in all 6 towns, Russell will not use money from those that do pass it, but rather, will search for another means to get it done.

Greg, seconded by Brian, moved to approve Article 31. The motion passed 4-0.

Article 36: West Tisbury School Windows \$199,775

Bob Lane explained that the windows, when originally installed, were not flashed properly or vented. Termites and carpenter ants were discovered upon an inspection of one of the windows after leak. The window design had been changed by the architect, but without an update of the installation procedure. Scanlon, the contractor, re-flashed windows in section C at his expense. Dr. Weiss stated that this has been a process started some time ago and there is a feasibility being planned. The money will be used to address the worst windows first. \$250,000 from school funds will be used for the study, to take place before FY11, so that the work can begin immediately in July. All three towns in the district must approve this article.

Al, seconded by Brian, moved to approve Article 36. The motion passed 3-0-1.

Article 12: Wind Turbine Zoning By-Law

Simone explained that, 10 years ago, when new zoning by-laws were implemented, there were no wind turbines. Wind turbines are a fairly new installation practice and neighbors have been concerned about the appearance of them close to their property lines. The MVC has worked out a by-law that would require a review by special permit for installation of turbines. The permit fee would cover expenses for advertising and abutter notification. If a consultant is needed, the applicant will pay for that service. Larry Schubert commented that 2 years ago the MVC was looking at possible additions to its DRI check list. He noted that every town will need to develop a wind turbine by-law and that West Tisbury is leading the way. Brian ex-

pressed a concern that the permitting not be so difficult as to discourage people from utilizing turbines. Simone answered that she feels the MVC addressed this in a way as to make it not too onerous. Jim Powell added that the process of developing the by-law has illuminated the costs and efforts involved in an installation, noting that the benefits are not yet fully known. Al, seconded by Greg, moved to approve Article 12. The motion passed 4-0.

Article 10: Personal Heliport Pads

Simone received a call from a townsperson concerned about the helipad on Chappy and requesting a by-law to prohibit helipads in WT. The committee decided it would be a good idea. The article will exclude the airport and any emergency landing.

Al, seconded by Brian, moved to approve Article 10. The motion passed 4-0.

Articles 25 & 26: Town Buildings Maintenance Inspection/Facilities Manager Position

Jen informed the members that the following had been added to article 25: "...and purchasing a database to assist in that inspection." Jen received an estimate of \$18,500, which includes \$3,000 for the school. The estimated recommended two add-ons: an energy audit (recently done so is not necessary) and \$10,000 for a tracking database for the maintenance and repairs, bringing the total to \$28,500. This database would project work and expenses over a 5-10 year period. All town buildings would be programmed and tracked. Brian and Al thought \$10,000 was an excessive amount for such a service.

Al, seconded by Greg, moved to approve article 25 for \$18,500. The motion passed 3-1.

Al, seconded by Greg, moved to approve article 26 for \$15,000. The motion passed 3-1.

Article 27: Community Preservation Fund Disbursements

Tony Nevin explained that these disbursements were required by law.

Al, seconded by Greg, moved to approve Article 27. The motion passed 4-0.

Article 28: WT Congregational Church Foundation Restoration \$150,000

Tony outlined the funding process for this project as follows:

- \$530,000+ needed for entire project.
- \$150,000 from CPA funds to provide platform for private funding.
- WT Congregational Church will begin seeking private funding for \$331,000.
- All funding will need to be in place to begin project

Al, seconded by Brian, moved to approve Article 28. The motion passed 4-0.

Article 30: Town Hall Renovation Bond \$100,000

Use \$100,000 from Community Preservation Historical Resources reserve to support debt service for the Town Hall renovation bond.

Al, seconded by Brian, moved to approve Article 30. The motion passed 4-0.

Article 32: Mill Pond Study for Dredging \$25,000

Al wanted to know what group was involved with this article. Tony responded it was the Mill Pond Committee, which had letters of support from abutters. He noted that one member of the committee had resigned due to the decision of the committee.

Al, seconded by Greg, moved to approve Article 32. The motion failed 1-2-1.

Al, seconded by Brian, moved to not recommend Article 32. The motion passed 2-1-1.

Notes to recommend or not recommend articles:

Article 1: no action needed

Article 2: no action

Article 3: to approve the budget at \$13,179,848.30. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 4: Personnel By-Law. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Greg. Passed 4-0.

Article 5: Personnel By-Law. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 6: New Well; basketball Court; Police Feasibility Study. Greg moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 3-1.

Article 7: Compensating Balance Agreements. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 8: Dog License for WT Library. Brian moved to recommend, 2nd by Al. Passed 4-0.

Article 9: Cell tower by-law pulled. Al moved to take no action, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 10: already voted 4-0.

Article 11: Zoning By-Law amendment. Greg moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 12: already voted 4-0.

Article 13: already voted. 2-0-1.

Article 14: OPEB. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Greg. Passed 4-0.

Article 15: OPEB Stabilization Fund. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 16: Road Work. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 17: Rescind \$450,000 unissued balance of \$4,900,000 for Town Hall renovation. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 18: removed

Article 19: Hydrant Maintenance. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Greg. Passed 4-0.

Article 20: Fire Dept. Personal Service Line. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 21: Island Police Training. Passed 4-0.

Article 22: New Copier for Police. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 23: Assessors' Microfiche Reader. Passed. 3-0.

Article 24: Already voted. 3-0.

Article 25: Already voted. 3-1.

Article 26: Already Voted. 3-1.

Articles 27 & 28: Already voted. 4-0.

Article 29: Helm Fund. Passed to not recommend 2-1.

Articles 30 & 31: Already voted. 4-0.

Article 32: Already voted to not recommend 2-1-1.

Articles 33: & 34: Already voted. 2-0-1.

Article 35: Assessors' Exemption to Certain Seniors. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Greg. Passed 4-0.

Article 36: Already voted. 3-0-1.

Article 37: Revolving Accounts Previously Established – Yearly Renewal. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Greg. Passed 4-0.

Article 38: Board of Assessors Valuation. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Greg. Passed 4-0.

Article 39: New Library Position. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 40: New Library Position. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Articles 41 - 43: Already voted. 3-0.

Article 44: Ambulance Stabilization Fund. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Greg. Passed 4-0.

Article 45: Fire Equip. Stabilization Fund. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 46: Free Cash to Reduce Tax Levy. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 47: Cemetery Flags. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Greg. Passed 4-0.

Article 48: CIC By-Law. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Article 49: Free Cash to Reserve Fund. Al moved to recommend, 2nd by Brian. Passed 4-0.

Other Business

A request for Transfer from the Planning Board will be discussed at the next meeting.

Being this close to election time, it was decided that there was no need to interview for a replacement for Ann Nelson's position on the committee.

Bruce announced that \$300,000 is available from abatement funds released by the FMT.

Minutes

Minutes of the February 2, 11 and 18 meetings were approved.

Future meetings

Tuesday, March 9, 4:30 at the Public Safety Building.

There being no other business, a motion for adjournment was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Rogers, Administrative Clerk