

Minutes
West Tisbury Finance Committee Meeting
February 11, 2010
Town Hall

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

Guests: Bruce Stone, Town Accountant; Dianne Powers, Richard Knabel and Skipper Manter, BoS; Jennifer Rand, Executive Secretary; Chief Beth Toomey, Chief Randhi Belain and Brian Cioffi, Tri-Town Ambulance; John Breckenbridge, Mark London and Jeff Wooden, MVC; Don Hatch, MV Refuse District; Beth Kramer, Library.

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 p.m.

Tri-Town Ambulance

Members of the Tri-Town Ambulance Committee discussed changes made to the operating structure of the Tri-Town service. These changes include:

- Ambulance Chief (formerly Ambu. Coordinator) will be a paramedic
- New position combines two former positions - reduces overall hours
- Paramedic per diem to cover time off - no overtime pay/benefits
- ALS supervisor is paramedic - needed to cover Ambu. Chief time off
- More rigorous guidelines to receive incentive pay
- Incentive pay will be reviewed at end of year and eliminated if not used
- Committee now has one squad member
- Year-end performance review of Ambu. Chief position (will include feedback from squad)
- New system will guarantee no lapse of coverage (8am-6pm daily)
- Daily operation will be run by the Ambu. Chief, not committee
- Committee will set policy

Brian Cioffi commented that the committee had heard the concerns of the FinCom. In revamping the operations structure, they tried to meet state requirements, deal with management issues, listen to the FinCom, and provide better service to the Tri-Town area. Dianne gave huge credit to the squad, noting they had contributed great ideas for restructure. Sharon expressed her hope that financial reports would be done on a regular basis. Randhi said they would keep on top of that.

The total Tri-Town budget is \$452,994, each town paying \$104,268.67

Greg, with a second by Brian, moved to preliminarily approve the Tri-Town Ambulance budget. The motion passed 2-1.

MVC

Mr. Breckenbridge explained that the MVC has changed the 90/10 health insurance coverage for their employees to 75/25 to be inline with town employees. Employees will be compensated for one year by receiving a raise to keep costs level as a good faith agreement. He noted this was based on the model Oak Bluffs used with its employees. MVC employees will receive no COLA this year.

In response to questions raised concerning merit raises, Mark London explained that these raises were given to employees who had been with the MVC for many years and who's value of experience and knowledge merited a raise. He added that this was in line with the step/grade increases received by town employees, but is based on performance and was a better model for the MVC.

Major legal expenses are anticipated this year as wind energy issues are likely to be brought to the MVC.

Brian asked Mr. London if he foresaw a point in time when the MVC would no longer be needed. Mr. London answered that only when there was no need to plan change. He added that the focus of the MVC has changed from one of regulation to one of planning. The MVC will use the Island Plan to assist in discerning areas of more, or less, environmental impact.

Greg, with a second by Brian, moved to preliminarily approve the MVC budget. The motion passed 2-1.

MV Refuse District #439

Mr. Hatch announced that assessments would be going up due to insurance increases, but that the LDO contract is going down. When asked about recycling, he explained that it is a variable market. Right now, cardboard is doing better than paper. We have to pay to get rid of plastic, metal and glass.

Brian, with a second by Greg, moved to preliminarily approve the MV Refuse District budget. The motion passed 3-0.

Library #610

To address the increase in technology-related assistance, Beth is asking to swap one circulation position to create an IT position. This switch would result in a decrease in grade from 7 to 5.

As the library considers plans for expansion, the Friends will provide financial support to pay for incorporation costs and for design work. The state will grant money for the construction, but not for design work.

Greg, with a second by Brian, moved to preliminarily approve the Library budget. The motion passed 3-0.

Other Business

Brian attended the CIP meeting (formerly attended by Ann) and would like to continue to be the FinCom representative to that committee. He felt that the CIP was well managed, and is looking ahead to long-term projects and a 5-year plan.

Plans were made to interview the candidates to fill out Ann Nelson's term on Wednesday, February 17 at 3:30 at the Public Safety Building.

Minutes

Minutes of the February 2, 2010 meeting will be considered at the next meeting.

Future meetings

Thursday, February 18, 4:30 at the Howes House.

There being no other business, a motion for adjournment was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Rogers, Administrative Clerk