

Approved 3/21/07
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, March 7, 2007, 4:30 p.m.

Present: Selectmen John Early, Skipper Manter, Glenn Hearn, Jen Rand

Guests: Winn Davis, Les Leland, Leah Smith, Diane Powers, Bea Phear, B. Stone, K. Logue, E. Mendenhall, R. Rohr, J. Revere, R. Knabel, J. Ames, B. Potts

Minutes: *S. Manter motioned to approve the minutes of 2/21/07. G. Hearn seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

County Engineering Bill: Winn Davis said he wanted to close out the County Engineering bill, he felt he had answered all the Board's questions, even if they didn't like the answer. Skipper said he agreed the question of the bill for rodent control services had been answered but he still felt the bill for the engineer was an additional assessment and not legal. Winn said it was not an assessment but a user fee and was done that way in Barnstable. Glenn said the town had budgeted knowing one set of facts about the billing and the County changed that, so they could budget moving forward, but might not have the money for the other work. He did think it was important to pay the bill and move on. Les Leland said in the budget discussions the County was trying to determine if they could afford to maintain the engineer and the rodent control program. The way they decided to address the funding issue was to charge a fee to use the engineer, which would have the added benefit of determine how much demand there was for the service. Skipper asked what part of the budget was planned for the Engineer, how much of that did WT pay, and further had the town used that entire budget? Win said the County budgeted about \$75K, of that about 15% was WT share and they did not account in a fashion that would determine if WT had "used their share". John said the Advisory Board had voted for this, he thought it was a reasonable way to pay for the service and he thought the town should pay. Skipper disagreed.

G. Hearn motioned to ask the Finance Committee for a reserve Fund Transfer for \$2,400 to pay the overdue bill. S. Manter seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Housing Article: Glenn gave the Board an overview of the plan the Affordable Housing Committee was working on to develop a few affordable housing lots in the Stoney Hill subdivision. He said the town owns 9 contiguous lots that could possibly be combine for maybe three lots, and then there were some other parcels that might be able to be combined with land the town would have to purchase to develop other lots. The other two members felt it was a good idea to work with the nine lots the town owned, see how successful the AHC was in developing those and then later looking at the other smaller parcels later.

Hickey Conservation Restriction: *S. Manter motioned to approve the conservation restriction on the Hickey property. G. Hearn seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

DAS: Glenn said Aquinnah was ready to put out an RFP for companies that offer DAS service. There is a company lined up now ready to do testing on the roads to determine signal strength, the BOS needed to authorize the road testing and vote to participate in the RFP. Glenn said Aquinnah would pay for the cost of the RFP.

S. Manter motioned to participate in the DAS RFP and authorize the road testing with the understanding it would not cost the town any money. G. Hearn seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Budget: Skipper said in the spirit of trying to keep the budget down he wanted to reduce the cemetery budget by \$1,000. He also had some questions for Kathy about insurance. Kathy said the good news was the rate only went up 5%, which is half of the projected increase. She said she didn't feel ready to answer other insurance questions at this time, but would come back on the 21st.

S. Manter motioned to reduce the Cemetery expense line by \$1,000 for FY '08. G. Hearn seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.