

Approved 9/17/08
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, September 3, 2008, 4:30 p.m.

Present: Selectmen Skipper Manter, Richard Knabel, Dianne Powers, Jen Rand

Guests: Prudy Burt, Maria McFarland, Ginny Jones, Glenn Hearn, E. Mendenhall, J. Ames, Barbara & Bob Day, B. Potts, J. Hickey

Minutes: *R. Knabel motioned to approve the minutes of 8/13/08. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Cemetery Project/CPA: Glenn said he would like to apply for CPA funds to layout the new part of the West Tisbury cemetery. He said he would like there to be ½ lots and cremation lots in this area, the old cemetery requires walking over someone else's plot if you buy a ½ lot. Dianne asked him to give the CIPC a heads up about the project. Skipper asked that prior to conducting the layout Glenn come back to the Board with a plan for what he has in mind.

R. Knabel motioned to authorize Glenn Hearn to proceed with the CPA application. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Skipper said as a side note he would like to keep track of when the CPA can come up for reconsideration, he feels the voters should have the ability to revisit the program at the end of the trial period.

Mill Pond Committee: Prudy Burt said the Conservation Committee had written the letter in response to the goals & objectives for the new committee developed by the BOS. She said the Committee already knew what the next course of action should be, there was a lot of work in progress and it would be difficult and perhaps not productive to try and bring a group of volunteers up to speed right now. Richard said this committee was meant to be a comprehensive planning committee and he objected to this being brought up so late in the discussion. Prudy said the ConComm did not have an opportunity to react to the goals & objectives until late August, and they did so at the first meeting after receiving them. She said the problem is that there are not available qualified people with the expertise to do the work and a volunteer committee will have a difficult time achieving the stated goals. The Board of Selectmen felt there were some qualified people who had applied. Maria gave an overview of the work that had been completed to date or was underway in relation to the stated goals and noted that much was already being addressed and the remaining work could not be done by the volunteers. Now that the Estuaries study is back on track the town needs to wait for that information before any other steps can be taken. Barbara Day said the people who signed the petition asking for a committee would feel better if a committee was appointed even if there was not much they could do just so they knew the town was doing something. Jen asked if she thought that if the people on the petition received a copy of the letter which details everything the town has done and is going to do, would that give them the same level of comfort? Barbara said she thought so. Maria will redraft the letter and send it to the petition signers and will post it on the website and the Conservation Committee will meet with Bill Wilcox to see if the watershed study can be expanded. Skipper asked about applying for CPA money for the expanded watershed study with the understanding that the project can be withdrawn if needed, he just didn't want to miss the application deadline.

R. Knabel motioned to apply for funding to expand the watershed study. D. Powers seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

DAS: Richard said there had been a prebid conference which 3 companies attended; proposals are due 9/23/08. Glenn said he understood that each town would have two people that would review the proposals. He would like to be the second person, as he had been working on this for a long time.

D. Powers motioned to appoint Glenn Hearn to the DAS proposal review committee. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Event Permit – School Yard Sale: Jen said there was a parents group asking for permission to host a yard sale in the back of the school where the Chilmark Flea was this summer. Skipper noted that the Planning Board would need to review the use.

TH Renovation Abutter Concerns: Jen said there was an abutter to the Town Hall who was discouraged by the appearance of the trailers and was concerned about the impending traffic and potential for people turning around in their driveway. Jen suggested that perhaps the town could pay for a no turning sign for the driveway. Skipper suggested sending a letter to abutters asking for their patience through the renovation project that would be signed by Bea Phear and him. Jen will talk to Bea and draft the letter. Jen will also offer the sign to the abutter.

Staff Evaluation Procedures: In response to a question from Richard Skipper explained that historically the Chair filled out the evaluation and gave it to the Personnel Board. Richard said he thought it should be a consensus document. The Board asked for a copy of the form and will discuss it in October.

STRAP Grant: Jen said she had been filling out applications for the Strap grant since spring and had not yet gotten any indication if the possibility existed for actually getting the money. She wanted to know when to just declare it dead and move on to spend the money appropriated at town meeting. The Board was not willing to give in yet. They suggested asking if the town could be reimbursed after the fact if they completed the project, and also finding out when the “drop dead” date for a decision was. Jen will call the state a try to get answers.

Path 3: Jen said she had spoken to Russell Smith about the path measurements and they seem to be correct. That means there is approximately \$15K outstanding due to Lawrence Lynch. She said she would like to write a letter to the County asking them to help pay for this as their Engineer was responsible, at least in part, for the overage.

D. Powers motioned to authorize a letter be sent to the County asking for assistance paying the overrun on Path 3. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

One-Way traffic on Panhandle: Dianne and Richard both reported there had been scofflaws who went around the barriers on Panhandle. Next year the WTPD letter will state that the one-way applies to residents also.