

Approved 5/18/11
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, April 20, 2011, 4:30 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.

Present: Selectmen Richard Knabel, Skipper Manter, Cindy Mitchell, Jennifer Rand.
Guests: Nick Catt, Josh Tucker, Morgan Reitzas, Benoit Baldwin, Gary Davidson, J. Hickey, R. Tumin, E. Mendenhall, B. Potts, J. Ames

Taxi License Hearing: Nick Catt & Josh Tucker of Lighthouse Taxi were applying for 4 taxi licenses in town. Morgan Reitzas of Vineyard Transport said he wanted to surrender his license to them. Benoit read a letter outlining his concerns that Morgan had not operated his taxi last year, so he felt Morgan did not have a license to transfer. He also stated his concerns that the advertisement only mentioned a new license not a transfer. Richard asked if Benoit had ever issued a complaint about Morgan's not using his license? Benoit said no. Skipper said perhaps the Board should keep the two issues separate, first deal with the new license and then decide how to deal with the issue of Morgan's license. Cindy asked if there was any reason to cap the number of licenses granted. Skipper said that had been discussed at length last year and the decision was no. Gary said the addition of another 4 licenses will harm the existing companies which will negatively impact the residents of the town. Benoit said that granting the license will cause harm to him as a resident of the town. Skipper said he felt customers are better served with more choices. Morgan said he wished to surrender his license.

S. Manter motioned to close the public hearing. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

S. Manter motioned to approve the request of Lighthouse Taxi for four new licenses. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was SM & CM in favor RK opposed.

Minutes: *C. Mitchell motioned to approve the minutes of 4/6/11. S. Manter seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

S. Manter motioned to approve the minutes of 4/5/11. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Police Department Appointments: *C. Mitchell motioned to appoint Sergeant J. Skipper Manter, Sergeant Matthew Mincone and Officer Daniel Goldrup as full time police officers for three years and Brian Cioffi, Jonathan Klaren, Jeff Day, Sean Slavin, Manuel Estrella III, John Early, Richard T. Olsen and Tim Carroll as Special Police Officers for three years. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was CM & RK in favor, SM abstained.*

Chair: *C. Mitchell motioned to appoint Skipper Manter as Chair of the Board of Selectmen. S. Manter seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Vice Chair: *S. Manter motioned to appoint Cindy Mitchell as Vice Chair of the Board of Selectmen. R. Knabel seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Sidewalks in front of Town Hall and Garcia's House: Jen said she needed to have an engineering plan for Mass Highway in order to obtain permission to construct a sidewalk in the State Road layout. She was hoping to use the Selectmen's discretionary fund for to pay for some of the work and town hall renovation funds for the rest. The Board felt this was acceptable. Skipper expressed concerns that the voters have never been asked about the sidewalk in front of town hall. The Board will hold a public forum prior to beginning the work.

Vineyard Lawns: Joan Ames asked on behalf of the Vineyard Conservation Society for permission to put up a sign saying the town properties are organic. The Board said yes, just check with the building manager prior to putting it up.

R. Knabel motioned to allow the Vineyard Lawn sign on town property. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.