

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING
March 19, 2019

MINUTES

Attendance: Gary Haley, Jim Newman, Julie Vanderhoop, Liz Witham, Allen Rugg, Sam Hart, Adam Wilson, Peter Temple, Derrill Bazy, Jeffrey Madison (Town Administrator)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Haley at 4:33 p.m.

Minutes of January 8, 2019 and January 22, 2019 were accepted as presented.

Consideration of the Civic Plus Website

(Agreed: Liz Witham to oversee Lighthouse Website)

Following discussion Town Administrator suggested that the Town consider update of the website as presented by CivicPlus. Liz agreed. However, she suggested that she continue oversight of Lighthouse website as it would be unwise for the Town to go into the new FY without someone with the responsibility of keeping it updated. Similar request was made for her to maintain the Aquinnah Facebook page. Julie moved and Jim seconded a motion to allow Liz to present a budget for those services.

Summer Beach Season Schedule

(Discussion deferred)

Assessing Outsourcing

(Voted to submit RFP to newspaper)

Selectman Haley presented the case for outsourcing the duties of town assessing to the Board. His reasons included substantial savings would be achieved by the outsourcing if that option is adopted. Elise Lebovit presented the case against outsourcing saying among other things that cost reductions were being exaggerated and expressing her opinion that the Town would be better served by keeping the current arrangement. Selectmen passed a motion that an RFP be submitted to newspaper for services of a qualified company interested in submitting a bid for assessing services.

Island-wide Housing Proposal

(taken under advisement)

Derrill Bazy and Peter Temple made presented the idea of an Island-wide Housing Proposal funded through a portion of the newly created Short-term Rental Tax ("SRT") to the Board. They suggested that a newly created entity be established to direct funds toward affordable housing. Their discussion was initiated to gauge support for the notion; hear comments on assignment of funds and have a ballot question for consideration at the appropriate time. They indicated that towns on the Cape were considering the same proposal. No action was taken.

Appointment to Water Pollution Committee

(Appointed Meghan Ottens-Sargent)

High School Funding
(Voted to support Aquinnah Share \$25K)

Sam Hart presented a question to the Board concerning appropriation of \$1.4 million dollars to support a study by the High School to improve the physical plan and educational programs. He informed the Board of a meeting at the Vineyard Haven Senior Center at a All-Island Selectmen's meeting at which there would be further discussion. The Board voted to accept the Town's share of the request.

Town Counsel Meeting
(set meeting for 3/26/19 – Executive Session)

The Board agreed to meet on March 26, 2019 in Executive Session to discuss litigation with the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.