

## Aquinnah Joint Finance Committee and Select Board Meeting

### March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 - Minutes

*This meeting was held via videoconference*

Members Present: Allen Rugg, Tom Murphy, Mark Foster & Howard Goldstein (alternate member)

Also Present: Accountant Emily Day, Town Administrator Jeff Madison, Select Board Gary Haley, Select Board Julianne Vanderhoop, Treasurer Sibel Suman, Admin Assistant Sophia Welch, Harbormaster Brian Vanderhoop

- Allen called the meeting to order at 9:33am

- Mark motioned to approve the 3/8/21 and 3/9/21 meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Tom. **The Committee voted 3-0, the motion passed.**

- Allen noted that the current estimate for the requested 3% COLA and step increases is \$17,915. Estimate is exclusive of the Police and Fire dept. contracts.

- **Harbormaster:** Brian (Chip) Vanderhoop, Harbormaster, presented the FY'22 budget: wages reflects a 3% COLA and longevity; no change in the Shellfish Group assessment; no change in the expense line item; Chip discussed the purchase of steamer seed, but was uncertain if the supplier has increased the cost from \$5,000; there was consensus that this expense would be covered under the proposed budgeted, unless the cost increases; Chip will check on the cost; the Committee discussed the Harbormaster West Basin shed plans; Chip has been put on an order list for a 12ftx16ft Nantucket shed but still needs to get associated building permits; there was brief discussion concerning shellfish permit revenue.

- **Board of Health:** Emily noted that the BOH Assistant and/or Chair will need to present their budget as there is question regarding the landfill wage line item; budget includes an increase of 4.42% to the Up Island Council on Aging regional assessment and a 2.4% increase in the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority regional assessment.

- Emily informed the Committee that she has requested the Library to present their proposed budget. Emily was going to present, however, Sibel noticed that the Library had budgeted one position to become full-time which triggers the town to potentially accommodate for another health insurance plan (position over 20hr qualifies for health coverage).

- The new Emergency Manager, Forest Filler, will be presenting his budget which includes a regional request to fund a coordinator.

- Jeff gave a brief update on the Police contracts: Select Board have met with the negotiator for the Police Dept. and Jeff has been in communication with Chief Belain; there is uncertainty on whether the town will get to a timely resolution prior to the necessary deadlines and the Police budget may be level funded including a 3% COLA; same goes for the Fire Chief contract.

- On Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, Committee will be meeting with DPW and the schools.

- The following were identified as open issues/budgets to revisit: 3% COLA, whether the re-evaluation is included in the assessing contract, Treasurer's hours, Police and Fire Chief contracts (not the responsibility of the Fin Comm but there is interest in reviewing them), Emergency Manager, Library and Board of Health.

- Meeting adjourned at 9:59am.

Respectfully submitted, Sophia Welch