

Aquinnah Finance Committee Meeting

March 9th, 2022 – Minutes

Meeting was held via videoconference

Members Present: Allen Rugg, Howard Goldstein, Mark Foster, Jim Newman (alternate)

Also present: Town Administrator Jeff Madison, Select Board member Julianne Vanderhoop, Select Board member Tom Murphy, Keith Chatinover, Leslie Clapp, MVCL, Dukes County Manager Martina Thornton, Sarah Kuh, Karen Tewhey, David Vigneault, DCRHA, Beth Folcarelli, CEO MVCS, Victor Cappocia

Allen called the meeting to order at 9:30am

Meeting with Dukes County:

- Keith Chatinover, County Commissioner, gave a brief presentation on the County's role on the island and reviewed the programs and services that are administered through the County as authorized by the towns. Towns do have the option to opt out of programs. County funding and allocation is based on a 50/50 formula: 50% is Equalized Valuation which is a number set by Dept. of Revenue every 2 years based on real estate evaluation (Aquinnah equalized valuation is 3.28%), other 50% is reflective of population in each town based on street listings. Aquinnah's 50/50 formula allocation for FY 23 is 2.9%.
- Leslie Clapp, director of MV Center for Living, gave a brief overview of the services the program provides and statistics. Budget is large as it reflects the sizable staff that supports the clients they serve (many of whom have dementia which requires daily support). MV Center for Living also seeks and receives grant funding and charges a \$60/day fee for services (paid both privately and through the Elders Services of Cape Cod and the Islands). Aquinnah's portion of the MVCL budget is \$15,287.93.
- Beth Folcarelli, CEO MV Community Services (MVCS) gave a brief overview of the programs provided both directly by MVCS (Counseling and Outreach for Elders and First Stop) and programs supported by MVCS as the fiscal sponsor (Health Aging MV and Substance Use and Disorder Coalition). Aquinnah's allocation of the budget is as follows: \$355 for First Stop, \$3,043 for CORE, and \$3,179 for Healthy Aging (50% of budget from 6 towns and other 50% from private funding).
- Karen Tewhey, Homeless Prevention, gave a brief overview of the programs provided. Karen clarified that Harbor Homes is not requesting funding from any town as it is a separate non-profit. Homeless Prevention is requesting funding for a homeless prevention case worker which will be housed and supervised by Harbor Homes. Position had been created on the Cape and was brought to MV 6 years ago. Part time position had been funded by a state earmark but then was picked up by County. Position became full time this year and is un-benefited. Homeless Prevention request includes increase in hours for this position and a 5% administration cost request from Harbor Homes. Aquinnah's allocation for FY 23 is \$1,661.
- Victor Cappocia gave a brief overview of the Substance Use Disorder Coalition program and history. Program is run by volunteers and MVCS has been the financial agent for any support that has been received. FY 23 request is for funding to cover a paid part-time position that would offer technical assistance to the working committees as well as administrative support for organizing committee meetings.

- Sarah Kuh, director of Vineyard Health Care Access Program, gave a brief overview of the programs provided to the island. Core service is connecting islanders with health insurance (primarily government and public health insurance). Program services approx. 3000 people/year. Sarah also gave a brief overview of the Dukes County Social Services program.

- Martina Thornton explained the request for the County allocation of overhead (financial support to administration support that the county provides to these programs). Aquinnah's allocation is \$1,891. Martina anticipates that Aquinnah will be receiving a credit in May from last year's budget surplus. Total County assessment for Aquinnah is \$40,132 (inclusive of all programs and the county overhead allocation). The legislative mandate through MGL requires that Aquinnah raise \$17,803 for the County's budget (comes prescribed through MGL from Dept. of Revenue as an amount the town needs to raise through a legislative mandate). Martin noted that the final County request is payment on the bond for the Center for Living building. Aquinnah's allocation is \$5,720 (principal and interest). FY 23 County assessment is approx. 8% increase from FY 22 (inclusive of the new Substance Use Disorder Coalition program and the County's overhead request).

- David Vigneault, Dukes County Regional Housing Authority, gave a brief overview of housing services provided. FY 23 DCRHA budget increase is minimal as far as Aquinnah's portion.

- Committee briefly discussed the upcoming meetings and adding additional meetings to cover lost ground.

- Jeff gave a brief update on the auditor's suggestions and solutions.

Adjourn 10:57am

Respectfully submitted,

Sophia Welch