

## Finance Committee Meeting

January 5, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 10:02am

Meeting occurred both in person and via zoom (\*zoom attendees)

Members Present: Allen Rugg, Howard Goldstein\*, Jim Newman, Tom Murphy (alt. member) \*

Also present: Emily Day, Accountant; Jeff Madison, Administrator; Jamie Vanderhoop, Treasurer\*; Tim Carol, Chilmark Administrator\*; Mike Owen, THA Exclusions\*

*Minutes* – deferred to next meeting.

*Review of the term of bond financing of TriTown ambulance facility* - Background: on 12/29 Jeff received correspondence from Chilmark setting out the strategy for bond financing with justification which included 2 tables with estimated debt scenarios: 20yr term with level principal and a 30yr term with level debt service; Select Board referred discussion to the Fin Com.; Chilmark Select Board decided to move forward with the 20yr term.

Jim, TriTown Committee Aquinnah rep., noted that in the long run, an additional 10yrs will put a larger burden on the community.

The bottom line shared cost figure is \$6,109,775 – this is the amount to be financed and debt to be shared between all 3 towns. Estimated debt service for ambulance is \$800,000 to be shared between all 3 towns (current unfinanced amount). If the towns were to move forward with the 30yr bond, it would cost \$1.5 million more and wouldn't give a declining debt service.

The committee discussed the two tables at length as well as the breakdown of building costs. The committee agreed with Chilmark's decision to move forward with the 20yr debt proposal.

The committee discussed the possibility of excluding this debt from Proposition 2½. Town needs to confirm with counsel, but Emily noted that it has been done in the past (capital projects, even if a project within a municipal agreement, can be excluded, i.e., Refuse District).

The committee observed that in the budget process it expects to review actual, not estimated, figures and support used to calculate the Town's assessment for debt service related to the Tri Town facility.

*Next meeting* - January 19, 2024. Agenda items: recommended changes from auditor, setting FY25 budgeting schedule.

With no other business, meeting adjourned at 10:44am