

Present: Frank M. Fenner, Jr., JBR Parker, Warren M. Doty, Jonathan Revere, Pam Bunker, Elizabeth Oliver, Rachel Rohr, Doug Cabral, Tim Carroll.

Meeting Called to order at 7:30 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room by Mr. Parker.

Public Hearing opened on the allocation of the local property tax among the five classes. Mrs. Bunker made her presentation to the Selectmen. The Board of Assessors recommended one tax rate for all classes and no exemptions. Though she reported that the Personal Property Exemption was being looked into for small amounts not worth issuing a tax bill for. No public comments were received. Mr. Parker closed the public hearing at 7:35 PM.

Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to accept the recommendations of the Board of Assessors and have one tax rate for FY 2007. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Minutes

Minutes of September 5th, 2006 approved as corrected.

Middle Line Road

Mr. Doty reported that Mr. David Handlin was not sure he could get the services of his subcontractors pro bono, but that he will attempt to do so. The board agreed to pay for such services (spec writer, surveyor, etc) as they should not be very expensive portions. The Architectural services provided by Mr. Handlin's firm will all be pro bono.

Assistant Constable

Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Doty seconded the appointment of Barbara Lunbeck as an Assistant Constable to fill out the unexpired term of Mrs. Carole Larsen. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Wiring Inspector

The board received the resignation of Lee Welch. There was discussion about the applicants for the position of wiring inspector, Cole Powers, Paul Bettencourt, and David Smith. Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to appoint Cole Powers as the Wiring Inspector for the ensuing year or until his successor was duly qualified. SO VOTED: Three Ayes. Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to appoint Greg Willet the second assistant wiring inspector for the ensuing year. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Vacation

In an effort to protect those employees not supervised by Mr. Carroll from losing any remaining earned vacation time, he asked the Selectmen to authorize a blanket extension to December 31st 2006. It was discussed that the staff was discouraged from taking vacation during the busy summer season. Mr. Parker suggested going to the Personnel Board to amend the vacation portion of the bylaw to better reflect the town's needs. Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Doty seconded a one-time blanket extension for this year. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Advertising

Mr. Doug Cabral spoke to the board about his newspaper's offer to provide cheaper and more convenient advertising with the Martha's Vineyard Times and its companion web page. Mr. Parker commended the internet posting. Mr. Cabral called it another opportunity to provide information to the public. Mr. Cabral said that his pricing offer was good for five years. Mr. Parker said that the MV Times was owned by two Chilmark residents and the Vineyard Gazette was owned by non-island residents. Mr. Fenner said that it was worth a try and that they were always looking at ways to save the town money. Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to have a three-month trial period designating the Martha's Vineyard Times as our paper-of-record.

SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Travel Channel

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to approve the Travel Channel request to film in Menemsha under the usual rules as might apply on September 28-30 with the F/V Shearwater and Paul McDonald. So Voted: Three Ayes.

Cape and Islands National Public Radio

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to authorize free use of the Community Center by the local NPR station for a forum on September 26th from 6 to 8 PM. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Harbor Master

Mr. Arthur Phipps wrote to the Harbor Master supporting the prohibition of large yachts in Menemsha. Mr. Parker read the letter aloud.

Traffic Calming

A request from residents along Middle Road on how to proceed with possible traffic calming proposals for the Annual Town Meeting was received. After discussion, it was agreed to have Mr. Carroll assemble a group from the Highway Department, Police Department, Planning Board, Fire Department, and the citizens making the request. Then have this group meet with the goal of having a proposal to the Planning Board and Selectmen by December 1st.

Special Town Meeting

The Selectmen reviewed the explanations as written by the Executive Secretary and approved it as amended as a handout to the voters. Mr. Doty said he was working on a separate handout on the Middle Line Road article and would email it to the board. Mr. Carroll asked for the Selectmen to review the amended document on Wednesday so he could post it to the web site by Thursday afternoon.

Wealth Based Calculations for School District Formula

Mr. Fenner reported on attending a meeting with the School committee on the wealth based state formula. He distributed a handout to the board. He said that this default clause was dangerous to regional school districts. He asked if the town should write to Senator O' Leary and Rep. Turkinton and the Department of Education with the board's concerns over how this would work and if zip codes would be how the formula would be based. The board agreed.

Mr. Fenner said that the site budget for Chilmark was scheduled for October 24th at 5 PM at the Chilmark Elementary School and that the West Tisbury School site budget was scheduled for October 28th. He asked that Mr. Carroll check on those dates and notify the FINCOM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.