

**Chilmark FY21 Budget Hearing #1 Finance Committee & Selectmen
January 22, 2020 Joint Meeting Minutes**

Present: FinCom: Chairman Rob Hannemann, Vicki Divoll, Eric Glasgow, Susan Murphy, Marshall Carroll and Bruce Golden. *Don Leopold was not present.* Selectmen: Chairman Warren Doty and James Malkin. *Bill Rossi was not present.* Others: Tim Carroll, Ellen Biskis, Melanie Becker, Diana DeBlase, Jennifer Christy, Curt Schroder, Adam Turner, Tanya Larsen, Joyce Albertine, Lenny Jason, Sally Cook, Judith Flanders, Skipper Manter, Rich Osness and MVTV Videographer Lynn Christoffers.

At 7:00 PM Chairman Hannemann called the meeting to order in the Selectmen's meeting room.

Minutes:

Finance Committee (Fincom) Chairman Hannemann said we will review and approve 3 sets of minutes before we begin the budget hearings.

Draft minutes from the FY20 Budget hearing from January 23, 2019 were reviewed. Corrections were made. Ms. Murphy moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr. Golden seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: Fincom: 6 Ayes, 1 not present *Don Leopold*, Selectmen 2 Ayes, 1 not present *Bill Rossi*

Draft minutes from the FY20 Budget hearing held January 24, 2019 were reviewed. Corrections were made. Mr. Golden moved to approve as corrected. Ms. Murphy seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: Fincom: 5 Ayes, 1 Abstain *Marshall Carroll was not at the 1/24/19 meeting* 1 not present *Don Leopold*, Selectmen 2 Ayes, 1 not present *Bill Rossi*

Draft minutes from the FY20 Budget hearing from January 29, 2019 were reviewed. Corrections were made. Ms. Murphy moved to approve as corrected. Mr. Golden seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: Fincom: 6 Ayes, 1 not present Selectmen 1 Ayes, 1 Abstain *James Malkin was not present at the 1/29/19 meeting* 1 not present *Bill Rossi*

Budget department # 152 Human Resources Board (HRB) / COLA:

Jennifer Christy presented the HRB budget.

Ms. Christy said there were increases due to salary obligations only. Tim Carroll pointed out that Ms. Christy prepared budget explanation report in the attached documents. Ms. Christy said the Board considered the Fincom's request to do a Capital Planning for the next 5 years. Ms. Christy said the Board took that very seriously and though it is not considered capital it will definitely have a financial impact on the budget. Ms. Christy said the HRB will be holding a public hearing on an amendment to the bylaws specifying that a compensation evaluation will take place every 5 years. Tim Carroll estimated this to cost somewhere between \$15,000.00 and \$25,000.00.

Chairman Hannemann asked for the COLA information. Ms. Christy said the Board did the process and the COLA is recommended to be 1.5%. Ms. Biskis explained the process is to get figures from the CPI for Northeast Wage Earners and then our policy is if it is below 1% it will be 1% and if it is over 3% it will be 3%. Chairman Hannemann asked what other towns COLA is so far. Ms. Albertine said Social Services are 2.7% COLA for FY21. Fincom Chairman Hannemann thanked Ms. Christy for this budget report.

Budget department #541 Up Island Council on Aging (UICOA):

Director Joyce Albertine presented this budget with Tanya Larsen and board member Skipper Manter. Ms. Albertine said this is her 35th year working at UICOA. Chairman Hannemann pointed out that the budget was down 2.5% overall from last year. Ms. Albertine said Chilmark's portion was down .5% from last year. Ms. Albertine showed a picture of the new Up Island Counsel on Aging sign that is at the office location at the West Tisbury Howe's House.

UICOA Continued...

Ms. Larsen discussed the SNAP cards and also the involvement with Island Grown Initiative to get fresh produce to the persons needing it. Fincom Chairman Hannemann thanked the representatives from UICOA for this budget report.

Budget department #840 Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC):

MVC Director Adam Turner and Finance officer Curt Schroder presented this budget. Mr. Turner said this budget is up \$155,000.00 and it was driven by the increase to legal this year. Mr. Turner said we added an additional legal line to breakout the Tribe casino legal to show it for what it is and that this line will most likely not be in the budget next year. The other contributing factors to the budget increase are the salary contractual obligations. Mr. Turner said the MVC will be focusing most of its resources to climate strategy and resident elder issues. Mr. Turner said there are some employees that are leaving the MVC and his plan is to reorganize to address the key focus points mentioned. Mr. Turner said they have a new staff member that Chilmark is probably familiar with as he covered Chilmark news in the Vineyard Gazette before joining the MVC staff. His name is Alex Elvin. Mr. Schroder said the MVC has 12 staff/ employees; 6 are men 6 are women.

Mr. Malkin said the Chilmark Climate working group has determined that in all likelihood the MVC will need to hire extra project employees and grant writers for the climate issues. The budget to the town is up 12.7 % . There was discussion on this figure. Mr. Turner said they would return on January 28th when the Social Services budget hearing is to present the MVC preliminary report on senior services on Marth's Vineyard. Fincom Chairman Hannemann thanked the representatives from the MVC for this budget report.

Vineyard Transit Authority:

Lenny Jason, Chilmark's representative on the VTA Board was present in the absence of Director Angie Grant due to an injury. Mr. Jason said he is here tonight asking the Town if they would support restoring the level of service to what the town had in 2019. Discussion ensued explaining about the funding shortfall and the union issue was the big driving figure. Fincom Chairman Hannemann thanked Lenny Jason for this report.

Budget department # 491 Cemetery:

Cemetery Commissioners Sally Cook and Judith Flanders presented this budget. Chairman Cook reported that the Commission worked hard to complete the maintenance and repairs and to open a new section in the cemetery this fiscal year and to reduce the FY21 budget by 6.21%. Fincom Chairman Hannemann thanked Ms. Cook and Ms. Flanders for this budget report.

Budget department # 175 Planning Board:

Planning Board Chairman Richard Osnoss and Administrative Assistant Jennifer Christy presented this budget. FinCom Chairman Hannemann said other than the salary obligations you have kept this budget at a 0% increase. Chairman Osnoss said at this time there are no legal issues. Chairman Osnoss said he wanted to express his gratitude for the support of Ms. Christy and her professional assistance to the entire board of 7 elected members. There was discussion of the revisions and updates being made to the Chilmark Master Plan. Tim Carroll pointed out the explanation page prepared by Ms. Christy about the Planning Board budget. Fincom Chairman Hannemann thanked Rich Osnoss and Ms. Christy for this report.

Budget department #161 Town Clerk:

Chilmark Town Clerk Jennifer Christy presented this budget. Ms. Christy said this budget is similar to previous years with the big change to the election workers line. Ms. Christy explained that she is requesting that the election workers be paid the Massachusetts minimum wage. Ms. Christy said she also has an officer / constable and has budgeted that position at \$30.00 an hour. Mr. Christy said the early voting is increasing the need for more election staff. Ms. Christy answered questions about the early voting and the coming elections. Fincom Chairman Hannemann thanked Jennifer Christy for this report.

At 8:34 PM with no further items for discussion Mr. Golden moved to adjourn. Ms. Murphy seconded the motion. SO VOTED: FinCom: 6 Ayes 1 Not Present *Don Leopold*. Selectmen: 2 Ayes 1 not present *Bill Rossi*.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase.

Approved 02/03/2020

Document list:

- Draft minutes from 1/23/2019
- Draft minutes from 1/24/2019
- Draft minutes from 1/29/2019
- FY21 Budget binders
- Photo of Up Island Counsel on Aging new sign
- MVC final budget approved January 16, 2020