

**FY21 Budget Hearing #2 Chilmark Fincom & Selectmen Joint  
Meeting Minutes January 23, 2020**

**Present:** FinCom: Rob Hannemann, Vicki Divoll, Bruce Golden, Eric Glasgow, Marshall Carroll, Susan Murphy, *Don Leopold was not present.* Selectmen: James Malkin *Warren Doty and Bill Rossi were not present.* Others: Tim Carroll, Ellen Biskis, Melanie Becker, Diana DeBlase, Jessica Bradlee, Pam Bunker, Wendy Weldon, Lenny Jason, Wayne Iacono, Margaret Maida, Clarissa Allen, and MVTV videographer Lynn Fraker.

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

Minutes: Chairman Hannemann recommended going through all three sets of minutes and approving them at the end of reviewing as a single motion.

Draft minutes from the 1/30/2019 budget hearing were reviewed, corrections were made. Draft minutes from the 1/31/2019 budget hearing were reviewed, corrections were made. Draft minutes from 02/04/2019 budget hearing were reviewed, corrections were made. Ms. Murphy moved to approve all three sets of minutes as corrected. Mr. Glasgow seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 6 Ayes 1 not present**

Budget department # 146 Tax Collector:

Chilmark Tax Collector Jessica Bradlee presented this budget. Fincom members reviewed the budget and had no questions and thanked Ms. Bradlee for keeping her budget flat.

Budget department # 141 Tax Assessors:

Assistant Assessor Pam Bunker presented this budget. Ms. Bunker said she reduced the hours to the Temporary Employee line by 30 hours for a total of 164 hours. Ms. Bunker said she did this to keep the salary line as low as possible. Ms. Bunker said she would like to respond to the email about 5 year budget expenses and capital planning. Ms. Bunker said that while the revaluation is not necessarily a capital item it does have a substantial cost. Ms. Bunker said they will be submitting a warrant article of \$40,000.00 down from previous years. There was discussion to annualize the cost rather than a lump sum needed at once; no change was made at this time. Chairman Hannemann recommended a single spreadsheet of expenses for the revaluation. Chairman Hannemann thanked Ms. Bunker.

Budget department # 699 Martha's Vineyard Cultural Council:

Wendy Weldon a Chilmark representative on the MV Cultural Council presented this budget. Ms. Weldon said the MVCC has been very successful in helping artists and the community with events and projects for the community. Ms. Weldon said Chilmark is also represented on the MVCC with Heather Goff and Margaret Emerson. Ms. Weldon said 4 applicants from Chilmark were all funded with the MVCC grant funds. Mr. Weldon said she would like to see the Chilmark School apply for a MVCC grant. Ms. Weldon said the MVCC would like to thank the town for the \$3,500.00 that they funded the MVCC with last year and hope they will do so again. The MVCC is not asking for any increases. Ms. Weldon reported that this year we had grant application requests totaling over \$150,000.00. Ms. Weldon said the MVCC has \$48,000.00 and we try to give some money to each applicant. Chairman Hannemann thanked Ms. Weldon for coming to talk to the Fincom.

Budget department # 231 Building Inspector:

Chilmark Building Inspector Lenny Jason presented this budget. Mr. Jason said he has increase the Administrative Assistant hours to 4 hours a week, up from 2. Mr. Jason said in addition to what was already listed he is requesting to add \$600.00 to the professional development line. Mr. Jason said he would like to have a mileage stipend like he did when he was hired by the Selectmen. Mr. Jason said his mileage budget line is \$1,800.00 and he would like to just have a stipend of \$1,000.00.

Tim Carroll said that the policy was changed by the Human Resources Board to a mileage reimbursement policy years ago. Mr. Golden said the HRB would consider your agreement if you bring this to a meeting.

### Building Inspector Continued...

Ms. Divoll asked what the revenues compared against the department costs. Mr. Jason said he did not know. Ms. Biskis said she sends expense reports and revenue reports regularly to all the departments. Ms. Biskis said department heads don't seem to care about the revenues. Ms. Biskis said she has not printed the final revenues because she doesn't have December yet but will run the figures when the final numbers are in. Chairman Hannemann said it will be good to review when we have the figures.

Mr. Jason said the town should consider charging per square foot for the building permits. Mr. Jason recommended \$0.70 per square foot.

Vicki Divoll and Tim Carroll will meet to review and discuss the revenues and fees. Tim Carroll said we can raise the fees but we are required to not make a profit.

Mr. Jason asked to return to discussion about the VTA and what they are asking the towns.

Mr. Jason said as a member of the TVA he is here to ask the town to vote for last year's level of service. The service was stopped and would need to be voted back. This would bypass the 2.5% increase on our service. Mr. Jason said we will not be coming back yearly to ask for this it will continue. Mr. Glasgow asked if this would get the State to pay the 75% of service. Mr. Jason said we can hope.

Chairman Hannemann thanked Mr. Jason for returning and clarifying the VTA request.

### Budget department # 630 Beach:

Beach Committee Chairman and committee members; Clarissa Allen, Margaret Maida and Wayne Iacono were present for this budget. Accountant Biskis handed out some new figures from Martina Mastro Monaco about the work schedule hours for employees that affected the salary lines. Ms. Allen said the lifeguard line is high because we have many returning each year and they are at a higher step. It was pointed out that Labor Day is 7 days later in September than last year so the salary expenses are reflecting that too. Ms. Allen said the expenses budget was lowered as much as possible to (-0.53%) to offset the salary line. This budget is up 3.05%. Ms. Allen said the Committee is also requesting additional funds for budget line 5242 Facilities Maintenance of \$2,500.00 to fix the washout in the Squibnocket parking lot next to the ticket shack. Ms. Allen said she contacted John Keene to get this figure and would have his company do the job.

Ms. Divoll said the Beach Department is almost self-funding. Menemsha is staffed with guards and the town doesn't charge for access. Chairman Hannemann asked if Squibnocket revenues are back up to what they were 10 years ago. Ms. Maida said more people are going to Squibnocket than ever before.

Chairman Hannemann thanked the Beach Committee members for their budget report.

### Budget department # 114 Moderator:

Tim Carroll said this is unchanged at \$100.00. There was no change made to this budget.

### Budget department 122 Selectmen:

Tim Carroll presented this budget. Tim Carroll said that line 5205 should be \$10,300.00 for the Web Site Manager. Mr. Carroll pointed out that the Town Report printing has gone up slightly to \$29.95 per page for 300 books but the amount listed should cover it without additional funds needed.

Chairman Hannemann said the Web Site has a much more professional appearance and is easier to use.

Ms. Divoll agreed that it was much easier to find what you are looking for now. Chairman Hannemann said his one complaint is that emails are not listed anymore; you have to confirm you are not a robot prior to getting your message through. Tim Carroll explained this is a change as a cyber security measure.

### Budget department # 131 Finance Committee:

Tim Carroll said this budget is unchanged. Tim Carroll asked if the postage line should be increased to send notices to voters prior to town meeting. Chairman Hannemann said that would not be necessary: the notice will be posted to our web site. There was no further discussion on this budget.

Budget department #151 Legal:

Tim Carroll said this budget is unchanged from last year; will remain at \$55,180.00. Chairman Hannemann said this has been underspent for the past 3 years and asked if it could be lowered. Mr. Carroll said it only takes a project that we have to go to an alternate legal counsel to overspend this line quickly. Mr. Carroll said Ron Rappaport gives us a very good hourly rate and will also give us discounted bill when he sees it's high. There was no change to this budget at this time.

Budget department #292 Animal Control Officer:

Tim Carroll said he increase the ACO hours annually from 500 to 523 because it reflected more accurately the hours worked. Tim Carroll removed \$700.00 the mileage allowance line 5711 because it has been unspent for 4 years.

There was discussion of adding up all of the town's mileage allowances and seeing if it might be worth the town getting an electric vehicle in the future

Budget department # 296 Animal Inspector:

Tim Carroll said he increased this budget for inspections by \$800.00 for a total of \$2,000.00. Mr. Glasgow asked what a realistic figure will be when Mr. Murphy retires. Tim Carroll said this would go to the Human Resources Board for new position review and recommendations.

At 8:15 PM with no further items to discuss on the agenda Ms. Divoll moved to adjourn. Marshall Carroll seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 6 Ayes 1 not present**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase.

**Approved 02/03/2020**

Document List:

- FY21 Budget Binders
- 3 sets of draft minutes 1/30/2019, 1/31/2019 & 2/04/2019
- 2 pages of adjusted figures for employee staffing for summer season from Beach Superintendent