

**FY2020 Budget Hearing #3, Chilmark FinCom & Selectmen Joint
Meeting Minutes January 29, 2019**

Present: FinCom: Chairman Rob Hannemann, Marshall Carroll, Vicki Divoll, Susan Murphy, Bruce Golden and Don Leopold. Eric Glasgow arrived at 7:45. Selectmen: Bill Rossi and Warren Doty. *James Malkin was not present* Others: Tim Carroll, Melanie Becker, Ellen Biskis, Teresa Manning, Martina Thornton, Adam Turner, Jessica Bradlee, Curtis Schroder, Mike Joyce, Paddy Moore, Julie Fay, Sarah Kuh and Tri Town Ambulance Chief Ben Retmier.

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

Department budget # 146 Tax Collector:

Chilmark Tax Collector Jessica Bradlee presented this budget. Ms. Bradlee said the increases to the budget are due to postage increase and service contracts. There is also contractual increase to Step and COLA in the salary line. Chairman Doty said we have the tax collector hours at 37.5 hours and asked if that was a correct amount of time. Mr. Doty asked if there was a need to add clerical assistance to this department. Ms. Bradlee said that the 37.5 hours allows for her to accomplish what she needs to get done.

Department budget # 840 Other Assessments - Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC):

Curtis Schroder and MVC Director Adam Turner presented this budget. Mr. Turner pointed out that FY20 Chilmark assessment of the budget is reduced by \$10,860.00. The total will be \$171,202.00. Mr. Schroder explained the equalized valuation formula for funding. Mr. Turner said this year we took on workforce housing and have a mortgage but the employee pays 65% of that from their salary. Mr. Turner said a senior employee is retiring this year and we have decided rather than hiring for that position we will focus more funding towards Climate Change and Global Warming issues that must be addressed. Mr. Turner gave some highlights of the accomplishments from the past year. Mr. Turner confirmed that there are 11 employees at the MVC.

Ms. Becker said the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group meets tomorrow but the agenda has a recommendation for increase for Health Insurance to be 0% so this budget will be adjusted with that reduction when the time comes. Mr. Turner confirmed they will make that adjustment and re submit the figures. Mr. Turner said there are 2 employees that are not utilizing the health insurance but may; so they budget that into the insurance figure. Mr. Schroder said this is the draft budget it is approved at the January 7, 2019 MVC Meeting.

Martha's Vineyard Youth Task Force (MVYTF):

Teresa Manning and Mike Joyce of the MV Youth Task Force presented an article for the Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Joyce said for ten years we have been getting grant money from the State & Federal Government. Mr. Joyce said we have exhausted the Federal Grant share and are asking for the towns to fund that portion of our program. The MVYTF is now a 501 C3 so they can accept donations. Mr. Joyce said we are moving to have the Regional High School to be the fiscal agent so when the towns vote the funding the funds will go to the High School to provide funds for this Task Force. The MV Task Force primary purpose is to deter drug, alcohol and tobacco use with the island's youth.

Ms. Manning said \$11,400.00 is the amount that they are seeking from Chilmark. Ms. Manning also discussed this budget need as a stopgap until they secure funding. The total annual budget that MV Task Force has been working with for the past 10 years is \$225,000.00. The MVYTF worked at cutting the budget to a leaner function prior to coming to the towns and will operate at a \$200,000.00 budget cutting \$25,000.00 if the towns support the funding they have asked for.

Dukes County - Social Services Department budget #541:

County Manager Martina Thornton presented these budget requests. Ms. Thornton said we have 8 articles for your Annual Town Meeting. 3 of these articles are through County programs that she will speak to and there are representatives from the other organizations who will speak to the others. Martha's Vineyard Community Services will talk to the Healthy Aging, CORE & First Stop. Center for Living (Already presented budget 1/24/19) and Health Care Access will also be presented here.

Ms. Thornton said there is a 5% administrative fee that the County is adding to these departments for the work facilitated through the County. Ms. Thornton said there are 7 departments and the 8th article addresses OPEB that would not have the additional 5%.

Ms. Thornton said the Sheriff sent a letter almost a year ago stating that the Sheriff was terminating the MOU with the County the MOU allowed for Alarm Fees of \$130,000.00 to go to the County's general budget annually. Ms. Thornton said because of this there is a shortfall to the County Budget that we have to address and the administrative work for each of these services is where that short fall is being regained.

Julie Fay the Director of Martha's Vineyard Community Services and Paddy Moore discussed the following programs: CORE, Healthy Aging & First Stop which are all senior services.

Ms. Thornton said the County is now sending out an electronic news letter to keep the community informed of their Social Services available to the community.

Ms. Moore spoke of the work going towards a future with a progressive nursing home on Martha's Vineyard. Ms. Thornton gave an explanation about the SUD (Substance Use Disorder) prevention program and also the Other Post-Employment Benefits obligations article. The county has put aside \$150,000.00 for OPEB to date but must continue to fund.

The following is the breakdown of the articles being requested:

1. Vineyard Health care Access Program \$42,115.00
2. Dukes County Social Services \$5,985.00
3. SUD Prevention Program \$3,591.00
4. MV Center for Living / AKA MV Senior Services \$67,533.00
5. CORE(Counseling Outreach and Referrals for Elders) \$9,576.00
6. First Stop \$3,747.00
7. Healthy Aging MV \$8,193.00
8. OPEB \$16,560.00

Department budget # 231 Tri-Town Ambulance (TTA):

Tri-Town Ambulance Chief Ben Retmier presented this budget. Chief Retmier was asked to discuss any changes proposed in the salary lines. Chief Retmier said step and COLA are the only changes; there are no new positions or hours being proposed. Chief Retmier pointed out that they have lowered the Special Events Line item because the President of the United States is not expected to vacation on Martha's Vineyard.

Chief Retmier said he did increase the overtime and holiday lines as they are relatively new lines broken out. Due to the historical numbers that were shown this figure is more accurate.

Ms. Becker asked about the position of mechanic showing historically that it has never been spent. Chief Retmier said if this position is not filled this year it will be removed from the FY21 budget. Tim Carroll said this position would manage the maintenance of all the vehicles and equipment and is not to be a mechanic.

Department budget # 231 Tri-Town Ambulance Continued...

Mr. Doty the Chilmark Selectmen on the Tri Town Ambulance Committee (this Committee has a Selectmen from each of the 3 towns of the TTA) discussed items about this budget and how they came to these recommendations. Chief Retmier discussed revenue collection policy.

Chairman Hannemann said looking at your budget history you have consistently underspent the salary lines by 9% and your overall budget underspent by 6%. Ms. Biskis said there is discussion of TTA moving to a group 4 (retirement) and asked where the figure came from. Chief Retmier said the figure was verbally given to him from the County retirement department.

Mr. Doty said he hopes that the Tri Town Ambulance Headquarters will be moving forward to be in Chilmark and gave a brief description of how the funding would be shared from each town not for the land but running the facility & services.

Chief Retmier spoke about an Annual Town Meeting warrant article to purchase new AEDs (Automated Electronic Defibrillators) for the 3 towns in every public building and in emergency vehicles. Estimated cost is \$70,000.00 this would come from the Capital Funds (reserve) not going to tax payers for funding but will need vote to spend the funds.

There was discussion about rescheduling some of the department budget hearings.

At 9:07 PM With no further items for discussion Mr. Glasgow moved to adjourn. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. **SO VOTED:** FinCom: 7 Ayes. Selectmen: 2 Ayes, 1 not present *Mr. Malkin*

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase. **Approved 01/22/2020**