

FY22 Budget Hearing #1 January 20, 2021 Joint meeting of Selectmen & FinCom

Remotely Present: FinCom: Chairman Rob Hannemann, Bruce Golden, Don Leopold, Eric Glasgow, Susan Murphy and Vicki Divoll. *Marshall Carroll was not present.* Selectmen: Chairman Bill Rossi, Warren Doty and James Malkin. Others: Tim Carroll, Jennifer Christy, Diana DeBlase, Beth Folcarelli, Joyce Albertine, Melanie Becker, Sarah Kuh, Bruce Stone, Leslie Clapp, Cindy Trish, Curtis Schroeder, Ellen Biskis, Cynthia Doyle, Martina Thornton, Karen Tewhey, Joan Malkin, Adam Turner, Sergio Modigliani, (27 participants)

At 7:00 PM Rob Hannemann called meeting to order on the Zoom remote platform.

Minutes:

Draft minutes from Finance Committee meeting held November 12, 2020 were reviewed. Mr. Glasgow moved to approve. Chairman Hannemann said he had minor corrections but with them updated agreed to approve minutes. Ms. Murphy seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: 6 Ayes 1 Not Present *Marshall Carroll*

Human Resource Board & COLA recommendation:

Chairman Hannemann confirmed the COLA increase of 1.4% was approved at November 12, 2020 FinCom meeting.

Up Island Council on Aging (UICOA):

West Tisbury Accountant Bruce Stone spoke to this department budget. West Tisbury is the managing town like Chilmark is for Tri Town Ambulance. Mr. Stone said level budget increases are due to personnel bylaw 1.8% COLA and step increase. Mr. Stone said we have reclassified Joyce Albertine's director position to increase the wage. Chairman Hannemann asked for West Tisbury Accountant to talk about the OPEB figure and Mr. Stone explained.

Assessment Budget Comparison Summary for UICOA.

Joyce Albertine asked to speak of the money contributed by Friends of UICOA; they received \$132,000.00 for the fuel and food assisting gift fund. Ms. Albertine spoke also of the \$375,000 to \$380,000 in grant funding received through her writing grants.

Social Services:

Martina Thornton Dukes County Manager spoke to the programs and how they are funded. Ms. Thornton said that Harbor Homes that specializes in homelessness prevention is seeking funding for a caseworker of \$55,560.00.

Center for Living (C4L):

Leslie Clapp the Director of C4L explained the reduction to budget compared to FY21. Ms. Clapp said during the pandemic we had to close our doors to in person and went entirely online with programs. Until we get vaccinations we will remain remote. We have furloughed 2 workers and one retired. We are increasing our fees to full day service only at \$60.00 per person (used to offer ½ day).

Accountant Ellen Biskis pointed out the department 520 Social Services page on the Budget Book (electronically)

Beth Folcarelli the new director for Martha's Vineyard Community Services said she has been on board for 5 months now. Ms. Folcarelli said First Stop is a web & telephone services.

- More than 700 providers listed on the First Stop website.
- Average 150 thousand clicks on the site.
- 1 hour staffing First Stop per week.
- Re-allocate funding to Counselling Outreach Referral for Elders (CORE).
- Increase CORE from 35 hours per week to 54 hours.

Healthy Aging MV - Cindy Trish Executive Director spoke of the island wide elder adult survey this past year. Reduction to budget due to insurance.

- Growing population of elder residence.
- Chilmark 4 out of 10 are over 65 years old.
- Planning and Advocacy.

Ms. Murphy asked how much \$ for salaries vs programs. Ms. Trish said \$90,000 for salary \$16,000.00 is rent etc. Ms. Trish said we also write grants.

MV Commission:

Adam Turner, Curtis Schroeder, Joan Malkin were present to discuss the Martha's Vineyard Commission Budget for FY22.

MVC director Adam Turner said this is a challenging year maintaining public hearings during pandemic but we have managed. Mr. Schroeder said this budget is raising about \$28,000 annually for past 6 years that is generally salary. Chairman Hannemann pointed out that the Chilmark assessment for FY22 is going down about 1.5%

Chairman Hannemann thanked the participants for presenting their budgets.

Discussion turned to the process of the Budget Hearings and how to keep the meetings short on the zoom platform.

Town Administrator Tim Carroll screen shared the Budget Summary page. Mr. Carroll said there is support for any budgets above 2.5% increase we will schedule a hearing for.

Mr. Carroll said Jennifer Christy's hours are being reallocated to Town Clerk and Planning Board instead of all of the additional jobs that will be allocated to the new hires of Board Administrators with Cuck Hodgkinson's retirement.

Ms. Christy said if you have questions she is happy to answer them. Ms. Christy gave information on early voting and explained she oversees 90 positions during this time. MS. Christy also talked about the public record laws and the extensive work to get all Chilmark COI training completed.

Mr. Doty said Selectmen looked at this extensively and approved increasing Town Clerk hours from 21 to 30 hours.

Ms. Murphy said as Cemetery Superintendent, Jenn was so helpful during the amendments to our regulations. Mr. Malkin said this is not a salary increase just re-assignment of hours. All part of the reorganizing package with change of staff.

Mr. Carroll also said this change includes no raise just change of assignment of what department salary is coming from.

Health Care Access – Sarah Kuh

Ms. Kuh offered to answer any question you might have. This budget has a 1.12% increase. There were no questions for Ms. Kuh. Chairman Hannemann thanked Ms. Kuh.

Chairman Hannemann stressed importance of keeping zoom meeting short.

Mr. Carroll recommended budget hearing zoom meetings to review budgets above \$10,000 Over \$2,000 & over 2.5% increase.

Chairman Hannemann said the departments are more skilled at putting budgets together. There was support to give FinCom opportunity to ask for more in depth budget information individually to their liaison town departments.

Process on how to hold hearings was discussed. Overall budget is Up 6.62%

Chairman Hannemann recommended to limit zoom meetings to 1 hour.

Mr. Malkin said would like to look at Fire, Police, Harbor and TTA for 15 min each. Mr. Carroll requested Sheriff's budget as well.

Chairman Hannemann recommended 4 more budget hearing meetings and tasked Tim Carroll to work on schedule. Ms. Murphy pointed out that Emergency Management has an increase of 49.2% and that should be reviewed.

It was agreed to keep tomorrow's meeting time as a time to individually work on review of materials and have next budget hearing meeting next week.

At 8:12 PM Chairman Hannemann asked for motion to adjourn. Mr. Golden moved, Ms. Divoll seconded the motion. **SO VOTED FinCom: 6 Ayes, 1 not present. Selectmen: 3 Ayes.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase.

Fincom: **Approved 03/11/2021**

Board of Selectmen: **Approved 03/16/2021**

Document list:

- Draft minutes from FinCom 11/12/2020 meeting
- Supporting documents and budgets on the www.Chilmarkma.gov site under FY22 Budget