

## Selectmen's Meeting

January 17, 2012

4:00 pm

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date in the Fred B Morgan Jr. Meeting Room, Town Hall. Members present were: Arthur Smadbeck, Chairman and Margaret E. Serpa. Also present was Ms. Pamela Dolby.

At 4:00pm Mr. Smadbeck opened the meeting and started with the annual review for Ms. Gail Avakian.

Ms. Serpa stated that Ms. Avakian is always consistent and willing to help whenever and wherever needed.

Ms. Dolby stated that Ms. Avakian is a real joy to have in the office.

Ms. Serpa moved to give Ms. Avakian a positive review. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Smadbeck then recognized Ms. Barbara Prada, Animal Control Officer, for her quarterly report.

Ms. Prada stated that it has been quiet and that she had also included the annual farm census with her written report.

Ms. Serpa moved to accept the quarterly report and the annual farm census. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

The Board then approved the following items:

The minutes of January 9, 2012.

A Used Car Dealer license for Russell Swartz.

A Travel Voucher for the Wastewater Department.

A Commitment for the Harbormaster for \$138,425 for 647 moorings and 70 stakes

An abatement for the Harbormaster for \$2110 for 10 moorings and 1 stake.

The Board granted a request from Ms. Julia Kidd to hang a banner over Main St. for two weeks at the end of February or beginning of March as part of an island wide art installation. It was expressed that this was a one time approval. The applicant would need to return for permission for any future projects.

At 4:09pm The Board started the budget hearings with the Financial Advisory Committee.

- Highway – present Stuart Fuller – They reviewed the budget noted that it was the same, just some items had been moved around and there had been some adjustments to overtime. The snow removal, street, and tree budgets were unchanged. They then went over articles. The articles to cover resurfacing and sidewalks were both raised \$5,000 each to cover some of the increase in costs. There was an article to accept the Chapter 90 funds from the state. There was also an article for \$17,000 for a small truck that was increased to \$19,000. There was great discussion over an article to purchase a vacuum/jet sewer truck. The FINCOM and Board would like to see a possible regional purchase of this vehicle due to the infrequent use and possible liability. They encouraged Mr. Fuller to discuss the matter with his counterparts in Oak Bluffs and Vineyard Haven. This article will be held out from the warrant.
- Dredge – present: Charlie Blair, Sara Tiemann, & Ed Handy. – It was reported that the Oak Bluffs project is complete. The dredge is now 15 years old and will need a complete overhaul. The permits are complete.
- Harbormaster & Marine Advisory Committee – present: Charlie Blair and Sara Tiemann. There was discussion of moorings and stakes, the fees, excise tax, and how long the waiting list was. There were no changes to the budget.
- Dukes County Regional Housing – present: David Vigneault – Mr. Vigneault gave a summary of how the DCRH works, how many units they handle, and they do it all with 3 staff members. He explained the 50/50 assessment formula and that this year was 4.2% higher than last year to include healthcare increases and a small salary increase. The salary increase would depend on the amount of the healthcare increase. He was also asking for an additional \$10,000 for legal costs for document review. This spurred a discussion on the use of Town Counsel and why DCRH needed to

double review documents already reviewed by Edgartown Town Counsel. The town is already paying \$4,000 per closing for administration plus legal costs. Ms. Dolby felt this was double review and double charging. Ms. Serpa agreed. Mr. Smadbeck thought it was too round of a number with nothing attached to it and suggested the DCRH create a clear idea of what they need.

There being no further business, Ms. Serpa moved to adjourn at 5:08 pm. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

Approved:

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Arthur Smadbeck, Chairman

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Not present  
Michael J. Donaroma

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Margaret E. Serpa  
Board of Selectmen

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Rose  
Assistant