

Finance Advisory Committee

September 16, 2020

4:00 pm

A meeting of the Committee was held on the above date and time via the Zoom Application. Members present were: Leslie Baynes, James Carter, Robert Coad, Steve Jordan, Scott Morgan and Paul Pertile.

Also present was Town Administrator, James Hagerty; BOS Chair, Arthur Smadbeck; and School Committee Member, Kimberly Kirk.

Ms. Baynes opened the meeting, and Mr. Hagerty then presented minutes from a previous agenda he requested to be approved. Due to several members not present, the item was tabled.

Mr. Hagerty then presented an economic document that was created by the MVC. The sheet entailed quantitative data from the island regarding, unemployment rates, SSA reservation, STR and meals tax info. Mr. Hagerty went line by line and explained his interpretation of each element, and its correlation to COVID.

Mr. Hagerty then presented a spreadsheet that highlighted FY19 vs FY20 revenues in 250+ different categories. Mr. Hagerty went line by line and explained the variance in each category and the likely correlation to COVID.

Mr. Hagerty then presented a similar spreadsheet that compared July and August FY20 revenues vs. July and August FY21 revenues. Mr. Hagerty went through the 250+ lines and explained what had been posted in the Town's accounting software, and what was still outstanding. Mr. Hagerty estimated that aside from a few variables, and some confounding data sets, the Town was negative roughly \$400,000 in revenues from the previous year. Mr. Hagerty detailed the local receipt estimate vs. local receipt actual numbers, and their relationship to free cash at the end of the FY. Mr. Hagerty warned that the Town could potentially have a structural deficient if the numbers continued in this trend. He advised the FAC to hold off on scheduling a STM meeting, and continue to evaluate the numbers on a monthly basis. Mr. Hagerty then fielded questions related to the various specifics of the presented local receipts.

Mr. Carter then asked how the school was handling COVID from a budgetary perspective. Mr. Hagerty then described how the school had budgeted for COVID via an emergency fund to pay for unexpected costs. Ms. Kirk further elaborated.

Mr. Hagerty then updated the FAC on the correspondence he has received regarding the "All Island Finance Committee" meeting and the MVRHS athletic field discussion. Mr. Baynes and Mr. Carter then voiced their concerns about making premature decisions, and then requested that the FAC let the process run its course. Mr. Baynes then made the motion to, " let the process in place run its course, and not encumber the Administrators of the education system any more than we should; and allow them to get on with the business of making the school a safe environment for our students." Mr. Carter seconded. Unanimous

At 4:49 PM Mr. Baynes moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Pertile seconded. Unanimous.

Donna Lowell-Bettencourt,
Leslie Baynes,
James Carter
Robert Coad
Steve Jordan
Paul Pertile
Scott Morgan (Alternate)

Respectfully submitted,

James Hagerty
Town Administrator