

PRESENT: AlanGowell, chairman of the Board; Donna L. Goodale, member of the Board; Christopher Scott, member of the Board; Jo-Ann Resendes, Principal Assessor; Patti Roads, Principal Assessor

The chairman brought the zoom meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Alan started the meeting by saying the budget Patti has provided looked good. Patti went on to explain that there should be plenty of money for both Cindy and Joann to be consultants. Joann's time has been forecasted to taper off throughout the year. Patti would like to have her available for more personal training after the growth and rates have been completed. Question was raised as to if there would be any significant fallout if this line item proved to be more expensive. Alan said there would be no pushback if we need another \$10K or \$20K; the conversations were already being had regarding more consultant help in the next 2 months. Patti was also open to trainers outside Joann once Joann's time ends, but we will cross that bridge once we get there.

Chris agreed with all the above statements, and moved onto Patti's course work towards her certification. Patti went on to explain there is nothing available until January. The schedule for the courses has been set, but is hinging on whether or not there will be enough enrollments. All of these trainings will be done remotely. Patti will be on schedule to receive her certification by June, as long as the courses go on as planned. The estimated cost of the courses is \$3,500, but budget line only has only been allotted \$2,500. Everyone agreed this will not be a problem, and that the \$1,000 difference is inconsequential. The question also arose concerning Alex's potential training, more specifically regarding the finances behind it. Alex's trainings would not be expensive and should be covered from different line items, if necessary. Lastly, the timing of all this should see the budget replenished and Patti with her certification.

Patti spoke with Brian from RRC, he alerted her that our recertification valuation is schedule for 2023. We will need to account for a portion of their fee. Last year this fee was \$8K. Currently, we have \$88K in warrant articles. Department may require \$30K-\$40K in additional funds for upcoming cyclical evolutions, and is dependent on how much field work is done.

Alan then asked how setting the tax rate and calculating growth was going. Joanne is confident we will be able to provide a realistic tax rate subject from approval of the DOR at the hearing.

Joanne then went on to explain the process of how Eversource's personal property would be calculated and the issues that have been arising, legally, in this process. In case dispute from Eversource, RRC could testify to its assessment. Currently, they are paying us \$40K-\$50K in taxes annually with a \$13M-\$15M assessment on all personal property. A specialized RRC consultant would be necessary to assess this property and would cost upwards of \$2K. It may make more sense for all island towns (excluding Aquinnah) to be assessed collectively. More research would be done to find the benefits of this and would be revisited in a month or two to be acted upon for FY22. Donna started a vote to increase the budget line item for data collection services from \$3,500 to \$5,500 in advance for this service; all in favor.

Donna made a motion to accept the budget as proposed, Chris Scott seconded, all in favor.

Donna made a motion to increase cyclical visit budget to \$40K, Chris Scott seconded all in favor.

Donna made motion to authorize Jo-Ann Resendes or Patti Roads to sign on behalf of them in the gateway system for FY21, Chris Scott seconded, all in favor.

Donna made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:40, Chris Scott seconded, all in favor.

The next board meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2020 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Alex Cervone  
Assistant to the Principal Assessor