

**FY22 Joint Board of Selectmen and Financial Advisory Committee
Budget Hearing
January 14, 2021
3:00 pm**

A joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Financial Advisory Committee was held on the above date via Zoom Teleconference. Members present were: Arthur Smadbeck, Chairman; Margaret E. Serpa, Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Co-Chair; Les Baynes, James Carter, Robert Coad, Nedine Cunningham, Steve Jordan, and Paul Pertile. Also present was the Town Administrator James Hagerty.

At 3:01 pm Mrs. Lowell-Bettencourt called the Financial Advisory Committee to order; subsequently Mr. Smadbeck called the Board of Selectmen to order.

Mr. Smadbeck assumed the Chair for the joint meeting.

The first item of business was the budget analysis for the Town Accountant. Amy Tierney spoke.

There was no change to the budget, but it is expected that there will be a \$2,000 or \$3,000 transfer prior to the end of this fiscal year.

Mr. Hagerty sought clarification on the FY22 audit funding, to which Ms. Tierney confirmed sufficiency.

The next item of business was the budget analysis for the Town Treasurer.

There is a roughly 1% increase overall.

Mr. Hagerty noted the debt service is expiring, and the Katama Hangar bond, and the North Wharf Bulkhead. There is also debt expiring for the Edgartown School and the Wastewater Department.

Mr. Smadbeck suggested analysis for paying down debt year-by-year. Mrs. Serpa noted the land purchase for recreation, and the cemetery's plans.

The next item of business was the budget analysis for the Zoning Board of Appeals. Lisa Morrison spoke on behalf of the board, which sought no increase.

The next item of business was the budget for the Conservation Department. Ms. Morrison presented the budget, which is a 0.89% increase.

Ms. Morrison noted the mini park takes up the vast majority of the budget, and that the tenancy-at-will lease has been raised each year for the past many years. The high cost leads to reallocation mid-year and an average \$7,500 deficit.

Mr. Hagerty noted that there must be maintaining of proper allocation of funds. He suggested that FY22 maintain the status quo, and determine contingencies prior to deciding the future of the lease, which has become overly expensive. He determined that there be the \$7,500 increase to prevent the shortfall, but to reduce the two proposed warrant articles to \$15,000.

Mr. Carter and Mr. Baynes suggested the rent of the mini park be reflected in a line item.

The next item was the budget analysis for the Historic District Commission. Brique Garber spoke on behalf of the commission, which saw no operating increases, but an overall 12% increase from salary increases.

The next item of business was the budget analysis for the Building Inspector. Reade Milne presented the budget.

There is a 2.64% increase.

Ms. Milne then presented the proposed warrant article:

- \$20,000 — Enforcement of zoning issues and building codes

Mr. Hagerty noted that the free cash would be a joint account with the Board of Health. He continued that the enforcement issues are real, and that the departments provide a value added service.

Mr. Carter sought clarity on the funds monitoring. Mr. Hagerty noted that it is subject to the same oversight as any warrant article, and would be monitored by the department, and by extension the Financial Advisory Committee.

It was decided that more clarification was needed for FY determination.

The next item of business was the budget analysis of the Information Technology budget. Adam Darack presented the budget.

There is no increase to the budget.

Mr. Darack noted how vital the CARES Act funding was to his operations in this fiscal year and the upcoming fiscal year.

Mr. Carter asked if the AV equipment was installed in town hall, to which it was.

Ms. Lowell-Bettencourt highlighted the budgetary successes of the IT department.

At 3:39 Mrs. Serpa made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Smadbeck seconded the motion.

Unanimous.

Mr. Jordan made a motion to adjourn the Financial Advisory Committee. Mrs. Cunningham seconded the motion.

Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned.