

**FY22 Joint Board of Selectmen and Financial Advisory Committee
Budget Hearing
January 20, 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, and Paul Pertile. Also present was the Town Administrator James Hagerty.

At 3:00 pm Mr. Smadbeck called the Selectmen to order. Mr. Pertile called the Financial Advisory Committee to order.

Mr. Smadbeck assumed the Chair for the joint meeting.

The first item of business was the budget analysis for the Planning Board. Doug Finn presented on behalf of the Planning Board.

There was a 2.4% increase.

There was a proposed warrant article for an Edgartown Master Plan totaling \$100,000. Consulting services would be contracted with these funds.

Mr. Smadbeck and Mr. Baynes sought clarification on the Martha's Vineyard Commission's role in Edgartown's Master Plan process.

Mr. Finn noted that there are other regional planning agencies that have assisted on matters such as a town's master plan. He included that there are also towns that take their own initiative on master planning.

Mr. Hagerty noted the Commission's priorities on Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs) and Energy Policy.

The next item of business was the budget analysis for the Board of Health.

There is a 1.4% increase in the budget.

The next item of business was the budget analysis for the Transfer Station.

There is a 0.7% increase in the budget.

The next item of business was the budget analysis for Animal Control. Mr. Hagerty explained the department's increase due to statutory step increases.

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

There was a 7.65% increase due to increases in salary.

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

There was a 0.41% increase.

There was a proposed warrant article to reclassify the clerk position from Grade A to Grade B.

Melissa Kuehne, who is preparing for retirement, suggested that the Collector and Treasurer positions be transitioned and combined in the near future.

Mr. Hagerty noted that many Massachusetts towns have done the same, and how a job of such importance may be better as an appointed position, citing drastic increases in town budget amounts and the necessity of qualifications.

At 3:31 pm, Ms. Serpa made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

At 3:33 pm, Mr. Baynes made a motion to adjourn the Financial Advisory Committee. Mr. Pertile seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned.