

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
FY24 Joint Meetings of Financial Advisory Committee and the Selectboard
Thursday, January 26, 2023 – 3:00 PM
ZOOM MEETING

IN ATTENDANCE:

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FINCOM)

Donna Lowell-Bettencourt – Chair, Leslie Baynes – Vice-Chair (VC), Robert Coad, Nedine Cunningham, Kelly McCracken, Paul Pertile, Julia Tarka

SELECTBOARD (SB)

Margaret E. Serpa – Chair, Arthur Smadbeck

OTHERS:

James Hagerty – Town Administrator (TA), Amy Tierney – Town Accountant, Pamela J Amaral, CMMT – Town Treasurer, Sheetal K Grande, CMMT – Town Collector, Lisa Morrison – Zoning Board Assistant, Kim Lucas – Human Resources Director, Doug Finn (on behalf of the Planning Board), Jane Varkonda – Conservation Agent

Chair Donna Lowell-Bettencourt called the FINCOM meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Arthur Smadbeck called the SB meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

(Recorder's Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity).

Documents on file as referred to during the meeting: FY24 Edgartown Budget Book 20230113.pdf

Warrant Articles pgs. 8 - 9; Warrant Article Rankings pg 7.

TA James Hagerty screen shared the appropriate pages as each agenda item was presented/reviewed.

Chair Lowell-Bettencourt reviewed the list of priorities and the rankings of importance for the Town, as determined by the Capital Programs Committee, as each department presented their Warrant Articles.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT:

Amy Tierney said there was a step increase for the assistant. The advertising line had been removed; those funds were put into the office supplies line for new equipment. The annual audit expense line had \$63,500 which was enough to cover next year.

TOWN TREASURER:

Pamela J Amaral said there was a slight increase of salary; the new item for debt service was the Memorial Wharf bond.

TOWN COLLECTOR:

Sheetal K Grande said other than a slight increase for office supplies, there were no changes. TA Hagerty said there would be a personnel switch based on a grade change.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

Lisa Morrison said the expense budget didn't change. She reviewed the salary/hour changes; Ms. Morrison said she would increase her hours without exceeding the allowable amount as a working, retired person.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT:

Kim Lucas said there were no changes to the expense budget; the salary line reflected the assistant position.

Ms. Lucas said the cost of living adjustment (COLA) calculation was 6.93%; the Personnel Board recommended 5.0%. Members discussed how this COLA aligned with the other Island towns and the County; TA Hagerty explained how this fit into the bigger picture including how it worked with longevity and step increases. A lengthy discussion ensued on how to be the most attractive employer, including a one time payout that wouldn't impact benefits/pensions; all were in support of paying workers for what they deserved.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION:

TA Hagerty said the budget was slightly down due to a retirement; there were no changes out of the ordinary.

PLANNING BOARD:

Doug Finn said the budget was level funded for services; supplies purchased by this budget were used for many departments on the second floor. Mr. Finn said the salary line reflected a salary of \$72,000 with COLA, for the open position; unspent monies would go to free cash.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE:

Jane Varkonda said the special services account increases were for the equipment and roles at Norton Point.

3 Warrant Articles:

- 1. \$30,000 Land Acquisition Fund
- 2. \$30,000 Property Maintenance Fund
- 3. \$35,000 for rent and taxes for the property known as the mini park, located at 50 Main Street

Members discussed the amount that was available in the Land Acquisition Fund and its use; how the warrant articles could be combined or included in the operating budget; how the Property Maintenance Fund was/would be used.

★ The next meeting was scheduled on Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 3:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

DISCUSSION ENSUED THEREON, UPON A MOTION DULY MADE BY ARTHUR SMADBECK AND SECONDED BY MARGARET E. SERPA, THE SELECTBOARD MEETING UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED AT 3:40 PM.

DISCUSSION ENSUED THEREON, UPON A MOTION DULY MADE BY LESLIE BAYNES AND SECONDED BY JULIA TARKA, THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED AT 3:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted;

James Hagerty, Town Administrator

Teresa Kruszewski, Recorder