

TOWN OF EDGARTOWN  
**FY24 Joint Meetings of Financial Advisory Committee and the Selectboard**  
Wednesday, March 8, 2023 – 4:00 PM  
ZOOM MEETING

*\*Meeting attendance by remote participation only due to Covid 19. Details below*

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FINCOM):**

Donna Lowell-Bettencourt – Chair, Leslie Baynes – Vice-Chair (VC), Robert Coad, Nedine Cunningham, Kelly McCracken (*arrived at 4:02 PM*), Julia Tarka

**SELECTBOARD (SB):**

Margaret E. Serpa – Chair, Arthur Smadbeck

**OTHERS:**

James Hagerty – Town Administrator (TA)

Chair Donna Lowell-Bettencourt called the FINCOM meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Chair Margaret E. Serpa called the SB meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

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

*Documents on file as referred to during the meeting: 2023 Special Town Meeting Warrant Article DRAFT.pdf*

**1. UPDATES ON FY24 OPERATING BUDGET AND FY24 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT:**

Chair Lowell-Bettencourt reviewed the draft changes to the following lines:

- Line 46 no longer included the Assistant Deputy Chief
- Line 82 Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) certified budget
- Line 109 Life Insurance increased by \$500.00
- \$5000.00 reduction for Health Insurance Superintendent's Office/Shared Services; this number reflected the actuals, replacing the placeholder estimate.

*LESLIE BAYNES MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE FY24 OPERATING BUDGET AS PRESENTED.*

*SAID MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JULIA TARKA. THE COMMITTEE VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MR. BAYNES—AYE, MS. LOWELL-BETTENCOURT—AYE, MR. COAD—AYE, MS. CUNNINGHAM—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE & MS. TARKA—AYE.*

Chair Lowell-Bettencourt announced the draft had not gone out to legal or copy edit at this time; TA James Hagerty reviewed the two changes from what was previously briefed:

**Article 46:** Per the engineers, \$980,000 was a good number (formerly \$950,000) to complete phase one for the Edgartown School.

- ❖ Nedine Cunningham expressed [community] concerns that a lot of money was being invested into the playground and outdoor learning space; if the school needed to expand due to the growing population, this would be the most logical direction. Members discussed this as a good point to consider.
- ❖ Chair Lowell-Bettencourt encouraged the School to consider filing an application with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) to support a building project.
- ❖ Chair Lowell-Bettencourt asked TA Hagerty to reach out to Principal Dr. Shelley Einbinder and Superintendent Richard M. Smith to join a meeting (after Town Meeting) for discussion on these [possible] building projects.

**Article 63:** The addition of a new unmarked cruiser for the Police Department; the old one would be disposed of (to the Building Inspector).

- ❖ Chair Lowell-Bettencourt said Bruce R. McNamee, Chief of Police, indicated the replacement vehicle would not be hybrid at this time.

*KELLY MCCRACKEN MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE NEW AMOUNT OF \$980,000 FOR ARTICLE 46 AND THE ADDITION OF ARTICLE 63 FOR A NEW UNMARKED CRUISER. SAID MOTION WAS SECONDED BY LESLIE BAYNES. THE COMMITTEE VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MR. BAYNES—AYE, MS. LOWELL-BETTENCOURT—AYE, MR. COAD—AYE, MS. CUNNINGHAM—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE & MS. TARKA—AYE.*

## **2. 2023 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT VOTE:**

TA Hagerty screen shared and explained the *2023 Special Town Meeting Warrant Article DRAFT.pdf*. Members asked clarifying questions where appropriate.

*LESLIE BAYNES MOVED TO RECOMMEND ARTICLES 1 - 14 AND TO NEITHER/NOR ARTICLE 15. SAID MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JULIA TARKA. THE COMMITTEE VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MR. BAYNES—AYE, MS. LOWELL-BETTENCOURT—AYE, MR. COAD—AYE, MS. CUNNINGHAM—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE & MS. TARKA—AYE.*

TA Hagerty explained the process and timing of what lead up to Article 17, the previous year FY22 unpaid bills of which included RM Packer Co. Heating Fuel totalling \$2539.94. There was uncertainty of how many bills were outstanding; TA Hagerty asked for up to \$5000.00 to ensure the amount would cover all of the outstanding bills.

*LESLIE BAYNES MOVED TO RECOMMEND UP TO \$5000.00 FOR PAYMENT OF PRIOR YEAR (FY22) BILLS. SAID MOTION WAS SECONDED BY NEDINE CUNNINGHAM. THE COMMITTEE VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MR. BAYNES—AYE, MS. LOWELL-BETTENCOURT—AYE, MR. COAD—AYE, MS. CUNNINGHAM—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE & MS. TARKA—AYE.*

## **3. ANIMAL CONTROL RESERVE FUND TRANSFER:**

TA Hagerty explained the request for \$10,000.00 as it would support any needs for department overtime.

*KELLY MCCRACKEN MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE TRANSFER OF \$10,000.00. SAID MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JULIA TARKA. THE COMMITTEE VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MR. BAYNES—AYE, MS. LOWELL-BETTENCOURT—AYE, MR. COAD—AYE, MS. CUNNINGHAM—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE & MS. TARKA—AYE.*

## **4. MINUTES:**

*LESLIE BAYNES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED FOR JANUARY 25, 2022, JANUARY 26, 2022, JANUARY 27, 2022, FEBRUARY 1, 2022, FEBRUARY 2, 2022 AND FEBRUARY 3, 2022. SAID MOTION WAS SECONDED BY NEDINE CUNNINGHAM. THE COMMITTEE VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSTENTIONS. MR. BAYNES—AYE, MS. LOWELL-BETTENCOURT—AYE, MR. COAD—AYE & MS. CUNNINGHAM—AYE. MS. MCCRACKEN & MS. TARKA ABSTAINED.*

## **Other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting:**

VC Leslie Baynes asked about a study that analyzed the Islands carrying capacity and that a progress report would be very helpful. Chair Lowell-Bettencourt said (*information found on Google*) the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) began on August 5, 2021 to explore the carrying capacity study; she would follow up with the MVC for any results; this and other items related to the MVC would be included on a future agenda.

- ★ The next FINCOM meeting was scheduled on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 4:00 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 4:38 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 4:38 PM.*

Respectfully submitted;

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James Hagerty, Town Administrator

*Teresa Kruszewski, Recorder*

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Meeting ID: 891 8416 2472

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Dial by your location - Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kmbwA5MVC>