

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 18, 2014 – 4 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: STEVE JORDAN, CO-CHAIR; MORT FEAREY, JR.; BOB CLAY; BARBARA SHRIBER;
DONNA LOWELL-BETTENCOURT.

OTHERS PRESENT: JOHN STEVENS, EDG. SCHOOL PRINCIPAL; SUSAN MERCIER, SCHOOL CMTEE; ART
SMADBECK, MARGARET SERPA, SELECTMEN; PAM DOLBY, TOWN ADMIDNISTRATOR

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 4 PM. A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED AND VOTED TO APPROVED
MINUTES FROM MAY 21, 2014 MEETING. UNANIMOUS.

JOHN STEVENS INFORMED THE COMMITTEE THAT HE HAS HAD TO HIRE 2 ASSISTANT TEACHERS THIS
YEAR. HE EXPECTS THAT THIS WILL OVERDRAW HIS EXPENSE BUDGET AT THE END OF THE YEAR. HE
ALSO EXPLAINED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO TOP OFF THE OIL TANK PRIOR TO THE END OF THE YEAR. HE
HAS A PRICE FIXED THROUGH JUNE 30 WITH PACKER THAT HE WANTS TO UTILIZE FOR SAVINGS. A
TRANSFER REQUEST FROM THE RESERVE FUND COULD NOT BE MET DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS;
HOWEVER, A CHAPTER 77 TRANSFER WAS APPROVED BY THE SELECTMEN AND WILL BE VOTED AT
TODAY'S MEETING BY THE FAC FOR \$20,000. HE EXPECTS TO USE THESE FUNDS FOR ANY EXPENSE
OVERDRAFTS AND TO FILL THE TANK AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT COMING BACK FOR MORE
MONEY UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. HE INFORMED THE FAC THAT FY 15 MAY NEED AN TRANSFER
FOR OIL, BUT HE INTENDS TO INCREASE THAT LINE ITEM FOR FY16. PAM SUGGESTED A SPECIAL TOWN
MEETING ARTICLE FOR ANY OVERAGES NEXT YEAR. A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED AND VOTED TO
APPROVE THE CHAPTER 77, ACTS OF 2006 T RANSFER TO THE SCHOOL EXPENSE ACCOUNT.
UNANIMOUS.

IN ANOTHER MATTER, HE INFORMED THE FAC THAT HE WILL BE HIRING A 1 YEAR KINDERGARTEN
TEACHER FOR FY15. TO DATE, 46 NEW STUDENTS HAVE REGISTERED FOR KINDERGARTEN; 14 CHILDREN
WILL NEED ESL ASSISTANT; FIVE OF THE 14 WILL NEED BILINGUAL AID. THIS IS NOT A FINAL NUMBER OF
APPLICANTS; HE EXPECTS IT WILL BE HIGHER BY SEPTEMBER. THAT IS 35% OF THE NEW CLASS THAT
NEEDS BILINGUAL/ESL AID. HE SEES THIS TREND CONTINUING AS THE CHILDREN PROGRESS IN SCHOOL.
A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED AND VOTED TO APPROVE THE CONCEPT OF A NEW HIRE, THE SUM
NOT TO GO OVER \$50,000. OR IF MORE IS NEEDED, HE WILL RETURN TO THE FAC. UNANIMOUS.

A DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE UNDER NEW BUSINESS WITH ART SMADBECK, SELECTMEN OUTLINING THE
COUNTY'S PROPOSAL TO BUY THE VNA BUILDING IN VINEYARD HAVEN TO HOUSE THE MV CENTER 4
LIVING PROGRAM (A 501(C) CORP). AT THIS TIME, THEY USE THE COUNCIL ON AGING BUILDING IN EDG.
2 DAYS A WEEK AND USE VINEYARD HAVEN'S COA BUILDING 2 DAYS A WEEK.

THERE ARE SEVERAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ABOUT THIS PROJECT. ONE IS MORE SPACE IS NEEDED
AND THERE IS A LONG WAITING LIST OF ELDERS FOR THE SERVICES. ANOTHER ISSUE WITH THE
AUDITORS IS THAT THE STAFF IS ON THE EDGARTOWN PAYROLL AND RECEIVES BENEFITS FROM
EDGARTOWN AS WELL. OTHER TOWNS DO CONTRIBUTE TO COVER THE TOWN'S EXPENSES, BUT IT IS
UNCLEAR IF THIS IS SUFFICIENT. THEY ARE ALSO UNDER THE TOWN'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM. MOST OF
THE EMPLOYEES IN THIS SITUATION WERE PREVIOUSLY STAFF FOR THE COUNCIL ON AGING, BUT WHEN
THE NEW CENTER 4 LIVING BECAME A REALITY, THEY NO LONGER WORK FOR THE TOWN.
LENNY JASON, A COUNTY COMMISSIONER, HAS INVESTIGATED THE POSSIBILITY OF BUILDING A
SMALLER BUILDING AT THE AIRPORT FOR APPROXIMATELY \$1.5 MILLION.

THE SIX TOWNS ON THE ISLAND WOULD HAVE TO APPROVE BY TOWN MEETING VOTE TO PURCHASE OR BUILD SOMETHING TO HOUSE THE PROGRAM. THE VNA BUILDING IS BIGGER THAN THE SUGGESTED AIRPORT PROPOSAL AND THERE IS NEED FOR A LARGER AREA. IF THE SIX TOWNS PURCHAED AND TOOK OVER THE PROGRAM, THE EMPLOYEES WOULD COME UNDER THE COUNTY PAYROLL AND BENEFITS PACKAGE. THE COUNTY IS IN CLOSE COMMUNICATION WITH THE BANK AS THEY WILL SOON BE THE SOLE OWNER OF THE VNA BUILDING.

ART WAS ASKED WHO PAYSFOR SERVICES AT THE PRESENT TIME. SOME FUNDS COME FROM THE 6 TOWNS AND SOME FROM PATIENT FEES. HE EXPLAINED IT COMES UNDER A 50/50 FORMULA; 50% COUNTY, 50% BASIS OF POPULATION. EDGARTOWN IS 37% AT THE PRESENT FORMULA; ON THE 50/50 PLAN IT WOULD BE 30%. AGAIN, ALL 6 TOWNS MUST APPROVE AND THIS WILL NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL NEXT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING IN APRIL. THERE IS NO ESTIMATE WHAT THE NEW BUDGET WILL BE AT THIS TIME; AT THIS TIME IT IS ABOUT \$366,000. HOWEVER, THEY WILL COME UNDER THE COUNTY FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES IF THE NEW PROGRAM IS APPROVED.

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED AND VOTED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CHAPTER 77, ACTS OF 2006 TRANSFERS:

\$40,000.00 FROM DEBT TO BC/BS
\$22,216.89 FROM DEBT TO SNOW REMOVAL
\$20,000.00 FROM WASTEWATER SALARIES TO EDGARTOWN SCHOOL EXPENSE
\$ 1,000.00 FROM TREASURER SALARY TO PERSONNEL ESCROW
\$ 9,750.00 FROM INSURANCE TO MEDICARE
\$ 2,650.00 FROM TREASURER SALARY TO MEDICARE
\$ 5,000.00 FROM BORROWING EXPENSE TO LEGAL
\$ 5,000.00 FROM TAX TITLE ACCOUNT TO LEGAL

MOTION TO APPROVE WAS UNANIMOUS.

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED AND VOTED TO APPROVE THE ASSISTANT, GAIL AVAKIAN, TO APPROVE ANY END OF YEAR TRANSFERS UNDER \$500.00. THE FAC WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ANY REQUESTS. UNANIMOUS.

DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE ABOUT A REQUEST TO CHANGE THE MEETING TIME FROM 4 PM TO 5 PM BY ONE OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS. THE FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED TO NOT CHANGE THE TIME. THEY ALSO ELECTED TO NOT MEET IN JULY AND AUGUST, UNLESS NECESSARY. THE NEXT MEETING DATE WILL BE SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 AT 4 PM, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
GAIL AVAKIAN, ASSISTANT

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