

appd.
1/16/13

Budget Hearing Meeting – January 3, 2013
4 PM

Members present: Mort Fearey, Jr.; Les Baynes, co-chairman;
Steve Jordan; Fred Condon; Alex Rentumis; Bob Clay. Selectmen Margaret Serpa and Pamela Dolby,
Town Administrator.

4 PM – Council on Aging – Paul Mohair; Leslie Clapp; Olga Church (Friends) – Updated the FAC on the
MV Center for Living expenses, revenues and department details. Expenses are shared by all towns
through the budget process. Edgartown has 23% of the current users. A request for revenues was
requested to show the off-set to the expenses.
An article for \$30,000. was submitted for repairing the handicap ramp. Project to be put to bid if approved.

4:15PM – Historic District Commission – A request for transfer for FY13 of \$5,940.00 (0169102-511014)
was discussed. Brique Garber, HDC clerk explained the evolution of the position from a portion of the
Building Inspector's office hours to a dedicated position with 15 hrs. per week. The budget for FY14 will
reflect the new added hours and duties as approved by the Personnel Board. The request will cover the
shortage for January-June, 2013. A motion was made, seconded and voted to approve the request – 5 yea,
1 abstain..

4:30 Cemetery and 4:45 Building Inspector did not attend.

5:00PM – Wastewater – David Thompson, Chief Operator; Pia Webster, Adm. Assistant and James Carter,
Commissioner. David presented a more robust picture of the wastewater department and the process
changes that have resulted in a substantial increase in past due revenues and changes to the haulers
payments. He hopes to create a new jr. operator position in order alleviate overtime expenses (down from
\$37,000. to \$30,000. FY14). Insurance costs were reduced through joint efforts with the Selectmen's office
asking for a new quote. Pia presented the FAC with a breakdown report on collections (attached for file).
Further reductions to the electricity costs will be realized when the Town's solar project is up and running.
Collections will now reflect up to date revenue, abatements and refunds. An article request for \$45,000. to
collections maintenance of equipment was discussed. This covers unexpected repairs to the major systems
in the plant. Rather than make this part of the budget, if the funds are not utilized, they return to the general
fund.

5:30PM – Library – Jill Hughes, Director; Julie Lively and Herb Foster, Trustees – Jill gave the FAC a
handout outlining the current trends and expected usage of the Library for the next year. (see attached for
the file). Ebooks are exploding and libraries are looking for ways to reduce the fees charged. Working with
the CLAMS system is helping reduce costs, but more needs to be accomplished. Buying books and buying
ebooks have substantially different costs. Fred asked if she were able to present the FAC with a
comparable report based on libraries of like-size or other Island ones. She said she would forward that to
the FAC. Other information discussed was the need for future fundraising. The current gift accounts have
been used substantially over the past years and the amount has been reduced from \$123,000. down to about
\$59,000. for use. Other topics discussed included a self-funded library based on gifts and endowments,
rather than tax or state funds. A lot of further discussion would have to take place and fundraising efforts
increased to accomplish this result. Jill explained that the library has underfunded the state mandates for
purchases for the last few years. This is based on a space shortage; simply not enough room in the current
building. This will change when the new library is up and running. No articles were discussed.

Discussion: It was agreed that the Cemetery did not have to be called back. The Building Inspector will be
rescheduled for Jan. 15 at 4:45pm to discuss departmental revenue. The Council on Aging – MV Center
for Living will be asked to forward the revenue figures for FY13.