

Town of Oak Bluffs
Finance and Advisory Committee
Thursday, February 28, 2019, 5:00 pm
Oak Bluffs Library Second Floor Conference Room

Present: Chair – Bill Vrooman, Bernie Crossland, Bob Gaffey by phone,
Herbert Kiehn, Maura McGroarty, Mike Taus, Walter Vail,
Absent: Ray Moreis, Richard Weiss,
Town: Town Administrator – Bob Whritenour,
Others: Recorder - Marni Lipke * Late arrivals or early departures,
noted solely to mark vote counts.

• The Oak Bluffs Finance and Advisory Committee (FinCom) came to order at 5:04PM. As Bob Gaffey joined the meeting by phone, all votes would be roll call.
(Recorder's Note: Discussions have been summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.)

• **Approve Minutes (2/14/19)**

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 21, 2019 MINUTES AS AMENDED FOR TYPOS; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION: BILL VROOMAN—AYE, WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—ABSTAIN due to absence, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE.**

• **Capital Improvement Program Committee Recommendations**

• The Committee (CIP) voted recommendations by priority (see documents on file) for a total expenditure of \$385,513 (plus \$250,000 to Stabilization, leaving a \$18,487 Free Cash residual):

- \$13,000 - lease electric vehicles—if grant-funded for three years, otherwise for one year;
- \$60,000 (\$30,000 each) - paint the Police Station and the Council on Aging (COA);
- \$50,000 - Sailing Camp electrical upgrade and expansion to basement offices.
- \$52,000 - Fire Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV)—see below;
- \$13,500 - ongoing municipal Conference Room audio-visual upgrades;
- \$24,500 - Library tables, parking lights, defibrillator, and American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant door;
- \$35,000 - North Bluff and Seawall maintenance—painting was contractor responsibility;
- \$30,000 - Vineyard Ave. stair repair;
- \$10,000 - tractor mowing attachment (cutting deck);
- \$6,500 - new voting machine (see 1/10/19 Minutes p.2 & below);
- \$42,000 - police cruiser replacement (see 1/17/19 Minutes p.2 & below p.2 STM Article 1);
- \$34,913 - Police Detail overage (non-capital - see below: p. 2 STM Article #3).

• It was decided that nothing be expended from the Ambulance Reserve in order to restore the balance and concerning uncertain negotiations with the Martha's Vineyard Hospital (MVH) (see 1/24/19 Minutes p.1-2). A \$390,000 fire truck rehabilitation was postponed to Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21).

• **Warrant Article Review** (See documents on file.)

Special Town Meeting (STM) Warrant Articles

• Article #1 – \$6,500 New Voting Machine (Free Cash)

This was on the STM Warrant as a priority expense and to give the Town Clerk sufficient lead-time (see above).

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• Article #2 – \$50,000 – Overlay Surplus (Raise & Appropriate)

The fund was a cushion for uncollectable taxes due to valuation problems or exemptions—it included residuals from previous years. Every three years, in keeping with Massachusetts Dept. of Revenue (DOR) regulations, the Assessors Office performed a valuation survey to insure real estate was being assessed at 100% Fair Market Value (FMV).

• Article #3 – \$34,912.80 – Police Detail Account (Free Cash)

Despite Department due diligence, this represented 15-20 years of uncollectable charges (festivals, utilities, storm emergency reimbursement defaults, bankruptcies, etc.).

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

- **ARTICLE #1, 6,500 FOR A NEW VOTING MACHINE,**

- **ARTICLE #2, \$50,000 TO SURPLUS OVERLAY AND**

- **ARTICLE #3, \$34,912.80 POLICE DETAIL;**

MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.

Annual Town Meeting (ATM) Warrant Articles

• Article #1 – \$30,942,669.37 FY20 Town Budget (Raise & Appropriate)

A bond premium was the bonus paid by a bank as part of a bond bid and was strictly State mandated for interest rate reduction only (see 2/21/19 Minutes p.3).

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #1, \$30,942.669.37 FOR THE OAK BLUFFS FISCAL YEAR 2020 TOWN BUDGET; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #2 – Classification/Compensation Schedule – No Recommendation

• Article #3 – \$50,000 Fire Inspection & \$15,000 Marina Revolving Funds

The funds were closed out each year and residuals reverted to Free Cash. The Fund Bylaws were established in 2018 (see Minutes: 3/6/17 p.2. & 3/1/18 p.3 #2 & below: Actions).

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #3, FIRE INSPECTION AND MARINA REVOLVING FUNDS; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #4 – \$30,000 Harbor Maintenance (Waterways)

This was a standard annual article to repair pilings, floats and moorings.

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #4, \$30,000 FOR HARBOR MAINTENANCE; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

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• Article #5 – \$160,000 Jetty Repair Engineering, Design, Permitting (Appropriate)

The CIP approved this as part of a \$2,000,000 in critical harbor improvements funded with fuel sales receipts. Maura McGroarty objected to the lack of formal fuel revenue policy.

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #5, \$160,000 FOR CRITICAL HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS ENGINEERING, DESIGN AND PERMITTING; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—NAY, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #6 – \$13,000 Electric Municipal Vehicle Lease (Free Cash) (See above: p.1)

The Library would fund its vehicle depending grant availability.

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #6, \$13,000 FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE LEASES; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #7 – \$60,000 Police Station and Council On Aging Painting (Free Cash)

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #7 \$60,000 TO PAINT THE POLICE STATION AND COUNCIL ON AGING; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE. (See above: p.1)**

• Article #8 – \$10,000 Mowing Cutter Deck (Free Cash) (See above: p.1)

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #8, \$10,000 FOR A TRACTOR MOWING DECK; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #9 – \$30,000 Vineyard Ave. Stair Replacement (Free Cash) (See above: p.1)

The FinCom questioned flat guesstimates. However the CIP reviewed projects in November for an April ATM vote, at which point the estimate would be already outdated.

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #9, \$30,000 TO REPLACE THE VINEYARD AVENUE STAIRS; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

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• Article #10 \$50,000 – \$50,000 Sailing Camp Electrical Upgrade (Free Cash)

Revenue had dropped due to a change in rental policy towards more community based use. (see 12/7/15 Minutes p. 3 & 2/11/16 Minutes p. 3). Hopefully the basement development should increase income (See above: p.1 & below: Actions).

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #10, \$50,000 FOR SAILING CAMP ELECTRICAL UPGRADE; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #11 – \$13,500 Conference Room Audio Visual Upgrade (Free Cash)

Technology had evolved since the 2006 Library construction, (see above: p.1).

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #11, \$13,500 TO UPGRADE LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM AUDIO VISION TECHNOLOGY; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #12 – \$35,500 North Bluff and Seawall Maintenance (Free Cash)

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #12, \$35,000 FOR NORTH BLUFF AND SEAWALL MAINTENANCE; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE. (See above: p.1)**

• Article #13 – \$24,500 Library Maintenance and Improvements (Free Cash)

The defibrillator (AED) might be reduced as part of a bulk Ambulance Reserve purchase.

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #13, \$24,500 FOR LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—NAY, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #14 – \$94,000 Police Cruiser and Fire SUV (Free Cash) (See above: p.1)

Maura McGroarty noted that FY19 funds for the Oak Bluffs communications tower might be returned to Free Cash pending Sheriff Department State grant funding (see below #26).

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #14, \$94,000 FOR PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLES; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—NAY, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

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• Article #15 – \$250,00 Stabilization (Free Cash) (See above: p.1 & below: Actions.)

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #15, \$250,000 TO THE TOWN STABILIZATION FUND; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #16 – Veterans Exemption Bylaw Update

The Bylaw partially exempted non-profit veterans organizations (Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), American Legion, etc.) from real estate taxes. The article updated it to current real estate values.

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #16, INCREASE NON-PROFIT VETERANS TAX EXEMPTION REAL ESTATE VALUE TO \$1,500,000; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #17 – Property Tax Deferral Update

This allowed low-income residents to defer taxes (resulting in a lien) to prevent homelessness. The article updated the gross income to more current figures. This was an alternative to Michael Taus' proposed tax freeze for elders (see 2/2/19 Minutes p.3)—which had been found to be illegal.

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #17, INCREASE LOW INCOME GROSS RECEIPTS TO \$35,000 FOR PROPERTY TAX DEFERRAL; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #18 & 19 – Community Preservation Committee (CPC)

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES #18 & 19, REGARDING COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS;**

- **#18 – APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION RESERVES;**

- **#19-1 - \$123,900 FOR PRESERVING AFFORDABILITY THROUGH LOAN SUPPORT (PALS)**

- **#19-2 – \$100,000 FOR AIDYLBURG III – ISLAND ELDERLY HOUSING EXPANSION,**

- **#19-4 – \$134,000 FOR DUKES COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM,**

- **#19-5 – \$198,000 FOR EAST CHOP LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION,**

- **#19-6 – \$19,782 FOR FARM POND TOXIC JELLYFISH PREY RESEARCH,**

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- #19-7 - \$200,000 FOR OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL BASKETBALL COURT RECONSTRUCTION,

- #19-8 - \$200,000 SUNSET LAKE RESTORATION;

MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.

• WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #19-3, \$63,420 FOR HARBOR HOMES HOMELESS PREVENTION; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—NAY, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE. Maura McGroarty objected to: the 501c3 as still pending, possible Island Housing Trust (IHT) sponsorship, and purchasing versus renting.

• Article #20 - Social Services (Raise & Appropriate) (See 1/31/19 Minutes p.2-4.)

• WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #20,

- \$11,099 DUKES COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES,

- \$6,659 SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION,

- \$15,193 HEALTHY AGING MARTHA'S VINEYARD,

- \$6,948 FIRST STOP,

- \$17,758 COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND REFERRAL (CORE) OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD COMMUNITY SERVICE,

- \$21,140 MARTHA'S VINEYARD YOUTH TASK FORCE;

MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 2 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—NAY, MIKE TAUS—ABSTAIN, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—NAY. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.

• Article #21 - \$14,796 Adult Community Education Martha's Vineyard (ACE MV) (Raise & Appropriate)

The FinCom stressed that the original request promised a one or two years of funding. ACE MV planned to partner with the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) in order to increase grant opportunities—in which case ACE MV warrant articles would no longer be necessary.

• WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TOWN ANNUAL MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #21, \$14,796 FOR ADULT COMMUNITY EDUCATION MARTHA'S VINEYARD; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 1 NAY, 2 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—NAY, MIKE TAUS—ABSTAIN due to conflict of interest, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—ABSTAIN. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.

• Article #22 - Authorization for Long Term Leases

• WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TOWN ANNUAL MEETING TOWN WARRANT ARTICLE #22, TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN TO ENTER INTO LONG TERM LEASES; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0

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ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.

• Article #23 – Elected Officials’ Stipends (Free Cash) (See 2/21/19 Minutes p.2.)

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #23, ELECTED OFFICIALS STIPENDS; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—NAY, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #24 – Town Officer Ballot – No Recommendation

• Article #25 – \$14,100 Dukes County OPEB Trust Contribution (Free Cash)

The funding would be assessed by equal valuation formula (see 1/31/19 Minutes p.2).

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #25, \$14,100 FOR DUKES COUNTY OPEB TRUST CONTRIBUTION; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 5 AYES, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—NAY, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—NAY, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE. BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

• Article #26 - \$56,518.27 Emergency Communications System (Raise & Appropriate) Tabled

The FinCom strongly objected to any formula that included a call volume factor due to the number of calls from regional entities in Oak Bluffs (MVH – 152 calls, MVRHS – 200 calls, etc.). Other issues included: rent for Tower locations.

• Article #27 – \$376,040 MVRHS Feasibility Study (Free Cash)

The FinCom praised the Feasibility Study as necessary but strongly objected to the use of the enrollment-based formula to calculate Capital assessment, particularly as Oak Bluffs was already losing substantial real estate tax revenue from the 92 acres.

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #27, \$376,040 FOR A MARTHA’S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL FEASIBILITY STUDY; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION FAILED: 2 AYES, 4 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION: WALTER VAIL—NAY, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—ABSTAIN due to conflict of interest, BERNIE CROSSLAND—NAY, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—NAY. BILL VROOMAN—NAY.**

• Article #28 – Dukes County Substance Abuse Prevention – Duplicate to be withdrawn

• Article #29 – Groundwater Survey – No Recommendation

• Article #30 & 31 – Create and Fund a Martha's Vineyard Housing Bank (Short Term Rental Tax)

The article had not been presented or discussed, and the FinCom objected to the lack of provisions if one town voted out, as well as the broad authority of the proposed body.

• **WALTER VAIL MOVED THAT THE OAK BLUFFS FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES #30 & 31, ESTABLISH AND FUND A MARTHA’S VINEYARD HOUSING BANK; MIKE TAUS SECONDED; MOTION FAILED**

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UNANIMOUSLY: 0 AYES, 7 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: WALTER VAIL—NAY, MAURA MCGROARTY—NAY, MIKE TAUS— NAY, BERNIE CROSSLAND—NAY, HERB KIEHN— NAY, BOB GAFFEY—NAY. BILL VROOMAN—NAY.

- The FinCom agreed to draft small summaries of all votes that were less than 6 ayes.

• **“Social Services” Department??** (See 2/7/19 Minutes p.3.)

The only two social service entities in the Budget were:

- Vineyard Health Care Access (VHCAP) which might belong under the Board of Health (BOH), and
- Center For Living (CFL) which was part of the COA.

Members saw no reason to create a separate department for only two entities. Members also noted other regionally assessed services in the budget (e.g. Vineyard Transit Authority (VTA)) that were never discussed.

• **Member Comments** (See below: Actions.)

The Personnel Committee authorized a pay equity assessment, which found a number of Town salaries were below or significantly below commensurate positions in the region. Those who were most under-paid would get substantial raises over the next three years. Increases were included in the FY20 Budget but would also impact FY21 and FY22.

- The FinCom thanked Marni Lipke for budget meeting refreshments

• **Accountant’s Comments** – Tabled

• **Public Comments** – None

• **Adjourn**

• **MIKE TAUS MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:15PM; WALTER VAIL SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: WALTER VAIL—AYE, MAURA MCGROARTY—AYE, MIKE TAUS—AYE, BERNIE CROSSLAND—AYE, HERB KIEHN—AYE, BOB GAFFEY—AYE, BILL VROOMAN—AYE.**

Meetings/Events:

OB FinCom - 5:00PM, Thursday, March 7, 2019 - OB Library

OB FinCom - TBD - 5:00PM, Thursday, March 14, 2019 - OB Library

AIFC 5:00PM, Thursday, March 28, 2019

Special & Annual Town Meetings - Tuesday, April 9, 2019 - MVRHS PAC

Action List

- Bob W. - review Sailing Camp fees & consider double scale re: OB & other.
- Bob W. - send Bill Vrooman ACE MV background documents.
- Warrant Comments
 - Clarify Revolving Funds article re: excerpt from 2018 bylaw.
 - Check Stabilization balance against 2018 Annual Report.
 - Withdraw Article #28 - duplicate
- March Agenda Items: Minutes Format

continued

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Ongoing Action List from previous meetings (cont.)

• Future Agenda Items:

Police Department Finances	Trash/Waste Analysis
Parking Mitigation Follow-Up	Reserve Fund Increase
Town Cleaning Services Analysis	Assessor's Office re: PILOTs
Auditor Management Letter Update (January, March, June, September)	
Embarkation Fund Policy	

Documents on file:

- Agenda 2/28/19
- Sign In Sheet 2/28/19
- FY20 Draft Budget, FY18 Actuals, FY19 Approved.... (12 p.) 2/21/19
- Capital Improvement Program Committee Recommendations for 2020
- Warrant for Special Town Meeting Commonwealth of Massachusetts (2 p.) 2/22/19
- Warrant for Annual Town Meeting Commonwealth of Massachusetts (22 p.) 2/22/19
- Warrant for Special Town Meeting Commonwealth of Massachusetts (3 p.) 2/28/19
- Warrant for Annual Town Meeting Commonwealth of Massachusetts (22 p.) 2/28/19
- Town of Oak Bluffs, April 2, 2019 Annual and Special Town Meetings Warrant Articles
February 27, 2019
- Vrooman/Knight cover emails re: CPA Recommended Projects 2/22/19
- Oak Bluffs Community Preservation Committee Annual Town Meeting 2019 (3 p.)
- Vrooman/Whritenour/Brasefield emails re: FYU20 Radio System Update Maintenance
Funding Request – Follow-Up (4 p.) 2/26/29

• Minutes approved as amended for typos by the OB FinCom 3/7/19.