

**Wellfleet Finance Committee
Virtual Zoom Meeting
Wednesday February 10, 2021, 7:00PM
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Fred Magee, Chair; Kathy Granlund, Vice-Chair; Jeff Tash, Ira Wood, Stephen Polowczyk, Linda Pellegrino, Jenn Rhodes, Sarah Robin, Bob Wallace

Others Present: Town Administrator, Maria Broadbent; Rebekah Eldridge, Committee Secretary; Nancy Civetta, Shellfish Constable; Will Sullivan, Assistant/Acting Harbormaster; Joe Aberdale, Wellfleet Dredging Committee; Chris Allgeier, Wellfleet Dredging Committee.

Chair Magee called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

Minutes

- January 27, 2021 ~**Tash moved, Granlund seconded; and it was voted to approve the minutes as amended. 6-0-1 (Polowczyk abstained, he wasn't in attendance at the meeting.)**

Review Shellfish FY 2022 Budget

- Shellfish Constable Nancy Civetta presented her budget to the committee. She explained that she added money for a part time shellfish person to help in the summer. She explained her line items one at a time. She explained to the committee how she got to the amount that she did. She went on to explain to the committee that her shellfishing permits are under Suzanne Thomas' budget with Thomas' permission, which will get her department through the end of the fiscal year but she is going to have to cover her credit card fees moving forward.
- She continued discussing part of her budget is placing signs around the beds, which she will ask from a transfer from her shellfish fund. She explained there are many issues in the summer over the weekends taking shellfish without a permit and leaving plastic bottles and materials which then degrade into the beds. She explained that she did do research for the signs and \$4,900 was the best price offered. Chair Magee questioned the signs, would they need to be changed over time? Civetta explained that they used to have laminated paper signs and people would tear them down and illegally obtain shellfish, these signs are more permanent to prevent it. She also explained that these signs are ones that are taken up and down every year that don't change.
- The committee continued to discuss her budget and minor increases in it. There was discussion on credit card fees and the town or the customer covering that fee. It is still an ongoing discussion. Civetta stated she feels it is fiscally responsible for the customer to pay the fee. Granlund stated that from a banking standpoint credit card swipes should be checked regularly as banks tend to up the cost of a credit card swipe fee.
- Civetta explained sticker tracker that is used by her department. This is helpful to her department. The committee continued to discuss her budget and permit increases.

- **Tash moved, Rhodes seconded; and it was moved to approve the Shellfish Department Budget as written. 8-0-1 (Bob Wallace abstained)**

Review Harbormaster/Marina FY 2022 Budget

- Will Sullivan acting Harbormaster presented his budget. Sullivan began his discussion with the employee wages being raised, which he stated is the biggest increase in his whole budget. Sullivan went on that he is in need of staff at the harbor due to the dredging and he expects an increase in traffic with the harbor deeper and easier to access. He explained that there was a lot of traffic at the harbor this past summer and he only expects it to get busier in the coming summers.
- Sullivan went on to discuss that during the off season the harbor and its surroundings need some upgrade and he would like to do as much of the work with the staff he has. It was questioned if town owned property is covered by the town's budget. Overtime on his budget was discussed and he explained that in previous years overtime was listed much lower than what the actual amount was. He stated he tried to move it more to more of an actual not a guess.
- They went on to discuss the remainder of his budget, including the increase in fuel costs, covid restrictions, and care and maintenance services. Most have increased to project the actual cost of these items. His "other income" line was questioned. He explained slip fees and dock fees are included in the other income line. Polowczyk asked if it was possible to put this income in the maintenance services budget. Town Accountant Michaud agreed with Polowczyk stating that these funds can be moved into the same budget line. She went on the explain that she will continue working on a better system for this budget.
- Sullivan explained his winter storage which was questioned because of a large increase.
- Sullivan was asked about the status of the fuel tanks, he discussed that it was voted that the tanks go underground and they are in discussion with town council to see if this has to go back to town meeting because at the last town meeting it was voted specifically for above ground tanks. Insurance was questioned. Administrator Broadbent went on to explain that these are advanced tank with monitoring.
- **Granlund moved, Polowczyk seconded; and it was voted to approve the Harbormaster budget as written. 9-0**

Dredging Committee – Update and Project Overview

- Aberdale and Allgeier presented to the committee, Chair Magee asked for a summary of the dredging project. Aberdale e began by giving the timeline of the dredging and stated the first phase started back in the late summer and ended in October, the second phase will begin next fall which will make the harbor much more accessible to boats. He continued explaining the next phase is in need of funding. He continued explaining that the dredging process has two different types of classification, maintenance, and improvement. At this point the State has decided not to approve the dredging as maintenance but as improvement and will not issue the permit. The dredging committee is appealing that decision and are now in talks with a lobbyist who they have worked with previously. He went on the explain that this lobbyist was helpful to the group with advice

and previously getting them funds from Washington in the past. It was approved at the previous night's selectboard meeting. Aberdale continued his discussion with the committee. Broadbent explained to the board that funding hasn't been located for this lobbyist and they are currently making sure that this doesn't need to be called out to bid due to the amount of the service. Chair Magee explained there is money in the finance committee's reserve fund. The committee discussed the money that is in the reserve fund. It was asked of Aberdale how much the rest of the dredging would, Aberdale explained that there is a cap of two and a half million dollars each year they will do the dredging. He explained they need to apply each year for funding to get as much as they can, but each year is a different amount. Area 1 is five million, Area 2 is a little under five million. The Dredging committee is asking the state for a waiver for the two million-dollar ap because Wellfleet has one of the states largest dredging project. They continued to discuss dredging and funds needed to complete this project.

Transfers - Dredging Lobby and Consulting

- Administrator Broadbent discussed with the board the need for a transfer because there is no funding available for the lobbyist that the dredging committee is asking for. She is asking for an approval of \$25,250.00 transfer from the finance committee's fund to pay the lobbyist.
- **Polowczyk moved, Rhodes seconded; and it was voted to approve the request of transfer for \$25,250.00 from the finance committee reserve fund to the marina enterprise fund. 9-0**

Liaison Reports

- There were no liaison reports at this meeting.

Correspondence

- There was no correspondence to discuss at this meeting.

New Business

- Town meeting was moved to June 5, 2021

Polowczyk moved, Granlund seconded; and it was voted to adjourn the meeting 9-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm

Public Records:

Shellfish 2022 Budget sheets and narratives

Harbormaster 2022 Budget and narratives

Meeting minutes of January 27, 2021

