

Provincetown Finance Committee Minutes
April 1, 2016, 10:30 am
Judge Welsh Room, Provincetown Town Hall

Members Present: Mark Hatch, Louise Venden, Mark Bjorstrom, and Scott (Tony) Valentino

Excused Absent: Mark Del Franco, Duane Steele, Stan Sikorski

Others Present: Town Manager David Panagore
Finance Director Dan Hoort

Meeting was called to order at 10:30am.

Member Statements:

Louise commented the Town Manager and the Selectmen on the number of forums to educate the voters prior to town meeting.

Mark mentioned that he joined a group that met with the Speaker of the House to talk about the room occupancy tax.

Beau Jackett, Town MIS Director, passed out the information and policy regarding Town e-mail addresses for Committee members.

Rex McKinsey, Harbormaster, was present to discuss article 12 on the special town meeting warrant regarding the Pier.

Article 12 is in preparation for a bad event, the first part is planning. \$35,000 is for a complete survey of the condition of the Pier by Bourne Engineering. This article allows the Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund to be used in the event of an emergency that damages the Pier.

Mark H had an issue that there isn't a specific plan attached to this article.

Town Manager Panagore said the Town and the Pier have an agreement that the Town takes care of capital items and the Pier takes care of routine maintenance. A plan is being put together, but in the meantime if there is an emergency the Pier Corporation does not have a capital plan for emergency repairs.

Louise spoke to the importance of the Pier having reserves available in case of emergency, especially during the season.

Mark B asked about how the numbers were calculated.

Rex stated they were based on past experience and mentioned a previous storm that damaged the Pier. Tony expressed his concern about the timing of the availability of funds.

David P mentioned that this article is not an expenditure plan, but is an authorization plan. The full \$250,000 is being authorized if approved at town meeting.

Louise moved that the Finance Committee recommend article 12 in the amount of \$250,000. 2nd by Mark B. Motion approved 4-0-0

Louise asked about the \$40k+ amount being requested for the Provincetown 400 executive director, is this position an employee or an independent contractor?

David P said it is an independent contractor and is not a benefitted town employee.

Louise asked that warrant articles include the funding sources.

David G mentioned that we don't always have that information at the time the warrant closes.

Mark H moved that the Committee reconsider their vote on article ATM article 32. 2nd by Mark B. Mark H expressed his opinion that as a Committee if we were asking residents to vote for the Housing Trust and for funds for the Trust the Committee should support other means to create housing. The motion was tabled so that all members could vote on reconsideration on the evening of town meeting.

David P discussed economic development ideas he has explored through UMASS-Dartmouth with the Committee. UMASS liked the preliminary expression of interest from the Town and asked that we file a complete application. He gave the Committee an update on the various portions of the economic development/housing work that is going on. When funding is required he has a small amount in his FY17 budget to cover the costs.

Louise suggested using the Dukakis Center to help us look at economic development
David P agreed that they are a good resource.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26