

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Judge Welsh Meeting Room - 1:00 p.m.**

**April 24, 2014**

**Members Present: Raphael Richter, Mike Canizales, Clarence Walker, Duane Steele**

**Others Present: Dan Hoort, Finance Director, Jim Golden, Acting Police Chief**

**Public Comments: None**

### **Policy Discussion:**

Raphael Richter read comments from the media for the first item asking that the Finance Committee or the Board of Selectmen send a representative to the April 29, 2014 Truro Town Meeting to consider regionalizing police services with Provincetown before they spend \$140,000 on two new positions, and hire a chief. Duane Steele recommended that a representative be sent. Raphael Richter asked if Truro pays to have a dispatcher as it might be a cost savings to bring that together. Jim Golden, Provincetown Acting Police Chief, shared that the Town Managers and representatives from the police and fire services in Provincetown, Truro, Wellfleet, and Eastham met in 2010 to brainstorm regionalizing, but could not make it work. Provincetown representatives then met with Truro representatives again in 2010, and again could not make it work. He questions what the current Board of Selectmen feel about this recommendation. Mike Canizales stated this was discussed at the Outer Cape Meeting last year, and it was mentioned that the new Board of Selectmen in Truro might be more open-minded. It was stated that the Truro Chief of Police, Town Manager, and a Board of Selectmen member felt it might be difficult due to the Town Manager position in Truro. Duane Steele commented that it is rare that merging has worked. Raphael Richter stated it might possibly be more effective if there was one unit. Jim Golden shared that there are dramatic differences in the types of calls and numbers of detainees in Provincetown, and that Provincetown has the largest lock up in the lower cape. He also said this could be a problem geographically because Provincetown could be short an officer if an officer is assisting in another town, and has to drive back, and he stated that at this time Provincetown would back up Truro. It was also asked if one chief could manage both positions from a cost saving point of view. Jim Golden said it would be like trying to do two separate jobs. Duane Steele said this is a very complex issue. Jim Golden asked whether or not the matter has been discussed with Truro. Mike Canizales shared that the Selectmen have been discussing regionalization. Raphael Richter stated that a good way to move forward is to recommend that the Selectmen start a dialogue with the police departments.

Clarence Walker recommended looking at dispatch. Mike Canizales stated that there might need to be a five year plan – politically and culturally. He recommended a working task force to explore this issue.

Raphael Richter advised that the second item is a proposal to reaffirm the Finance Committee’s recommendation that the Board of Selectmen pause consideration on the Grace Gouveia Building and/or the Community Center until after the election and/or after the special town meeting in Fall of 2014. Duane Steele stated he doesn’t understand what the Board of Selectmen are trying to do with the two buildings, but it seems like a backward direction, and that the two buildings have a lot of potential. He feels Provincetown should develop its own community housing with its own money, and do it locally on a regular basis. Clarence Walker stated he totally agreed and discussed CPA funds. He also stated there should be a long-term plan of action. Mike Canizales gave some background and stated the acting Town Manager said the Board of Selectmen can continue the process. Mike stated that the community wants to sell, and if the Board of Selectmen pauses, are they going against that. Raphael Richter commented that the one bid option is not realistic, and the process needs to slow down. Clarence feels it is unjust that the new Board will have to live with decisions. Duane stated that Grace Gouveia was a nursing home, and he feels it would make a good residence for summer people, but that six luxury condos and two regular ones is unrealistic. Mike shared that some candidates would like the decision to be post-election. Mike will go back with the suggestion of reaffirming the pause consideration. All members were in favor.

#### Parking Fees and Recommendations to Board of Selectmen:

Mike Canizales advised that in town meeting in a non-binding recommendation, option 1 was chosen. Committee members want it implemented for the summer.

#### Approval of Minutes:

Committee members in attendance read and approved the minutes. Raphael Richter and Clarence Walker commented that the minutes were very good and thorough.

Meeting was adjourned by Mike Canizales at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Maghi Geary

