

**Tisbury School Committee/Tisbury Board of Selectmen/Tisbury
9:00AM, Tuesday, April 3, 2019
Katherine Cornell Theatre**

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TSC Members Present: Chair Amy Houghton, Colleen McAndrews, Janet Packer,
Selectmen Present: Chair Tristan Israel, Melinda Loberg, Jim Rogers,
Staff: John Custer – Principal, Matt D’Andrea – Superintendent,
Amy Tierney – MVPS Business Administrator,
Others:
Tisbury: Town Administrator Jay Grande, Alex Kral,
FinCom – Jeff Kristal, Jynell Kristal, Mary Ellen Larsen,
Planning Bd. – Ben Robinson,
Public: Seth Gambino, Tony Peake, Michael Watts,
Press: MVTV – Lynn Fraker, Vineyard Gazette – Holly Pretsky,
Marni Lipke – Recorder

* Late Arrivals or early departures.

The Tisbury School Committee (TSC) and the Tisbury Board of Selectmen (BOS) meetings were called to order at 9:03AM.

(Recorder’s note: discussions are summarized and re-grouped for clarity and brevity.)

I. Town Meeting Warrant Article Regarding Professional Services for School Project

(See documents on file & below: Actions & Minutes: 1/14/19 & 3/26/19.)

- Town Counsel David Doneski’s noted several opinions.
- An Annual Town Meeting (ATM) motion with different language from the ballot question “would be problematic”. Consequently the funding source should not be changed and the phrase “...and to fund extraordinary emergency repairs of the existing Tisbury School Facility...” should not be deleted from Article #9 \$800,000 To Fund Professional Services for the Tisbury School renovation/ addition.
- The Article authorized but did not require expenditure of funds.
- Article #8j \$122,000 for Replacement/Repairs to the Tisbury School Facility could be raised modestly however as the article delineated specific repairs, its scope was limited.
- The amount of Article #9 could be amended since the Ballot did not state a figure.
- The Department of Health (DPH) School inspection was scheduled shortly after ATM.
- The TSC, Selectmen and Town Administrator Jay Grande reviewed many issues:
 - professional services cost: consultant’s estimate \$350,000, or with contingency costs \$4-500,000, or to substantially move forward \$800,000;
 - DPH inspection and relieving anxiety about its findings (most issues previously reported in the Feasibility Study) and a stable, safe but not ideal building;
 - definition of extraordinary repairs and inability to anticipate what they might be;
 - consensus to call a Special Town Meeting (STM) for any extensive repairs;
 - who had authority to spend either for repairs or for professional services;
 - TSC reiteration for a comprehensive project and opposition to phased renovation;
 - procurement regulations and unpredictability of Request For Proposal (RFP) bids;
 - use of: previous Feasibility Design data versus previous renovation/ addition plan;

- Turowski Two (T2) as renovation experts;
- setting a price and requiring plans to match, or designing the school and dealing with the cost;
- what the Town could afford and reasons for the previous project failure;
- voter/resident politics and perceptions re: design, cost, repeating articles, etc.
- formation of a building committee;
- lack of agreement/consensus on the nature of renovation/addition;
- strong agreement to move forward expeditiously and devastating impact/delay if article failed;
- Mr. Tony Peake strongly objected to:
 - lack of clarity on what the Article would cover;
 - T2 use of same parameters and therefore same cost in renovation/addition;
 - DPH as an excuse to force maintenance;
 - spending half the previous price;
 - not gutting the shell of the old school but working within the structure;
 - objections to the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School project;
 - intention to move to table the motion on ATM floor.
- Planning Board Chair Ben Robinson stated the RFP would be the critical document and should be drafted with extensive citizen input resulting in some compromises for everybody. He felt it should not be a contentious issue.
- Mr. Grande and Martha's Vineyard Public Schools Business Administrator Amy Tierney had worked together on several RFPs. He suggested that \$400,000 seemed reasonable to start moving forward together, turning each corner as they became clear.
- Article #9 would cover: establishment of a building committee, drafting RFPs for an Owners Project Manager (OPM) and designer, use of data and/or plans from previous Feasibility Study, public review, and moving towards a schematic design for a renovation/addition to bring to next year's ATM.
- Selectmen Chair Tristan Israel stated the Building Committee was under the authority of the TSC but strongly advised continued close collaboration with the Selectmen.
- *Selectman Melinda Loberg moved to amend Annual Town Meeting Article #9 to \$400,000; Selectmen Jim Rogers seconded; motion passed unanimously.*
- **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. COLLEEN MCANDREWS AND SECONDED BY MS. JANET PACKER THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED REDUCING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #9 TO \$400,000; 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

Adjournment

- *Ms. Loberg moved and Mr. Rogers seconded a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at 10:14AM, which passed unanimously.*

Ms. Loberg saluted Mr. Israel on his last Board of Selectmen meeting after 24 years of service. Mr. Israel spoke of how much he enjoyed working with everybody in the Town.

- **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. MCANDREWS AND SECONDED BY MS. PACKER THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED AT 10:14AM.**

continued

Appendix A: Meetings/Events:

- AISC - 5:00pm, Thursday, April 4, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR
- **TSC – 8:30am, Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at the Tisbury School**
- Tisbury Annual Town Meeting – Tuesday, April 9, 2019
- Tisbury Town Ballot – Tuesday, April 23, 2019
- MVRHSC - 5:00pm, Monday, May 6, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR

Appendix B: Actions

- Selectmen/TSC – draft press release with a clear explanation of Article #9
- Ms. Houghton/Mr. Rogers:
 - send ATM Article #9 written amendment to Town Moderator by Monday, 4/8/19;
 - draft written position statement on article to hand out at ATM door
 - draft presentation remarks on Articles #9
 - stand together on ATM podium.

Appendix C: Documents on File:

- Agenda 4/3/19
- Kral/Doneski emails re: Tisbury School Articles 8j and 9, ATM 2019 (6 p.) 4/2/19

Minutes respectfully submitted by Office On Call/Marni Lipke.

Marni Lipke – Recorder

Date

Amy Houghton – TSC Chair

Date

Minutes approved 5/7/19