



## Nantucket County Finance Review Committee

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### MINUTES

**Thursday January 26, 2012**

4 Fairgrounds Road, Community Room – 4:00 pm

*All or a portion of this meeting is being recorded.*

*If you plan to record this meeting yourself, please check with the chairman before you begin.*

Called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Staff in attendance: Irene Larivee, Director Finance; Jennifer Ferreira, Registry of Deeds; Terry Norton, Minutes Taker

Attending Members: Matthew Mulcahy (Chair), Tim Soverino (Vice-chair), John Tiffany, Christy Kickham, Peter Morrison, Clifford Williams, James Kelly, Steve McCluskey, Matt Fee

Absent Members: None

Late Arrivals: None

Early Departures: None

#### **I. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. None

#### **II. REVIEW OF FY2013 COUNTY BUDGET**

Sitting	Mulcahy, Soverino, Tiffany, Kickham, Morrison, Williams, Kelly, McCluskey, Fee
Recused	None
Documentation	Copy of County Budget
Sponsor	Irene Larivee – Review of County Budget.
Town Counsel	N/A
Public	None
Discussion	<p>Kelly – Source of funding for Registry of Deeds staff is outside the General Fund of the Town.</p> <p>Larivee – Position funding is from the County General Fund. County has no funds to assist with road takings. Gibson, me and Tivnan double as County Administration.</p> <p>Tiffany – Assessment to the town, 2011 actual was \$100,000; in 2012 \$162,000; and can go up 2½ percent a year. What's the basis?</p> <p>Larivee – When recession hit, that full amount was charged to the Town. In 2007 or 2008, decision was made to flat-line to \$100,000. That depleted County Administration to a low level. Expenditures continued but the revenue source was depleting. Last year started allocation more funds to the county. Looked at reduction in County Administration, took a drastic hit in legal costs to bring it down.</p> <p>MulCahy – Statue is 2.5 percent, with that a burden on the county, petition legal aspect?</p> <p>Larivee – Yes. To change that, need to go through legislation. The Sheriff maintenance of effort, before it went over to the state, averaged anywhere from \$416,000 a year. Our portion of the maintenance of effort is one line</p>

Discussion  
continued

Tiffany – county admin detail, noticed that 2011 Actual has blank spaces, in 2012 they were filled as in 2013. What happened in 2011?

Larivee – Didn't do any takings.

Tiffany – Under retirement had \$11,000 Actual in 2013; but in 2012 didn't budget any.

Larivee – Notification came in after the budget was adopted about the payment in 2011. So that payment was budgeted in 2013.

Mulcahy – The flexibility is there to cover.

Larivee – Yes, with the legal is 2011, we budgeted \$75,000 but only spent \$23,000. There is more flexibility in the County budget because it is not subject to review by the Department of Revenue.

Tiffany – Personnel Sheets, please explain the Administrative Assistant in a department got 20 percent increase year to year.

Larivee – It is a Union position with an annual 3 percent step increase, there was a 17 percent increase in COLA, and addition of longevity pay.

Tiffany – Under Registry of Deeds filing fees, there is about the same 2011 and 2012 budget then a decrease in 2013. What's the rationale?

Ferreira – Predict a drop in Real Estate sales. Estimate excises to be the same. But it might go up because rates are down and people are refinancing again.

Kickham – Line item of legal, \$55,000 is that Actual or on retainer?

Larivee – There is no retainer in the county. The county only pays for services rendered.

Kelly – What do you foresee in the future?

Ferreira – The things that sell are the high-priced things, so not making many excises.

Tiffany – Registry of Deeds Special Projects bounces around from \$0 to \$75,000

Ferreira – Last year budgeted for computer upgrades which we didn't use. Tapped into \$5 of every recording fee is set aside for technology improvements.

Motion

Motion to Approve County Budget. (Soverino) seconded

Conclusion

Carried unanimously

### III. NEXT MEETING DATE

To be determined

Adjourned 4:38 p.m.

Submitted by:

Terry L. Norton