

Board of Selectmen  
Meeting  
January 22, 2019

## MINUTES

Attending: Jim Newman, Julianne Vanderhoop, Gary Haley (Chairman), Simon Bolin, Tom Murphy, Angela Cywinski, a number of students from West Tisbury School including Tasmon Strong, Finn Robinson, Oden Robison, Rodeo Purvis-Langer, Jeff Madison (town administrator).

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

### **Minutes Approved**

There were no minutes approved at this meeting.

### **Student Bottle By-law Article (Approved)**

For the second meeting consecutive meeting Annemarie Ralph requested that she and her students be placed on the agenda for a discussion on whether the Selectmen will vote to consider placing an article on the Annual Town Meeting warrant that would outlaw the sale of water in plastic bottles of less than 34 ounces. Ms. Ralph did not attend the meeting but several students did and they made a presentation to the Selectmen. Rodeo mentioned that instead of selling smaller plastic containers of water each town could have a filling station that would eliminate the need for the smaller bottles. Jim moved and Gary seconded a motion to include the by-law on the Annual Town Meeting warrant. The vote was unanimous in favor.

### **Discussion on Dukes County Regional Emergency Communication Center (deferred)**

There was discussion of the adoption of a proposal by the Dukes County Sheriff to absorb extra costs related to upgrade of the equipment at the Communications Center. The Board asked that the Sheriff and Police Chief be invited to the next meeting to brief the Selectmen before any vote on approval was taken. Jim moved and Julie seconded a motion to defer discussion until the Sheriff was in attendance. The vote passed unanimously.

### **Outsourcing Assessor (no action taken)**

The Board deferred discussion on the possibility of outsourcing duties of Assessors until the March 4 meeting when the Board of Assessors could attend.

### **COLA Adjustment for Town Employees**

There was a discussion of a COLA adjustment to Town Employees salaries. It was pointed out that Employees had not received any cost of living adjustment for the past 2 years. Further the Town Administrator pointed out that every regional budget (schools, MVC, Refuse District, County, etc.) include COLA's every year in the budgets presented to Aquinnah. Jim indicated that this year he supported COLA payments to many Town budgets this year . . .ahead of regional budgets. A motion was passed to make a recommendation to FinCom at the February 1 meeting to include COLA adjustments this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m. .