Town of Nantucket

Finance Committee

March 5th, 2024 – Minutes

131 PLEASANT STREET, TRAILER ROOM A AND REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM

Staff:	Brian Turbitt, Finance Director, Libby Gibson, Town Manager, Mariya Basheva, Assistant Town Accountant,
Attending Members:	Denice Kronau, Chair, Stephen Maury, Peter Schaeffer, Christopher Glowacki, Joseph Wright, Jeremy Bloomer, Joanna Roche
Absent Members:	Jill Vieth, Rob Giacchetti

Meeting Introduction and Discussion on Article 9 Appropriation: Health and Human Services

- Denice Kronau calls the meeting to order and seeks approval of the agenda, made by Peter, seconded by Joe. **Roll Call Vote: Jeremy – Aye, Chris – Aye, Stephen – Aye, Joe – Aye, Peter – Aye, Denice – Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Denice opens the meeting to public comment, nobody makes any public comment.
- Dorothy Hertz discusses the significant funding requests for Health and Human Services, mentioning over $900,000 in requests for the Human Service grant and over $500,000 for the cannabis grant.
- Dorothy emphasizes the need for more investment in services to support the growing infrastructure, highlighting the challenges of deciding which programs to fund.
- Jericho Mele adds that they are working on a consultancy to review their grant processes and benchmark against other municipalities to improve data tracking and reporting.

Recusal of Conflicted Members and Rule of Necessity

- Several members, including Stephen Maury, Joseph Wright, and Jeremy Bloomer, recuse themselves due to potential conflicts with organizations involved in the grant applications.
- The committee discusses the rule of necessity to proceed with the meeting despite being below quorum.
- John Giorgio advises that the rule of necessity can only be invoked if the full complement of members is present.
- John Giorgio advises the Committee members that were going to recuse that the Ethics Commission takes the position that involvement with a non-profit does not create a

prohibited financial interest. Advises them to submit 20 3b disclosure forms after the meeting to dispel any appearance of conflict.

Detailed Breakdown of Grant Recommendations

- Dorothy Hertz provides detailed information on the grant recommendations, starting with Pascon, which is recommended for $22,908 for taxi service and advertising for support groups.
- Elders Services is recommended for $30,600, they completed 10,388 home deliveries and did 2,309 meals this year.
- Nami is recommended for $85,000, with $10,000 for peer mentor training and $75,000 for subsidized youth therapy.
- Health Imperatives is recommended for $114,238.

Additional Grant Recommendations and Discussions

- Fairwinds is recommended for $115,000, including $50,000 for the Sliding Fee program and $50,000 for the peer recovery program.
- South Coast Legal is recommended for $5,000 to cover their travel costs to the island.
- The Interfaith Council is recommended for $100,000 to support their warming shelter and food pantry programs.

Discussion on Strategic Priorities and Collaboration

- Christopher Glowacki asks about the town's strategic priorities in funding human services and the role of municipal funds.
- Dorothy Hertz explains that the committee aims to support newer programs and institutional programs equally, while encouraging collaboration among organizations.
- Jericho Mele adds that the review process will look into separating grants for new applicants and existing programs, and develop better data collection and reporting processes.
- Joanna Roche highlights the importance of measuring the impact of large annual grants and considering whether the town should commit to long-term funding for certain organizations.
- The committee discusses the total recommended budget of $825,000 and the importance of funding programs that have a significant impact on the community.
- Stephen Maury suggests limiting the amount that can be awarded to any one applicant to ensure a broader distribution of funds.

- Motion to adopt Article 9 (Health and Human Services appropriations), made by Chris, seconded by Peter. **Roll call Vote: Jeremy - Aye, Joanna - Aye, Chris - Aye, Stephen - Aye, Joe - Aye, Peter - Aye, Denice - Aye. Unanimous.**

Review of Articles 66, 70, 71 and 99.

- Motion to adopt a positive motion for Article 66 (Sewer District Map Changes - Sankaty Road, Isobels Way and Plainfield) made by Stephen, Seconded by Joe. **Roll call Vote: Jeremy - Aye, Joanna - Aye, Chris - Aye, Stephen - Aye, Joe - Aye, Peter - Aye, Denice - Aye. Unanimous.**
- Motion to take no action on Article 70 (Sewer District Map Changes - 62 and 64 Sankaty Road) made by Stephen, seconded by Peter. **Roll call Vote: Jeremy - Aye, Joanna - Aye, Chris - Aye, Stephen - Aye, Joe - Aye, Peter - Aye, Denice - Aye. Unanimous.**
- Motion to support Article 71 (Sewer District addition) made by Chris, seconded by Peter. **Roll call Vote: Jeremy - Aye, Joanna - Aye, Chris - Aye, Stephen - Aye, Joe - Aye, Peter - Aye, Denice - Aye. Unanimous.**
- Article 99 (Real Estate Acquisition: 75A, 75B and 77 Bartlett Road) is tabled and will be reviewed at a later meeting.
- Motion to adjourn, made by Peter, seconded by Joe. **Roll call Vote: Joanna - Aye, Chris - Aye, Stephen – Aye, Joe – Aye, Peter - Aye, Denice - Aye. Unanimous.**