

Oak Bluffs

Community Development Council

Minutes of 09.17.08

Meeting #79

9:00 am Town Hall Meeting Room

Members in attendance:

Priscilla Sylvia,, Iona Pressley, Nancy Phillips,
James Westervelt (recorder)

Members absent:

Terry Appenzellar, Alison Shaw, Richard Westcott, Renee Balter

Guest:

Ron DiOrio OBChairman Board of Selectmen, Cheryl Sashin OB Tax Collector, Deborah Ratcliff OB Town Clerk, Diane Wilson OB Chief Assessor

Item: Minutes

Minutes of the 09.03.08 meeting were read and accepted.

Item: Vehicle Survey

Committee members reported on their findings of other towns' vehicle policies:

Priscilla reports that Wareham faxed their policy but she never received it and Falmouth sent a package and Michael Dutton has it.

Iona reported that she found Bourne's policy and has downloaded it for all to review.

Nancy checked out Barnstable and spoke to someone there who represented Barnstable County. They have a fleet of 300 vehicles that they lease through Cape Cod Purchasing Group.

Jim reported that Sandwich is presently working on a vehicle policy of their own. He also looked into Bourne's policy and reported that he thought Bourne's policy would make a good fit for OB. He also found one of their town by-laws calls for an annual inventory, which might be something OB should consider.

Town of Bourne

Section 2.2.1

Annual Inventory. The head of every department of the Town shall annually, in January, take an inventory of all articles and property belonging to such department and shall file a list of these articles and property with the Town Administrator. The Town Administrator shall annually take an inventory of all articles and property in the Town offices, Town Hall and other buildings under his immediate jurisdiction and keep a copy thereof in his office.

NOTE: * Various changes amended by Article 21, 2002 ATM

Section 2.2.2

Storage. All material, equipment of paraphernalia belonging to the Town, when not in use for construction or in active service in some other place in Town, shall be kept in buildings or on property owned or leased by the Town; but exemption from the foregoing requirements may be secured by the head of a department ,by filing a statement of facts with the Selectmen, setting forth reasons for making such exemption necessary for the welfare of the Town, which statement shall be entered upon the Selectmen's records.

We have not heard back from Michael Dutton on his completion of our survey. **Ron DiOrio** said he believes the survey has been distributed to department heads. He went on to say that the survey should also focus on energy efficiency and size of vehicles. We need to get our own survey completed and analyzed before we can proceed with discussing and recommending policies.

Item: Revenue Enhancements

Nancy talked about the need to be efficient. The talk then proceeded to focus around asking department heads to find ways to cut costs. At this time Deborah Ratcliff, Cheryl Sashin, and Diane Wilson happened to be near by, so we asked if they had any opinions on cost cutting or revenue enhancements. **Deborah** spoke of how Tisbury has a by-law on dog licensing and the fees generated for the town. **Cheryl** thought a assessors audit on out of state property owners would reap more dollars by taxing personal property that is now listed as an abatement. She thought a yearly review of abatements would do this, instead of the idea of "once and abatement always an abatement." Diane stated that she reviews abatements regularly. **Ron DiOrio** is urging the WIFI all around the town as the town spends considerable amounts on telecommunication. He went on to say how he believes the budget process needs to be reversed. He believes the BOS should be sending the town budget to the finance committee. Reversing the process will make it easier to reach goals and objectives as a means of reducing costs.

Meeting adjourned 10:35am

Next meeting 10.01.08 @ 9 am