

Oak Bluffs

Community Development Council

Meeting #91

Minutes of 03.04.2009

9am Town Hall Meeting Room

Members in attendance:

Nancy Phillips, Renee Balter, Terry Appenzellar, Priscilla Sylvia and Alison Shaw (recorder)

Members absent:

Iona Pressley, Richard Westcott, James Westervelt

Item: Minutes

Minutes of the 02.18.09 meeting were read, corrected and accepted.

Item: Cost of Services

Terry presented her COS updates.

Terry is still trying to determine the best percentages to apply to all of the information that is being gathered. She suggested that everyone should go back to the various departments they surveyed and ask them about the percentage applied to residential vs. business, based on their relative workload.

In the case of the Water Department, **Terry** said she applied the same 90%/10% to residential and business. She also pointed out that the water department seems to be paying all of their employees insurance, which averages out to \$18,000/year, which is a lot of money (it includes life and dental insurance).

Everyone agreed that this should be pointed out to the finance committee as something that should be followed up on. The group discussed channels to go through in order to get these costs under control.

Terry asked why some boards receive a stipend while others don't. **Priscilla** said this issue was on the last town meeting warrant. The stipend makes them eligible for health insurance through the town, which costs the town a lot of money.

Priscilla observed that this is a very eye-opening experience, and that when they set the budget for next year, we should take a look at it and compare it to this year's budget.

Terry noted there is no revenue associated with Information Technology. **Renee** commented on how high the telephone expense is.

Terry said we still need to answer the question of what happens to DMV excise taxes. She also noted that open space actually generates tax revenue, but questioned what these parcels are. **Priscilla** said it probably comes from privately owned open space, such as in residential developments. **Terry** said she would follow up and figure out where this income derives from and how to apply the percentages.

Terry asked about the line item "state-owned land" on the FY 2008-2009 cherry sheet. She said she will go onto Vision Appraisal and try and create a list of state-owned parcels of property within the town, including State Beach, the State Police, etc. **Renee** asked what the line item "police career incentive" means. **Terry** explained that it is additional compensation they receive based on their education and training. **Priscilla** noted that it's a large sum of money, and the teachers don't receive anything comparable.

Terry asked if, in the case of refuse pick-up, should we look at the current system, or do we need to look at what will happen once the new system with the Refuse District is in place.

Terry observed that once we are done, we will have to make some point out of all of the information. The only departments still remaining to be done are Ambulance and Fire. **Renee** said this information that has been gathered could bring up the issue of regionalization of certain services. **Nancy** commended Terry on all her hard work on this project.

Meeting Adjourned 10:25am

Next meeting 03.18.09, in the Town Hall