

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the meeting of 18 February 2009 at 10:00 AM. The meeting took place in the Conference Room, 16 Broad Street, Nantucket, MA 02554. Members of the Board present were Rick Atherton, Brian Chadwick, Michael Kopko, Allen Reinhard, and Patricia Roggeveen. Chairman Kopko called the meeting to order at 10:22 AM.

Solid Waste Workshop

Special solid waste counsel Michael Leon joined the meeting via conference call. Town Manager C. Elizabeth Gibson reviewed the FY 2010 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (SWEF) budget and the projected \$1.9 million deficit. She said Town Administration is looking at ways to close the gap, including absorbing it into the General Fund which would result in an additional \$1.9 million in cuts to the school and Town; developing a new and/or modified fee structure; seeking an operating override for the SWEF, which if it fails, could fall back to a fee structure; or a combination of these options. A discussion followed among Board members, Ms. Gibson, Mr. Leon, and Assistant Town Manager Malachy Rice regarding these options. Mr. Rice suggested that the SWEF deficit needs to be dealt with structurally by instituting a designated revenue stream to pay for landfill operations and related costs which the Town is contractually and legally obligated to pay. Ms. Gibson said the Administration's position is that the SWEF deficit should be covered by the SWEF by whatever means necessary. Mr. Rice discussed closing the gap by means of taxing property owners and said that revenue streams are needed for both the legacy capital costs of the landfill and the operating costs/deficit. He went on to note that the Town has an Administrative Consent Order (ACO) by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) which has been amended six times since 1996 and that Nantucket is one of two towns in the state that has not capped its landfill. He again stressed the importance of having a dedicated revenue stream to at least pay for the accelerated landfill mining program that is being proposed. Mr. Leon said that Nantucket, unlike Martha's Vineyard, Block Island, and other Cape towns, does not collect fees from its residential users despite the fact that it pays Waste Options Nantucket (WON) a contractual fee for residential waste disposal. He said the Town has an uneven fee structure and recommends some sort of fee system, such as a landfill access sticker program, a residential Pay-As-You-Throw program, or a commercial hauler fee to generate income for the SWEF. Mr. Leon reviewed these options, as well options regarding changes to the commercial waste disposal program, the creation of a waste hauler licensing program, construction and demolition (C&D) tracking through building permits, and the elimination of free residential C&D disposal. Ms. Roggeveen said she feels there is value to the sticker program as it alerts citizens to the actual costs of the landfill. The Board continued its discussion regarding a possible override and potential new fees. An additional workshop was scheduled for 23 February 2009.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 12:08 PM.

Approved the 19th day of August, 2009.