

SELECT BOARD

Minutes of the Meeting of February 6, 2019. The meeting took place in the Public Safety Facility Community Room, 4 Fairgrounds Road, Nantucket, MA 02554. Members of the Board present were Jason Bridges, Matt Fee, Rita Higgins, Dawn Hill Holdgate and James R. Kelly.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bridges called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. SELECT BOARD ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Assistant Town Manager Gregg Tivnan announced that the Select Board meeting is being video/audio recorded in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.
2. DPW Director Rob McNeil reviewed a new waste streams initiative at the landfill and answered questions from Board members. Mr. Fee took issue with packaging labeled as compostable which he said really is not.
3. Mr. Tivnan announced that the live streaming of tonight's meeting on the Town YouTube channel is not working but it is working on NCTV's channel.
4. NRTA Administrator Paula Leary announced that February is Senior Citizen Month and every Wednesday, riders 65 years old and older can ride the Wave for free.
5. Operations Administrator Erika Mooney reviewed Old South Road improvements being undertaken by Richmond Great Point Development in connection with its housing project on Old South Road. The project starts February 12 and is expected to last through Memorial Day 2019. She noted that the road improvements are being undertaken by Richmond as required by its Planning Board special permit and is separate from improvements proposed by the Town at the 2019 Annual Town Meeting at another area of Old South Road.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Curtis Barnes handed out and read a statement to the Board (attached) regarding the recently enacted state-wide short-term rental tax legislation.

V. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, WARRANTS AND PENDING CONTRACTS

1. Approval of Minutes of January 23, 2019 at 6:00 PM. Mr. Kelly moved to approve the minutes of January 23, 2019 at 6:00 PM; Ms. Higgins seconded. All in favor, so voted.
2. Approval of Payroll Warrants for Week of February 3, 2019. Mr. Kelly moved to approve payroll warrants for the week of February 3, 2019; Ms. Higgins seconded. All in favor, so voted.
3. Approval of Treasury Warrants for February 6, 2019. Mr. Kelly moved to approve treasury warrants for February 6, 2019; Ms. Higgins seconded. All in favor, so voted.

4. Approval of Pending Contracts for February 6, 2019 - as Set Forth on the Spreadsheet Identified as Exhibit 1, Which Exhibit is Incorporated Herein by Reference. Mr. Kelly moved to approve pending contracts for February 6, 2019; Ms. Hill Holdgate seconded. All in favor, so voted.

VII. CONSENT ITEMS

1. Gift Acceptance: Fire Department; Natural Resources Department. Ms. Hill Holdgate moved to accept the gifts to the Fire Department and Natural Resources Department as presented and with thanks; Ms. Higgins seconded. All in favor, so voted.

VIII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. FY 2019 Second Quarter Budget Reports: Airport Enterprise Fund; Wannacomet Water Enterprise Fund; Siasconset Water Enterprise Fund; Sewer Enterprise Fund. Airport Manager Tom Rafter noted enplanements and operations are down, but revenue is up due to the price and sales of fuel. Mr. Rafter answered questions from Board members. Wannacomet Water Company Director Mark Willett noted Wannacomet has seen a 3% increase in revenues and has had 63 new service connections, which is on pace for the 100 connections projected for the fiscal year. He noted there has been a big increase in commercial fire services. Mr. Willett reviewed Sconset Water's budget, noting it is very slow in the off-season, with roughly 110 services in use at this time. He added that cell carrier proposals for space on the the water towers are due soon. Sewer Director David Gray noted Sewer revenues are up by 2%. He noted that the first sewer service connection was made today for the Nantucket Harbor Shimmo/Plus Parcels sewer extension project. Mr. Gray said there is an issue of inspectors finding multiple dwellings on properties when the sewer permit is for one dwelling. Some discussion followed on this. Mr. Gray indicated that the matter is under active review.

2. Cable Television License Renewal Update. Mr. Tivnan updated the Board on the cable television license renewal process with Comcast, noting that a meeting last week was cancelled by Comcast. He said a public information session is being scheduled in accordance with the license renewal process.

3. Select Board Strategic Plan Implementation Update. Mr. Tivnan updated the Board on the implementation of its Strategic Plan, noting a meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12, 2019 with Novak Group.

IX. SELECT BOARD'S REPORTS/COMMENT

1. Review of January 31, 2019 Dreamland/Select Board Event. Chair Bridges reviewed last week's Dreamland/Select Board event, noting all Board members took part except Ms. Hill Holdgate who was sick. Ms. Higgins stated it was a good format and that moderator Denice Kronau did a great job. Chair Bridges read some public comments from the event. Board discussion followed on the future of transportation and vehicles.

2. Committee Reports. None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:57 PM.

Approved the 13th day of February, 2019.

Statement to the Select Board regarding rental property tax – 2/6/19

It is my understanding that the Board and the Administration have decided not to recommend any adjustment to the local portion of the new State short term rental property tax for the coming year, and that the local portion of the tax will remain at 6%, in addition to the State portion of 5.6%

At a recent Board meeting outlining the impact of the tax on Nantucket, I believe that a figure of \$8900 was cited as the average weekly rental rate for short term rental on Nantucket. I believe this reflected a large number of high end rentals advertised as being available on the Island.

Not all of us get \$8900 per week in rentals. I have a 2-bedroom guest cottage that rents for \$2500-3000 per week in high season, and which helps me to pay both my living expenses, and my local property taxes. Many of us who live year round on the Island depend on our small rental cottages to meet expenses such as gasoline and fuel oil, which currently average about \$1.25 to \$1.50 more per gallon than on the mainland – a situation which I think the State Attorney General should be investigating.

If the Board had chosen to place a recommendation for the amount of the local portion of the short term rental tax on the Warrant, it was my intention to submit an amendment that would have eliminated the local portion of the tax for properties that rented under \$3000 per week – with the objective of helping the small individual cottage owner, even though the State portion of the tax would still have to be paid.

Since, apparently, an Article addressing the local portion of the tax will not be on this year's Warrant, I am here to ask the Board (a) if the Board could still add such an Article to the Warrant for discussion; and/or (b) is there any provision in any other portion of the warrant where this question might be raised, and therefore addressed by the general public at Town Meeting.

Thank you,

Curtis Barnes
12 Sunset Hill Lane

**SELECT BOARD
FEBRUARY 6, 2019 – 6:00 PM
PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMUNITY ROOM
4 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD
NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS**

List of documents used at the meeting:

- VI. 1. Draft minutes of 1/23/2019
- VI. 4. Pending contracts for 2/6/2019
- VII. 1. Gift summary; memos/copies of checks from NFD; letter from NRD, re: gift with pond management program scope
- VIII. 1. FY 2019 2nd Quarter budget reports: Airport Enterprise Fund; Wannacomet Water Enterprise Fund; Sconset Water Enterprise Fund; Sewer Enterprise Fund
- VIII. 2. Select Board Strategic Plan; goals status