

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF NONVOTING TAXPAYERS**  
**Minutes of Public meeting 10 A.M., SATURDAY, July 22, 2023 at Meeting Trailer**  
**Room A - 131 Pleasant St. and via Zoom**

1. Attending members: Kathy Baird, Gary Beller, Gene Briskman, Patti Deuster, Lynn Filipski, Bill Gardner, Don Green, Peter Halle, Peter Kahn, Ralph Kunch, Donna Martino, Steve Perelman, and Pam Suan. Members absent: Lou Bassano, and Scott Ulm. A quorum was present.
2. At 10:02 AM the Chair Peter Halle convened the meeting and read the Virtual Meeting Script confirming a quorum was present.
3. The Agenda for today's meeting was moved for approval, seconded and passed unanimously.
4. Approval of the minutes from the July 8, 2023 meeting was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.
5. Peter Halle introduced Fire Chief Mike Cranson who shared additional information about his background, experience and its similarity to his new role on Nantucket. He discussed the current Nantucket Fire Department staffing at 32 (10 new since he became Chief) of which 4 are EMTs (all Rescue Squad (Ambulance) personnel are paramedics). All the fire officers are EMT trained or will be. A high number of calls are health, not fire related. He discussed the continuing challenges of work schedules, operating in an off-shore location without readily available mutual aide, the higher than expected level of activity in the 'off-season' and the outstanding financial and community support for the Fire Department. Chief Cranson spoke about partnering with the conservation organizations to reduce wildfire risks in a formal plan (12 fire districts) and requesting approval from the town which would open up funding opportunities from state grants. He encouraged registering fire alarm systems with the Fire Department so they can respond and gain access to homes. He answered questions about hydrant operability/accessibility across the island, housing, salaries, accessibility to boats and brushfire fighting. Chief Cranson also noted that 75% of the calls they respond to are medical support rather than fires.
6. Peter Kahn gave an overview of the current status of the STR Working Group, clarifying the ACNVT position in support of Articles 1 and 2 and the reasons for opposition to Article 3. He explained the constitutional issue, and the workaround he presented to STRWG as an alternative that would serve the same purpose, that the STRWG rejected. Peter K. discussed the positions of Select Board members so far, and that they needed to act by August 16. Comments were taken from the public and a discussion was held. The letter written to the Select Board to confirm the position of the ACNVT is attached [here](#) as part of the minutes of this meeting. It was agreed that Peter H. would draft an additional clarification of the ACNVT position for release to the public.

7. Peter H. will reach out to Penny Dey, President of the Nantucket Association of Real Estate Brokers and Transportation Project Manager, Mike Burns, and new Select Board members to speak with ACNVT at future meetings.
8. Next ACNVT meeting is scheduled via Zoom/Hybrid at the Meeting Trailer at 10am August 5, 2023.
9. Motion to adjourn was seconded and passed unanimously at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Baird, Secretary

The following link represents the recording of this meeting located on the Town of Nantucket YouTube website.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVdJ-48rFI8>