



Town of Nantucket Finance Committee

March 7th, 2024 – Minutes

131 PLEASANT STREET, TRAILER ROOM A AND REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM

Staff:	Brian Turbitt, Finance Director; Libby Gibson, Town Manager; Mariya Basheva, Assistant Town Accountant; Lauren Sinatra, PLUS
Attending Members:	Denice Kronau, Chair, Stephen Maury, Peter Schaeffer, Christopher Glowacki, Joseph Wright, Jeremy Bloomer, Joanna Roche, Jill Vieth, Rob Giacchetti
Absent Members:	

Approval of Agenda and Public Comments

- Denice Kronau calls the Finance Committee meeting to order and requests approval of the agenda. Made by Peter, seconded by Jeremy. **Roll Call Vote: Jill Aye, Joanna Aye, Stephen Aye, Chris Aye, Joe Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Denice Kronau closes public comments as no hands are raised.

Article 72 Repeal Chapter 141: Stretch Energy Code - Discussion on Bylaw Amendment and Stretch Energy Code

- John Fones explains the need to leave the stretch energy code due to cost and grid issues.
- Denice Kronau opens the floor for questions and comments from committee members.
- Eddie Ward discusses the financial and environmental impacts of the stretch code, emphasizing the need for proper building methods and energy efficiency.
- Patrick highlights the grid issues and the impact of electric vehicles on the grid.

Article 72 Repeal Chapter 141: Stretch Energy Code - Detailed Cost Analysis and Grid Capacity

- John Fones provides a detailed cost analysis of upgrading to the new stretch code requirements.
- Andy Buccino presents a PowerPoint on the energy efficiency and cost implications of the stretch code.
- Lauren Sinatra provides information on the local grid's capacity and the impact of the stretch code on winter peak loads.
- Discussion on the state's mandate for decarbonization and the implications for Nantucket.

Article 72 Repeal Chapter 141: Stretch Energy Code - Arguments for and Against the Stretch Code

- Eddie Ward and Patrick express concerns about the practicality and efficiency of electric appliances in Nantucket homes.
- Andy Buccino and Vince Murphy argue for the long-term benefits of the stretch code, including energy savings and reduced carbon footprint.
- Lauren Sinatra and others discuss the state's mandate and the importance of meeting energy efficiency goals.
- Denice Kronau emphasizes the importance of the stretch code for Nantucket's green community status.

Article 72 Repeal Chapter 141: Stretch Energy Code - Final Recommendations and Voting

- Denice Kronau suggests taking no action but making a comment about the building community's concerns.
- Christopher Glowacki and others discuss the potential economic impact on the building industry.
- Motion not to adopt Article 72 (stretch energy code repeal), made by Jeremy, seconded by Stephen. **Roll Call Vote: Stephen Aye, Chris Aye, Joe Aye, Peter Nay, Rob Nay, Jill Nay, Joanna Nay, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes 5-4.**

Article 77 and 78 - Recusal and Reconsideration of the motions.

- Joanna Roche recuses herself from the discussion.
- Denice Kronau explains the process of reconsidering a motion, noting that a new motion and second are required.
- Peter Schaeffer inquires about new information that might warrant reconsideration.
- Denice Kronau and others discuss the wording changes in articles 78.

Debate on Article 78

- John Giorgio raises concerns about the amended language of article 78, arguing it remains mandatory and not in proper legal form.
- John Giorgio explains the difference between a warrant article and a motion, emphasizing the need for clarity.
- Denice Kronau and others discuss the implications of the amended language and its potential impact on the town meeting vote.

- Stephen Maury and others express their views on the need for town meeting discussion and the non-binding nature of the article.
- Motion to reconsider Articles 77 and 78 (Withdraw from "Good Neighbor Agreement" / Offshore Wind Power) Stephen made the motion, Jeremy Seconded. **Roll Call Vote: Jeremy Aye, Stephen Aye, Jill Aye, Chris Nay, Joe Nay, Peter Nay, Rob Nay, Denice Nay. Motion Fails to Pass 3-5**

Next Meeting and Committee Reports

- Denice Kronau announces the date of the next meeting on Monday, March 11, and discusses the agenda, including articles 31 and 12.
- Denice Kronau and others discuss the remote nature of the upcoming meetings and the need for efficient and effective decision-making.
- Stephen Maury inquires about the costs associated with the Western Avenue article, with Denice Kronau indicating that more information will be available by the 14th.
- Committee reports are briefly discussed, with no significant updates from any committees since the last meeting.

Adjournment and Final Remarks

- Denice Kronau calls for a motion to adjourn, made by Peter, seconded by Joe. **Roll Call Vote: Jill Aye, Jeremy Aye, Rob Aye, Stephen Aye, Chris Aye, Joe Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously**
- The meeting concludes with Denice Kronau thanking everyone and reminding them of their responsibilities.