

SELECT BOARD

Minutes of the Meeting of November 29, 2023. The hybrid meeting took place in person at the Public Safety Facility Community Room at 4 Fairgrounds Road; and, via remote participation using Zoom Webinar. Members of the Board present were Dawn Holdgate (arrived at 5:31 PM), Thomas Dixon, Matt Fee, Dr. Malcolm MacNab and Brooke Mohr.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Mohr called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM following the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. SELECT BOARD ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Chair Holdgate noted that the Select Board will be recessing its meeting following item III-2 for the County Commission meeting. She added that item IX-1 will be taken up following Select Board announcements once the meeting resumes. The agenda was accepted without further change.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Manager C. Elizabeth Gibson reviewed the announcements.

1. The Select Board Meeting is Being Audio/Video Recorded.

Ms. Gibson recognized Fire Chief Michael Cranson to make an announcement about a state-wide firefighter award ceremony which took place last week in Worcester, MA. Chief Cranson read a statement (attached) about the ceremony and recognized the Nantucket firefighters who were honored with an award.

2. Recognition of Retiring Police Chief William Pittman with 19 Years of Service with the Town of Nantucket. Ms. Gibson recognized Chief Pittman and spoke on his tenure with the Town, noting his many accomplishments, valuable advice, legacy, leadership and that he will be missed. Chair Holdgate expressed appreciation for the Chief's service, as did Ms. Mohr. Licensing Administrator Amy Baxter expressed appreciation for the Chief as well. Sewer Director David Gray thanked the Chief, specifically recognizing the Chief's assistance during a major sewer force main break in 2018. Chief Cranson thanked Chief Pittman for his guidance, friendship and assistance during his first year of employment with the Town. Arthur Gasbarro expressed appreciation for Chief Pittman, especially his service with the Traffic Safety Work Group on which they both served.

The Board and Ms. Gibson presented the Chief with a Certificate of Appreciation.

The meeting was recessed for the County Commissioners meeting at 5:51 PM and was called back to order at 6:12 PM to complete the Select Board meeting.

3. Select Board Announcements/Comments. There were no comments.

IV. FOLLOW-UP ON COMMENTS FROM PRIOR SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

There was no follow-up.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Gray thanked the community for its patience during the sewer force main project in the Atlantic Ave/Vesper Lane area. He indicated that while the project is far from over, it is so far, going well. Operations Administrator Erika Mooney concurred and thanked the School Superintendent for

communications with parents about school traffic. She noted that the sewer construction crew will now be working days only.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, WARRANTS AND PENDING CONTRACTS

Ms. Mohr moved approval of items VII 1 – 3; seconded by Mr. Fee; all in favor, so voted.

1. Approval of Minutes of November 13, 2023 at 11:00 AM; November 15, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

2. Approval of Payroll Warrants for November 26, 2023.

3. Approval of Treasury Warrants for November 22, 2023; November 29, 2023.

4. Approval of Pending Contracts for November 29, 2023 - as Set Forth on the Spreadsheet Identified as Exhibit 1, Which Exhibit is Incorporated Herein by Reference. At the request of Ms. Mohr, Human Services Director Jerico Mele explained the contracts relating to the “Youth Grant Funds”, specifically, the process used to make funding allocations. Ms. Mohr asked about the equine therapy program. Mr. Mele explained that is a program that will take place off-island and the grant will cover transportation costs. Ms. Mohr moved approval of the pending contracts; seconded by Mr. Fee; all in favor, so voted.

IX. REAL ESTATE MATTERS

1. Request for Approval and Execution of License Agreement with 14 Easy Street LLC, Sarah F. Alger and Richard P. Beaudette, Trustees of 14 Easy Street Condominiums Trust, over Portion of Town Sidewalk on South Water Street, Shown as “Proposed Sidewalk Easement Area = 62 s.f.” on Plan Entitled “Easement Plan of Land in Nantucket, MA, Prepared for: 14 Easy Street Condominiums, #14A - #14D Easy Street,” Dated November 16, 2021 and Prepared by Bracken Engineering, Inc., to Provide and Maintain Licensed Premises for Open Space for Public Pedestrian Use. Attorney Vicki Marsh of Town Counsel’s office explained the request. Mr. Fee moved approval of the request; seconded by Ms. Mohr; all in favor, so voted.

VIII. CITIZEN/DEPARTMENTAL/COMMITTEE REQUESTS/REPORTS

1. Valet Park of America: 2023 Summer Valet Service Update. Tim Graney of Valet Park of America (VPA) reviewed the season and the parking statistics, as contained in the Board’s packet. Discussion followed as to continued use of the lot next year. Ms. Mooney indicated that it looks promising for next year. Mr. Graney noted that the security cameras have been left in place for the winter and are available to the Police Department if needed and, that the fencing is also available for Town use, if needed. The Board thanked Mr. Graney for his report.

2. Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee: Quarterly Report. Coastal Resiliency Coordinator Leah Hill reviewed the report as contained in the Board’s packet. Curtis Barnes asked about integration of the coastal resilience activities with the schools. Ms. Hill responded and said her office is involved in school programs. Mr. Fee spoke in favor of a grant writer. Amy Keohane, a property owner on Union Street, commented on an “aggressive” development on Mariner Way and associated flooding issues, noting the neighbors are very concerned.

X. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing to Determine Tax Allocation by Classification (Chapter 369, Acts of 1982, as Amended); Percentage of Residential Exemption to be Granted for Fiscal Year 2024 (Request to be Continued to December 6, 2023). Ms. Mohr moved to continue the hearing to December 6, 2023; seconded by Mr. Dixon; all in favor, so voted.

XI. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Continued Preliminary Review of Town-Sponsored Warrant Articles for 2024 Annual Town Meeting. Ms. Gibson reviewed the highlighted items on the warrant article outline in the Board's packet:

- E bikes and E Scooters – Ms. Gibson introduced Transportation Planner Mike Burns to provide an update on the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee's (BPAC) discussions as to regulating these devices. Mr. Burns provided an update and said BPAC has no current recommendations on these. He noted that "Class 3" e bikes are not allowed on the bike paths. Ms. Mohr asked how Class 3 e bikes are distinguishable from other e bikes and commented on the difficulty of enforcement. Mr. Burns responded and acknowledged that the distinguishing features of e bikes can be confusing. He said he has talked with the Communications office about outreach on this, and what is/is not allowed by state law. Ms. Mohr asked if BPAC could make some recommendations as to markings on Class 3 e bikes, and helmets. Mr. Burns was asked to follow up on this. Mr. Burns spoke on additional public outreach on e bikes. Mr. Fee spoke in support of safety concerns and said there are a lot of anecdotal stories about the dangers of e bikes.

- Noise bylaw – the Board indicated that those who want to see changes should put forward a specific request. Mr. Fee noted that "momentum" needs to be built around such an initiative.

- Rental car medallions - Attorney Brian Riley of Town Counsel's office indicated he is working on this.

- Short-term rentals – Mr. Riley spoke on the community impact fee associated with short-term rentals that was adopted at the November 7, 2023 special town meeting and questions that arose at the Board's November 15th meeting about this and whether or not a warrant article would be needed for the annual town meeting. Mr. Riley explained the details of notification to the state and the timing of when the collection of the fee starts. He explained his recommendation as contained in the Board's agenda packet. Mr. Fee asked if the state notification can be made by the Board at a later time, rather than going back to Town Meeting. Some discussion followed on this. Mr. Fee said he is concerned that if the acceptance goes back to Town Meeting, could Town Meeting reverse the vote to accept the Mass General Law allowing for the impact fee. Mr. Riley said he will further explore the possibility of notifying the state at a later date. Chair Holdgate suggested that to address Mr. Fee's concern, could a warrant article indicate that the acceptance cannot be rescinded. Some discussion followed on this. Mr. Riley will explore this also and some other clarification as to who the impact fee applies to.

- Coastal Resiliency Districts – Town Counsel is continuing to work on this.

- Year-round housing deed restriction program – Affordable Housing Trust is working on this.

- Ms. Mohr is continuing her research on Select Board compensation. Dr. MacNab said he is not convinced that this is a necessary proposal and would like more information.

- Ms. Gibson said that citizen warrant articles will be reviewed with the Board next week, with a review of legality by Town Counsel.

Dr. MacNab asked about any short-term rental article(s) to be proposed by the Board. Mr. Dixon suggested that since there are short-term rental related citizen warrant articles that the Board learn about their legality from Town Counsel and decide after that if it wants to consider any Board-sponsored article(s).

Campbell Sutton commented on citizen warrant articles, in general.

2. Monthly Town Management Report. Ms. Gibson reviewed the report as contained in the agenda packet. Mr. Dixon said he likes the idea of assigning each Board member a Strategic Plan Focus Area to work with staff on. He said some constituents have brought up solid waste issues to him recently and he hopes more outreach about long-term solid waste planning will be forthcoming. He also noted that coincidentally, the Massachusetts Municipal Association held a webinar today, which was about Form of Government, which was timely because the first meeting of the Town Council Study Committee is tomorrow.

XII. SELECT BOARD'S REPORTS/COMMENT

1. Committee Reports. Ms. Mohr elaborated on the long-term solid waste planning noted in the Town Manager's report and the Town Manager's work group's work on this. She said a Select Board workshop is being planned for January 11th at 6:00 PM to review the complexities of the Town's solid waste operation, with what is intended to be an easy-to-understand presentation. She noted the members of the work group who have specific expertise in solid waste and/or related experience. Mr. Fee said it is important to educate the community on these issues and why the community should support them

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fee moved adjournment at 7:31 PM; seconded by Dr. MacNab; all in favor, so voted.

Approved the 6th day of December 2023.

**SELECT BOARD
NOVEMBER 29, 2023 – 5:30 PM
PSF COMMUNITY ROOM, 4 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD
AND REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM WEBINAR
NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS**

List of documents used at the meeting:

- VII. 1. Draft minutes of 11/13/2023; 11/15/2023
- VII. 4. Pending Contracts spreadsheet
- VIII. 1. AIS re: 2023 Summer Valet Service; 2023 Car Counts; 2023 Bag Checks
- VIII. 2. AIS re: CRAC update; CRAC quarterly update
- IX. 1. AIS re: License Agreement with 14 Easy St LLC; License Agreement; Easment Plan
- XI. 1. Outline #4 for 2024 ATM Warrant; Email & attachment from Transportation Planner re: e-bikes & e-scooters; Email from Town Counsel re: STR Community Impact Fee; Parking Management presentation; Planning concept articles
- XI. 2. Monthly Town Management Report

 Michael Cranson Fire Chief			 Kevin Ramos Interim Deputy Fire Chief
	NANTUCKET FIRE DEPARTMENT		
	4 Fairgrounds Road		
	Nantucket, MA 02554		
	508-228-2323 or 508-228-2324		

November 27, 2023

To: Libby Gibson, Town Manager

From: Michael Cranson, Fire Chief

Re: Firefighter of the Year Awards Ceremony

On November 21, 2023 the 34th Firefighter of the Year Awards ceremony took place at Mechanics Hall in Worcester Ma. The event is an annual event that recognizes firefighters who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to save a life. The awards are not limited to fires; many recipients are recognized for heroic actions during water emergencies traffic accidents and other life threatening emergencies. This year, the firefighters of the Nantucket Fire Department were recognized for their heroic and brave actions on the morning of July 9, 2022, when the historic Veranda House caught fire in the downtown district of the island. Captain Nate Barber, who was off-duty and having coffee nearby that morning saw the smoke and immediately jumped into action. He entered the burning structure through a window on the second floor and despite having no protective gear, helped to lead several civilians to safety. Once back outside, he worked with the responding members of the fire department to contain the inferno to the original three fire buildings. Approximately thirty firefighters from Nantucket battled the blaze for nearly three hours before mutual aid fire departments arrived to assist the Nantucket Fire Department. Several firefighters were treated at the Nantucket Cottage Hospitals for exhaustion, but no civilian injuries or loss of life occurred. This is no doubt because of the swift and determined actions of the Nantucket firefighters.

The following members of the Nantucket Fire Department received the Citation for Meritorious Conduct:

Deputy Chief Sean Mitchell
Deputy Chief Robert Bates (Ret.)
Captain Nate Barber
Captain Francis Hanlon
Captain Charles Kymer
Captain Kevin Ramos
Captain Joseph Townsend
Captain Jeffrey Allen (Ret.)
Call Captain Earl Eldridge
Firefighter Dave Angelastro
Firefighter Beau Barber

Firefighter Germano Chatti
Firefighter Ethan Fey
Firefighter Michael Finnegan
Firefighter Christopher Gould
Firefighter Christopher Holland
Firefighter Scott Holmes
Firefighter Alana Macey
Firefighter Mack McGrath
Firefighter David Pekarcik
Firefighter Shane Perry
Firefighter Corey Ray

Firefighter Ivo Baychev
Firefighter Mario Cameron

Firefighter Alex Rezendes
Call Firefighter Mac Davis
Firefighter Shawn Monaco (Ret.)

Additionally, Captain Nate Barber was awarded the Medal of Valor by Governor Maura Healey for his heroic actions that morning.

The Nantucket Fire Department thanks the community of Nantucket, and the Commonwealth for the support and recognition. The Nantucket Fire Department is proud to protect and serve this island will always strive to deliver the best level of protection to its residents and visitors.

Respectfully,

Michael Cranson
Fire Chief

Cc: Select Board

Human Resources