



MEETING POSTING

TOWN OF NANTUCKET

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, § 18-25

All meeting **notices and agenda** must be filed and time stamped with the Town Clerk's Office and posted at least 48 hours prior to the meeting (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays)

RECEIVED

2024 JAN 29 PM 03:00
NANTUCKET TOWN CLERK
Posting Number:T 104

Committee/Board/s	TOWN COUNCIL STUDY COMMITTEE
Day, Date, and Time	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, at 3:00PM until 5:00PM
Location / Address	MEETING TRAILER AT 131 PLEASANT STREET (Room B) AND REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM
Signature of Chair or Authorized Person	Joe Grause

WARNING: IF THERE IS NO QUORUM OF MEMBERS PRESENT, OR IF MEETING POSTING IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OML STATUTE, NO MEETING MAY BE HELD!

AGENDA

Please list below the topics the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84277336876?pwd=gUmysFYjgbtgcSsDkUb3yCXNxxvJFkb.1>

Meeting ID: 842 7733 6876

Passcode: 704244

- I. Call to Order
- II. Acceptance of Agenda
- III. The Town Council Study Committee Meeting is being recorded.
- IV. Approval of Minutes of January 24, 2024
- V. Presentation and Discussion regarding Town Charter by C. Elizabeth Gibson, Town Manager and John Giorgio, Town Counsel (3:00 pm to 4:00 pm)
- VI. Presentation by Anthony Wilson of the Edward J. Collins Center for Public Management.
- VII. Public Comment/Questions
- VIII. Discussion Regarding Agenda Items for Next Meeting(s)
- IX. Adjournment

Town of Nantucket
Town Council Study Committee

Project Plan
Updated 1/28/24

Committee Purpose:

The Committee was established by the Select Board in compliance with Article 81 of the FY2023 Annual Town Meeting with the purpose of studying the establishment of a Town Council form of government for Nantucket with the following conditions.

1. The Town Council shall serve as the legislative body for the Town and County of Nantucket.
2. The Town Council shall employ a Town Manager to manage and implement policies and procedures approved by the Council.
3. The special committee shall consider any structural or administrative details of the Town Council, including but not limited to
 - a. The number of members of the Town Council.
 - b. How the Town Council might represent the voters of Nantucket.
 - c. The qualifications necessary to hold a seat on the Town Council.
 - d. The internal organization of the Town Council.
 - e. Compensation of Council Members; and
 - f. Any other characteristics of the structure and processes of the proposed Town Council as may be recommended.

Goal:

The special committee shall complete its work and submit an Article for either an Annual or Special Town Meeting which, if passed, may enable the transition to a Town Council structure. The timing of the submission is dependent on the execution of all necessary steps, including appointing the committee, public hearing and writing of the article. *(All taken from Article 81 of ATM FY2023.)*

Project Plan

Meeting	Topics/Agenda/Goals	Comment/Resource/Speaker
11/30/23 12/20/23 1/24/24	1. Committee Education/Research a. Understanding Nantucket's current government structure; how does Nantucket operate? Roles/responsibilities of various parts of Town Government. b. What are the forms of government in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts? How do they differ? Pros and Cons? Statistics/characteristics of Towns using the four forms? c. What leads Towns to change form of government? d. Experience of other Town who have changed to a Town Council? What led to change? Hurdles?	• First two meetings largely administrative • Michael Dutton, Town Manager for Bridgewater, MA spoke to Committee on 1/24/24. Presented the three forms of government (Town Meeting, Representative Town Meeting and Town Council/Town Manager) to the Committee. Discussed characteristics and pros/cons of all three. Answered questions from Committee and members of the public. • Committee needs to gather/develop some statistics about the numbers of municipalities that use the various governmental forms? MMA? • Representatives of Collins Center will present a) a similar overview and b) their capabilities as consultant/facilitator at 2/7/24 meeting.
12/10/24	2. What problem are we attempting to solve? a. "Unpack" the issue. What are the shortcomings of Town Meeting? What are the benefits of a change? b. What will opponents of change claim about Town Meeting? c. What voters might be supportive of a change? Who might oppose it?	• Discussion during 12/10/24 meeting developed outline of concerns about Town Meeting structure as well as some positive characteristics. (See Minutes for 12/10/24.) • Revisit at a future meeting? Develop arguments for advantages of Town Council form?
	3. Examine some recent conversions to Town Council a. Review the Town Charters?	

	b. Functional similarities and differences? c. Process used? (Charter Commission or Special Legislation?) d. Is Town Council the appropriate solution here? What about Representative Town Meeting?	
	4. Compose a new Town Council Charter for Nantucket a. Is there a recent conversion whose Charter we can copy/use? b. Does the Committee draft or should we use outside law firm? c. Discuss specific structural issues: i. Number of Councilors? ii. Terms? iii. Qualifications to hold a Council position? iv. How will Councilors represent the voters of the Town? v. Non-resident taxpayers? vi. Compensation? vii. Relationship to Town Manager? viii. Will Role and Responsibilities of Town Manager change? Other Town Employees? ix. Relationship of Town Council to other elected persons/entities? Planning Board, Land Bank, NP&EDC? Others? x. Other issues?	

2/7/24	5. Unique Characteristics of Nantucket to Consider a. County and County Commissioners b. NP&EDC c. Elected and Appointed Groups d. TBD	• Libby Gibson and John Giorgio speaking to Committee on 2/7/24. Will present characteristics and evolution of current Nantucket Town Charter and Town organizational structure.
	6. Public Hearings a. Are they necessary? (Check with Town Counsel) b. How many? c. Gather input from voters. Survey?	
	7. Compose Article for _____ Town Meeting	
	8. PR/Marketing Plan to communicate benefits/reasons for change to Town Council a. Ongoing communication to voters b. Community outreach – visit with various influence groups. - c.	
	9. Other Steps??	

