



Town of Nantucket

Finance Committee

January 28th, 2025 – Minutes

REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM

Staff:	Brian Turbitt, Finance Director, Steven Hunter, Financial Analyst, Libby Gibson, Town Manager
Attending Members:	Denice Kronau, Chair, Peter Schaeffer, Joseph Wright, Jeremy Bloomer, Stephen Maury, Rob Giacchetti, Joanna Roche, Jill Vieth
Absent Members:	Chris Glowacki

Approval of Agenda and Public Comment

- Denice Kronau calls the meeting to order and requests approval of the agenda.
- A motion to approve the agenda is made by Jill, seconded by Peter. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Rob Aye, Peter Aye, Jill Aye, Stephen Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Denice Kronau opens the floor for public comment, but no one raises their hand, so she closes it.
- The agenda includes discussion, deliberation, and potential motions for Citizen Warrant Article O – Real Estate Acquisition - 3, 5, 7, 9, South Shore Rd.

Discussion on Citizen Warrant Article O – Real Estate Acquisition – 3, 5, 7, 9, South Shore Rd. and Miss Perry's Absence

- Denice Kronau mentions an email from Meghan Perry stating she cannot attend the meeting.
- Jill Vieth asks if Mr. Haverty will represent Meghan Perry at the town meeting.
- Paul Haverty clarifies he represents Surfside Crossing LLC, not Meghan Perry.
- Denice Kronau hands over the floor to John to discuss the town council's opinion on the article.

Citizen Warrant Article O – Town Council's Opinion on Eminent Domain

- John explains Meghan Perry's interest in a warrant article authorizing the taking of Surfside Crossing property by eminent domain.
- He details the necessary steps for eminent domain, including identifying public purposes, conducting an appraisal, and securing a debt exclusion vote.

- John warns that even if all steps are met, the Select Board cannot compel the taking, and there is a risk of bad faith claims.
- He cites the Pheasant Ridge case as an example of a court invalidating a taking due to bad faith.

Citizen Warrant Article O – Committee's Concerns and Motion

- He also questions how acquiring the land would alleviate traffic issues, as playing fields would increase traffic.
- Paul Haverty reiterates the risks of bad faith claims and the lack of a legitimate planning process.
- Denice Kronau calls for a motion, and Jill motions not to adopt the article. Joanna seconds it.
- Motion not to adopt Citizen Warrant Article O (Real Estate Acquisition – 3, 5, 7, 9, South Shore Rd.), made by Jill, seconded by Joanna. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Stephen Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Joanna Aye, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**

General Discussion and Committee Reports

- Denice opens the floor for general discussion and deliberation on warrant articles for the annual town meeting.
- No one raises their hand to discuss specific articles, so Denice moves on to committee reports.
- Denice confirms the next meeting date as Saturday, February 1, for budget discussions.
- Steven Hunter mentions slight changes to the schedule and confirms that all budget links are available except for solid waste.

Upcoming Meetings and Warrant Article Preparation

- Denice reminds everyone of the second public hearing on the warrant on Monday, February 3.
- Denice Kronau and Libby Gibson will work together to create a schedule for discussing warrant articles.
- Libby Gibson plans to provide brief overviews of the fiscal 2026 budget and long-term capital projects before discussing individual articles.

Other Business and Adjournment

- Denice asks if there is any other business before adjourning the meeting.

- Seeing no further business, Denice asks for a motion to Adjourn.
- Motion to Adjourn made by Peter, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Stephen Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Rob Aye, Joanna Aye, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**