



Town of Nantucket Finance Committee

February 3rd, 2025 – Minutes

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

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

Public Comments and Agenda Approval

- Denice Kronau calls the meeting to order and asks for approval of the agenda.
- A motion to approve the agenda is made by Peter, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Public comments are opened and closed with no comments; Denice announces the public hearing on the 2025 Annual Town Meeting warrant articles.
- Denice Kronau explains the process of discussing each article and making recommendations.

Article One: Receipt of Reports

- Libby Gibson introduces Article 1, explaining its routine nature and recommends approval.
- Motion to adopt Article One (Receipt of Reports) is made by Peter, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Jeremy Aye, Joe Aye, Stephen Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**

Public Hearing on Articles Two Through Five

- Various financial Articles are opened for the public hearing, including unpaid bills, prior year transfers, and revolving accounts for fiscal year 2026.
- Peter Schaeffer asks if a motion to adopt multiple articles simultaneously, but Denice clarifies that numbers are needed and Articles 2 through 4 will be reviewed at a later meeting once finalized.

- Libby Gibson provides details on the Article Five a \$500,000 reserve fund appropriation, mentioning its sufficiency and adherence to legal limits.
- Chris Glowacki recalls past uses of the reserve fund, prompting further discussion on its history and current status.
- Discussion briefly touches on the COVID-related expenses in previous years.
- Motion to adopt Article Five (Appropriation: Reserve Fund) is made by Chris, seconded by Peter. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Stephen Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**

Public Hearing on Articles Six Through Eighteen

- Article 6 Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Transfers is opened for public hearing,
- Article 7 Personnel Compensation Plans for Fiscal Year 2026 are reviewed, with minimal changes noted.
- Motion to adopt Article Seven (Personnel Compensation Plans for Fiscal Year 2026) is made by Peter, seconded by Chris. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Stephen Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Articles 8 through Article 17 are opened for public hearing, but are scheduled for discussion during future meetings, including fiscal year 2026 general operating fund budget and various appropriations.
- Article 18 Waterways Improvement Fund is opened for public hearing, Brian Turbitt explains the amount to be appropriated is \$367,000
- Motion to adopt Article Eighteen (Appropriation: Waterways Improvement Fund) is made by Peter, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Stephen Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**

Public Hearing on Articles Nineteen Through Thirty

- Article 19 Ambulance Reserve Fund is opened for the public hearing, Brian Turbitt explains the amount to be appropriated is \$915,000
- Motion to adopt Article Nineteen (Appropriation: Ambulance Reserve Fund) is made by Peter, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Stephen Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Article 20 Ferry Embarkation Fee is opened for the public hearing, Brian Turbitt explains the amount to be appropriated is \$200,000

- Motion to adopt Article Twenty (Appropriation: Ferry Embarkation Fee) is made by Jeremy, seconded by Peter. **Roll call vote: Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Joe Aye, Stephen Aye, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Articles 21 through Articles 23 are opened for the public hearing, will be reviewed by the Finance Committee at a later meeting.
- Article 24 Other Post Employment Benefits fund is opened for the public hearing, Libby Gibson confirms the funding will continue to be \$500,000
- Motion to adopt Article Twenty-four (Appropriation: Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund) is made by Jeremy, seconded by Peter. **Roll call vote: Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Stephen Aye, Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Article 25 FY26 Senior Work-off program is opened for public hearing, Libby Gibson explains the annual program and states the funding will remain the same as prior years at \$25,000.
- Libby Gibson provides background on the senior work off program, noting its small participant base.
- Motion to adopt Article Twenty-five (Appropriation: Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund) is made by Jeremy, seconded by Peter. **Roll call vote: Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Stephen Aye, Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- The public hearing for the CPC Articles 26, 27, and 28 is opened with no comments.
- Article 29 is opened for public hearing; it is mentioned that the Finance Committee has already made a motion not to adopt.
- Article 30 is opened for the hearing, Denice mentions that Isaiah is scheduled to come back to review this Article at a later meeting.

Public Hearing on Articles Thirty-one Through Sixty-nine Zoning Map Changes and Bylaw Amendments

- Denice Kronau reads the names of Articles 31-69, with nobody speaking on any of them for the public hearing.
- Extensive list of zoning map changes and bylaw amendments presented, covering various locations and types of changes.
- Denice Kronau notes that detailed discussions on short-term rental regulations will occur separately from the other zoning articles.

Articles Seventy Through Seventy-four General Bylaw Amendments

- Article 70 Rename Revolving Account is opened for the hearing, Libby Gibson explains this is to rename one of the funds referred to as lifeguard and call it seasonal employee housing instead, which includes lifeguards but will include some other seasonal position.
- Motion to adopt Article Seventy (General Bylaw Amendment: Finances/Rename Revolving Account/Add Revolving Account) is made by Peter, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Jeremy Aye, Stephen Aye, Joe Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Denice Kronau opens the public hearing on Article 71, General Bylaw Amendment: Streets and Sidewalks.
- Libby Gibson explains the proposed bylaw amendment regarding traffic control devices and their intended purposes.
- Discussions on the implications of these changes, including potential impacts on existing policies and community feedback.
- Motion to adopt Article Seventy-one (General Bylaw Amendment: Streets and Sidewalks) is made by Peter, seconded by Joe. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Peter Aye, Stephen Aye, Jeremy Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Nay, Denice Aye. Passes 5-1**
- Articles 72-74 is opened for the public hearing, with no comments.

Public Hearings on Articles Seventy-five Through Eighty-two

- The public hearing is open for Articles 72 – 75, which includes various general bylaw amendments including changes to car rental agency registrations, bicycle right of way, motorized passenger devices, and wetlands.
- The public hearing is open for Articles 76 – 81, which are general bylaw amendments for sewer district map changes for various locations.
- Article 82, Acceptance of Seasonal Community Designation, is opened for the public hearing.
- John Giorgio presents the topic of accepting the seasonal community designation, explaining its benefits and potential impact on affordable housing.
- Discussions on the pros and cons of accepting the designation, John Giorgio explains he doesn't see any downsides for Nantucket, Jeremy Bloomer expresses the need for clear communication at town meeting.
- Motion to adopt Article Eighty-two (Acceptance of Massachusetts General Law: Seasonal Community Designation) is made by Peter, seconded by Joe. **Roll call vote: Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Stephen Aye, Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**

Public Hearings on Articles Eighty-three Through Ninety-two

- Articles 83 – 85 are opened for the public hearing, Denice explains that the Finance committee has already made motions on these articles at prior meetings.
- Denice Kronau explains Articles 86 - 92 are voted on to keep them alive until the state rules on them, all these Articles had passed at previous town meetings.
- Several home rule petitions are discussed, including extensions for fertilizer regulations and the possibility of issuing pension obligation bonds.
- Motion to Adopt Article 86 (Home Rule Petition: Community Housing Bank Real Estate Transfer Fee) made by Joe, seconded by Peter. **Roll call vote: Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Stephen Aye, Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Motion to Adopt Article 87 (Home Rule Petition: An Act Amending the Charter of the Town of Nantucket to Implement Certain Recommendations of the Town Government Study Committee) made by Peter, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Stephen Aye, Jeremy Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Libby Gibson explains that Article 88 started as a citizen petition, it initially passed but legislative representatives made it clear it would not pass in current form, and it was reworded the following year.
- Motion to Adopt Article 88 (Home Rule Petition: An Act Regulating the Application of Nutrient Management and Fertilizer in the Town of Nantucket) made by Peter, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Stephen Aye, Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Brian Turbitt explains the potential benefits and processes involved in issuing pension obligation bonds.
- Motion to Adopt Article 89 (Home Rule Petition: Issuance of Pension Obligation Bonds and Notes) made by Jeremy, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Stephen Aye, Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Motion to Adopt Article 90 (Home Rule Petition: Conveyance of School Street from County to Town) made by Jeremy, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Stephen Aye, Joe Aye, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**
- Motion to Adopt Article 91 (Home Rule Petition: Real Estate Conveyances from Town of Nantucket to Nantucket Islands Land Bank and/or Sconset Trust, Inc.) made by Peter,

seconded by Jeremy. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Stephen Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Jeremy Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**

- Motion to Adopt Article 92 (Home Rule Petition: An Act Amending the Charter of the County of Nantucket) made by Peter, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Joe Aye, Stephen Aye, Jeremy Aye, Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**

Articles Ninety-three Through One Hundred and Four

- Real Estate Articles 93-100 are opened for the public hearing, with no comments.
- Article 101 and 102, Citizen Warrant Articles, are opened for the public hearing, with no comments.
- Article 103 and 104 Appropriation for Stabilization Fund and Free Cash is opened for the public hearing, with no comment.

Committee Reports, Town Council Study Question, and Adjournment

- No updates from committees are reported.
- Discussion on the town council study committee question, with members deciding against providing a formal opinion.
- Motion to Adjourn made by Peter, seconded by Jill. **Roll call vote: Chris Aye, Jill Aye, Peter Aye, Stephen Aye, Jeremy Aye, Joe Aye, Denice Aye. Passes Unanimously.**