

## **SELECT BOARD**

Minutes of the meeting of August 17, 2026. The meeting took place by remote participation via Zoom Webinar. Select Board Members present were Brooke Mohr, Matt Fee, Jill Vieth and Dawn E. Hill. Robert DeCosta was not present. Also present were Licensing Administrator Amy Baxter, Real Estate Specialist Robert Bystrowski, Culture and Tourism Director Shantaw Bloise-Murphy and Acting Airport Manager, Preston Harimon.

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hill called the meeting to order at 11:01 AM.

### II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### III. LICENSING – DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

Request for Action on Car Rental Medallion Applications for Car Rental Medallion Waitlist Applicants

(Tabled from July 20, 2026). Ms. Baxter explained that there are currently eight rental vehicle medallions (RVM) available to be awarded to car rental agencies. She noted that at the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, four prospective applicants reviewed their proposals for the licenses, and that the Select Board had requested that the applicants conduct research on locations and how their operations would work, suggesting that some may want to join together. She said that since then, two existing RVM license holders submitted proposals for the eight RVMs as well, with Hertz requesting all eight. Ms. Baxter asked how the Board wants to allocate the eight RVMs and if the Board wants to use this opportunity to allow a qualified new rental agency to enter the Nantucket market. She gave an overview of the current RVM program, which includes five rental car agencies operating under Chapter 58 of the Bylaw of the Town of Nantucket, and reviewed the number of RVMs each company currently holds. Ms. Baxter shared that some existing agencies have voiced concerns about how the eight RVMs should be distributed, suggesting that they be distributed among existing license holders only. Ms. Baxter disagreed and stated that just because an applicant is already licensed, that shouldn't give them priority over any prospective new agencies. She added that one consideration should be the number of RVMs already assigned to existing agencies and the actual utilization of the RVMs. She noted that Hertz has not utilized a minimum of 100 RVMs each year over the past five years.

Mr. Fee asked how many cars are currently garaged on the island and how much tax is collected from them. Ms. Baxter responded that the fee is \$100 per vehicle that is not registered on Nantucket and free if a vehicle is registered on Nantucket. She said the existing agencies are entitled to request additional medallions but urged the Board to consider if an agency already has significant unused capacity. Ms. Baxter said an attorney representing the existing rental agencies questioned why the process was opened to new prospective agencies. Ms. Baxter explained that the opportunity for new agencies to enter the market is very limited due to the cap of 700 RVMs per the bylaw and she felt it was appropriate to determine if there were qualified applicants interested in establishing a new rental car agency. She noted that existing rental car agencies can already transfer unused RVMs to other licensed agencies. She noted that as of August 12, there are currently 142 unused medallions, all being held by Hertz. She said that is not an issue to be resolved today, but rather at the annual licensing meeting in December, at which time the Board can decide to redistribute RVMs issued to existing license holders, pursuant to Chapter 58. She reviewed considerations for the Board to take into account.

Ms. Mohr asked for someone to explain the need for more medallions if they aren't fully using the ones already assigned. She noted that on July 20, the Board urged the prospective new applicants to approach Hertz about purchasing some of its unused RVs, and the fact that Hertz is now requesting more RVs answers that question. Attorney Anthony Panebianco, representing Hertz, explained that though all RVs are not currently being used, they maintain the medallions to allow for flexibility to provide customers with the vehicles that they need, often transporting vehicles on and off the island as is necessary. Ms. Baxter pointed out that there have been issues in the past, including this summer, with that practice, as she has observed vehicles that are unregistered with the Town in the Hertz lot for rent.

Chir Hill asked about available counter space at the Airport. Acting Airport Manager Harimon stated that there is currently no counter space available and that if a new agency were to begin on the island, Visitor Services would need to relocate from the Airport main terminal or the Airport parking office would need to move. Ms. Baxter asked Mr. Harimon about the procurement process for space in the Airport terminal. Mr. Harimon said he believes the current terminal space contracts are up in 2029 or 2030. He added that it does require a formal state procurement process. Ms. Mohr noted that one of the applications is a joint application from Geoff Smith of G.J. Smith, Inc. and Daniel Warsh of Compass Pointe Rentals, and the application identifies a secondary location as one that Mr. Smith currently rents from the Airport. She asked if this use is included in the scope of the lease and if it is not, that it be removed from the application. Mr. Harimon said if the lease doesn't include this use, a lease amendment would be needed. Ms. Vieth asked if any of the applicants even want Airport counter space. Mr. Smith said they are seeking permitting for use at 98 Old South Road and if that doesn't pan out, he would seek to amend his lease with the Airport.

Attorney John Perten, representing Nantucket Rent-A-Car and Affordable Rentals, said they currently utilize all of their RVs and have existing space at the Airport and would not require any additional space.

Mr. Fee questioned Licensing's recommendations and asked if this process is to "clean up" issues with Turo or is it because we need another brick and mortar agency. He expressed his discomfort with issuing any of the eight RVs until these issues and others like unused RVs are addressed. Mr. Fee suggested putting the eight RVs out to bid. Ms. Baxter shared that Turo is currently going through a legislative process that may affect the Town's current rental car bylaw that could affect these unassigned medallions, if they are not awarded soon. Ms. Mohr spoke in favor of issuing four RVs to Compass Pointe and four RVs to Grey Lady Jeeps conditionally upon them securing the permits for their locations and to develop business plans on how they will get their rental vehicles from their parking lots to the renters with minimal impact on competitive parking spaces downtown and back to their locations. Raymond Conlon of Windmill Rentals spoke against unlicensed vehicle rentals and the need his business already feels in the community. Mr. Fee spoke against increasing the RV cap of 700 and peer-to-peer car renting. Ms. Vieth asked about increasing the fees for RVs. Some discussion followed about traffic on Nantucket. Ms. Vieth spoke in favor of Ms. Mohr's recommended action.

Ms. Mohr moved to preliminarily allocate four medallions each to Compass Pointe and Grey Lady Jeeps, pending submission and review of detailed business plans at the Board's September meeting with final approval and formal issuance of the medallions at that time if the business plans meet the Board's approval; seconded by Ms. Vieth. Chair Hill said she would like to see all vehicles rented on Nantucket be registered on Nantucket and pay excise tax to Nantucket. Mr. Fee reiterated that he feels the eight RVs should be put out to bid to understand their value. On the motion, by roll call vote: Chair Hill – Yes; Mr. Fee – No; Ms. Mohr – Yes; Ms. Vieth – Yes; so voted.

#### IV. LICENSING AND PETITIONS - PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing to Consider Utility Petition from Nantucket Electric Company/ National Grid, Plan #31320448 to Install One New Handhole (HH 9-2) and Approximately 90' of 2-3" Conduit Encased in Concrete Across and Down Meadow Lane for New Single Phase Residential Service for 14 Meadow Lane. Chair Hill opened the public hearing. Tim Lyford of National Grid reviewed the petition. Mr. Bystrowski reviewed departmental comments.

Ms. Mohr moved to close the public hearing; seconded by Ms. Veith; by roll call vote: Chair Hill – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Mohr – Yes; Ms. Veith – Yes; so voted.

Mr. Fee moved approval subject to departmental comments; seconded by Ms. Veith; by roll call vote: Chair Hill – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Mohr – Yes; Ms. Veith – Yes; so voted.

2. Public Hearing to Consider Utility Petition from Nantucket Electric Company/ National Grid, Plan #31196932 to Install Approximately 80' of 2-3" Conduits Encased in Concrete from Pole 15 Down New Lane into Wyers Way for New Single Phase Residential Service for 3A Wyers Way. Chair Hill opened the public hearing. Tim Lyford of National Grid reviewed the petition. Mr. Bystrowski reviewed departmental comments.

Ms. Mohr moved to close the public hearing; seconded by Ms. Veith; by roll call vote: by roll call vote: Chair Hill – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Mohr – Yes; Ms. Veith – Yes; so voted.

Ms. Mohr moved approval subject to departmental comments; seconded by Mr. Fee; by roll call vote: by roll call vote: Chair Hill – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Mohr – Yes; Ms. Veith – Yes; so voted.

3. Public Hearing to Consider Utility Petition from Nantucket Electric Company/ National Grid, Plan #31181623 to Install One New Handhole (HH 27-2) and Approximately 75' of 2-3" Conduit from Pole 27 Down Polpis Road for New Single Phase Residential Service for 57 Polpis Road. Chair Hill opened the public hearing. Tim Lyford of National Grid reviewed the petition. Mr. Bystrowski reviewed departmental comments.

Ms. Mohr moved to close the public hearing; seconded by Ms. Veith; by roll call vote: by roll call vote: Chair Hill – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Mohr – Yes; Ms. Veith – Yes; so voted.

Ms. Mohr moved approved subject to departmental comments and an emphasis on crossing the bike path and completed in a way that stays at the level that it is currently at; seconded by Mr. Fee; by roll call vote: by roll call vote: Chair Hill – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Mohr – Yes; Ms. Veith – Yes; so voted.

#### V. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Veith moved to adjourn at 12:02 PM; seconded by Ms. Mohr; by roll call vote: Chair Hill – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Mohr – Yes; Ms. Veith – Yes; so voted.

Approved the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2026.

**SELECT BOARD  
AUGUST 17, 2026 – 11:00 AM  
REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM WEBINAR  
NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS**

List of documents used at the meeting:

- III. 1. AIS re: Rental Vehicle Medallion distribution; Ch. 58 of the Code of the Town of Nantucket; 4/14/2025 Select Board minutes; 7/20/2026 Select Board minutes; Updated Applications: G.J. Smith Inc. | Compass Pointe Rentals joint submission, Enterprise, Grey Lady Jeeps; Existing Agency Applications: Nantucket Island Rent A Car, Affordable Rentals; Current rental agency licenses; email from Licensing Administrator with support letters for Grey Lady Jeeps; email thread between Licensing Administrator and Hertz with letter from Hertz
- IV. 1. AIS re: NGrid petition for Meadow Ln; departmental comments with sewer permit for 14 Meadow Ln, sewer as-built plan; Meadow Ln petition; petition plan; public hearing notice
- IV. 2. NGrid petition for New Ln; departmental comments; New Ln petition; petition plan; public hearing notice
- IV. 3. NGrid petition for Polpis Rd; Departmental comments with sewer as-built plan; sewer as-built plan; Polpis Rd petition; petition plan; public hearing notice