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- Article 1. Is the election of officers for the ensuing year. The election is Wednesday from 12 Noon to 8 PM.
- Article 2. Is the time for town committees to make oral reports to the Town Meeting.
- Article 3. Asks you for permission to fund the annual operating budget of the town. These amounts are printed in the town report on pages 159 - 184.
- Article 4. Is the annual contribution to a maintenance and upgrade account for the Community Center that is jointly funded by the Chilmark Town Affairs Council.
- Article 5. This is a \$40,000 Reserve Fund that is controlled by the FINCOM to pay emergency or unanticipated expenses during the fiscal year. Page 156 details FY2006 uses of the fund.
- Article 6. Last year you voted to allow the ambulance service to charge for their services. Eighty percent of these receipts are being used to fund a portion of the annual operating budget of the ambulance and thereby reducing the cost to the three towns. The remaining 20% is being held for future capital expenditures, ie. a new ambulance.
- Article 7. This is our annual contribution to the town's "savings account". Once put into the Stabilization Fund, it takes a two-thirds vote to spend these funds in the future. This is a practice that helps to stabilize the tax rate and maintain our high-bond rating.
- Article 8. This article adds \$150,000 to the existing town meeting authorization to purchase a new Brush Breaker for the Fire Department to replace the 1976 Brush Breaker currently in service. The new total would be \$415,000. The original funding was \$200,000 for the fire engine and \$65,000 for the CAFS (compressed air foam system) fire pump. The first time this engine was put out to bid there was a change in the cab & chassis by the manufacturer and no companies bid. While the engine was being redesigned, the price of steel rose as did the cost of the base cab & chassis on which the brush breaker is built. The Fire Stabilization Fund is earmarked for use to replace apparatus older than 30 years. Chief Norton will speak to this article.
- Article 9. This would fund a new PC server for the Police Department. The island public safety system is in the process of installing a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, enhanced communications and record keeping. This server is necessary for our police department to continue to participate.
- Article 10. This article is being submitted to each of the island Town Meetings by their Police Chiefs to address safety and training concerns. Chief Rich will speak to this article.
- Article 11. The town hall photo copier used by the public and the staff died this winter. We have had a loaner for a number of months. This would fund a replacement machine of about the same size.
- Article 12. This is the third year of funding for the study of the Tisbury Great Pond. Chilmark is responsible for 25% of the cost with West Tisbury paying 25% and the Mass DEP paying the other half. The scope of work is posted on our town web page with all the other town meeting materials if you would like to read it.
- Article 13. A few years ago Chilmark had a Local Cultural Council that distributed about \$3,000 a year to local artists and groups. These funds came from the state lottery. Now we have an Island Cultural Council that pools the annual state lottery funds for all six towns. This council has asked for additional funding from the towns. Not all six towns contribute additional funds and the contributions are based on what a town is willing to give.
- Article 14. This article creates a new standing committee. It will be amended at the town meeting to state that the Board

of Selectmen will appoint this committee. The creation of this committee was one of the recommendations of the Shellfish Restoration Committee charged with reviewing our shellfisheries and developing a plan for the town to pursue. This new committee would replace the ad hoc Shellfish Restoration Committee. The function of this new committee will be to work with the Selectmen and Shellfish Department on sustaining and enhancing our shellfish resources.

- Article 15. The Shellfish Restoration Committee recommend that the Selectmen hire a full-time staff member to work on shellfish propagation as part of their plan for the town. They worked with the Personnel Board to create a new job description. The Personnel Board determined it belonged on grade 8. This is step 1 of that grade, with funding for 13 months so that the position could start on June 1<sup>st</sup> instead waiting for the next fiscal year on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The position description is posted on the town web page with the town meeting materials for your review. This article will be amended on the floor to change the title to Shellfish Propagation Agent.
- Article 16. If the town meeting votes to approve article 15 to hire a Shellfish Propagation Agent, then the Shellfish Department budget will need to be re-allocated and additional funding will be required to implement the first year of the five-year shellfish plan. The bulk of this amount would be the purchase of a “upweller” to grow scallops and other native species. The five-year plan is not written in stone. It is a guide that will be adjusted annually by the Shellfish Steering Committee and the Selectmen to work on the successes achieved in the prior year. Town Meeting will be asked to approve each year’s program budget.
- Article 17. At the request of the Board of Health, we are asking for funding to upgrade the septic tank at the Menemsha Comfort Station. We have previously upgraded the leaching field, installed a special aerator system, and installed water conservation devices at the Comfort Station.
- Article 18. Every three years the state requires the towns to conduct a reevaluation of all property in their towns. This would fund our next reevaluation.
- Article 19. This would pay for costs of the Vineyard Transit Authority in prior years that the state Treasurer’s office failed to bill the town. Bookkeeping errors made by the state caused this to happen to a number of towns. Most towns receive state-aid, and this charge was deducted from that aid. Chilmark does not receive state aid that would cover this cost, and therefore, the state is asking for payment.
- Article 20. This returns unused landfill capping money to the Stabilization Fund “savings account” for future town needs.
- Article 21. This amendment to the Up Island Regional School District Agreement is the result of the work done by the Task Force last year. It is an effort to address the concerns raised by West Tisbury regarding cost sharing.
- Article 22. This would rescind the earlier definition of a commercial fisherman made by the town meeting and allow the Board of Selectmen to adjust the definition annually, if necessary, to match the current state of the fishing industry. This article does not define a commercial fisherman, it allows the Selectmen to hold a public hearing and adopt a regulation to define a commercial fisherman.
- Article 23. This amendment to the personnel bylaw was requested by the Personnel Board. It would affirm that all town employees, not under contract or otherwise stipulated in their hiring letter, would be subject to annual reappointment. It also provides guidance to the Appointing Authority to reappoint unless the performance evaluation process of the personnel bylaw recommends other action.
- Article 24. This is an island wide effort to promote energy conservation. It was approved in essentially the same form by Oak Bluffs, West Tisbury and Aquinnah. It was not put on the warrant in Edgartown and Tisbury voted against it. Unlike the other towns, our version requires any nomination and regulations to be approved by our Town Meeting before being sent to the MV Commission.