

Article 1. This is the election of officers for the ensuing year. (Page 224) Wednesday April 27th 12 Noon – 8 PM CCC

There are three open offices on the ballot: Finance Advisory Committee 3 years, Surveyors of Wood, Lumber & Bark, and Fence Viewer. We need write-in candidates willing to serve for these offices.

Article 2. This is the time for town committees to make oral reports to the Town Meeting. Their written reports are printed in your 2015 Chilmark Town Report which has a goldenrod color cover this year. The Board of Selectmen would like to take this opportunity to recognize and express our gratitude to Jonathan E. Mayhew for his 15 years of elected service to the Town on the Board of Selectmen, in addition to his service on the Planning Board and other committees.

Article 3. This asks for your permission to fund the annual operating budget of the town. These amounts are printed in the Town Report on pages 187 – 211. There are misprints in the booklet. These are the corrections:

Page 190	Tax Collector Expense total	\$18,254.50
Page 194	Town Offices/Building Maintenance total	\$78,850.00
Page 206	Social Services total	\$203,804.91
Page 206	Line 5696 Island Councils on Aging C4L	\$48,357.41
Page 206	Total Human Services	\$278,875.19
Page 211	Line 57xx is Line 5746	
Page 211	Line 57yy is Line 5747 Harbor Insurance	
Page 211	Budget Total (with CPA)	\$9,052,108.17
Page 211	BUDGET TOTALS	\$9,035,724.49

Article 4. This is our annual contribution to a maintenance and upgrade account for the Community Center that is jointly funded by the Chilmark Town Affairs Council in lieu of rent for the summer program.

Article 5. This is a \$40,000 Reserve Fund that is controlled by the FINCOM to pay for emergency or unanticipated expenses during the fiscal year. It is created each April at ATM for the ensuing budget cycle starting July 1st.

Article 6. This would continue funding the liability carried on our books for the unpaid sick time for benefitted employees. Doing this supports our AAA bond rating.

Article 7. This is our annual contribution to the Town's general savings account for major expenses. It has been used for capping the landfill, building projects, and roads. Once put into the Stabilization Fund, a two-thirds vote is required to spend these funds. This is a practice that helps to stabilize the tax rate and maintain our high (AAA) bond rating. This article requires a two-thirds vote.

Article 8. This is our regular annual contribution to the town's savings account to replace old fire engines as part of a capital plan. This requires a two-thirds vote.

Article 9. This past year the DC inverter failed and was replaced with AC micro-inverters during the reinstallation of the existing PV panel array. This article would increase the production capacity by 4 kW, approximately doubling the existing output. It will also allow us to install a grid-tied-battery-backup system in the future for the use of the Community Center as our Emergency Shelter during a disaster.

Article 10. This article combines \$18,618 of money previously set aside for replacing police vehicles with an additional \$17,381 to replace the existing 2010 SUV that was "indefinitely postponed" at the last ATM. The Chief may propose to the Selectmen that the new vehicle is a pick-up truck or another SUV. This requires a two-thirds vote.

Article 11. This article would purchase a pick-up truck for the highway department and stop our rental of a pick-up truck from the Superintendent of Streets for daily and snow operations. We will continue to rent a dump truck and tractor as needed.

Article 12. This article would continue our repaving of town roads and take advantage of the lower oil prices. The section would be along Middle Road, from Beetlebung Corner to near Meeting House Road. We may be able to finish repaving Middle Road (for now) if we aren't required to build a retaining wall along the Keith Farm

pasture. The Chapter 90 Highway funds are bond-proceeds from a number of years in which the legislature voted to support local-aid. This requires a two-thirds vote.

- Article 13.** The maps in the lobby show the town road layout and extent of asphalt. For over a month there have been wood stakes with orange flagging tape on them showing the physical location of the town property along Basin Road. The Selectmen held a public visioning session and discussed this with folks at a number of Selectmen's meetings. This article will be **amended to only build a sidewalk on the corner across from the Menemsha Bite & Harbor Craft Shop.** It would start at the Beetlebung Café and continue around to the bottom of Crick Hill Road. This would be a portion of a Menemsha pedestrian system that connects the beach to the comfort station to Basin Road to North Road (see lobby maps).
- Article 14.** This would authorize the Selectmen to widen the Basin Road as it passes through the Menemsha Beach parking lot to improve public safety by pushing the parking spaces five feet further to the east effectively widening the traveled way. Many vehicles are larger and longer than in the past; various coolers, bike racks and other objects cause parked cars to extend out into the traveled way. This article would not create more parking spaces. If approved, it would next go the Conservation Commission for a permit as the boardwalk pedestrian path between the beach and comfort station would need to be pushed further away from the parking lot too.
- Article 15.** Last summer the Selectmen purchased sections of 3 foot wide wooden boardwalk to connect the beach to the comfort station and encourage pedestrians to not walk in Basin Road. It was a success, but many people asked that the boardwalk be wider to accommodate the pedestrian and stroller traffic that was traveling in both directions. This article would fund 5 foot wide sections to cover half the distance and allow us to re-use the 3 foot sections side-by-side (creating a 6 foot boardwalk) for the other half of the distance.
- Article 16.** This would recreate the existing dirt parking lot on the beach side of the comfort station, along the Basin Road. This new area would be used for a bus stop and turn around for the VTA shuttles during July & August. Using this area will prevent the buses from having to "make the circle" at the beach, and improve the flow of traffic.
- Article 17.** The Selectmen held a number of meetings discussing the future of the Comfort Station, consulted with the Board of Health, hired a Civil Engineer and a Home Inspector to assess the facilities, and a public visioning session at the Town Hall. The Selectmen will work on a design proposal this summer to present to you at the Fall Special Town Meeting. However, while these efforts appear to be leading us towards an extensive renovation, it was agreed that we need to do some work immediately to improve the comfort station for this season. These will include minor plumbing changes, painting and a thorough cleaning.
- Article 18.** This article and article 28 will be combined to cover the expected town costs. This article is necessary because the two successive annual state grants that the town received from Coastal Zone Management in support of the project each expired while we were working to address the concerns of our neighbors in the area. We are hopeful that a third grant may be offered to the town that would defray this \$350,000 cost.
- Article 19.** This article would fund a 1% COLA for all town employees for the FY2017 budget voted in Article 3.
- Article 20.** This would continue to fund Chilmark's share, using the 50/50 formula, of a contract for regional adult education programs that would be issued by the All Island School Committee.
- Article 21.** This would assume the funding responsibility for a counseling service provided by the MV Community Services to island elders that was previously supported by grants. This is at the request of the Up Island Council on Aging Board of Directors.
- Article 22.** FirstStop MV is an Island-wide, community driven initiative to support the health and wellness of our community by connecting people to information and critical resources for Island seniors. www.firststopmv.org
- Article 23.** This is the requested contribution from Chilmark towards Phase I (\$295,000) of a larger playground project. The WT School has raised \$110,000 towards this project from private donations.
- Article 24.** This is the article we started voting on at the fall special town meetings, and on the advice of the state, it was moved to the Annual Town Meeting every year. It allows the Town Meeting to access the CPA funds collected in the fiscal year, rather than delaying that access by a year. It is based on the Community Preservation Committee's estimate for FY 2015. This does not effect our tax rate. This requires a two-thirds vote.

- Article 25.** This would spend CPA funds to continue our contribution to regional efforts to create affordable housing. This is our third investment in affordable rentals in Vineyard Haven. This requires a two-thirds vote.
- Article 26.** This would spend CPA funds to encourage the conversion of seasonal-rental properties to affordable year-round-rentals. <https://housingauthoritymarthasvineyard.org/rental-conversion-program/> This requires a two-thirds vote.
- Article 27.** This would spend CPA funds to pay Chilmark's share using the 50% population & 50% Equalized Valuation formula. The town previously helped fund the creation of this park. This requires a two-thirds vote.
- Article 28.** This would spend CPA funds to pay for a portion of the Squibnocket beach project (see article 18 above). This requires a two-thirds vote.
- Article 29.** This will be indefinitely postponed due to the Edgartown Annual Town Meeting vote.
- Article 30.** This will correct a conflict in the town's Human Resources Bylaw and allow a police officer the same benefits given to all other town employees.
- Article 31.** This is a zoning bylaw and will require a two-thirds vote for approval. Mrs. Goff has prepared poster boards in the lobby on this article. The Planning Board has a **GREEN** handout on this. This requires a two-thirds vote.
- Article 32.** This is a zoning bylaw and will require a two-thirds vote for approval. This will streamline and simplify the process for future Town created homesite recipients and shift the permitting to the town before a lottery takes place. It also permits the future use of the Martha's Vineyard Housing covenant created for the island by a special act of the legislature (Statutes of 2004, Chapter 445) and designates the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority as the enforcement agent should it be considered desirable. This requires a two-thirds vote.
- Article 33.** This would grant use of the new Middle Line Road as access to the lot owned by the estate of James Cagney that runs for 1,845 feet along Tabor House Road. It would avoid their need to create a new curb cut onto the undeveloped section of Tabor House Road. This requires a two-thirds vote.
- Article 34.** There is a WHITE handout from Vineyard Conservation Society in the lobby.
- Article 35.** This was requested by petition.

Thank you for participating in the 2016 Annual Town Meeting!

The Board of Selectmen will be making committee appointments May 17th for the ensuing year.

If you would like to serve on a town committee, please write the Board of Selectmen.

If your appointment to a committee is expiring this year, please write the Selectmen's Office with a request to be reappointed ASAP.

Please send your suggestions for improvements to the Town Meeting process or this hand out to execsec@chilmarkma.gov or give us a call at 645-2101.

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ERRATA

2015 Chilmark Town Report corrections (Eldridge's color cover)

Page 6	In recognition of Town Service	Frank Yeomans – Finance Advisory Committee 2005 – 2015
Page 11	Up Island Council on Aging	Joyce Albertine – Director
Page 14	Special Police Officer	Edward Andresen
Page 15	Conservation Commission	Alexandra Broyard
Page 91	Fire Department Fire Fighters	Taurus Biskis & Gerald Caton



Jonathan E. Mayhew
Selectman for 15 years

