

Chilmark Select Board January 2, 2024 5:00 PM Meeting Minutes

Present: Select Board: Chairperson Bill Rossi and James Malkin. *Marie Larsen was not present.*
Others: Tim Carroll, Deb Hancock, Jeffrey Maida, Ann Wallace, Peter Cook, Richard Osnoss, Janet Weidner, Cathy Thompson, Barbara Armstrong, John Armstrong, Diana DeBlase, MVY Radio rep Rogers Brandon, PJ Finn, Marianna Cibulasova. News reporters: Thomas Hancock & Eunki Seonwoo. MVTV videographer.

At 5:00 PM Chairperson Rossi called the meeting to order in the Select Board meeting room.

Minutes of Prior Meetings:

Draft minutes from the December 5, 2023 Select Board meeting were reviewed. Mr. Malkin moved to approve. Mr. Rossi seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 2 Ayes**, 1 not present Ms. Larsen.

Draft minutes from the December 14, 2023 Select Board meeting were reviewed. Mr. Malkin moved to approve. Mr. Rossi seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 2 Ayes**, 1 not present Ms. Larsen.

WMVY - request permission to replace antenna on North Road Fire Station roof with a more robust transmission structure anchored to the ground to support the radio station antenna, and town communication antennas. Long term license agreement, all permits/consent, and insurance needed:

Tim Carroll gave a brief explanation of what the ask is and invited MVY Radio station representatives Rogers Brandon, PJ Finn and Marianna Cibulasova to present this request. Mr. Brandon said we need little more height to get to areas in Chilmark. 60 foot antennae = to tree line. Mr. Brandon said Anthony Gould of Sherri's department would use this same spot as part of the Sheriffs communication center. Mr. Brandon said MVY would install, but we are not in business of antennae and would turn over to the town with understanding we would have permit to broadcast through it. Chairperson Rossi asked if it would be on a concrete pad /slab. Mr. Brandon said yes it would.

Chairperson Rossi asked if they have notified the abutters of this proposal. Mr. Brandon said he has spoken to some he could get ahold of. He has spoken with Emily Bramhall and has sent her sightline data for her to review. Tim Carroll said there are conservation restrictions that would need to be considered as well. Mr. Carroll displayed the documents on large screen for attendees to follow. Chairperson Rossi said looks like it would be about 8-12 feet will be above the tree line. Mr. Malkin said the biggest advantage to the town is issue of emergency services. Heard from any of the departments that this would be helpful. Mr. Carroll said at this time we don't have local radio station to notify Chilmark public emergency warnings.

Chairperson Rossi requested that they (MVY) notify abutters within 600 feet and allow them to respond. Mr. Carroll said this is coming to us as first step then the permit process would follow. Mr. Brandon said a common question when he has talked to abutters is will my cell service get better. Mr. Brandon said it could, but this is not part of our project. Mr. Carroll said we (The Town) could ask American Tower Corp. who manage the Distributed antennae stem we have to support cell service.

Ms. Hancock asked if this project proposal of a radio antennae being installed at the North Road Fire Station would come back to the Select Board. Chairperson Rossi and Malkin said it would go to the permitting boards from here.

At 5:18 PM Anthony Gould arrived.

Mr. Gould commented that this proposed antennae would be a benefit for Sheriff, Fire and Police departments.

Mr. Malkin motioned to move this project proposal along to permitting process with Site Review, Zoning and Building inspector. Chairperson Rossi seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 not present.

Appointments:

Katie Carroll - Historical Commission Mr. Malkin moved to appoint Katie Carroll to the Historical Commission. Mr. Carroll said he was unsure the years of this term they are for 3 years but not sure if replacing a position vacated midterm. Chairperson Rossi said whatever term is eligible and seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 not present.**

Stephanie Danforth - MV Cultural Council Mr. Malkin moved to appoint Stephanie Danforth to be one of the three Chilmark representatives for additional 3 year term on the MVCC Chairperson Rossi seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 not present.**

Billy Dillon - MVRHS Building committee. Chairperson Rossi said Mr. Dillon has asked to be appointed. Chairperson said he would replace Select Warren Doty who no longer wishes to participate. Chairperson Rossi said Walter Meinelt is also representative of Chilmark on the committee. Chairperson Rossi moved to appoint Billy Dillon to the MV Regional High School Building Committee. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 not present.**

Chairperson Bill Rossi said he is officially announcing he is not running to be re-elected for Select Board and encourages Chilmark member to pull nomination papers.

Ms. Armstrong thanked Chairperson Rossi for all his work on the board and is disappointed he is not continuing but understands. Ms. Hancock seconded that statement.

Planning Board - Menemsha Traffic Calming memorandum:

Janet Weidner gave report about the recommendation. Ms. Weidner said MVC aided in getting to this point. Ms. Weidner said we learned it is only a Town road so we don't have to coordinate with the State. Ms. Weidner said Dan Doyle of MVC returned to Planning Board with recommendations:

- paint arrow and word "slow" on the street.
- temporary speed bump. Concern: bumping for big vehicles VTA Bus and delivery trucks.
- Speed table example one in front of Linda Jeans in OB. Could be temporary.
- Electric light with speed on it.

Tim Carroll had the data for discussion on a monitor for the meeting attendees to follow discussion

Ms. Weidner said herself, Cathy, Ann and Peter worked on this and Full Planning Board agreed on Pros & Cons.

Mr. Malkin said the painted warning on the road probably not going to work for the summer visitors. Mr. Malkin said he would support the bump/table. Chairperson Rossi said he prefers the most innocuous decision. Mr. Carroll supported speed table be removed at end of season so snow plowing would not be effected. 4 – 7 inches high. 2 foot wide across entire width of road. Memorial Day take out October mid-month. Our crew can't install and remove so added cost for company to handle.

Ms. Hancock said electronic speed light helps. Armstrong's and Ms. Hancock supported using there just part of the year. *The area referenced is from the deli around the corner headed to Menemsha lot.* Mr. Maida supported possibility of getting traffic officer down in that area. Mr. Malkin recommended the Police Chief Slavin, Harbormaster Rossi, Tim Carroll and Keith Emin get together and bring back recommendation to 1/16/24 Select Board meeting. Chairperson Rossi recommend interested parties go on site visit with (Police chief, Harbormaster, Tim and Keith) them.

Preschool RFP & Lease:

Mr. Carroll said we received 1 proposal from Friends of Chilmark Preschool. Mr. Carroll reported on the evaluation overview. Tim Read the evaluation with concerns listed from the evaluation. Mostly all highly advantageous. 2 advantageous.

Concerns to address are: Parking, line of sight, ADA for access, septic and well.

Mr. Carroll said action for Select Board is to declare room and property surplus and approve RFP. Mr. Malkin said he requests and declares rule of necessity due to potential conflict as his daughter is involved with preschool. Mr. Malkin moved to declare room and property surplus and approve RFP. Chairperson Rossi seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 not present.**

Special Town Meeting - call for one item warrant on January 22, 2024 at 7:00 PM:

Mr. Carroll said the Preschool committee needs approval by Town by Jan 22 to secure the grant for funding. *Mr. Carroll screen shared the draft warrant article.*

Chairperson Rossi moved to call Special Town Meeting with single article as presented. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 not present**

Housing Committee - voted to recommend MLR FY 25 budget to Select Board for approval

Mr. Malkin moved to approve the Housing Committee recommendation in support of Middle Line Road Budget for FY25. Chairperson Rossi seconded the motion.

SO VOTED 2 Ayes, 1 not present.

Peaked Hill Pastures RFP Committee: Chairperson Rossi said this item is rescheduled for discussion at the January 16, 2024 Select Board meeting.

Harbor Advisory Committee: Water Ways Rule and Regulations amendments also tabled to January 16th.

Acceptance of check Donations to Fire Department:

Mr. Carroll said there are 3 donations that Select Board should approve to accept. Mr. Malkin moved to accept these donations. Chairperson Rossi seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 not present.

ATM possible articles:

- Highway Engineering - \$15,000

Mr. Carroll said before we decide to join MVC we could form our own as we no longer have Kent Healy. Chairperson Rossi said he agreed to have on Annual Town Meeting warrant.

- Housing Committee -Increase Rooms Excise from 4 to 6%

Mr. Carroll explained this proposed article. Mr. Rossi said this needs to go to ATM for voters to decide.

- Annually appropriate \$200,000 from taxation to the Molly Flender Affordable Housing Trust

Mr. Carroll said we are down 4% from last year on the short-term rental revenue compared to year before.

- Oak Bluffs- Matching Grant funds for access to the MV Hospital

Mr. Carroll said he is getting some communication with other town administrators to see if possible warrant article for ATM.

Animal Control Officer state memo and process –

Mr. Carroll said he reached out to Chris Murphy to confirm his willingness to continue to be our nomination for ACO. Mr. Carroll said we are waiting to hear back from Chris Murphy and recommended adding to January 16th agenda.

Chairperson Rossi said next Select Board meeting on January 16, 2024 will be at 6:00 PM rather than the regular 5:00 PM start.

Mr. Carroll asked for an additional appointment to be made tonight.

Mr. Carroll said Lisa Guidi who was our assistant to accountant years ago answered the advertisement to assist the Town Treasurer.

Mr. Malkin moved to appoint Lisa Guidi to position of Assistant Treasurer. Chairperson Rossi seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 not present.**

At 6:01 PM with no further items for discussion Chairperson Rossi moved to adjourn. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 not present.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase.

APPROVED 02/06/2024

Document list:

- Draft minutes from Select Board meetings held 12/5/23 & 12/14/23

- Documents from WMVY Radio supporting the request to erect a tower to broadcast in Chilmark on North Road fire station site.
- Abutters list of Chilmark residents in sightline of proposed WMVY tower
- Sightline data documents pertaining to the WMVY proposed tower
- Email from Katie Carroll requesting to be appointed to Historical Commission
- Written request from Stephanie Danforth to be reappointed to the MV Cultural Council
- Planning Board report on traffic Calming for Menemsha 12.18.23
- Legal ad seeking proposals for Preschool RFP
- Draft Special Town Meeting Warrant for Jan 22 2024
- Chilmark Housing recommendation to approve DCRHA Middle Line Road FY25 budget
- MV Commission –Dan Doyle ask if Chilmark wants to consider joining the Island Transportation Engineering program 12.20.23
- Chilmark Housing Committee request for have rooms tax increase for ATM
- Oak Bluffs request to have ATM article to fund Hospital Road resiliency / grant
- ACO (Animal Control Officer) Update from State
- ACO designation documentation for State
- Mass DOT Fair Share funds notice 12.11.23
- Conservation Officer certification documents
- DEP agreement with Chilmark for EV Station installation extension to 06.30.2024
- Town of Chilmark comparative projected debt service for Fire Ambulance portion of 2024 Bonds