

Chilmark Select Board December 16, 2022 5:00 PM Meeting Minutes

Present remotely:

Chairperson Bill Rossi, Warren Doty and Jim Malkin. Others: Tim Carroll, Diana DeBlase, Pam Bunker, Nichole Welty, Steve Lewenberg, Elise Greene, Helen Neumann, Clarissa Allen, Deb Hancock, Jeffrey Maida, Jeffrey DuBard, Julie Flanders, Robert Hannemann, Sandra Schpoont, Alan Poritz, Mr. Neumann, Police Chief Jonathan Klaren, Gazette reporter Thomas Humphry

At 5:00 PM Chairperson Rossi called the meeting to order on the Zoom platform.

Minutes:

Draft minutes from Select Board December 6, 2022 meeting were reviewed.

Mr. Malkin moved to approve minutes as written, Mr. Doty seconded the. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Classification Hearing - follow up & LA-5 - Excess Levy Capacity \$412,634.25:

Pam Bunker discussed this item. Chilmark values are about a 15% increase. Mr. Doty said values in Edgartown are about 19 to 20% and Oak Bluffs is near 30%. Mr. Doty said value increase is felt across the whole island. Ms. Bunker said May 1, 2023 is abatement deadline, which has been extended by 1 month. Ms. Bunker asked for Select Board to acknowledge the levy capacity and allow for signatures on Gateway.

Mr. Malkin moved to acknowledge levy capacity and permit Ms. Bunker to process signatures through Gateway. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Town Assessor Clarissa Allen thanked Pam Bunker for this professional presentation.

June Wedding at LVB - 40 people, 20 cars:

Nichole Welty had submitted a plan for the June 2023 request. Clarissa Allen who is also the Chairperson on the Beach Committee said the Beach Committee is ok with this. Ms. Allen said the Beach Committee will work on policy for future requests. Jim Malkin said he was ok with this request. Chairperson Rossi asked to make sure beach guards will be notified.

Mr. Malkin moved to approve this request. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**
Ms. Welty thanked everyone for this consideration and everyone's time.

Bill Dillon approved by State:

Mr. Carroll said Mr. Dillon qualified for building commissioner test within the 6 month period the State allows. Mr. Carroll said we will need to fund for next fiscal year budget; material and test costs. Mr. Doty said we should encourage him to do so. Chairperson Rossi agreed and said this is great news

Fire Department Grant for PPE - \$8,942:

Mr. Carroll said he would sign documents needed to process this grant. Chairperson Rossi said he is glad our Fire Chief is pursuing these grants.

Recruitment Process Chief of Police: VG ad, MCOPA ad & email blast, MMA online Ad, sent to island towns/staffs:

Mr. Carroll asked if the Select Board approved this proposed timeline.

Chairperson Rossi asked when is the last day for Jonathan Klaren to work as Chilmark Police Chief. Chief Klaren said March 20, 2023. Mr. Carroll said there will be vacation days figured in so last active duty day may differ. Chief Klaren said this looks like a good plan and timeline.

Mr. Malkin suggested that the selection committee be the same committee as we had for hiring Jonathan Klaren. Previous Selection Committee: Joan Malkin, Tim Rich, Jennie Greene and Bill Rossi. Chairperson Rossi said this plan and timeline look good and if we need to modify we can.

Mr. Doty moved to approve plan and timeline proposed for hiring new Police Chief. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Short Term Rental/Rooms Excise Tax - proposal to raise town's room excise tax from 4 to 6%:

Mr. Carroll said this is a correspondence from the M V Commission housing representative.

John F joined meeting

Mr. Carroll said no action needed tonight.

Chairperson Rossi said the last 2 years STRT average for Chilmark has been \$400,000.00.

Ms. Hancock said the last couple year's rental rates have gone up 20%. People who used to rent aren't for length they used to because they can't afford to and some no longer come.

Ms. Hancock said that is something to think about before taking action. No action was taken.

Request for a letter of support for Navigator Homes of Martha's Vineyard:

Mr. Malkin moved to send a support letter for Navigator Homes of Martha's Vineyard. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Eversource update on Middle Road pole and line replacement plan:

Mr. Carroll said he heard back from Eversource about the Middle Road proposal, and will have some data and plans and options to present next week or so for Select Board to review. The folks who were at the information meeting with Eversource should get this directly from Eversource. Mr. Hannemann said he will be looking into funding but had no comments about the partial underground alternatives. Mr. Hannemann recommended we wait see what Eversource sends us. Chilmark representatives will continue dialog with Eversource.

Eversource request to schedule a public hearing for a grant of location for underground conduit along Menemsha Cross Road (Waiting on call back regarding timing, need, and other documentation):

Mr. Carroll said this Cross Road to Eversource substation request just got dropped to us this week.

Eversource – Menemsha Cross Road continued...

Mr. Carroll said this was never discussed with Eversource prior. Mr. Carroll said he sent a request for more information and when we get it, we can post a public hearing. Chairperson Rossi agreed and said we want more information.

At 5:28 PM, with no further items for discussion Chairperson Rossi wished all Happy Holidays and asked for motion to adjourn. Mr. Doty moved to adjourn, Mr. Malkin seconded the motion.
SO VOTED 3 Ayes

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase.

Approved 01/03/2023

Document list:

- Draft minutes from Select Board meeting held 12/6/22
- Assessor's explanation sheet for Chilmark Classification Hearing FY2023
- Classification Tax Allocation FY23 DOR – LA5 Certification
- Request to have wedding ceremony on LVB - June 2023
- Local Building Inspector Certification timeline for Mr. Dillon
- Results from Certification Committee for local Building Inspector hearing 12/06/2022
- DFS- Firefighter Equipment grant FY23
- Draft advertisement for police chief position and timeline to fill position
- Advertisement to run 12/16 & 12/23 VG for Police Chief position
- Invoice to run position for Police Chief in Police Association posting
- Data for island towns concerning room's tax to be raised from 4% to 6%
- Sample support letter to DPH about Navigator Homes of MV
- Petition for underground cable & Conduit locations from Eversource WO#4483482
- Abutters list for WO#4483482
- Sketch plans for WO#4483482
- ZBA application summary for December 2022
- ZBA decisions summary for November 2022