

Chilmark Select Board March 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Remote Participants: Select Board: Chairperson James Malkin, Warren Doty and Bill Rossi.

Others: Tim Carroll, Rob Hannemann, Harbormaster Ryan Rossi, Deb Hancock, Suellen Lazarus, Ann Wallace, Pam Goff, Julie Flanders, Barbara Armstrong, Christine Skidmore, Patrick Echlin, Andy Goldman, Peter Cook, Katie Carroll, Jennifer Christy, John Keene, Judith Flanders, Mary Boyd, Russell Maloney, Hillary Noyes – Keene, Tim Rich, Laurisa Rich, Suellen Lazarus, Janet Weidner, Diana DeBlase, Matt Poole, Clarissa, **News reporters:** George Brennan and Zach Harris, MVT agent.

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

Minutes:

Minutes from January 20, 2022 were reviewed. Mr. Rossi said he will abstain as he was not present at 1/20/22 meeting. Mr. Doty moved to approve Chairperson Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 Abstain Mr. Rossi**

Minutes from January 25, 2022, February 1, 2022, February 15, 2022, February 24, 2022 and March 1 2022 were reviewed. Mr. Rossi recommended wording adjustment to February 1 2022 on page 2. Mr. Rossi moved to approve all meeting minutes with revision to 2/1/22. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Town Clerk – Jennifer Christy – Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC):

CMC which is awarded by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), Inc. IIMC grants the CMC designation only to those municipal clerks who complete demanding education requirements; and who have a record of significant contributions to their local government, their community and state. The Chilmark Select Board commends the Town Clerk for their pursuit of this certification and their steadfast dedication to the community. Congratulations on a job well done. Jennifer Christy said thank you.

Menemsha Security Camera System –Citizen request to remove the cement pedestal & tower:

Debora Hancock presented this request and asked to have the request read into the records.

Chairperson Malkin read aloud document located on Chilmark town website link here:

https://www.chilmarkma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf2951/f/agendas/hancock_submitted_031122.pdf

Harbormaster Rossi explained the process.

- Add security to town docks.
- Need to be on secure fiber optic network. Unfortunately fiber doesn't run down to the West Dock. Need to connect but very expensive. Dig and burry from West Dock to Basin Rd N RD.
- Contractor recommended mast. 1.) unobscured line of sight 2.) mount high enough to see area needed.

Chairperson Malkin opened discussion for public comment. Tim Rich said he listened to the recording of Annual Town Meeting, we were told policy would be in place prior to putting it in. Mr. Rich said he is not opposed to project it makes sense, don't like the process. Chairperson Malkin said the system is not operational yet. Police Chief and Harbormaster are working on the policy prior to system being operational. Mr. Rich said you should include what it would look like. The 30 foot mono pole is also taking up parking place. Mr. Rich said the Select Board needs to be involved more. Harbormaster said he will include Mr. Rich in the policy process. But noted the policy doesn't have anything to do with the infrastructure.

Matt Poole said Tim Rich's recollection from ATM is correct. Mr. Poole said he is concerned about the esthetics, looks like a ladder. Needs a fence around it to keep people off. Something that fits into the fishing village we are trying to preserve. Mr. Poole said our alternative could be to back away from this instillation.

Russell Maloney asked Harbormaster Rossi to consider wireless mounted cameras. Harbormaster Rossi said he did consider but was not appropriate for this project. Harbormaster Rossi said the mast is for connecting to the fiber. Based on professional advice from contractor we went with the mast. Harbormaster Rossi said microwave was also an option considered but estimated \$70,000 over what we already have.

Julie Flanders said Menemsha is so important. Ms. Flanders said she is opposed to placement and kind of structure. Ms. Flanders said please reconsider the tower.

John Keene asked how bad the vandalism is. Mr. Keene recommended just talking to who is doing it. Mr. Keene said when he has had problems in the past he finds out who and talks to persons and it works out. Harbormaster Rossi said the camera system not what he wanted to put in place but he can't keep up with observations of what (vandalism / criminal activity) has been happening. Harbormaster Rossi said we are the last town on Martha's Vineyard to install security system in the harbor area. Harbormaster Rossi said he understands big brother watching is not a good feeling. Hard to stay old school in this environment.

Barbara Armstrong said at Town Meeting (when this was proposed) she thought this would be good idea, but thought would be put on top of existing shanties. Ms. Armstrong said on a personal note; how far do they reach? Ms. Armstrong said this now seems invasive. Harbormaster Rossi said we will have policy procedures in place to make sure no private property (real-estate) would be viewed. Harbormaster Rossi said the policy procedures manual will be in place prior to cameras being turned on. Ms. Armstrong asked if the system would allow public to check on their boats. Harbormaster Rossi said no.

Katie Carroll said boils down to had it been presented at ATM we would not be here. Ms. Carroll said the Select Board needs to acknowledge proper procedure was not followed.

Ms. Hancock said she does not feel this was properly presented at ATM. Ms. Hancock listened to article 32 from the ATM recording. Ms. Hancock said if 31 foot tower was presented she clearly would have gone to ATM to turn down proposal.

Mr. Maloney brought discussion back to type of surveillance. Mr. Maloney said he supports a small camera that can be checked when we have a report of crime. Mr. Maloney said they cost about \$200.00 apiece. Trail cameras they have high definition ones for \$1,000 each. Based on level and frequency should use them.

Mr. Poole asked how much money has been spent on this project to date. There was discussion about cost of what was already completed. Mr. Maloney asked how bad the crime was. Harbormaster said this was not something he took lightly. Harbormaster listed some of the crimes:

- Theft of lobsters
- killing lobsters with motor oil.
- Fuel siphoning
- Drilling hole in boat.

Chairperson Malkin said we all value Menemsha. Chairperson Malkin said we value the work of our Harbormaster who has done a remarkable job. Chairperson Malkin reminded Chilmark residents to pay attention to expected dock projects in future. These will be posted to the Chilmark website.

Chairperson Malkin asked to hear from Select Board members. Bill Rossi said he understands about concern for lack of detail. ATM discussion was mostly discussion about personal recording / privacy concerns. Left in hands of Harbormaster and Police Chief. Mr. Rossi asked if we could remove some height of the surveillance mast. Mr. Rossi said he was open to re-open the surveillance project. Mr. Rossi recommended taking down 10 feet of pole till we have solution from a committee we appoint. Mr. Rossi said he wants plan prior to taking down entirely. Mr. Doty said well stated and supported what Mr. Rossi proposed.

Mr. Doty supported to pause, not install anything more and take top section off. Then open process with 2 committees to discuss and work through the project.

Chairman Malkin asked for Mr. Doty and Harbormaster Rossi meet and to leave (surveillance mast) as is, no further with installation but don't remove any yet and come back to Select Board with proposal. Mr. Doty said he would be glad to do that. But we have heard it is not acceptable already, we have letter and folks present. Mr. Doty said sometimes stepping back is what we do. Mr. Doty supported 10 feet of mast be removed now.

Ms. Carroll said the town did not abide by our own regulations. Chilmark Site review did not see this project.

Laurisa Rich said private boat owners can put surveillance up themselves. Ms. Rich supported to take this project back to the drawing board.

Jeff Maida joined meeting

Mr. Doty said the old fashion character (in Menemsha) is almost gone already. Chairperson Malkin said Mr. Doty will work with community and harbormaster. Jeff Maida said he was willing to have Harbor Advisory Committee to be part of this. Julie Flanders said Park & Recreation will also be willing to be part of this. Mr. Doty said we will meet jointly on Zoom 5 to 7 days from now.

Ms. Hancock asked to come back to discussion of removing 10 feet off the mast. Chairperson Malkin said we will leave till after discussion with community. Mr. Rich asked to have crime statistics for the next meeting. Mr. Rich specified; when and frequency of crimes in Menemsha. Ms. Rich asked if plywood could be put around base of existing surveillance mast so persons can't climb.

At 6:05 PM Chairperson Malkin said we have spent time on discussion and look forward to hearing updates at next Select Board meeting. Chairperson Malkin reminded public Chilmark will be doing a lot of work on commercial dock in Chilmark and to sign up for News and announcements on the Chilmark website for updates. Ms. Carroll supported the joint meeting of Park & Rec with Harbor Advisory. Date and time was decided: 3/22 5:00 PM.

Revolution Wind – MVC Dan Doyle, Remediation Request:

Chairperson Malkin said MV Commission has reported that there is some impact on views of some Historical houses in Chilmark. MVC has let Chilmark know there is remediation money available for impact on these houses. Chairperson Malkin said he recommends our Historical Commission review and give advice on remediation. Both Mr. Rossi and Mr. Doty supported the recommendation.

Energy Committee – working on master plan requests \$1,000.00 for consultant:

Rob Hannemann of the Energy Committee (also FinCom) presented this request. Tim Carroll said the Energy Committee can't access Master Plan \$20,000.00 funds until after ATM. Mr. Hannemann would like to move forward now and get funds for technical assistance. Grant writer cost \$1,000.00. Mr. Rossi moved to support this request and that funds come from the Select Board budget. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Energy Committee Continued...

Mr. Hannemann also requested Select Board and Planning Board submit joint letter of support for this energy project.

Mr. Hannemann referred to the draft letter he sent to Select Board in an email. Mr. Doty moved to endorse Select Board and Planning Board send support letter using draft we received in email from Mr. Hannemann. Mr. Rossi seconded the motion. **SO VOTED 3 Ayes**

Update on Chilmark Town Advisory Council (CTAC):

Tim Carroll introduced Suellen Lazarus and Christine Skidmore. Ms. Lazarus said we have a new slate of officers. Ms. Lazarus said Select Board members now have our information via email about board and employees at this time. Ms. Lazarus said we need Select Board ok on time period for running the program. Ms. Lazarus said School is still running till June 27 so we would like to start program July 4th and Run to Aug 19th. Ms. Lazarus said we request to take control of the CCC day after school on June 28, 2022 and keep control of CCC till Sept 2, 2022.

Mr. Doty said he supports this ask to have CTAC have control of the CCC from June 28, 2022 till Sept 2, 2022. Ms. Lazarus introduced Christine Skidmore as the year round part-time administrator for the CTAC. Ms. Lazarus said we are delighted to have her, she is a great addition. Chairperson Malkin welcomed Ms. Skidmore. Ms. Skidmore said thank you, happy to be here. Mr. Rossi said when our (Select Board appointed) Chilmark Community Center Advisory Committee convenes maybe Christine would be involved. Ms. Skidmore said absolutely.

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Formula - Update:

Chairperson Malkin said the formula he proposed was accepted by Edgartown. Chairperson Malkin said he is sad and disappointed Oak Bluffs Select Board did not move off the equal value assessment funding. Chairperson Malkin said if we don't move forward with funding agreement Commonwealth funding will not happen, like what happened in Tisbury. The cost will be entirely the responsibility of the towns. Mr. Doty said he supports rescheduling a joint meeting of All Island Select Boards. Chairperson Malkin said with MVRHS Committee. Mr. Doty said this would be separate formula from operating budget. Mr. Doty said we have a real opportunity if we can make it work.

Special Town Meeting (STM) – March 26 Saturday 1 PM indoors at CCC:

Chairperson Malkin said 2/3 of voters at STM must vote in favor for the additional funds needed for the Fire station EMS HQ for it to pass. Mr. Carroll said he would send out reminder of the meeting in News and Announcements on the Chilmark website. Mr. Rossi said the contractor is ready to move forward the following week. Tim Carroll said Select Board need to meet to sign contract. Mr. Carroll will post morning Select Board meeting for 3/28/2022.

Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant - run through:

Tim Carroll Screen shared the draft Warrant for ATM.

Select Board reviewed and adjusted some items of the entire draft warrant for ATM.

Chairperson Malkin requested town counsel review.

Mr. Carroll asked what time the Select Board would like to call ATM for on the April 25, 2022 date. Mr. Doty requested 7:00 PM.

Mr. Carroll said the FinCom will meet 4:30 PM Thursday 3/17/22.

Chairperson Malkin asked Mr. Carroll to look into hybrid and in person meetings.

At 6:57 PM with no further items for discussion Mr. Rossi moved to adjourn. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes Meeting adjourned**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase.

Approved 4/5/2022

Document list:

- Draft meeting minutes from Select Board meetings on 1/20/22, 1/25/22, 2/1/22, 2/15/22, 2/24/22 and 3/1/22
- Announcement from Certified Municipal Clerk of Town Clerk accomplishing CMC certificate
- Petition submitted by Deb Hancock regarding tower erected in Menemsha harbor
- Revolution Wind project summary review documents.
- Chilmark annual town election nomination log from Town Clerk
- Notice from Mass DOT of Chapter 90 funding for FY23