

Chilmark Board of Selectmen December 1, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Remote participants: Chairman Bill Rossi, James Malkin, Warren Doty.

Others: Tim Carroll, Helen Parker, Riggs Parker, Diana DeBlase, Jeffrey Maida, Margaret Maida, Rob Hannemann, Cathy Thompson, Joan Malkin, Pam Bunker, Alex Elvin, Ben Robinson, Harbormaster Ryan Rossi, Jessica, Clark Goff, Nick Karnovsky, Peter Cook, Pricilla, JY Flanders, Maia Coleman, Dan, (23 participants)

At 5:00 PM Chairman Rossi opened the public hearing.

Allocation of Local Property Taxes:

Pam Bunker of the Chilmark Assessors office spoke to the determination of tax.

The purpose of the Classification Hearing is to allow the Selectmen the option to shift the tax burden between property classes or keeping the tax burden equal. This doesn't change the total tax levy for the community; it simply determines the share to be borne by each class. The five classes of Real Estate are: Residential, Open Space, Commercial, Industrial, & Personal Property.

Along with the vote determining whether or not to split the tax rate; there are three other votes that should be made:

The first recommended vote by the Board of Assessors is, not to adopt the Open Space Discount. (The Town of Chilmark does not classify vacant land as "open space" by the DOR standards, because the town has never considered splitting the tax rate.)

The second recommended vote by the BOA is, not to adopt the Residential Exemption. (Since the non-voting tax payers make up of 80% of the town's levy, it has always been recommended not to adopt the Residential Exemption).

The third recommended vote by the BOA is, not to adopt the Small Commercial Exemption. (The town has never considered splitting the tax rate, so this small commercial Exemption is not applicable.) The fourth and final vote is whether or not to split the tax rate, as well as, to report the excess levy capacity which is \$140,364.00. Board of Assessors would like to recommend that the Board of Selectmen adopt a single tax rate, as well as, vote to accept the residential factor of 1.

At 5:04 PM with no further comments Mr. Malkin moved to close the hearing. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Ms. Bunker read the recommendations from the Assessors.

Vote not to adopt the Open Space Discount.

Vote not to adopt the Residential Exemption.

Vote not to adopt the Small Commercial Exemption

Vote Yes to adopt a single tax rate and accept the residential factor of 1.

Mr. Doty moved to approve the recommendations from the Board of Assessors and vote for a Residential factor of 1. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Ms. Bunker asked to sign for the Selectmen electronically. Selectmen supported this and will also sign the original for the record. Selectmen thanked Pam Bunker for attending.

With time prior to the next advertised public hearing Chairman Rossi proposed to review minutes.

Minutes:

Draft Minutes from 11/12 /20 were reviewed. Mr. Doty moved to approve minutes as written. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Rob Hannemann said he was present to discuss a time sensitive item. Chairman Rossi said we still have time prior to the next hearing and asked Mr. Hannemann to proceed. Mr. Hannemann spoke about the Energy Committee applying for a grant for a resilience engineering study. Mr. Hannemann said that West Tisbury will post their results of their application Dec 9, 2020. This application requires letters of support and requested that the Chilmark Selectmen approve a draft letter of support. Chairman Rossi recommended Tim Carroll take care of this letter of support. Mr. Doty moved to approve this recommendation.

Mr. Malkin seconded it. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Mr. Hannemann stressed this was time sensitive. Chairman Rossi requested that the Town Administrator give copy of letter to the Selectmen before he signs.

MV Commission - Reappoint Joan Malkin as Selectmen's Representative to MV Commission (MVC):

Joan Malkin was present to request to be appointed representative of Chilmark on the Martha's Vineyard Commission. Ms. Malkin said if reappointed she is up to be chairman of the MVC next year.

Mr. Doty moved to appoint Joan Malkin to the MVC. Mr. Rossi seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: 2 Ayes, 1 Abstain *James Malkin is spouse*

Chairman Rossi said thank you for your hard work and commitment.

At 5:15 PM Chairman Rossi opened the next Public Hearing.

Chilmark Waterways fees and fines proposed Amendments:

Selectmen James Malkin liaison to the Harbor Department introduced this proposal.

Ryan Rossi Chilmark Harbormaster read and explained the entire recommendation for amendments for the waterways regulations. Jeff Maida asked stressing that he was not asking this question as the chairman of the Harbor Advisory committee. Mr. Maida asked if it necessary to have commercial and charter slips allowed to be passed down to a spouse. Harbormaster Rossi said he can add this to the guidelines and regulations. Wording: Only one slip may be leased to any household. Slip leases will only be issued in the name of a single individual. The slip may not be transferred except to a surviving spouse. Commercial slips may not be transferred.

Fee & Fine schedule Change:

Mooring fee from \$100.00 annually to \$200.00 annually. Harbormaster Rossi said on November 15, 2020 he will send renewal documents. Harbormaster Rossi said we have the lowest fee for mooring permits. With this change we would still be the lowest with Edgartown. Mr. Doty said he supported this. Chairman Rossi said he also supported this.

Tim Carroll asked a question about section H; for folks who are not using would they lose their mooring? What about folks who are only here for the month of July? There was discussion.

At 5:38 PM with no further comments Mr. Malkin moved to close the hearing. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes.**

Mr. Malkin moved to approve the Amendments to the Chilmark Waterways as presented by the Harbormaster and also the increase to the mooring annual fee. Mr. Doty seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: 3 Ayes

M V Commission (MVC) DRI Energy Policy draft:

Alex Elvin of MVC presented the energy policy for developments of regional impact that has been updated from the 2008 policy. Ben Robinson of the MVC spoke to this policy and gave a quick overview. Chairman Bill Rossi asked what sort of feedback the MVC has gotten when presenting this. Ben Robinson said we asked the Building inspectors for input. Mr. Robinson said Chilmark is the first town we are presenting at. Mr. Robinson said we will present next on Dec. 17, 2020 for the Builders Association. Mr. Robinson said this is a policy not a mandated rule. This will be used for the review of projects. Discussion and questions ensued. Mr. Robinson said this policy would be a tool to evaluate a project. Mr. Robinson said we are asking for comments and we will have an editing period.

Joan Malkin suggested Selectmen think about this and mid-January provide comments to this group. Mr. Robinson said as we collect comments we can compile and share them with you. James Malkin said he will work on this and share with Selectmen in 2 weeks (at next regular scheduled meeting).

Updates:

Tim Carroll discussed the land at 4 North Ridge Road that the town is trying to sell. With the first advertisement and process to receive bids the town had no bids by the deadline. Mr. Carroll said we are seeing if we can hire brokers. We have this question to our legal counsel. Next few month would like to sell. Chairman Rossi said we will have an answer for next Selectmen's meeting.

Rob Hannemann spoke of the working group meeting about the HVAC system for the school. The engineering is in process now and we have a timeline plan so we will know if we are in the schedule to get the system running for Sept 2021.

Mr. Carroll said the Community Center HVAC project is not moving forward at this time. Mr. Carroll said if anyone has a suggestion for any contactor for this please let him know.

There was also conversation about a retiring position, and reforming what is needed.

Mr. Carroll said the information he received from the Concom is they need a specialized person. Mr. Carroll spoke about a proposal to combine ZBA & ConCom as the specialized position to bring above 20 hours to make position benefited.

Mr. Malkin asked if we could share a Conservation and ZBA Administrator from another town. Mr. Malkin recommended to advertise this to see if we get interest.

Mr. Doty said he is requesting a written proposal from the Town Administrator (Mr. Carroll) that we can react on. Mr. Carroll said he will work on a proposal.

At 6:25 PM with no further items for discussion Mr. Doty moved to adjourn. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase.

Approved 01/05/2021

Document list:

- Tear sheet from Vineyard Gazette for Public hearing (s) advertisements
- Selectmen draft minutes from 11/12/2020 meeting
- Email from Harbor Advisory chairman Maida about proposed amendments to Waterways regulation
- MVC DRI Energy Policy draft annotations
- MVC DRI Energy draft table
- MVC Energy Policy for Developments of Regional Impact draft Frequently asked questions