

Town of Chilmark
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
April 23, 2007

MODERATOR: Everett H. Poole
TOWN CLERK: Margaret T. Orlando
REGISTRARS: Susan Heilbron and Judie G.L. Mayhew
CONSTABLE: Daniel Bryant
TELLERS: Brian Cioffi and Douglas Cabral

At the close of voter registration April 3, 2007 there were Eight Hundred twenty (820) registered voters in the Town of Chilmark. With One Hundred and sixty three (163) voters present, the moderator called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. This represents just under 20 % (19.87804) of the Town voters.

Constable Daniel Bryant attested to the posting of the Warrant. Moderator Everett Poole asked if there were any non-registered persons on the town meeting floor. He also asked that all persons standing in the back take seats.

ARTICLE 1. The election of officers on the Official Ballot was postponed by the Moderator until the Annual Town Election, at noon Wednesday, April 25, 2007.

ARTICLE 2. Mr. Poole asked for reports from the Town Officers or Committees. Each of the Town Selectmen stood to speak

Mr. Fenner reported on the Engley house describing the negotiations as extensive and difficult. He said that the goal was to extend the trail system and increase the affordable housing sites to four. He also spoke about the explosion at the recycling/waste facility to which we transfer our trash off Island and talked about the expansion of the headquarters on Edgartown-West Tisbury Road. He said that the District had been awarded the waste oil permit from the DEP and reported the dates of the mercury recycling.

Mr. Doty spoke to the progress on the Middle Line Road project about the upcoming hearings of the Chilmark Planning Board and with the Martha's Vineyard Commission. He stated his hopes that there would be housing units awarded by the fall.

Mr. Parker reported on the progress on the improvements for cell phone service by working with the Town of Aquinnah on a Distributed Antenna System. He described this as small antennas on power line/telephone poles. He said they were also working on amending the Zoning bylaws to allow for this in the Town of Chilmark.

Mr. Poole asked if there was anyone else with information to bring forward under Article 2. There were none.

ARTICLE 3. Departmental budgets read by the moderator were moved and seconded. The

following items were checked for further discussion:

- Selectmen's Maintenance
- Police Salaries
- Shellfish Salaries
- Shellfish Expense
- School

Mrs. Jardin questioned the need for the Selectmen's Maintenance item because the budget had maintenance line items for each of the buildings and an unclassified expense of \$40,000.00 . Mr Doty said that this was where the Town could get emergency funding. He refer to the damage to the beaches in the most recent storm.

Clarissa Allen questioned the new position of Administrative Assistant. Chief Rich said he no longer could deal with the paperwork and that there was a need to have someone in the police station for the walk-ins. His hope was that this person could gather data for grant applications and generally pull the office together. The position would be shared with the Fire and EMT departments. Mrs. Jardin said she felt that this was setting a precedent. This position should have come before the Town Meeting as an Article for discussion, as all other new positions have. Such an article would have described the position, set a step/grade for salary and allowed the Town to come to an informed vote.

Mrs. Jardin also asked about the existing budget items for the shellfish department. She wanted to know if these would cover the expenses of the new Shellfish Proagationist, if we were to vote to hire one, or would there be other related expenses. Mrs. Jardin felt that this was the time to have the discussion. It was moved, seconded and the voted to defer the Shellfish salaries and expenses until after the vote on Article 14, 15 and 16.

Susan Parker spoke to the fact that the School budget numbers were likely to rise because of a change in Chilmark's contribution to the regional high school budget. Oak Bluffs had refused to go along with the formula and the assessment for four of the towns would rise and the assessment for Aquinnah was likely to decline.

Article 3, with the exception of the Shellfish Salaries and expenses, the budget came to a vote and carried.

Later, after discussion on Shellfish department articles (#'s14, 15 & 16), there were no amendments and the remainder of the budget came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 4. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded.
Article 4 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 5. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded.
Article 5 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 6. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. .
Article 6 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 7. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Mr. Moderator state that any monies in or out of the stabilation fund requires a 2/3 vote. There was no discussion.
Article 7 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 8. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Chief Norton stated that the brush breaker's price had risen in part because of changing specifications. This truck would replace a 1977 brush breaker. The new equipment now included a foam fire suppression system (CAFS), which would assist firefighters in remote locations not easily accessible by the other trucks and especially ones where water was not available. George Szilassy asked about damage to the environment from the foam. Mr. Norton felt the damage, if any, would be greatly offset by the fire department's enhanced ability to put out a fire.
Article 8 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 9. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded.
Article 9 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 10. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded.
Article 10 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 11. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded.
Article 11 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 12. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded.
Article 12 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 13. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded.
Article 13 came to a vote and carried.

ARTICLE 14. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. John Larsen stood to amend Article 14 by adding after the word committee **appointed by the Board of Selectmen.** The amendment was moved, seconded and passed unanimously. Mr Larsen describe the committee as an advisory go-between to inform the selectmen, progationist and shell fisherman. It was then moved, seconded and passed to change the word steering in the Shellfish Steering Committee to **Shellfish Advisory Committee.**

Article 14, as amended, came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 15. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. There was a great deal of discussion both pro and con. It was moved, seconded and passed to change the word officer to **agent**. There was the general consensus that if it was a commitment of no more the one year and one month that it was probably to the benefit of all concerned.

Article 15 came to a vote and was carried.

ARTICLE 16. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded.

Article 16 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 17. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Chris Murphy asked if there would be a de-nitrification system or would we be continuing to allow the sewage to flow into the pond. Mary Jane Pease asked why not put in a tank. The number of times the tank would need pumping would be prohibitive. Steve Gallas asked if the water use would be minimized. Mr. Carroll said that Kent Healy was designing a system. He also stated that the size of the tank was double the previous size and that water use had been minimized.

Article 17 came to a vote and was passed.

ARTICLE 18. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. There was no discussion.

Article 18 came to a vote and carried.

ARTICLE 19. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Mr. Parker referred to this as an outrage. The Transit Authority handled this very badly but we do owe the money.

Article 19 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 20. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Mr. Poole remind the Town Meeting that this article requires a 2/3 vote.

Article 20 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 21. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded.

Article 21 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 22. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. The fisherman at the meeting, including Jonathan Mayhew, suggested we not make this change. Pamela Goff, suggested that the definition be left as it was agreed to by Town Meeting in 1996. Scott Mc Dowell moved to indefinitely postpone. Mr Doty agreed. It was moved and seconded postpone.

Article 22 came to a vote and was postponed indefinitely.

ARTICLE 23. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded Norman Freed spoke against the amendment to the personnel bylaws and suggested the committee come back

with a more comprehensive change to this policy. There was a move to indefinitely postpone Article 23. It was moved, seconded and appeared to be carried.

Article 23 as voted was postponed indefinitely.

ARTICLE 24. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Mr. Doty stated that the purpose was to promote renewable energy sources. Frank Yeomans spoke to the cost, to homeowners and taxpayers, of the recommendations made by the advisory group. Leonard Jason, Jr. stood and moved to postpone the article and this motion was lost. Mr. Yeomans suggested an amendment that added: to draft a nomination with proposed guidelines, regulations **and financial costs and benefits** for an Energy district of Critical Planning Concern. The amendment was moved, seconded and was passed.

Article 24, as amended, came to a vote and passed.

The Moderator asked if there was any other business to come before this meeting. Steve Bernier asked that the town consider a de-nitrification system for the Menemsha Comfort Station.

At 10:05 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to the Chilmark Community Center at noon on Wednesday, April 25, 2007 for the Annual Town Election.

A true copy. Attest:

Margaret T. Orlando,
Town Clerk
April 30, 2007