

Town of Chilmark
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

February 2, 2015

MODERATOR: Everett H. Poole
TOWN CLERK: Jennifer L. Christy
REGISTRARS: Laurisa D. Rich, Susan M. Heilbron
CONSTABLE: Marshall E. Carroll, III
TELLERS: Catherine A. Thompson, Sarah Kuh

At the close of voter registration on January 23, 2015 there were nine hundred and twenty (920) registered voters in the Town of Chilmark. With eighty-five (85) voters present at the Special Town Meeting, 9% of the total number of registered voters, the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:30PM at the Chilmark Community Center at 520 South Road.

Constable Marshall E. Carroll, III attested to the posting of the warrant.

Article 1. The Moderator read the article. The article was moved and seconded. The Moderator recognized James M. Malkin, Chairman of the Town Committee on Squibnocket. Mr. Malkin rose and read a prepared statement describing the mandate of the Town Committee on Squibnocket and summarized the committee's recommended solution (provided in a hand-out to voters.) Mr. Malkin described the committee's process and stated the committee, appointed by the Moderator after the April 27, 2014 Annual Town Meeting, met for 23 public sessions from June to December of 2014. Mr. Malkin stated the committee listened to 13 presentations and reviewed thousands of pages of correspondence and assured the Town that all written communication to the committee was read. Mr. Malkin further stated the committee heard five experts provided by various interested parties and took input from townspeople, consultants, and Town boards and committees. Mr. Malkin stated the committee attended multiple site visits, hired environmental and coastal experts to provide information to the committee and held an informational forum in December 2014. Mr. Malkin stated the committee evaluated the engineering, environmental, legal, permitting and view shed issues. Mr. Malkin stated the committee evaluated their recommendation against the mandate set by the town and evaluated the parking and access proposals. Mr. Malkin gave thanks to the Town Boards and Town Committees, the Board of Selectmen, John Keene Excavation and Ray Silva, for work provided on a pro bono basis, and the many people who participated in the process of information-gathering followed by the Town Committee on Squibnocket. The Moderator asked if there was any more discussion. There was no more discussion. The Moderator called for all those in favor to say aye. Voters stated "aye." The Moderator called for those opposed to say, "No." There were no opposed.

The Moderator declared the article passed unanimously.

Applause erupted.

Article 2. The Moderator read the article. The article was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. The Moderator called for all those in favor to say aye. Voters stated “aye.” The Moderator called for those opposed to say, “No.” There were no opposed.

The Moderator declared the article passed unanimously.

Article 3. The Moderator read the article. The article was moved and seconded. Stephen Zachary Lee was recognized and stated the Town, in an original proposal in April 2014, had the possibility of acquiring the same beach and parking parcel for the same amount of money, and inquired whether the town would be able to acquire this beach portion of the parcel alone for less money than what the beach and parking lot would have originally cost. William N. Rossi, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, was recognized and stated the Selectmen certainly hope that is possible. Mr. Rossi stated the Town has been in communication with the Vineyard Open Land Foundation (VOLF) and the Squibnocket Homeowners Association. He further stated that the \$410,000 amount was identified in the spring of 2014 for last year’s proposed agreement. The current agreement will be a different form, Mr. Rossi stated, that does not include the parking component. Mr. Rossi stated the Town is looking to lease a portion of the parcel that was in consideration last year. Mr. Rossi stated that he is aware that there is less support from the Squibnocket Homeowners Association to spend the amount of money they had proposed spending in the spring of 2014 this year. The Moderator asked if there was any more discussion. There was no more discussion. The Moderator called for all those in favor to say aye. Voters stated “aye.” The Moderator called for those opposed to say, “No.” There were no opposed.

The Moderator declared the article passed unanimously.

Article 4. The Moderator read the article and stated the article required a 2/3rds vote. The article was moved and seconded. Stephen Zachary Lee was recognized and inquired if the Article allowed for the possibility of leasing the land or only purchasing. William N. Rossi, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, was recognized and stated that it would allow leasing as long as the arrangement was favorable to the Town and in the best interests of the Town. The Moderator asked if there was any more discussion. There was no more discussion. The Moderator called for a vote. The Moderator called for all those in favor to say aye. Voters stated “aye.” The Moderator called for those opposed to say, “No.” The Moderator declared, since the Article required a 2/3rds vote, those who voted “No” to please stand. One voter stood.

The Moderator declared the article carried, 20-1.

Article 5. The Moderator read the article. The article was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. The Moderator called for a vote. The Moderator called for all those in favor to say aye. Voters stated “aye.” The Moderator called for those opposed to say, “No.” There were no opposed.

The Moderator declared the article passed unanimously.

Article 6. The Moderator read the article. The article was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. The Moderator called for a vote. The Moderator called for all those in

favor to say aye. Voters stated “aye.” The Moderator called for those opposed to say, “No.” There were no opposed.

The Moderator declared the article carried unanimously.

Article 7. The Moderator read the article. The article was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. The Moderator called for a vote. The Moderator called for all those in favor to say aye. Voters stated “aye.” The Moderator called for those opposed to say, “No.” There were no opposed.

The Moderator declared the article passed unanimously.

Article 8. The Moderator read the article. The article was moved and seconded. Timothy Robert Carroll, Town Executive Secretary, was recognized and offered an amendment to change the amounts for the Accountant to \$1194.08 and for the Treasurer to \$1722.60. Mr. Carroll stated the amendment would not change the total amount of the article. There was no more discussion. The Moderator called for a vote. The Moderator called for all those in favor to say aye. Voters stated “aye.” The Moderator called for those opposed to say, “No.” There were no opposed.

The Moderator declared the article passed unanimously, as amended.

The Moderator asked if there was any more business before the Town. David Alan Damroth was recognized and thanked Moderator, the Board of Selectmen, The Town Committee on Squibnocket, and the many people who worked to bring the current recommendations to the voters at this Special Town Meeting. Mr. Damroth stated his support for the recommendations. Applause erupted. Selectman Warren Morgan Doty was recognized and stated his support and appreciation for the 7 person Town Committee on Squibnocket and stated the Board of Selectmen offered their thanks for the hard work. The Moderator asked if there was any more discussion. There was no more discussion and the Moderator declared the meeting dissolved at 7:48PM. More applause erupted.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer L. Christy, Town Clerk
February 3, 2015