

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting of April 13, 2016. The meeting took place in the Public Safety Facility Community Room, 4 Fairgrounds Road, Nantucket, MA 02554. Members of the Board present were Rick Atherton, Robert DeCosta, Matt Fee, Dawn E. Hill Holdgate and James R. Kelly.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kelly called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM following a moment of silence for David Glidden.

II. BOARD ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Chairman Kelly previewed the agenda. The agenda was unanimously accepted as presented.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Chairman Kelly announced that the Board of Selectmen meeting is being video/audio recorded in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.
2. Chairman Kelly announced that Town offices will be closed on Monday, April 18, 2016 in observation of Patriots' Day.
3. Town Manager C. Elizabeth Gibson recognized Patrick McGloin of the IT Department for his hard work.

IV. APPROVAL OF PENDING CONTRACTS

1. Approval of Pending Contracts for April 13, 2016 - as Set Forth on the Spreadsheet Identified as Exhibit 1, Which Exhibit is Incorporated Herein by Reference. Ms. Gibson reviewed the pending contract and answered questions from Board members. It was agreed to discuss this matter further under item V. 2.

V. WORKSHOP ITEMS

1. Joint Meeting with Nantucket Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board for Discussion Regarding Year-round Public Transportation Service. Chairman Kelly opened the meeting with the Nantucket Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board. NRTA Administrator Paula Leary recognized Mike Burns and Rachel Hobart for their service as project coordinators. Ms. Leary introduced Jill Cahoon and Krystal Oldread from AECOM who prepared the presentation for year-round bus service. Ms. Cahoon and Ms. Oldread reviewed a study on year-round bus service including a study overview, operational analysis, market analysis, outreach findings, alternatives development, preferred alternatives and next steps. The 2015 NRTA ridership and route diagnostics was further reviewed, noting that 10% of the year-round population participated in the survey. They reviewed the survey findings in terms of who responded, how people get around, current WAVE riders, as well as off season service. Maps were also reviewed for the demand of service. Possible service enhancements and funding options for said enhancements were reviewed. A discussion followed regarding preferred alternative routes. Demand for alternative service would include: 217 days of operation which would require three additional vehicles and would result in 610 projected daily ridership and \$848,000 in additional new annual operation costs not including fare box revenue. Ms. Cahoon and Ms. Oldread answered questions from Board and NRTA Advisory Board members. Next steps include recommending the service for discussion at the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission transportation meeting on May 2, 2016 and to identify a funding strategy. Mr. DeCosta said he doesn't feel there is a need for year-round service to Sconset and he also wants service off W. Dover and York streets for winter routes. He added that he feels a new Old South Road/Nobadeer Farm Road route is "desperately" needed, and that the Miacomet and Mid-island routes cover the "core" Nantucket year-rounders. Mr. Atherton suggested possibly charging higher fares. Mr. Fee said that finding funding sources

is a big concern. Mr. DeCosta suggested that they think about "out of the box" funding sources. Ms. Gibson said that funding must be identified before the Board wishes to move forward with year-round bus service, noting there are many other priorities in the Town and the bus service will only benefit 5% of the population. Chairman Kelly said it would be worth having another model. Ms Leary said that the AECOM contract has expired and someone needs to be identified who will tackle the next steps.

Chairman Kelly then allowed public comment. Linda Simmons, minister of the Unitarian Church said part of the service cannot be measured in economic terms and that there is a percentage of the Latino population whose voices and needs aren't being met. Polly Miller said she hopes Nobadeer Farm Road is still on the table as it will help to get kids to the playing fields. Jeff Schneider said he would like relief from buses on W. Dover Street and he takes issue as a taxpayer with additional \$848,000 in costs for this service. He also noted that 90% of the population didn't "care." Ms. Oldread answered questions on response levels. Tucker Holland said the frequency of service will make or break the proposal and he suggested checking with the workforce. At 6:37 PM Chairman Kelly closed the NRTA Advisory Board meeting.

2. Presentation of Preliminary Municipal Aggregation Plan (Pursuant to Affirmative Vote on Article 104 of 2016 Annual Town Meeting). Ms. Gibson explained that a municipal aggregation plan was approved at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting and work has begun on the preliminary plan work. Paul Gromer of Peregrine Energy Group reviewed the pending contract and answered questions from Board members, noting the fee paid to his firm by the chosen electricity supplier would be about \$100,000 per year (1/10 cent per KWH). The pending contract for April 13, 2016 was approved by the unanimous consent of the Board. Marlana Patton, also of Peregrine Energy Group, reviewed what municipal aggregation is and answered questions throughout her presentation. She explained that you can opt out of the aggregation plan at any time without penalty and if you decide to opt back in you will get quoted the market rate from the supplier. Mr. Gromer reviewed the benefits of aggregation including the cost savings, price stability, greener power, cost efficiency, more choice and transparency. He also reviewed the estimated program launch schedule. Mr. Atherton questioned how the Town will do this as it already has a supplier. It was clarified that the aggregation would only apply to accounts on National Grid's basic service, not customers who have existing electric supply contracts. Mr. Gromer reviewed Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) and how they could be strategically purchased to help ensure a greener power supply to Nantucket customers. Ms. Hill Holdgate asked if there are any other seasonal towns on the Cape or Martha's Vineyard that are part of the aggregate. Mr. Gromer explained that yes, they are part Cape Light Compact, the oldest aggregate, for ten years now, but that there would be significant differences between the Cape Light Compact and the Nantucket PowerChoice Program. Chairman Kelly noted that the Town shouldn't give citizens the impression of huge savings as the savings are only marginal. Mr. Gromer agreed, noting the savings are about 5%.

VI. OFFICIAL BUSINESS

1. Update Regarding Fire Station Project. Fire Chief Paul Rhude stated that the new fire station project is on budget, and that plans are almost final and he expects them to go out to bid end of the month. He hopes a construction contract can be approved in June and to break ground in July. Chief Rhude said the HDC has already approved the main building. He said there is an issue with the proposed solar panels because the building is not facing the right direction and to fix this they would have to put the trucks on Fairgrounds Road which is not an option, or potentially put brackets on the rear but this would increase costs. He said the cost would put them over budget and won't be recouped. He added that a geothermal system will be put in.

Mr. DeCosta stated that Verizon has gone on strike and there may be potential impacts on Nantucket and asked how will this will affect moving the utility poles for the Milk Street bike path extension; he asked that Transportation Planner Mike Burns find out.

Mr. DeCosta reported that he viewed Hummock Pond, noting that it has been opened and is flushing well. He added he is disappointed in Sesachacha Pond which was opened at the wrong time because of plovers. He suggested next time the Town "take heat from the state" and open it when it's right regardless of the birds. He suggested getting approval from Mass Fisheries to do so. Ms. Gibson noted that there will be a pond openings update at next week's meeting, and that it is not a good idea to ignore the Endangered Species Act.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Approved the 14th day of September, 2016.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
APRIL 13, 2016 – 6:00 PM
PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMUNITY ROOM
4 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD
NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS**

List of documents used at the meeting:

- V. 1. NRTA Year-Round Bus Service Study presentation; NRTA year-round bus service study outreach summary draft report
- V. 2. Municipal electricity aggregation for Nantucket presentation; Town of Nantucket municipal aggregation plan draft, April 6, 2016