

DRAFT  
Aquinnah Board of Selectmen  
Minutes of Meeting 11/22/2016  
Aquinnah Town Hall

Members present: Chairman Juli Vanderhoop, Gary Haley.

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Angela Cywinski, Asst. Assessor, DPW Director Jay Smalley, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, Frank Perez, Ed Belain, Sarah Saltonstall, Hollis Smith, Shellfish Chairman Buddy Vanderhoop, Harbormaster Chip Vanderhoop. Planning Board chairman Peter Temple

The meeting began at 5:30 pm.

-1<sup>st</sup> on the agenda was a review of minutes from 11/1 and 11/15.

Gary made a motion to approve the minutes from November 1<sup>st</sup>, Juli seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

Gary Made a motion to approve the minutes from November 15<sup>th</sup>, Juli seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-Next on the agenda was approval of the residential tax rate. Angela reported that the excess levy capacity was \$9,511.00 (funds less spent to date than what the town budgeted for).

The four votes were discussed.

-Juli made a motion to approve the minimum residential tax rate of 1. Gary seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-Angela stated the tax rate would be \$5.51 per \$1,000 assessed.

-Juli made a motion to accept the discount for open space. Gary seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 against. The motion failed.**

-Juli made a motion to grant the residential exemption. Gary seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 against. The motion failed.**

-Juli made a motion to grant the small business exemption. Gary seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 against. The motion failed.**

-Next on the agenda was a meeting with Planning Board chairman Peter Temple. He said PB member Carlos Montoya is resigning next month and needs to be replaced for the balance of his term. He recommended Jim Mahoney for the position. An alternate is also needed to be appointed as well. Peter promoted Isaac Taylor for the alternate position and asked that the Selectmen vote for a joint appointment.

Juli made a motion to appoint Jim Mahoney to replace Carlos Montoya on the Planning Board for the balance of the term and also Isaac Taylor for the associate's position. Juli seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-Peter also talked about a separate survey being proposed by John Davis, a professor at Harvard and Aquinnah summer resident, to address the financial problems the town faces and other financial resources as a student research project. The students would be from the Harvard business school and the design school. Peter said the Board of Assessors is on board as is the Finance and Advisory Committee.

The Board, by consensus, agreed to allow the pilot project to continue to be promoted by John Davis.

-Next on the agenda was the Shellfish Committee recommendation to open the pond to commercial scalloping.  
-There was discussion about the timing of the Shellfish Committee meeting and whether or not it was properly posted in advance.

There was agreement that the meeting did not comply with the Attorney General's policy of posting 48 hours in advance and has to be rescheduled.

Adam said he'd work with Buddy to create an agenda and post the meeting Friday so that they could meet Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> and revote to recommend opening the pond to commercial scalloping.

-Sarah Saltonstall was recognized and asked the Selectmen that they reverse a decision made by the Shellfish Constable (Brian Vanderhoop), that she be allowed to have her own family shellfish permit. She stated she's married but her husband and her live in separate houses. She asked for separate permit for sustenance needs for her and her family.

The Board, by consensus, decided to take the request under advisement.

-Going back to Old Business, the Board reviewed the Parks & Rec Committee responsibilities document.

The Board, by consensus, agreed to continue the discussion to the December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting so that the DPW Director (Jay Smalley) and the Parking & Beach Lot Supervisor (Carolyn Feltz) can attend.

-In Other Business, Juli signed the sanding contract that had been approved at a prior Selectmen's meeting.

-In Other Business, there was discussion about the dredge pipe still floating in the Menemsha Creek channel. Buddy requested that the Coast Guard be called by to complain about the hazard to navigation. Juli said she'd call the appropriate authorities. There was discussion about other environmental concerns involving the channel dredging project. The scallop sanctuary in Menemsha Pond was discussed. Hollis and Buddy said it was reviewed by the Shellfish Committee

-In Other Business, the Board reviewed the recommended project from the Lighthouse Advisory Board to do necessary safety work involving the balusters and window work in the lighthouse. The project was promoted to Viewpoint Metals, who had done the previous railing project, and came back with a bid less than \$10K. adam said the funds will come from the Lighthouse Gift Fund.

Juli made a motion to accept the bid proposal from Viewpoint Metals for the Railing Upgrade & Window Grill project at the Gay Head Light House for \$9,633.00. Gary seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The Motion passed.**

-Juli asked if there was anything else to come before the board. Hearing none, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-The meeting ended at 6:20 pm