

# **AQUINNAH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

## **MINUTES**

**JUNE 23, 2020**

**QUORUM BEING PRESENT, THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:10 PM**

**52 PRESENT**

**Town Clerk Gabriella Camilleri opened the meeting as Moderator Michael Hebert was not available to attend the meeting.**

**A motion was made to elect Sarah Thulin as temporary Moderator. Seconded.**

**Passed Unanimously**

**Sarah asked for a moment of silence to honor those whose lives were lost due to the corona virus.**

**All articles and amendments motioned to the floor and 2<sup>nd</sup> by the Board of Selectmen.**

### **ARTICLE ONE:**

**To elect the following officers on the Official Ballot**

**One member of the Board of Selectmen for three years**

**Two members of the Planning Board for three years**

**One member of the Board of Health for three years**

**One Town Clerk for two years**

**One Library Trustee for three years**

### **ARTICLE TWO:**

**Moderator**

**To hear the reports of the Town Officers and Committees and act thereon.**

**Lighthouse Keeper Richard Skidmore gave a report on the Lighthouse Park.**

**Board of Health member Sarah Saltonstall gave a report on the Board of Health Agent Karen Columbo.**



### **ARTICLE THREE:**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sums of money required to defray the general expenses of the Town as itemized in the FY 2021 operating budget and fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers and employees of the Town as itemized therein, and to fund said appropriations through the tax levy. (Recommended by Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE THREE PASSED - UNANIMOUS**

### **ARTICLE FOUR:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Four Hundred Four Dollars (\$35,404), or any other amount as determined by the State Departments of Transportation or State Legislature for highway construction or improvements from the 2020 Chapter 90 Local Transportation apportionment, said sum to be subject to State enactment of the bind bill and of new revenues to support that bill, and to allow the Treasurer to borrow against all expenditures in anticipation of reimbursement by the State, or take any other action relative thereto. (Recommended by Finance Committee.)

Motion made to delete "raise and". Seconded. Amendment passed - Unanimous

**VOICE VOTE: AMENDED ARTICLE FOUR PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

### **ARTICLE FIVE:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$2,990) to fund the Town's share of expenses of the All Island Committee's contract for adult and community education in Fiscal Year 2021, or take any other action relative thereto. (Recommended by Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE FIVE PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

### **ARTICLE SIX:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums as requested by the County of Dukes County: Eleven Thousand One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$11,150) to support the Vineyard Health Care Access Program; One Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Six Dollars (\$1,536.00) to support the Dukes County Social Services; Eight Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars (\$897.00) to support the Substance Use Disorder and Homelessness Prevention Programs; Seventeen Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-Three Dollars (\$17,743.00) to support the Martha's Vineyard Center for Living Programs; Two Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-Two Dollars (\$2,392.00) to support the CORE program to provide coordinated counseling, outreach, and referral services to our residents who are 55 years and older; Nine Hundred Thirty-Six Dollars (\$936.00) to support the First Stop Information and Referral Service; Three Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Four Dollars (\$3,344.00) to support the planning, advocacy and education for



healthy aging on Martha's Vineyard; Two Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars (\$2,172.00) to cover the County of Dukes County FY2021 budget shortfall; One Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$1,825.00) to fund the Dukes County Stabilization Fund for a total of Forty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars (\$41,995.00), or take any other action relative thereto.

Motion made to amend the amount of Two Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars (\$2,172.00) to One Thousand Eighty Six Dollars (\$1,086.00), making the final budget total for Article Six Forty Thousand, Nine Hundred Nine Dollars. (\$40, 909.00).

Seconded. Amendment passed - Unanimous

**VOICE VOTE: AMENDED ARTICLE SIX PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

#### **ARTICLE SEVEN:**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Six Dollars (\$6,006) to pay the Town's assessed share of the County of Dukes County debt authorized by Chapter 287 of the Acts of 2014 for a building to provided health and human services for the county residents, or take any other action relative thereto. (Recommended by Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE SEVEN PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

#### **ARTICLE EIGHT:**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, or reserve, monies for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of Community Preservation projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, from projected Fiscal Year 2021 Community Preservation revenues of Two Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$210,000.00). Thirty percent of those funds shall be allotted in the following amounts as required by Community Preservation legislation: 1. \$21,000.00 to the Community Preservation Open Space Reserve; and, 2. \$21,000.00 to the Community Preservation Historic Reserve; and, 3. \$21,000.00 to the Community Preservation Housing Reserve. In addition, the remaining seventy percent of funds raised during the Fiscal Year 2021 shall be reserved for appropriation in the following manner as recommended by the Aquinnah Community Preservation Committee: 1. Twenty-seven Thousand Dollars (\$27,000.00) to the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve; and, 2. Fifty-eight Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$58,320.00) to the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve; and, 3. Fifty-six Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$56,880.00) to the Community Preservation Open Space and Recreation Reserve; and, 4. Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) to the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve; or take any other action relative thereto. (No action taken by the Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE EIGHT PASSED – UNANIMOUS**



## **ARTICLE NINE:**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate monies, from currently reserved Community Preservation revenues, for the undertaking of the following Historic Preservation and Administrative efforts, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee: \$40,000 (forty thousand dollars) from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve for emergency repairs, re-pointing of brickwork, and/or the continued restoration of the Gay Head Light, and \$8,000 (eight thousand dollars) from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve for information signage at the Gay Head Light in conjunction with the State, and \$4,000 (four thousand dollars) from the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve for CPA administrative expenses, or take any other action relative thereto. (No action taken by the Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE NINE PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

## **ARTICLE TEN:**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate monies, from currently reserved Community Preservation revenues, for the undertaking of the following Community Housing efforts, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee: \$24,660 (twenty-four thousand six hundred and sixty dollars) from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve for the final payment on mortgage costs related to the purchase of property at Smalley's Knoll (801 State Road) for the purpose of creating affordable housing, and \$20,000 (twenty thousand dollars) from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve for costs related to the development of affordable housing as proposed by Harbor Homes, and \$34,660 (thirty-four thousand six hundred and sixty dollars) from the Community Preservation Undesignated Reserve for the subsidy of affordable rents in Aquinnah through the DCRHA's Rental Assistance program and emergency Covid 19 Rental Subsidy program, or take any other action relative thereto. (No action taken by the Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE TEN PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

## **ARTICLE ELEVEN:**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate monies, from currently reserved Community Preservation revenues, for the undertaking of the following Open Space and Recreation efforts, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee: \$65,880 (sixty-five thousand eight hundred and eighty dollars) from the Community Preservation Open Space and Recreation Reserve for ongoing mortgage costs related to capital improvements at the Aquinnah Circle and acquisition of #13 Aquinnah Circle, and \$12,000 (twelve thousand dollars) from the Community Preservation Open Space and Recreation Reserve for MV Shellfish efforts to install improved infrastructure and public pond access at their facility in Oak Bluffs; and, \$37,608 to be re-allocated from previously appropriated CPA Open Space and Recreation funds (#FY 2019-W-26 for \$12,608, and #FY 2020-W-5 for \$25,000) for the burial of overhead wires at the Aquinnah Circle, to be used instead for the implementation of Open Space and Recreation efforts at the Aquinnah Circle, including: Surveying and Engineering work, as well as Capital expenses at



the Overlook, Picnic Area, and Helen's House, or take any action relative thereto. (No action taken by the Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE ELEVEN PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

**ARTICLE TWELVE:**

To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Board of Selectmen to amend the existing deed to Island Housing Trust Corporation for Smalley's Knoll (801 State Road) to add Open Space and Recreation as an allowable use of said property (in addition to its current designation for Community Housing), provided that all proceeds received by Island Housing Trust Corporation as a result of such amendment shall be transferred to the Aquinnah CPA Housing Reserve for future appropriation by the Town of Aquinnah in keeping with CPA legislation, and to take any other action related thereto. The purpose of this Article Five is to allow for the granting of an Exclusive Easement and a Trail Easement over a portion of such property to the Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission, or take any action relative thereto. (No action taken by the Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE TWELVE PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

**ARTICLE THIRTEEN:**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate Twenty-eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Dollars and Five Cents (\$28,920.05) as the town's share of the FY 2021 maintenance cost of the state funded development and upgrade of the Dukes County Regional Emergency Communications Center and Radio System, such share based on the apportionment formulae equal to an average 16.67% fixed share of Island-wide maintenance costs of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars plus 2.61% variable share of such costs based on dispatch volume, or the total share of 9.64% for the Annual payment of such costs under the cooperative agreement for emergency communications and dispatch services. The funding is contingent on all Island towns paying for such maintenance costs in FY 2021 according to their agreed upon proportionate shares. (Recommended by Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE THIRTEEN PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

**ARTICLE FOURTEEN:**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000.00) from the Town's Stabilization Account to be added to the pay legal expenses, or take any other action relative thereto. (Recommended by Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE FOURTEEN PASSED – 47 YAY – 5 NAY**



## **ARTICLE FIFTEEN:**

To see if the town will vote to change Chapter I of the Town by-law concerning the Annual Town Election to read as follows: "There shall be an election of Town Officers to be held on the **Thursday** following the Annual Town Meeting; the polls to be opened and closed as such times at the Selectmen shall determine consistent with the statute in such case made and provided.", or take any other action relative thereto. (Recommended by Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE FIFTEEN PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

## **ARTICLE SIXTEEN:**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer Twenty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$27,000.00) from the Capital Building and Grounds Improvement Fund to an account for improvements at the restrooms at the Cliffs, or take any other action relative thereto. (Recommended by Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE SIXTEEN PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

## **ARTICLE SEVENTEEN**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Nine Dollars (\$1,639) to be paid to the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District as the Town's share of the costs of the District capital project for the replacement of the dust collection system in Building Trades, including without limitation design, engineering, installation, and any other costs incidental and relative thereto, provided, however, that this appropriation shall not be effective unless each of the other member Towns of the District approve a corresponding appropriation for their respective share of the total project costs; or take any other action relative thereto. (Recommended by Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE SEVENTEEN PASSED – UNANIMOUS**

## **ARTICLE EIGHTEEN:**

To see if the town will vote to authorize the use of Thirty-Three Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Five Dollars (\$33,655.00) from Waterways Improvement Fund and authorize the transfer of the previous appropriation of Eleven Thousand Eighty-Five Dollars (\$11,085.00) from Article Seven, of the Special Town Meeting held on May 8, 2012 for a total of Forty-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Dollars (\$44,740.00) to be used for improvements at West Basin, or take any other action relative thereto." (Recommended by Finance Committee.)

**VOICE VOTE: ARTICLE EIGHTEEN PASSED – UNANIMOUS**



Meeting adjourned at 2:16pm

Respectfully submitted

*Gabriella Camilleri*

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Aquinnah Town Clerk