

Present: Warren Doty, Frank Fenner, Riggs Parker, Tim Carroll, Jonathan Revere, Arlan Wise, Julia Rappaport, John Armstrong, John Larsen, Steve Larsen, Pam Goff, Heather Sussman, Bob Sloan, Dennis Jason, Denny Jason, Christina Soulagnet, Chris Stein, Wesley Brighton and Susan Parker.

7:30 PM Public Hearing on the Warrant Articles to Exchange the Engley House for conservation land and four affordable housing lots on South Road.

Arlan Wise had questions about the set backs and how they interacted with the siting of wells and septic systems. She was concerned about not negatively impacting the wells on her lot and her son's lot to the West of the development. Julian Wise asked where the driveways might be located for the housing units and the Land Bank trail head. Mr. Fenner said that the Planning Board would decide that. Mr. Doty said the trail head would have three to four parking spaces.

Arlan Wise asked if all four units would be built at the same time and who was qualified to receive the units. Mr. Parker said that was not determined yet and that the town would use the Implementation Guidelines to choose people for the homesites, which would normally be a lottery. He pointed out that in this case, the original owner of the property would be able to pick from qualified applicants. Arlan Wise asked if there would be restrictions on resale values. Mr. Fenner said that the town was not selling the lots, but planning to enter into long term leases. John Larsen asked how a recipient would get a loan. Mr. Parker said that these long term leases are "bankable" by design. Mr. Doty said that the Island Housing Trust had done fifteen on the island that have been financed by island banks. He said this was a national model. Mr. Parker thanked Attorney Dick Bluestein for his pro bono work on this project.

Mr. Doty said that the town will be talking to the abutters throughout this project. Arlan Wise asked that there be no hunting allowed on the back portion that the Land Bank will control. Pam Goff said that after the Special Town Meeting, this plan will have to be sent to the Legislature because it involves conservation lands.

Public Hearing closed at 7:52 PM.

Special Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. Doty reviewed articles 11, 12 and 13 regarding the land swap. There was no discussion on Article 1. Mr. Fenner said that he was disappointed that the FINCOM did not recommend Article 2. He said that the current Harbor shack is totally inadequate and not much larger than a sheet of plywood. Mr. Doty said the FINCOM felt that the October 16th meeting changed the need when Mr. Larsen said he was willing to sell the town his fish shack on the bulkhead. Mr. Parker said that the Harbor needs a modestly larger building.

Mr. Parker suggested striking the words "multipurpose building". John Larsen said that he was on the Park & Recreation Committee when they split lot 8 that was

assigned to Walter Wlodyka for the harbor shack. He said that the lot was supposed to be returned to commercial fishing use if ever needed. He also said that the Harbor Master was only allowed to have use of half of the lot. Dennis Jason said that he had asked for the entire lot last year and been denied by the Park & Recreation Committee. Mr. Doty said that Article 2 should be amended to gain the support of the town meeting. Mr. Fenner suggested another change and Mr. Parker agreed. It was discussed that any amendment had to happen at the Town Meeting and not at this Selectmen's meeting.

Mr. Doty explained that Article 3 was a bill of a prior fiscal year that needed to be paid. Mr. Jason explained that Article 4 would continue his maintenance plan of replacing 70 planks every two years. Mr. Doty read articles 5 through 10 and then Article 14.

Commercial Fishermen – Fuel Prices

John Armstrong read a prepared statement to the Selectmen about the three years since the Selectmen had talked about a discount on fuel for commercial fishermen and how it was \$2.99 a gallon and it changed overnight to \$3.45. He said that Marshall Carroll had switched products so that they could have fuel at \$3.29 a gallon, but that Mr. Packer said to expect an other increase of 30 cents a gallon soon. Mr. Armstrong said it was time to address this issue of a discount for the commercial fishermen with something fair to everyone.

Dennis Jason asked who was going to subsidize this discount. He asked who was going to take the "hit" for it. Mr. Armstrong said he wasn't sure and that he was not asking anyone to take a loss for the commercial fishermen but maybe to not make as much a profit. He said that fish prices have not been keeping up with the cost of fuel. Mr. Jason said that RM Packer had done a discount program a few years ago in Tisbury.

Mr. Parker said that it was good to work on this and how it could attract other commercial fishermen to Menemsha, which could help with having a buyer here. Mr. Parker said we should have a meeting with Marshall Carroll and Mr. Packer to work on a possible discount.

Mr. Doty said the first challenge was to create a list of who qualifies for the discount, and that a second challenge was to determine what kind of a discount is meaningful 3% 20% 5%. Mr. Fenner said that we do not know what is possible. Mr. Armstrong said it would be good to meet and work on this. Steve Larsen said that Marshall Carroll should be included in this. Mr. Parker said that the fish markets could give the town a list of people that sold to them this year. Mr. Fenner said that the town lots and town slips are a list. He said we should concentrate on those fishing out of Menemsha already. John Larsen said that the Mill Point and the Kimberleen don't fuel in Menemsha so they would not need the discount.

Marshall Carroll told the Selectmen that every customer is important to him. He said that universal pricing at the lowest possible price helps the most people. He said that if there was split pricing, that someone has to pay more to show a discount. He said he was concerned about conflict with people demanding to be given the discount. Mr. Carroll said that the price was going up and will be more than the commercial fishing fleet might be able to afford even with a discount.

Mr. Jason said that in the past it was easy to tell who was a commercial fisherman, but that now some formula should take into account the volume. Mr. Carroll

said that price discrimination is difficult to apply. Mr. Doty said that we needed a plan to move ahead and suggested scheduling a meeting. Mr. Carroll said that he wanted to make it work for everyone. He talked about the 21cent state and 24cent federal tax that was included in the price and could be refunded to the fishermen if they filed. Mr. Doty asked if a subcommittee or a meeting was needed to follow-up on this. Mr. Jason said a meeting. Mr. Doty said that the Park & Recreation Committee and the Harbor Advisory Committee should meet to discuss a plan. Mr. Jason said he would speak to Mr. Packer about tax rebates for “clear” diesel.

Susan Parker suggested that maybe Community Preservation funds could be used in some way. Mr. Doty said that there was a proposal made this very night to the Community Preservation Committee for a fisheries project. Wesley Brighton talked about the margins, the bizarre market place and how we were not the mainland. He said that we needed to take both sides into consideration when talking about a discount.

Dredging

The Selectmen discussed the letter from the Aquinnah Board of Selectmen and the special meeting held October 16th. There was much discussion. The group was in favor of dredging that would help the fisheries but opposed to dredging to improve navigation.

It was agreed to have a joint meeting with the Aquinnah Board of Selectmen to discuss dredging in November before Thanksgiving.

Commercial Bay Scallops

The Shellfish Advisory Committee will be meeting after November 14th to recommend to the Selectmen whether or not to open Nashaquitsa Pond to dredging for scallops. John Larsen and John Armstrong talked about the possible need to move scallop seed from Quitsa Pond into Menemsha Pond.

Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Parker seconded a motion to open the commercial bay scallop season November 1st in Menemsha Pond, to allow dip net fishing from a boat only in Quitsa Pond and under the usual rules. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Menemsha Pond Biological Survey

Mr. Doty explained how Elizabeth Fairchild (SCORE) was working on a state program to enhance the winter flounder fishery with hatchery fish. He said that responsible fisheries management required a survey of the biology in Menemsha Pond.

Mr. Doty explained how the survey would conduct three types of sampling. 1. Beach Seining in four places. 2. A small otter trawl from a skiff. 3. Benthic cores from four places in the pond. He said the Menemsha Fisheries Fund would pay for the survey if the town approved of the project.

Mr. Jason said that there was a problem with the cormorants eating the small fish. Steve Larsen agreed. Mr. Fenner said that anything that won't interfere with fishing is good to do. Mr. Doty said that it was possible this could be the start of a rebirth of the Tribe's hatchery and 30mm flounder might be released to our waters. Mr. Jason said that we used to see lots of small fry (flounder) during scallop season.

Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Parker seconded a motion to approve proceeding with the survey at no cost to the town. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Personnel

Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Parker seconded a motion to approve the new position description for Administrative Assistant. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Fisheries

Dennis Jason commended the Selectmen for the past three years of trying to help the commercial fishermen.

Executive Session

Mr., Parker moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to go into executive session to discuss land acquisition and to not return to regular session. SO VOTED: Unanimously at 9:08 PM

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

APPROVED: November 20th 2007