

Town of Chilmark
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
April 25, 2005

MODERATOR: Everett H. Poole
TOWN CLERK: Margaret T. Orlando
REGISTRARS: Judie G.L. Mayhew and Carol Merry
CONSTABLE: Daniel Bryant
TELLERS: William Meegan & Robin Smith

At the close of voter registration April 5, 2005 there are Eight Hundred and twenty-nine (829) registered voters in the Town of Chilmark. With One Hundred and sixty-two (162) voters present, the moderator called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. Constable Daniel Bryant attested to the posting of the Warrant. Mr. Poole asked if there were any non- registered persons on the town meeting floor.

ARTICLE 1. The election of officers on the Official Ballot was postponed by the Moderator until the Annual Town Election, at noon Wednesday, April 27, 2005.

ARTICLE 2. Mr. Poole asked for reports from the Town Officers or Committees. Susan Parker introduced the new Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jim Weiss and Chilmark Elementary School Principal, Diane Gandy. Steve Schwab stood to speak about the affordable housing project proposed for the Middle Line Road property. He spoke of the design from South Mountain Company saying that the wooded 21 acres of property was suited for housing and would offer six rental units and six home site houses clustered to allow for open space. The intent was to support a stable and diversified community in Chilmark. The plan would cost \$3.5 million. Funding would encompass some grant monies and C.P.C. funds. Guidelines for a lottery system would soon be put in place to choose from applicants who are eligible. Mr. Schwab urged people to become familiar with the hand outs and plans available for study.

Selectman J.B. Riggs Parker stood to announce that the new Chilmark website was up and running.

Mr. Poole asked if there was anyone else with information to bring forward under Article 2. There were none.

ARTICLE 3. Departmental budgets read by the moderator were moved and seconded. The following items were checked for further discussion:

Selectmen Salaries
Education Expense

Jane Slater asked about the funding for the Coordinator of Administrative

Support. Mr. Parker said the position represented a reorganization of hours from existing employee positions and that they had added three (3) hours for personnel board and the maintenance of the website. Because the Personnel Officer the was rejected at last years Annual Town Meeting the Personnel Board has been working to figured out how to accomplish the necessary tasks with the existing personnel. Mrs. Jardin asked about the tracking of the sick and vacation. Mr. Parker said it will be done and the additional software would not cost more than the original amount voted by Town meeting. Pam Goff asked about the advertising for this expanded position. Mr. Doty said this position does not add a new employee and that it was a sensible proposal.

Education Expenses for the Up Island Regional School

Mrs. Parker stood to amend this line item by \$48,550.00. The amendment was moved and seconded. The amendment came to a vote and passed unanimously.

The budget, as amended came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 4. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 5. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 6. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Judy Jardin asked about these funds. Tom Wilson, Town Accountant, answered that the money was to fund the Up Island Regional Task Group and an error in longevity. Article 6 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 7. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Mr. Carroll amended Article 7 down to \$2,000.00. Mrs. Jardin questioned funding of Health Insurance benefits for part-time employees. Mr. Carroll said yes there were two part-time employees they had chosen to fund. Article 7 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 8. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. The moderator reminded the town meeting that this article would need a 2/3 majority vote to pass. Judy Jardin said now that the Commonwealth would allow the Fire Department fund she thought the idea was a good one but questioned the process. Mr. Doty that the were simply renaming this fund. Passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 9. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Fire Chief, David Norton stood to postpone the article indefinitely. Article 9 came to a vote and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 10. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed unanimously.

- ARTICLE 11. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed.
- ARTICLE 12. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Mrs. Jardin asked about this additional money beyond the \$8300.00 already in the budget. Chief Rich said that the budgeted money was to fund an Island wide computer administrator and this money was to fund replacements and upgrades for existing computers. Passed unanimously.
- ARTICLE 13. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed unanimously.
- ARTICLE 14. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed unanimously.
- ARTICLE 15. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed unanimously.
- ARTICLE 16. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Mr. Carroll amended the article to read FY 2005 and the amount to \$35,852.54. Article 16, as amended, came to a vote and passed unanimously.
- ARTICLE 17. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Barbara Murphy how Article 17 & Article 18 differed. Mr. Fenner said that they felt the original resolution submitted by Kate Warner was too bold. They felt it would entail change in building codes and bylaws. He said that they created a resolution of their own but Ms. Warner did not support it and she went forward with the original. Mr. Doty suggested that the town meeting support the Article 18 version because it was the wording voted by four other towns on the Island. Candy DaRosa asked Town Council about a conflict if we were to pass both articles. Mr. Rappaport said there would be no conflict because both version were non-binding. The article came to a vote. Mr. Poole said it appeared to be carried. Article 17 was carried.
- ARTICLE 18. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Mr. Moderator said the article appeared to be carried. Article 18 was carried.
- ARTICLE 19. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Michael Halbreich said he supported concept but that the wording may have been hasty. Harmony Spongberg stood to amend the article to strike the 1%. Mr. Doty stated that we could not amend the wording because in is on the town election ballot and this wording is in concert with the other island towns. Philip Smith said that the key word here was non-binding and it seemed a waste of time to tweek the wording on a resolution that is not legally binding. The amendment to Article came to a vote and failed. Article 19 came to a vote and carried.

ARTICLE 20. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Lenny Jason spoke in support of this article as said that 1% of the cost was a small price to pay for transportation for our Seniors. Article 20 came to a vote and carried.

ARTICLE 21. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Mr. Poole reminded the meeting that this article needed a 2/3 majority vote. Mr. Doty stated that this was his favorite article because we had capped the landfill using only 2 or 3% of the contingency fund we had set aside. This article was to return these monies to the stabilization fund. Mr. Doty thanked the Board of Health for there work especially Michael Renahan who is chairmen of the board and also served as the Clerk of the Works on the project. He also commended the work of the Refuse District and said it had all been very successful. Mr. Doty stated that he expected the Landfill to reopen June 1st 2005.

ARTICLE 22. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Stan Mercer questioned the money that would be taken from veteran's benefits and Mrs. Jardin questioned taking any money from the Engley House. Mr. Doty said that the Selectmen had been discussing the Engley House in executive sessions of their meeting and was not at liberty to discuss any of this at this time. Mrs. Jardin said she was aware that the town had incurred an eighteen year debt and thought no money previously vote for the Engley House should be redirected until plans were finalized. This represents house cleaning to consolidate these funds that are not being fully used.

ARTICLE 23. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 24. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Mr. Doty stated that this was similar to Article 22 in that these were various balances all dedicated to harbor projects and we are combining them. Passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 25. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 26. Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 27. Mr. Moderator said he was going to separate this article into four separate sections for voting purposes.

Article 27 A - Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed

Article 27 B - Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed unanimously.

Article 27 C - Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Passed.

Article 27 D - Read by the moderator, moved and seconded. Christopher Murphy said he thought it a waste of tax dollars to spend them on the

destruction of weeds to clear someone's view. He said he was concerned about pouring herbicides into the ponds. Rusty Walton said that the agent they were to use was an enzyme that would not affect shellfish or other wildlife. He said that the Phragmites peat was already effecting the wetland. Mr. Walton said that the Chilmark Pond Association would also be contributing to the project. Mary Jane Pease suggested that Mr. Murphy read the literature on this chemical and that she felt it had been widely tested. Wendy Weldon said that the Squibnocket Pond Committee had the same issues and upon investigation she felt that they were not convinced that it would work. Article 27 came to a vote. Mr. Poole said the chair was in doubt and called for a standing count.

Article 27 was defeated:

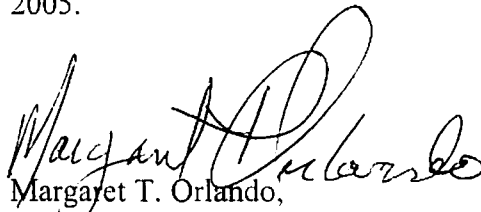
In favor - 50

Opposed - 71

The Moderator asked if there was any other business to come before this meeting. Jeffrey Parker stood to thank the superintendent of streets and all the people who worked so hard to keep the roads clear of snow over this winter. Ian Fein asked about the Cell phone tower. He said he thought it was discussed at the last annual town meeting that there would be a report at this time. Mr. Fenner said the Selectmen were still reviewing a possible resolution on the subject.

At 9:40 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to the Chilmark Community Center at noon on Wednesday, April 27, 2005.

A true copy. Attest:


Margaret T. Orlando,
Town Clerk
April 26, 2005