

MINUTES

SELECT BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, May 3, 2023
Nauset Room, Town Hall

A hybrid meeting of the Town of Orleans Select Board was held in the Nauset Room at Town Hall and via Zoom and Channel 18 at 4.45pm on May 3, 2023.

In attendance in the Nauset Room were Chair Reed, Vice Chair Herman, Mr. Galligan, and Clerk Runyon. Mr. Mathison joined the meeting at approximately 6.10pm. Acting Town Administrator Sumner and Finance Director Doane attended.

4.45 p.m. Call to Order – The Chair called the meeting to order. The meeting moved to executive session to discuss strategy for collective bargaining with the Police Union.

Ms. Reed reconvened the Public Meeting with nothing to report from Executive Session.

Public Comment – Cape and Islands District Attorney Galibois provided an update from his office.

Pre-Town Meeting Review – The Town Moderator, Town Counsel and Town Clerk reviewed the warrant articles with the Town Administrator and Board Members. People who might speak to the details of some articles were reviewed. Articles that may need additional comment or clarification were noted.

Mr. Mathison joined the meeting.

Meet with Town Clerk re: Election Cycle in 2024 (FY25) and Onward. Clerk Kelly Darling told the Board that early voting will start next week, and mail-in voting ballots have already been sent out for the May 2023 election. She explained the mail-in voting process to the Board. She also explained the timing and volume of work involved during a presidential election year and the need for more advance time to prepare for each election event.

Committee Interviews and Appointments.

Cape Cod Commission –

Mr. Herman moved to reappoint Douglas Fromm to the Cape Cod Commission through April 24, 2026. Mr. Galligan seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Recreation Advisory Committee –

The Board interviewed Carolyn Witt for the Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC).

Mr. Mathison moved to appoint Jamie Balliett as a regular member of the RAC for a term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Mr. Galligan moved to appoint Carolyn Witt as a regular member of the RAC with a term ending June 30, 2025. Mr. Herman seconded the motion. Mr. Galligan, Mr. Herman, and Mr. Mathison voted Aye. Mr. Runyon and Ms. Reed voted No. Motion carried: 3-2-0.

Mr. Herman moved to appoint Timm Gould as an associate member to the RAC with a term ending June 30, 2025. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Cultural District Committee –

Mr. Herman moved to appoint Kirsti Pfeiffer as a regular member on the Cultural District Committee with a term ending June 20, 2026. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Safer Community Task Force -

Fran Kelly, Vin Scimeca, James Mackey, Christine Berlane and Robert Jones were interviewed for three vacant positions.

Mr. Herman moved to add an ex officio advisor position to the Safer Community Task Force. Mr. Galligan seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Mr. Herman moved to appoint James Mackey as the ex officio advisor to the Safer Community Task Force. Mr. Galligan seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Mr. Herman moved to appoint to the Safer Communities Task Force Fran Kelly, Christine Berlane and Robert Jones with terms ending September 21, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Runyon. All voted Aye in favor of the motion. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Mr. Herman moved to appoint Mark Mathison to the Safer Communities Task Force with a term ending September 21, 2023. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Vote of Support for Title V Tax Credit Proposal. Mr. Sumner discussed the proposed credit proposal legislation.

Mr. Galligan moved the Select Board send a support letter, signed by the Chair, for the Title V Tax Credit Proposal. Mr. Herman seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Vote to update use of Ambulance Reserves Policy. Ms. Doane reviewed the Ambulance Reserves Policy and recommended an increase from \$135,000 to \$150,000 to keep pace with the increasing costs of ambulances.

Mr. Herman moved to update the Ambulance Reserves Policy to increase it to \$150,000. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted Aye. The motion carried: 5-0-0.

Vote on remaining Warrant Article recommendations for Town Meeting. Mr. Sumner reviewed the articles remaining.

Mr. Galligan moved Article 1 be accepted and adopted and the sum of \$5,952.78 be transferred from Free Cash to pay the following unpaid bills: Highway Dept, Silver Cloud Towing \$150.00; Harbormaster, Baskins Ace Hardware \$23.39; Harbormaster, Baskins Ace Hardware \$29.39; Transfer Station, Green Seal Environmental \$5,750.00. Mr. Herman seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Mr. Galligan moved that Article 11 for the FY2024 Sewer Enterprise Fund and Proposed Fee Schedule be accepted and adopted with the following revisions to the budget: 1) Under Estimated Revenues by revising Retained Earnings from \$455,000 to \$105,000 and 2) Under Operating Expenses by revising Expenses from \$2,314,546 to \$1,964,546. Mr. Herman seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion passed: 5-0-0.

Mr. Galligan moved to accept and adopt revisions to the Town school budget of \$44,512,527. Mr. Herman seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion passed: 5-0-0.

Mr. Galligan moved Article 48 be indefinitely postponed. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Discussion of priorities/goals for the incoming Town Administrator. Mr. Herman discussed plans for the first three months of the new Town Administrator's schedule.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Galligan moved to approve the minutes of Nov 9, 15 and 16, 2023 and the minutes of December 7, 14, and 21, 2023. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Town Administrator's Report – Mr. Sumner updated about the construction timing at Route 28 and Route 39. Snow Library has completed a letter of intent regarding grant applications to the State. An asset assessment study is due shortly about the Orleans Elementary School. The Climate & Energy Action Committee is making some progress on round six for solar charging and vehicles. Mr. Sumner has issued a Statement of Collaboration with Eastham regarding the dredging at Rock Harbor. Mr. Sumner reviewed progress on the Recreation Study at Eldredge Parkway, Orleans Elementary School, and the Middle School. The new Director of Recreation started work on Monday. Ms. Doane said the FAQs have been updated for the new wastewater and sewer systems and include a chart for calculating betterments for the downtown area.

Liaison Reports.

Mr. Galligan advised that the Architectural Review Committee has approved plans for the new Chase Bank design on West Road.

Mr. Galligan noted an awareness of the need to continue funding wastewater and water protection initiatives across Cape Cod.

Snow Library is ready to launch a feasibility study as soon as the Town Meeting finishes.

Mr. Herman noted the herring count is on.

The Veteran's Memorial Committee is preparing for the Town Meeting (Mr. Higgins will present the article regarding refurbishing the Park) and plans are underway for a Memorial Day service.

A Conservation Commission representative met with the Agricultural Committee and the Putnam Farm growers to discuss the future use of the new infrastructure.

Mr. Mathison updated about the Shellfish & Waterways Committees.

Ms. Reed noted the materials produced by Affordable Housing for the upcoming Town Meeting.

The Cultural District is assembling a "vibrant" schedule of activities for Orleans during the upcoming season.

Items for Future Agendas.

Engage with the Board of Health about renter's rights and waste challenges.

Adjourn -

Mr. Galligan moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

The meeting adjourned after 3 hours, 18 minutes.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Fountain*