

**Town of Edgartown
Selectboard
January 17, 2023
4:00 pm**

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date via Zoom Teleconference. Members present were: Margaret E. Serpa, Chairman; Arthur Smadbeck and Michael Donaroma. Also present was the Town Administrator James Hagerty.

At 4:00 pm Ms. Serpa opened the meeting then recognized Mr. Hagerty.

Mr. Hagerty read out the following statement:

As a preliminary matter, this is James Hagerty, Town Administrator. Permit me to confirm that all members and persons anticipated on the agenda are present and can hear me.

- *Members, when I call your name, please respond in the affirmative. State each members' name.*

Ms. Serpa, Mr. Smadbeck and Mr. Donaroma all answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Hagerty then continued:

Good afternoon. This Open Meeting of the Edgartown Selectboard is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the "COVID-19 Virus." In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor's Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely. The Order allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting. Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. This meeting will feature public comment.

For this meeting, the Edgartown Selectboard are convening by via Zoom App as posted on the Town's Website identifying how the public may join for "Zoom" Meetings.

Please note that this meeting is being recorded, and that some attendees are participating by video conference. Accordingly, please be aware that other folks may be able to see you, and that take care not to "screen share" your computer. Anything that you broadcast may be captured by the recording.

Meeting Business Ground Rules:

Before the meeting is opened by the Chair, permit me to cover some ground rules for effective and clear conduct of our business and to ensure accurate meeting minutes.

- o Please remember to mute your phone or computer when you are not speaking;*
- o Please remember to speak clearly and in a way that helps generate accurate minutes*

For Items with Public Comment:

After members have spoken, I will afford public comment as follows:

- *I will first ask members of the public who wish to speak to identify their names and addresses only;*
- *You will then be called upon one at a time to speak.*

Ms. Serpa then addressed the first item on the agenda which was the COA Five Year Plan Committee. The whole committee was present. Chair Ms. Marvene O'Rourke spoke first.

Ms. O'Rourke gave some history of why the committee was created and that their mission is to assess how the Council on Aging is addressing the needs of the Town and making recommendations of how to move forward. They've met monthly to discuss demographics and ways to improve. She turned it over to Ms. Diane Durawa.

Ms. Durawa, who is the retired administrator of the COA, gave a history of the Council on Aging. This included all the buildings they have been in and the acquisition and use of the current building. She then turned it over to current administrator Lyndsay Faramiss.

Ms. Faramiss stated that their greatest challenge is traffic and parking access. The second floor is also not accessible to those less able. Upkeep is also difficult due to the location and age of the building. The challenges are starting to outweigh the benefits of the location.

Ms. O'Rourke stated that the committee has reached the conclusion that moving to a new location may be the best option for the COA. They intend to hold focus groups and report back.

Ms. Serpa thanked them all.

Mr. Hagerty agreed that the current location is tough. There may be some options.

Ms. Serpa then moved to the next item which was a report from the Climate Committee. She recognized Ms. Julia Livingston and Ms. Jennifer Blum.

Ms. Blum then gave a slideshow presentation report of what they've done in their first year, they are working with departments to assess the problems and what is needed to adapt and react to climate change.

Ms. Serpa thanked them for the report.

Mr. Hagerty stated that during their Bond Rating Call the majority of the questions were about how the Town is preparing for Climate Resiliency. It's one of their most important considerations right now. The Chappy Ferry area is in the process of being assessed for what can be done at the ramps for mitigation so it can continue to operate as well as other projects. It is obvious that the occurrences of extreme tides and weather events are increasing. He thanked the Climate Committee for all their hard work so far.

Ms. Serpa then addressed the next item on the agenda which was a Block A Portion of the Road in front of Atlantic for the Harborside to put a dumpster.

Alan deBettencourt, Highway Superintendent, requested that it happen during the time in February that the Wharf Restaurant is closed to reduce the impact on traffic.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve with the condition that the dates fall within the closing of the Wharf Restaurant and be approved by the Highway Superintendent. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

The Board approved the following items:

A Yard Sale for Stone at 26 Dark Woods Rd.

Lodging House Licenses for the Hob Knob Hotel and the Vineyard Square Hotel.

It was voted to approve the replacement of the tree that was removed at 55 N. Water St. with a commensurate size tree as referred to in the letter from the owner.

The Board approved Mr. Hagerty to sign the Rise Energy contract for \$113,000 for the School.

Travel Voucher for the Highway Department.

The Minutes of January 3rd and January 9th.

The Board then approved the weekly bill and payroll minutes.

Mr. Hagerty then gave his weekly update. He asked the Board to consider adding a nip bottle ban to the Town Warrant. The Board liked the idea.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to have the Town Administrator draft a warrant article and let the town decide. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

At 4:35pm Mr. Smadbeck moved to adjourn. Ms. Serpa seconded. The Board did a rollcall vote and all voted Aye. Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Kristy Rose
Administrative Assistant

Margaret E. Serpa, Chairman

Arthur Smadbeck

Michael J. Donaroma
Board of Selectmen