

## SELECT BOARD

Minutes of Meeting of January 6, 2021. The meeting took place via remote participation via Zoom Webinar pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order regarding the Open Meeting Law (attached). Members of the Board present were Dawn Hill Holdgate, Jason Bridges, Matt Fee, Kristie Ferrantella and Melissa Murphy.

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Holdgate called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. She read a prepared statement of how the meeting would be conducted via remote participation and the ground rules for any discussion and called roll for those present.

Chair Holdgate acknowledged the display of civil unrest unraveling at the moment in Washington, DC. Mr. Bridges echoed the Chair's comments, expressed concern at the situation and stated that he hopes the unrest calms down as soon as possible.

### II. SELECT BOARD ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as posted.

### III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Ferrantella announced an upcoming webinar sponsored by the Affordable Housing Trust regarding the Town's Housing Production Plan, scheduled for January 14, 2021.

### IV. COVID-19 WEEKLY UPDATE

1. Public Comment. No public comments were brought forward.

#### 2. Report(s) from Public Health Director and/or Nantucket Cottage Hospital President:

- COVID-19 Case Metrics, Including Massachusetts COVID-19 Community-Level Data Map. Public Health Director Roberto Santamaria reviewed current tests, cases, and hospitalizations, from today and to date. He reviewed trends, noted there is identified household spread and travel-related transmissions. He reviewed other metrics state-wide. He commented that now that there are two testing sites, the lines have been easier to deal with. He also spoke about the status of contact tracing, and current wastewater testing indications with virus concentration. He emphasized the need to, again, flatten the curve. He noted the vaccine is coming, but in the meantime safety protocols must be adhered to. He said that there still may be a spike in cases in the coming days as a result of holiday activities, including travel and then it mostly likely, hopefully, will begin to level off. Mr. Santamaria commented on recent national news attention focused on the Island regarding the number of cases and that in fact, many communities in Massachusetts are having similar situations.

- Vaccine Distribution Plan Update. Mr. Santamaria reviewed preliminary information from the Commonwealth as to the Phases of the state's vaccination plan. He noted that vaccinations are underway currently for the Phase I groups. He also spoke about the tentative schedule for the other Phases. He explained where additional information may be obtained and noted that an automated message line has been set up with voice mail so that people may leave messages if their questions are not answered. Mr. Bridges asked about how or if those in Phase I are contacted. Mr. Santamaria explained the process. Ms. Ferrantella asked about surveys being in other languages. Mr. Santamaria said there is a translation feature on the website. Dr. Howard Dickler commented on distribution of the vaccine throughout the state based on information he found on the state website. Mr. Santamaria said that distribution is based on density of population. Mr. Fee expressed concern that the vaccine should be given more quickly. He said his "hope" is that a way be found to "ramp up" vaccinations on the island. He added he also would like there to be a way to screen people so that more vaccinations could

occur. He added that he has a concern about contact tracing accuracy. Mr. Santamaria explained that vaccine distribution is controlled by the state and noted complications that can arise with contact tracing. Human Services Director Jerico Mele stated that at this point, there are still some unknowns with the vaccine and large-scale vaccination with respect to effectiveness, which is one reason why the vaccine isn't rolled out more quickly. Ms. Murphy commented that this summer is highly unlikely to be "normal" even with the vaccine. She asked about a current variant of the virus which has been detected elsewhere in the country. Mr. Santamaria said it should be assumed that it will make its way to the Island but indications are that the vaccine is effective against it. Nantucket Cottage Hospital President Gary Shaw said that the variant will likely mean more cases and that vigilance with safety protocols needs to continue. Ms. Murphy expressed concern about remote learning for school students continuing and asked if there was more that could be done to get children back into in-person school. She asked about rapid testing of students and what steps could be taken to ensure the safety of students and teachers. Mr. Santamaria said that rapid tests are not entirely accurate, are only good for the moment in which they are taken and that if people want to keep students and teachers safe, they must adhere to the established protocols, such as do not travel, which many people did over the holidays. Mr. Fee said he has a different understanding with rapid testing and said he thinks other places are using it with success, to screen and open up more businesses. He added that he continues to think people coming to the Island should be screened. He acknowledged that is a policy decision of the Select Board and Board of Health. He mentioned a "smell test" that is now available that he thinks should be investigated. Mr. Mele said that there is a balance of security vs reality and noted that confirmatory testing would still need to be done, with these sorts of screening tests. He noted that the ultimate solution is mass vaccination. Mr. Fee asked if a list of residents who receive the vaccine will be established so that the number of residents vaccinated can be tracked. Mr. Santamaria responded affirmatively and gave an overview of the vaccination process. Ms. Ferrantella asked if the second dose would be able to be given on the Island. Mr. Santamaria noted while it may be possible, it is important that the doses be from the same manufacturer and it would be better for people to receive both of their vaccinations in the same place. Mr. Bridges asked if the vaccinations and/or testing can be scheduled. Mr. Santamaria said that vaccinations can be scheduled. Mr. Shaw said that scheduling testing requires resources and staffing for the work flow and those resources are not available. Some discussion followed on this. Mr. Fee asked about the percentage of asymptomatic tests that are positive. Mr. Santamaria said that is information he does not have. Some discussion followed on this. Mr. Fee again stated that Nantucket should request more vaccines and not do as much asymptomatic testing. Mr. Shaw spoke on this and noted that vaccines are available as manufactured and delivered, which is beyond the Town's control. Mr. Mele advocated for continued testing.

- COVID-19 Testing. Mr. Shaw reviewed some graphs showing the 7-day positivity rate, and other demographics as related to Nantucket Cottage Hospital (NCH) care capabilities. He urged people to "double down" on safety measures. He spoke about vaccinations of certain NCH employees and contractors and said nearly 60% of that group has now been vaccinated. He noted that NCH is beginning vaccinations of first responders next week and spoke about vaccinations of the remaining NCH employees. Discussion returned to the Town and NCH efforts to develop a written vaccination plan for the community. Town Manager C. Elizabeth Gibson explained the status of those efforts. She added that the situation is very much evolving at the state and municipal levels. Mr. Shaw concurred. Mr. Mele spoke about outreach to encourage people to take the vaccine.

- COVID-19 Task Force: Weekly Report. Mr. Mele provided an update on the Task Force's activity over the past week. He reviewed inspections, enforcement actions, requests for information and reporting procedures, daily patrols, efforts to maintain and encourage compliance. He commented that what is being observed is

mostly minor mask violations. Mr. Mele also commented on a collective effort with Island non-profits to centralize a single point of contact for assistance with various COVID-related issues, such as food.

- Town Administration Public Outreach Update. Ms. Gibson reviewed a proposed Economic Task Force, as outlined in the attachment introduced and reviewed at the meeting. Ms. Murphy elaborated on the role of the Chamber of Commerce with the Task Force. She emphasized the intent to do advance planning scenarios to help prepare businesses for what might be in place this summer. Ms. Ferrantella concurred. Some discussion followed. Mr. Bridges indicated support. Mr. Fee indicated support and said the most important thing would be to “get this thing under control” with screening. He said the group should review what can be done to “make things better”. Ms. Ferrantella commented that the group could certainly promote safety measures and behavior – for example, ways to reduce or eliminate lines. Mr. Fee said there wasn’t good behavior last summer so there is no reason to believe that will be the case this summer. He said the “key” is to “knock this down and get control”. He added that contact tracing is not good enough to demonstrate exactly where spread is happening. Ms. Murphy said that the Chamber of Commerce has worked on a grant program for business assistance for innovative changes, such as an app for takeout orders and other on-line ordering. Mr. Santamaria took exception to Mr. Fee’s comments about the Town’s lack of preparedness going into last summer. He commented on the Town’s forward-thinking actions. Mr. Fee said he was not trying to be critical and simply was trying to express that we need to determine ways to “do better”, he apologized if his comments came across differently. Mr. Bridges reiterated support for the economic task force as well as the COVID-19 task force. Mr. Shaw noted that hope is on the horizon. Mr. Mele echoed Mr. Shaw’s comments and noted he has received dozens of offers to help. Ms. Murphy reiterated that a major function of the Economic Task Force will be scenario planning. Chair Holdgate noted a public comment from Robert Little of the Nantucket Builder’s Association expressing support for the efforts of Town officials to keep the community safe. Chair Holdgate noted that while she did not necessarily see the need for a specific vote to endorse the Economic Task Force, she indicated a consensus to support and implement it.

- Select Board Comments/Questions. Nothing further.

#### V. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT RELATED TO COVID-19 OR OTHER AGENDA ITEMS.

No public comments were received.

#### VI. NEW BUSINESS.

There was no new business.

#### VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND WARRANTS

1. Approval of Minutes of December 8, 2020 at 2:00 PM; December 16, 2020 at 5:00 PM. Mr. Bridges moved approval; seconded by Ms. Murphy. So voted by roll call vote. Chair Holdgate – Yes; Mr. Bridges – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Ferrantella – Yes; Ms. Murphy – Yes.

2. Approval of Payroll Warrant for December 27, 2020. Mr. Bridges moved approval; seconded by Ms. Murphy. So voted by roll call vote. Chair Holdgate – Yes; Mr. Bridges – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Ferrantella – Yes; Ms. Murphy – Yes.

3. Approval of Treasury Warrants for December 23, 2020; December 30, 2020; January 6, 2021. Mr. Bridges moved approval; seconded by Ms. Murphy. So voted by roll call vote. Chair Holdgate – Yes; Mr. Bridges – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Ferrantella – Yes; Ms. Murphy – Yes.

4. Approval of Pending Contracts for January 6, 2021 - as Set Forth on the Spreadsheet Identified as Exhibit 1, Which Exhibit is Incorporated Herein by Reference. Ms. Ferrantella moved approval; seconded by Mr. Bridges. So voted by roll call vote. Chair Holdgate – Yes; Mr. Bridges – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Ferrantella – Yes; Ms. Murphy – Yes.

#### VIII. CONSENT ITEMS

1. Gift Acceptance: Natural Resources Department: Our Island Home. Ms. Ferrantella moved approval; seconded by Mr. Bridges. So voted by roll call vote. Chair Holdgate – Yes; Mr. Bridges – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Ferrantella – Yes; Ms. Murphy – Yes.

#### IX. PRESENTATIONS

1. Coastal Resilience Coordinator: Update to Nantucket Coastal Resilience Planning Process. Chair Holdgate introduced Mary Longacre, Chair of the Coastal Resiliency Advisory Committee; Trevor Johnson and Jennifer Lachmayr of Arcadis Consulting and Vincent Murphy, the Town's Coastal Resiliency Coordinator. Mr. Murphy provided an overview of Arcadis's initial work on the Town's Coastal Resiliency Plan (CRP) planning process to date. Ms. Lachmayr provided an overview of Arcadis's background. Both Ms. Lachmayr and Mr. Johnson took the Board through a presentation as to the planning process, including goals of the project, interviews with stakeholders and other groups, and a project mission statement. He also reviewed a timeline for the project and noted two public "open houses". Mr. Johnson reviewed prior studies, reports and efforts which have been undertaken by the Town in connection with coastal resiliency issues and elaborated on the community engagement approach including tools and mechanisms they will use. He noted some of the input that has been received so far. Mr. Bruce Mandel asked if the Madaket Conservation Association could be a "primary" vs "secondary" stakeholder. Mr. Johnson said he would speak with Mr. Mandel about this, separately. Ms. Longacre noted that the Coastal Resiliency Advisory Committee meets twice a month and certainly stakeholders can attend those as well and the Committee passes along input to Arcadis. Mr. Tobias Glidden expressed excitement at this process and said he was very pleased with the scope of work. He said the Town is doing "great work" with resiliency efforts and urged the Town to make sure those efforts continue. Chair Holdgate spoke in favor of getting useable tools out of this plan and realistic approaches. Ms. Murphy concurred and added it will be important for the Board to understand what policy issues and decisions need to be made. Mr. Murphy commented on some of the likely outcomes of the plan, including bylaw and policy changes, infrastructure changes and new approaches, as well as public education guidance. He asked the Board if there was anything they did not want from the plan. Mr. Bridges concurred with Chair Holdgate and Ms. Murphy and spoke on development of criteria for various situations to help evaluate situations and make decisions as being a feature he would want the plan to contain. Ms. Murphy said she did not have anything not to include. Mr. Glidden relayed a conversation he had at one point with Reverend Ted Anderson as to "moving the island". Chair Holdgate said she does not want a plan that is so complicated no one will read it or pay attention to it. Mr. Fee, a member of the Committee, commented on the benefits of the process and the need to identify associated costs, which can be used to help prioritize projects and approaches. He said he is pleased with Arcadis's work to date and agrees with the planning process as described. Chair Holdgate thanked the presenters.

#### X. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing Regarding Proposed FY 2022 General Fund Budget. Chair Holdgate opened the hearing. Ms. Gibson provided an overview, noting that the Town Administration budget recommendations were presented to the Board on December 9; were discussed then and on December 16. She said that she and the Director of Municipal Finance attended last night's School Committee meeting to review the budget. She noted that she and a small group of others, including Ms. Ferrantella are meeting tomorrow to review funding options for affordable housing as had been discussed by the Board in December and will be back to the Board with a recommendation on that in the near future. Ms. Brooke Mohr thanked Ms. Gibson for the follow-up on that item.

There being no further public comment, Chair Holdgate closed the public hearing. Mr. Fee moved to progress the budget as recommended, to the Finance Committee, with the understanding that some items may change; seconded by Ms. Ferrantella. So voted by roll call vote. Chair Holdgate – Yes; Mr. Bridges – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Ferrantella – Yes; Ms. Murphy – Yes. Ms. Gibson noted that substantive changes will be brought back to the Board for review.

#### XI. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Review of Revised 2021 Annual Town Meeting and Election Timeline. Ms. Gibson reviewed the proposed timeline and made note of significant changes, including a “new” joint meeting with the Finance Committee, Select Board and possibly the Planning Board following motion adoption by the Finance Committee and Planning Board and prior to Select Board adoption of its warrant article comments. Mr. Fee said that he is pleased as to the additional time for the Board to formulate potential comments and asked that the Board be provided with any documentation used in the development of Planning Board motions. Mr. Bridges commented that Board members can also attend Finance Committee meetings to learn firsthand what goes into the development of the motions. He suggested Board members could take advantage of that and noted that with on-line meetings, it is easier this year. Ms. Ferrantella asked about a post-Annual Town Meeting review. Ms. Gibson noted that will be incorporated into the timeline. Ms. Denice Kronau, Finance Committee (FinCom) Chair reviewed the FinCom approach to citizen articles and spoke on FinCom efforts to improve citizen engagement. Town Clerk Nancy Holmes noted the dates for nomination paper submittals and voter registration deadlines.

#### XII. SELECT BOARD'S REPORTS/COMMENT

1. Continued Review of 2021 Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles. Ms. Gibson briefly reviewed changes since the Board's most recent review as highlighted in the packet material and said that more information will be forthcoming at the Board's January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

2. Committee Reports. Ms. Ferrantella spoke on recent Nantucket Planning & Economic Development Commission and Affordable Housing Trust meetings.

#### XIV. ADJOURNMENT

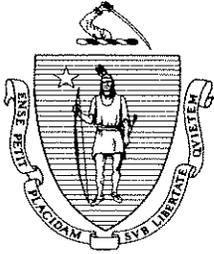
Mr. Fee moved to adjourn at 7:43 pm; Mr. Bridges seconded. So voted by roll call vote. Chair Holdgate – Yes; Mr. Bridges – Yes; Mr. Fee – Yes; Ms. Ferrantella – Yes; Ms. Murphy – Yes.

Approved the 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021.

**SELECT BOARD  
JANUARY 6, 2021 – 5:00 PM  
REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM  
PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR BAKER'S MARCH 12, 2020  
ORDER REGARDING OPEN MEETING LAW  
NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS**

List of documents used at the meeting:

- IV. 2. Covid-19 Update; Proposed Economic Task Force membership/ charge
- VII. 1. Draft minutes of 12/8/2020; 12/16/2020
- VII. 4. Pending contracts spreadsheet
- VIII. 1. Gift summary and recommendation; Natural Resources Dept. gift letter; Our Island Home gift letter
- IX. 1. Coastal Resilience Plan presentation
- X. 1. FY22 General Fund Budget; FY22 Budget Message
- XI. 1. Draft Revised 2021 ATM/ATE Timeline
- XII. 1. Outline # 4 for 2021 ATM Warrant Articles



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**CHARLES D. BAKER**  
GOVERNOR

**KARYN E. POLITO**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW, G. L. c. 30A, § 20**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and

**WHEREAS**, many important functions of State and Local Government are executed by “public bodies,” as that term is defined in G. L. c. 30A, § 18, in meetings that are open to the public, consistent with the requirements of law and sound public policy and in order to ensure active public engagement with, contribution to, and oversight of the functions of government; and

**WHEREAS**, both the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (“DPH”) have advised residents to take extra measures to put distance between themselves and other people to further reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. Additionally, the CDC and DPH have advised high-risk individuals, including people over the age of 60, anyone with underlying health conditions or a weakened immune system, and pregnant women, to avoid large gatherings.

**WHEREAS**, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise authority over public assemblages as necessary to protect the health and safety of persons; and

**WHEREAS**, low-cost telephone, social media, and other internet-based technologies are currently available that will permit the convening of a public body through virtual means and allow real-time public access to the activities of the public body; and

**WHEREAS** section 20 of chapter 30A and implementing regulations issued by the Attorney General currently authorize remote participation by members of a public body, subject to certain limitations;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I hereby order the following:

(1) A public body, as defined in section 18 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, is hereby relieved from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

Adequate, alternative means of public access shall mean measures that provide transparency and permit timely and effective public access to the deliberations of the public body. Such means may include, without limitation, providing public access through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body while those activities are occurring. Where allowance for active, real-time participation by members of the public is a specific requirement of a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, pursuant to which the proceeding is conducted, any alternative means of public access must provide for such participation.

A municipal public body that for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts is unable to provide alternative means of public access that will enable the public to follow the proceedings of the municipal public body as those activities are occurring in real time may instead post on its municipal website a full and complete transcript, recording, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as practicable upon conclusion of the proceedings. This paragraph shall not apply to proceedings that are conducted pursuant to a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, that requires allowance for active participation by members of the public.

A public body must offer its selected alternative means of access to its proceedings without subscription, toll, or similar charge to the public.

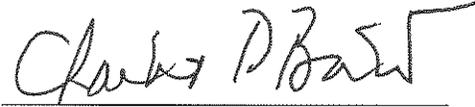
(2) Public bodies are hereby authorized to allow remote participation by all members in any meeting of the public body. The requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at a specified meeting location, as provided in G. L. c. 30A, § 20(d) and in 940 CMR 29.10(4)(b), is hereby suspended.

(3) A public body that elects to conduct its proceedings under the relief provided in sections (1) or (2) above shall ensure that any party entitled or required to appear before it shall be able to do so through remote means, as if the party were a member of the public body and participating remotely as provided in section (2).

(4) All other provisions of sections 18 to 25 of chapter 30A and the Attorney General's implementing regulations shall otherwise remain unchanged and fully applicable to the activities of public bodies.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.

Given in Boston at 6:40 PM this 12th day of  
March, two thousand and twenty.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles D. Baker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts