

**Press Release – Office of the Town Administrator – February 8, 2022**

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, Tisbury Fire Department personnel responded to a fire at 319 Main Street, a single-family residence. Due to the severity of the fire, Chief Leland requested mutual aid from Oak Bluffs, West Tisbury, and Edgartown fire departments. By approximately 3:30 PM the bulk of the fire was put out, but hotspots and reignition were continuing to occur. After reviewing the structural failures of the building with Building Commissioner Ross Seavey, Chief Leland made the determination that so much of the structure was physically compromised that placing personnel on or in the building to extinguish these areas was not safe, and that demolishing the building was the only way to safely access these hotspots and reignition areas. Maciel & Sons, Inc. were then contacted, and they agreed to have two excavators on site to perform demolition activities and arrived in short order. At approximately 5:30 PM, the remaining structure was taken down as fire department personnel continued to soak the debris to extinguish any remaining embers.

While this is a tragedy for the owners and their family, we take solace in the fact that there was no loss of human life for the owners or the responding emergency personnel. We send our heartfelt condolences to the owners for the loss of their dogs that did not make it out of the building.

The Town of Tisbury would like to sincerely thank the staff of the Tisbury Fire Department and EMS for their efforts, Chief Leland and Deputy Chief Rolston for their leadership, Maciel & Sons, Inc. for their assistance, and our mutual aid partners for their quick response and support in Tisbury's time of need. All Town of Tisbury departments stand ready to provide whatever assistance we can to the owners as they deal with this terrible loss.



Ross P. Seavey,

On behalf of John W. Grande, Town Administrator & Select Board Members Jeff Kristal, Larry Gomez,  
& Roy Cutrer