



# ANNUAL REPORT

2023



## TOWN OF TISBURY

TOWN OF TISBURY  
51 SPRING STREET,  
TISBURY, MA, 02568

[WWW.TISBURYMA.GOV](http://WWW.TISBURYMA.GOV) 508-696-4200



# TOWN OF TISBURY

(also known as Vineyard Haven)

Incorporated July 8, 1671

Called "Holmes Hole" 1646 - 1871

POPULATION: 4,715 (2023 CENSUS)

LAND AREA: APPROXIMATELY 7.5 SQUARE MILES

**GOVERNMENT:** Open Town Meeting with three-member Select Board and appointed Town Administrator

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:** First Tuesday in April

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION:** Second Tuesday after Town Meeting

**FY 2024 TAX RATE**

Residential	\$7.98 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation
Commercial	\$7.32 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation

The Select Board voted in 2023 to continue the residential exemption for FY2024, maintaining the level of the residential exemption at 22%, for eligible residents meeting criteria established by the Department of Revenue and the Board of Assessors under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5C. The Select Board also voted not to shift the tax burden to Commercial property and adopted a residential factor of 1, i.e., that there will not be a split tax rate in FY2024 from the Residential on to the Commercial property. The Select Board has voted a Residential Exemption since 1988.

**ASSESSMENTS:** FY 2023 ASSESSED VALUATIONS

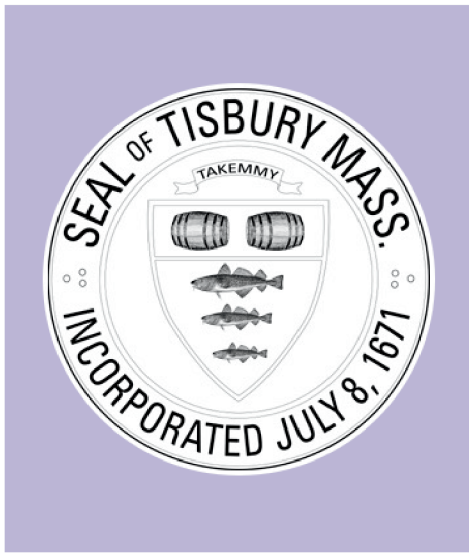
Residential Property:	\$4,290,956,678
Open Space:	-0-
Commercial Property:	\$317,824,206
Industrial Property:	\$7,474,100
Personal Property:	\$84,890,119
Exempt Property:	\$293,818,579

**TOTAL ASSESSED VALUATIONS:** \$4,910,073,611

**CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** Cover Photo courtesy of Michael R. Blanchard

Cover photo was taken by the Island photographer Michael R. Blanchard, who is known for his inspirational photography. Alabama sails on a summer evening of August 2021.

**PREPARATION, PROOFING AND ORGANIZATION:** Elena De Foe



ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF THE

# TOWN OF TISBURY

FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31, 2023

INCLUDED WITHIN IS THE  
ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT

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Sign up to receive email notifications when news, agendas, minutes, and other information are posted on the Town’s Website.

## IN MEMORIAM

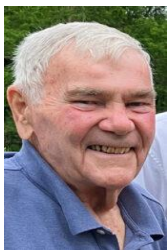
*Let the residents of Tisbury pause and reflect for a moment for those who served the Town.*

*John Henry “Jack” Rollins* passed away on August 21, 2023, at the Henrietta Brewer House in Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts. He was 86 years old. He found satisfaction in volunteering for several Island organizations, including the Martha’s Vineyard Hospital, Elder Services, and the Martha’s Vineyard Cancer Support Group. He served on the Town of Tisbury Personnel Board for several years overseeing the completion of a comprehensive update of the Town’s personnel policies.



*James (Jim) Howard Lobdell* had been a member of the faculty for more than 30 years at the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School until he retired to spend more time on maritime projects. In addition to the almost-endless examples of a life well lived, Jim leaves an enduring respect and devoted commitment to the public good at many different levels. He exemplified the highest integrity in ethics and moral qualities. He served the town of Tisbury for many years as chair of the harbor management committee, a member of the Select Board, Lake Tashmoo management, commissioner for the Martha’s Vineyard Commission and Dukes County Commission — none an easy task. Flags in Tisbury were at half-staff as a mark of the high esteem in which Jim was held for his public service.

*Edward S. (Ned) Sternick* of Vineyard Haven died on November 30, 2023. He was 84. Ned was highly educated, receiving his Bachelor of Science from Tufts University in 1960, a Master of Arts from Boston College in 1963, a PhD from the University of California Los Angeles in 1968 and a Master of Business Administration from Northeastern University in 1985. Outside of work, Ned’s passions included collecting stamps and first day covers and serving as a docent at the Martha’s Vineyard Museum. He was on the Council on Aging Board for the Town of Tisbury.



*Herbert Frederick Custer Jr.* was born April 3, 1933, in Hartford, Conn. During the Korean War, he joined the U.S. Coast Guard, serving from 1952–56, when he received an honorable discharge as boatswain’s mate 2nd class. Herb began working at the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School, teaching math, and coordinating the work-study program. Herb then worked as the director of vocational education and assistant principal at MVRHS, securing federal grant funding for the development of five vocational programs. From 1991 to 1995, Herb served as the superintendent of schools for the Martha’s Vineyard Public Schools. Herb believed in public service, and he spent 19 years on the Tisbury planning board, 10 years on the Tisbury shellfish advisory committee, 9 years on the Tisbury board of health, and 5 years as Land Bank commissioner.





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## SELECT BOARD

Calendar year 2023 was a year of remarkable accomplishments.

The Select Board, through two successive town meetings and ballot vote, gathered overwhelming support for the Tisbury School Renovation and Addition project moving it forward to construction in 2023. The single largest capital building project the Town has ever undertaken. The challenges and accomplishments were many along the way as detailed below.

The Tisbury School project ran into significant cost escalation as the actual bids came in. W.T. Rich provided the Town with alternative construction scenarios to contain the cost increases. The cost escalation due to COVID and inflation was exacerbated due to our island location. After ten years of effort to finalize the scope and cost estimates for the project and the likelihood that the construction costs would only continue to climb, the Select Board found the town too heavily invested in the current project. Further, the school is the focal point of any successful community. Education is valued as an investment in the future. The school is a municipal facility and utilized by the entire community. Of all the town services Tisbury provides, education provides the single biggest value-added municipal investment that impacts on the town's economic vitality, quality of life, measures the community's value of education. Communities with excellent school facilities and learning attract wealth and are the most desirable communities to live in. Tisbury has always valued education, our students, and dedicated educators. Therefore, the decision was made by the Select Board to request a review by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue for increasing the debt exclusion in the amount of twenty-six million dollars. This was subsequently approved by the state. The Select Board held a special town meeting at which time Town Meeting approved the additional amount to borrow.

Preceding the actual main project, the interim school facility, utilities, and site preparation were completed. Prior to the renovation and addition to the school, the students and faculty took occupancy of the interim school facility. The construction team concurrently mobilized utilizing 55 West William Street to establish an area to provide logistical support for the project. It was also gratifying to see the use of 55 West William Street for this purpose, which was purchased in 2018 for the future town hall or other municipal purposes. Following the official groundbreaking, the school renovation and addition project and construction then began in earnest Winter 2023. The project remains on track and on budget. The expected re-occupancy of the school is in the last quarter of calendar year 2024.

The Select Board in the sphere of economic development was an early advocate and supporter of the Vineyard Wind project. The Select Board found the project to foster the following benefits: create a centralized control facility that has the unique ability to provide operational and maintenance services for offshore wind farms; reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by supporting and providing critical services required to support offshore wind farms; economic growth and job creation in Tisbury and the wider Martha's Vineyard community; maintain and improve marine infrastructure for critical island services; and enhanced public access to the shoreline while maintaining the working waterfront. The Select Board also viewed this investment in our town's marine industrial facilities as a way of maintaining Tisbury's working waterfront.



The Select Board worked diligently with all the owners keeping the project on track, ensuring that this multi-million-dollar investment was made in Tisbury. The infrastructure for the logistical support facilities for the offshore wind facility is nearing completion at the Marine Terminal and 61 Beach Street. Concurrently back on May 16, 2023, construction began on the largest offshore wind facility in the country. Sixty-two turbines total, which as of this writing are already producing wind generated clean energy. Soon ninety employees will occupy and work on both land and offshore facilities to provide operation and maintenance support services.

The Select Board continued to support island-wide affordable housing efforts that are needed on the island and within the Town of Tisbury in their capacity as Trustees of the Tisbury Affordable Housing Trust. The primary effort this calendar year was to reinvigorate and support the Affordable Housing Committee and support the special legislation to establish a Martha's Vineyard Housing Bank.

The Select Board continued to hold quarterly meetings of the Town Cabinet. The Town Cabinet was created by adoption of a Town meeting article in 1998 to foster improved communication between Town Departments. The cabinet consists of the chairperson of each of the following Boards: The Board of Selectmen, the Board of Health, the Finance and Advisory Committee, the Planning Board, The School Committee, The Town Clerk, Board of Assessors, The Water Commissioners, and the Library Trustees. In addition, the Town Administrator and the Finance Director attend as non-voting, Ex Officio members. The Cabinet met in advance of budget preparations and town meetings providing a forum for greater coordination between elected officials.

Following the special election of January 2023 Abbe Burt was elected to the Select Board to fill the vacancy of Select Board Member Larry Gomez. The Select Board reorganized officers electing Roy Cutrer Chair, John Cahill Vice-Chair, and Abbe Burt Clerk. At the Annual Town Elections in April 2023, Christina Colarusso was elected to the Select Board, and the Select Board elected Christina Colarusso Clerk. The Select Board continued their practice of meeting with key appointed and elected boards, commissions, and committees to identify joint priorities and to coordinate efforts. This collaboration continues to lead to many positive results for the Town.

The Select Board wishes to express a special thanks to our professionals who lead the Town departments, their capable and loyal staff who serve the public with courtesy and professionalism and work together harmoniously to make Tisbury an outstanding place to work and live. All of you, through your perseverance and mutual support of each other perform to the highest level of customer service and professionalism and we thank you.

All of you make holding the office of Select Board an unequaled privilege and honor. Working together has helped us to successfully navigate through the many challenges in the past year. We look forward to more achievements and success in Calendar Year 2024.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tisbury Select Board  
Roy Cutrer, Chair  
John Cahill, Vice-Chair  
Christina Colarusso, Clerk

# ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

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	Term Expires
<b>Moderator</b>	
Deborah Medders	2023
Donald Rose	2026
<b>Select Board</b>	
Larry Gomez	2023
Abbe Burt	2023
Roy Cutrer	2024
John Cahill	2025
Christina Colarusso	2026
<b>Assessors</b>	
David Dandridge	2025
Fala Freeman	2024
James Norton	2026
<b>Town Clerk</b>	
J. Hillary Conklin	2026
<b>Board of Health</b>	
Jeffrey C. Pratt	2026
Malcolm Rich Boyd	2024
Michael D. Loberg	2025
<b>School Committee</b>	
Amy B. Houghton	2024
Michael Watts	2025
Jennifer Cutrer	2026
<b>Water Commissioners</b>	
David J. Schwab	2026
Roland M. Miller	2024
Elmer H. Silva, Jr.	2025
<b>Planning Board</b>	
Elaine T. Miller	2026
Benjamin Robinson	2028
Cheryl Doble	2024
Constance Alexander	2025
Paul Munafo	2023
Casey Hayward	2027
Lori Kseiniewiez	2028
<b>Library Trustees</b>	
Carolyn Henderson	2024
Janet Hafler	2024



Pamela S. Street	2024
Myra Stark	2025
Archibald Alexander Smith	2025
Dennis Gene Agin	2023
Elizabeth Bates	2025
Virginia Crisman	2026
Christine Burke	2026
Jean Lewellyn	2026

**Constables**

Mark Campos	2024
Kenneth A. Barwick	2026
Michael Ciancio	2025

**Finance & Advisory Committee**

Jynell Kristal	2023
Mary Ellen Larsen	2023
Sarah York	2023
Nancy B. Gilfoy	2024
Allan Rogers	2024
Dan Seidman	2024
Rachel Orr	2025
Louise Clough	2025
John Oliver	2023
Ruth Konigsberg	2026
Louis Pashman	2026
John Alexander Meleney	2026

**Fish Committee  
(Elected at Town Meeting)**

Janet Messineo	2024
James T. Tilton	2024
John M. Wilbur, III	2024

**Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission  
Term Expires at Annual Town Election**

Nancy Weaver	2026
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**Martha's Vineyard Commission  
Terms Expire December 31**

Clarence A. Barnes, III	2024
Ben Robinson	2024

# APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS

Appointments Made by Select Board

July 1- June 30

**Town Administrator**

John W. Grande 03.12.2025

**Chief Procurement Officer**

John W. Grande 03.12.2025

**Information Technology Administrator**

Heidi Rydzewski Indefinite

**Director of Municipal Finance**

Jonathan V. Snyder 2026

**DPW Director**

Kirk Metell 2026

**Police Chief**

Chris Habekost 2025

**Treasurer & Tax Collector**

Jonathan V. Snyder 2026

**Assistant Treasurer & Tax Collector**

Kimberly J. Serpa 2024

**Principle Assessor**

Ann Marie Cywinski Indefinite

**Town Accountant**

Suzanne E. Kennedy 2026

**Building Commissioner  
& Zoning Inspector**

Greg Monka 2026

**Local Inspector**

Justin Lucas 2023

**Fence Viewer**

Greg Monka 2024

**Tree Warden**

Kirk Metell 2024

**Town Counsel**

Kopelman & Paige, P.C.

**Harbormaster**

John S. Crocker 2024

Kim Elias, Assistant 2024

**Animal Control Officer**

Heather Maciel 2024

**Animal Inspector**

Catie Blake 4.30.2023

Heather Maciel 4.30.2024

**Cape Light Compact**

Russel Hartenstein 2024

**Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative**

William Straw 2024

**Emergency Management**

Patrick Rolston, Director 2024

Samantha Gitchier, Assistant 2024

**Shellfish Constable**

Danielle Ewart 2024

Fred Benson, Deputy 2024

Aidan Morrison, Assistant 2024

Nelson Sigelman, Assistant 2024

**Elections Warden**

Mary Ellen Larsen 2024

Allan Rogers, Assistant 2024

**Municipal Census Supervisor**

J. Hillary Conklin 2024

**Gas Inspector**

Maicon Patricio 2024

Michael Ciancio 2024

**Plumbing Inspector**

Michael Ciancio 2024

**Wiring Inspector**

Raymond Gosselin 2024

J. Simon Warren, Assistant 2024

Robert Perry 2024

**Veterans Agent and Veterans Burial Officer**

Jo Ann Murphy Indefinite

**Veterans Grave Officer**

Randy Dull 2024

**Board of Registrars**

J. Hillary Conklin 2026

Catherine M. Mayhew 2026

Elizabeth M. Call 2024

**Beautification Committee**

Jynell Kristal 2024

Dawn Braasch 2024

Caroline Gagliardi 2024

**Center For Living**

Christine Burke 2024

**Council on Aging**

Edward Sternick 2023

Sandra Johnson-Pratt 2025

Eleanor Morad 2025

Donald Rose 2023

Kenneth R. Gross 2023

Constance Teixeira 2024

Marry Ellen Larsen 2025

Tristan Israel 2025

**Community Preservation Committee**

Cheryl S. Doble 2024

John Best 2024

Abbe Burt 2023

Clarence Barnes 2026

John Bacheller 2024

Victor Capoccia 2025

Paul Munafo 2024

David Ferraguzzi 2025

Carolyn Wallis 2024

**Conservation Commission**

Thomas M. Robinson 2024

Caroline Little 2024

John D. Best 2024

Lilian Robinson 2024

Amelia Hambrecht 2024

Sandra Demel 2024

Nancy Weaver 2024

**Dukes County Advisory Board**

John Cahill 2024

**Dukes County Pooled OPEB Trust**

Jonathan V. Snyder 2024

**Dukes County Regional Housing Authority**

Daniel Jay Seidman 12.31.2024

**Embarkation Advisory Committee**

Peter Goodale 2023

Jynell Kristal 2023

Allen Rogers 2024

Roy Cutrer 2024

Jonathan V. Snyder 2024

Mathew Hobart 2024

**Climate Committee**

William Straw 2024

Melinda Loberg 2024

Keith McGuire 2024

Kate Shands 2024

Louise Clough 2024

Bruce Stuart 2024

Rachel Orr 2024

Dan Phelan 2024

Holly Stephenson 2024

Anna Edey 2023

**Affordable Housing Committee**

Abbe Burt 2023

John W. Grande 2023

Daniel Jay Seidman 2024

Jean Hay 2024

Lesley Segal 2023

Caitlin Burbidge 2024

Henry Neider 2024

Victor Capoccia 2024

**Housing Trust**

Daniel Seidman 2024

Victor Capoccia 2024

Anne McDonough 2024

John Cahill 2024

Roy Cutrer 2024

Christina Colarusso 2024

**Land Bank Advisory Board**

Lillian Robinson	2024
Henry Neider	2024
Gerard Hokanson	2024
Elaine Miller	2024
David Dandridge	2024
David J. Schwab	2024
Malcolm Boyd	2024

**Martha's Vineyard Cultural Council**

Julia Kidd	2025
Suzanne Rosenberg	2023
David Forbes	2025

**Martha's Vineyard Commission**

Greg Martino	12.31.22023
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**Martha's Vineyard Community****Television Board of Directors**

Robert Tankard	2024
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**Martha's Vineyard Regional Transit Authority**

Elaine Miller	2024
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**Master Plan Steering Committee**

Dan Doyle	2024
Lindsay Famariss	2024
Elissa Turnbull	2024
Mary Ellen Larsen	2024
Melinda Loberg	2024
Nikeya Tankard	2024
Rick Homans	2024
Sean Roach	2024
Susannah Bristol	2024
Prescilla Vilaca	2024
Phil Hale	2024
Cheryl Doble	2024

**Open Space and Recreation Committee**

Cheryl Doble	2024
Gerard Hokanson	2024
Henry Stephenson	2024
Carolyn Wallis	2024
James Burrows	2024

**Parking Clerk**

Beth Kaeka	2024
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**Personnel Board**

John Schilling	2026
Marilyn Wortman	2026
James Rogers	2026
Christine Redfield	2023

**RECC Finance Advisory Board**

Jonathan Snyder	2024
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**RECC Public Safety Advisory Board**

Greg Leland	2024
Chris Habekost	2024

**Sewer Advisory Board**

Jeff Pratt	2024
Dan Seidman	2024
John Best	2024
Tomar Waldman	2024
Chris Scott (Rate payer)	2024
Constance Alexander	2024

**Spring Building Management Committee**

Harriet Barrow	2024
Patricia Carlet	2024
Lorraine Wells	2024

**Steamship Authority Port Council**

John Cahill	12.31.2025
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**Town Cabinet**

Archibald Smith	2024
J. Hillary Conklin	2024
John W. Grande	2024
Roy Cutrer	2024
Nancy Gilfoy	2024
Malcolm Boyd	2024
Amy Houghton	2024
David J. Schwab	2024
Ben Robinson	2024
Jonathan V. Snyder	2024
Jamie Norton	2024

**Town Hall Consolidated Task Group**

John Schilling	2023
John Best	2023



Rick Homans 2023  
 Amy Houghton 2023  
 Jynell Kristal 2023

**Town Picnic Committee**

Harriet Barrow 2024  
 Patricia Carlet 2024  
 Danielle Ewart 2024  
 Aase M. Jones 2024  
 Jonathan V. Snyder 2024  
 Lorraine Wells 2024

**Vineyard Healthcare Access**

Alan Hirshberg 2024

**Waterways Committee Now Natural Resources Advisory Committee**

Jeff Canha 2023  
 Greg Martino 2024  
 Roger Moffat 2024  
 Thomas Robinson 2024  
 Matthew Hobart 2024  
 Michael Baptiste 2024  
 David Reed 2024  
 John Packer, Alternate 1 2024  
 Lynne Fraker, Alternate 2 2024  
 Paul Manafo 2023

**Water Resources Committee**

Michael Loberg 2024  
 John Best 2024  
 Nancy Gilfoy 2024

Ben Robinson 2024  
 Gerard Hokanson 2024  
 Chris Scott 2024  
 Sherri Caseau 2024

**William Street Historic District Commission and Tisbury Historical Commission**

Craig Whitaker 2023  
 John Bacheller 2024  
 Judith E. Federowicz 2024  
 Dana L. Hodsdon, 2024  
 Harold W. Chapdelaine 2024  
 Paul Lazes 2024  
 Polly Simpkins 2024  
 Christine Redfield 2024  
 Bowdoin Van Riper 2024  
 Leo Christian 2024

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Neal Stiller 2026  
 Jeffrey C. Kristal 2027  
 Anthony Holand 2024  
 Michael Ciancio 2026  
 Akeyah Lucas 2025  
 Frank Piccione, Alternate 2024  
 Brandon Smith, Alternate 2024  
 Rick Homans 2024  
 Lesley Segal 2023

**Police Department**

Chris Habekost Police Chief  
 William Brigham Lieutenant  
 Max Sherman Sergeant  
 Andrew Silvia Sergeant  
 Edward St. Pierre Sergeant  
 Charles Duquette Patrolman  
 Scott J. Ogden Patrolman  
 Peter Sidoti Patrolman

Phillip Hollinger Patrolman  
 Cory Mederios Patrolman  
 Pierce Harrer Patrolman  
 Jonathan Goeckel Patrolman  
 Forrest Filler Patrolman  
 Julia Levesque Patrolman  
 Jameson Rose Patrolman

**Traffic Officers**

Christina Whitney Traffic Officer  
 Carla Gomes Traffic Officer

Dwayne Koohy 2024

**Special Traffic Officers**

Joseph Maccaferri 2024  
Aidan O'Mara 2024  
Matteus Prata 2024  
Christian Turner 2024  
Shantavia Whyllly 2024  
TJ Lett 2024  
Luke Coelho 2024  
Yanique Samuels 2024  
Joseph Gomes 2024

**Crossing Guards**

Christina Whitney 2024  
Stephen Nichols 2024  
Cheryl Pinkham 2024  
Rita Reynolds 2024

**Fire Department**

Gregory Leland, Fire Chief and Forest Fire Warden 2024  
Patrick Rolston, Deputy Fire Chief 2026

**Fire Captains**

Glenn Pinkham Gary Sylvia James Rolston

**Fire Lieutenants**

Jakob Levett Jason Robinson Darren Welch  
Patrick Murphy Justin Lucas

**Chaplain**

Stephen Harding

**Engine #1 (Haz-Mat Team)  
2007 Pumper**

James Rolston, Captain Derek Nagengast, Firefighter  
Justin Lucas, Lieutenant Jessica Von Mehren, Firefighter  
Julius Middleton, Firefighter Jan Hulka, Firefighter  
Sheldon Ebanks, Firefighter

**Engine #2 (Rescue Squad)  
2018 Pumper; 1990 Rescue Pumper**

Glenn Pinkham, Captain Julia Levesque, Firefighter  
Jason Robinson, Lieutenant George R. Medeiros, Firefighter  
Daniel Martino, Firefighter Patrick Souza, Firefighter  
James Cleary, Firefighter Greg Martino, Firefighter  
Jason Davey, Firefighter William McGourty, Firefighter

**Engine #3 (Legion Pumper)  
1997 Pumper**

Gary Sylvia, Captain Morgan Reitzas, Firefighter  
Jakob Levett, Lieutenant William Ledden, Firefighter  
Darren S. Welch, Lieutenant Michael G. Silvia, Firefighter  
Troy Maciel, Firefighter James Stinemire, Firefighter

Michael Wilson, Firefighter

Michael Araujo, Firefighter

**Ladder Truck (Bronto)  
2006 RLP**

Ryan Welty, Lieutenant  
Patrick Murphy, Lieutenant  
Cortland Cammann, Firefighter

Louis D'Agostino, Firefighter  
Joshua Robertson, Firefighter  
Yuliya Bilzerian, Firefighter

**Technical Rescue Team**

Patrick Rolston

Justin Lucas

James Stinemire

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# TOWN CLERK

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## ELECTED OFFICIALS U.S. CONGRESS

Elizabeth Warren, US Senator

### Washington Office

309 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510

Phone: 202 224-4543 [www.warren.senate.gov/](http://www.warren.senate.gov/)

### Boston Office

2400 JFK Federal Building, 15 New Sudbury Street, Boston, MA 02203 617-565-3170

Edward J. Markey, US Senator

### Washington Office

255 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510 Phone: 202 224-2742

### Boston Office

975 JFK Federal Building, 15 New Sudbury Street, Boston, MA 02203 617-565-8519

William R. Keating, U.S. Congressman - 9th Congressional District

### Washington Office

2351 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515

Phone: 202-225-3111 <https://keating.house.gov>

### Barnstable Office

259 Stevens St. Suite E, Hyannis, MA 02601

Phone: 508-771-6868 Fax: 508-790-1959

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

**Governor Maura Healy**

**&**

**Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll**

Massachusetts State House, 24 Beacon St.  
Office of the Governor, Room 280, Boston, MA 02133  
Phone: 617 725-4005 888 870-7770 (in state)  
Fax: 617 727-9725 TTY: 617727-3666

### **Washington Office**

444 N. Capitol Street, Suite 315, Washington, D.C. 20001 Phone: 202-624-3616

**Attorney General Andrea J. Campbell**

Office of the Attorney General  
One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02108-1518  
Main Phone: 617-727-2200 TTY: 617 727-4765  
Email: [ago@state.ma.us](mailto:ago@state.ma.us)

**Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin**

One Ashburton Place, Room 1611, Boston, MA 02108  
1-800-392-6090 (in state only) 617-727-7030 TTY: 617 878-3889  
Email: [cis@sec.state.ma.us](mailto:cis@sec.state.ma.us)

**Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg**

Office of the Treasurer  
One Ashburton Place, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02133 Phone: 617-367-6900

**Auditor Diana Dizoglio**

Auditor of the Commonwealth  
State House Room 230, Boston, MA 02133  
Phone: 617-727-2075 Email: [auditor@sao.state.ma.us](mailto:auditor@sao.state.ma.us)

**State Senator Julian Cyr - Cape & Islands District**

Room 111 State House, 24 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02133  
Phone: 617-722-1570 Hyannis Office Phone: 508-775-0162  
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**State Representative Dylan Fernandes - Barnstable, Dukes & Nantucket District**  
 Room 167 State House, 24 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02133  
 Phone: 617-722-2230 email: [Dylan.Fernandes@mahouse.gov](mailto:Dylan.Fernandes@mahouse.gov)

**District Attorney Robert J. Galibois - Cape & Islands**  
 PO Box 455, 3231 Main Street, Barnstable, MA 02630 Phone: 508-362-8113

**BIRTHS REGISTERED**

BIRTHS	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	40	42	53	44	46	40	37

**DOG LICENSES ISSUED**

Type	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Male/Female	93	101	104	140	115	99	70
Neutered/ Spayed	585	594	577	634	685	675	594
Totals	678	695	681	774	800	774	664
Kennel	0	1	1	0	0	0	0



## POLLING LOCATION

FOR ALL ELECTION DAY AND EARLY VOTING

EMERGENCY SERVICES FACILITY  
215 Spring Street  
Lower level entry, follow driveway downhill

Local Tisbury Elections 12:00pm to 8:00pm  
State or Federal, Primary or Elections 7:00am to 8:00pm

## ANNUAL AND SPECIAL TOWN MEETINGS

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
100 Edgartown Vineyard Haven Road, Oak Bluffs, MA

## VOTERS

As of December 31, 2023

VOTERS	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Democratic (D)	1259	1319	1349	1329	1338	1283	1280
Republican (R)	191	210	219	229	262	265	276
Unenrolled (U)	2208	2163	2109	1924	1932	1901	1932
Green-Rainbow (J)	3	3	3	2	3	3	14
United Independent (I)	0	2	3	5	9	11	14
Libertarian (L)	7	5	3	3	6	5	5
Totals	3668	3702	3689	3471	3493	3447	3440

## MARRIAGES RECORDED IN TISBURY 2023

DATE OF MARRIAGE	NAMES	DATE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE
February 10, 2023	BIANCA MARCIANO de SOUZA	August 10, 2001	West Tisbury, MA
	JHOLLIMAT TONINI de FREITAS, Jr.	September 6, 1998	West Tisbury, MA
February 14, 2023	KATHERINE HAZEL VINCENT	January 26, 1982	Tisbury, MA
	JESSE ALEXANDER THAYER	April 18, 1987	Tisbury, MA
February 14, 2023	KARL W. FREY	March 9, 1961	Tisbury, MA
	PATRICIA JEANNE CULLEN	June 30, 1961	Tisbury, MA
March 11, 2023	JOHN DONALD DAWSON	June 16, 1956	Tisbury, MA
	KATHLEEN MARIE DAWSON	July 4, 1966	Tisbury, MA
March 19, 2023	TSANKO HRISTOV GEORGIEV	December 19, 1998	Tisbury, MA
	KATHERINE MIRIAM PACITTO	January 29, 1995	Tisbury, MA
April 8, 2023	EDGAR MARGQUES RAMOS	May 16, 1975	Oak Bluffs, MA
	EDNA SUELY RODRIGUES LOPES	February 6, 1972	Oak Bluffs, MA
April 15, 2023	ANA PAULA BOARATO STRELOW	December 3, 1993	Tisbury, MA
	LEONE FERREIRA de OLIVEIRA	April 5, 1986	Tisbury, MA
May 20, 2023	CHRISTIAN SALTONSTALL BLANKENSHIP	January 13, 1968	Captain Cook, HI
	LEZLIE DILLARD LAMBETH	March 27, 1965	Captain Cook, HI
May 23, 2023	ANTONIO SILVA	November 5, 1980	Tisbury, MA
	ROSIMERY MARTINS	May 7, 1984	Tisbury, MA
May 26, 2023	AMANDA CARLA Da SILVA	August 17, 1994	Tisbury, MA
	LAERTE B. VENTURA	April 3, 1978	Tisbury, MA
June 3, 2023	ANDREW MAXTON ROCKLAGE	October 2, 1986	Jupiter, FL
	REBECCA DALLAIRE TRAVERSE	August 21, 1989	Jupiter, FL
June 6, 2023	PATRICK A. PHELAN	September 26, 1946	Tisbury, MA
	SUZANNE T. TONRY	September 28, 1947	Tisbury, MA
June 10, 2023	NICHOLE JEAN WELTY	September 23, 1986	Tisbury, MA
	JARED STEPHEN NICOLAN	November 21, 1989	Tisbury, MA
June 18, 2023	MARIA VANIKOVA	December 29, 1994	Oak Bluffs, MA
	JAN HULKA	January 17, 1979	Oak Bluffs, MA

DATE OF MARRIAGE	NAMES	DATE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE
June 24, 2023	JOHN PATRICK GRAVES	February 5, 1981	Morristown, NJ
	SABRINA MICHELLE ANDREWS	June 26, 1986	Morristown, NJ
June 25, 2023	NILZETE N. SOUZA MILLER	February 1, 1979	Tisbury, MA
	SAMANTHA L. BURNS	March 7, 1974	Tisbury, MA
July 12, 2023	JUSTIN MICHAEL STENIUS	April 7, 1979	Tisbury, MA
	SILVANA SILVERO	May 24, 1984	Tisbury, MA
July 12, 2023	JARBAS AGUIAR PEREIRA	July 12, 1987	Oak Bluffs, MA
	RUAN VICTOR dos SANTOS FONTES	October 19, 1989	Oak Bluffs, MA
July 22, 2023	SCARLET LOUISA BLAIR	June 20, 1981	Edgartown, MA
	PRIMO ANTHONY LOMBARDI	July 24, 1974	Tisbury, MA
July 28, 2023	JOSE CARLOS ROBERTO MARTINS	December 13, 1966	Oak Bluffs, MA
	ELZA FRANCISCO NETO	May 12, 1958	Tisbury, MA
August 5, 2023	KERRY BLANCHARD	August 21, 1973	Sturbridge, MA
	ADAMO LAURETI	October 25, 1980	Sturbridge, MA
September 5, 2023	NORAH ANNE MESSIER	January 28, 1984	Tisbury, MA
	BOWDOIN VAN RIPER	March 17, 1963	Tisbury, MA
September 6, 2023	BRIANCA NATASSIA BARROWES	November 21, 2000	Tisbury, MA
	CARLOS JUSTO LOPEZ	March 13, 1990	Tisbury, MA
September 9, 2023	QUINN NATHANAEL RASK	June 28, 1990	Washington, DC
	ALEXANDRA BERNICE HALL	August 3, 1993	Washington, DC
September 14, 2023	NORMAN E. BERSING	September 22, 1958	Old Lyme, CT
	PAULA JEANNE GLENN	September 6, 1959	Old Lyne, CT
September 16, 2023	MORGAN LEE BEAUSOLEIL	February 21, 1986	Tisbury, MA
	JOSEPH ALPHONSE UVA III	August 8, 1995	Tisbury, MA
September 16, 2023	JENNA ROSE LAMBERT	January 14, 1993	Tisbury, MA
	ZACHARY BRADFORD SYLVIA	November 10, 1988	Tisbury, MA
September 22, 2023	NICOLE ELIZABETH ORLANDO	June 15, 1992	Tisbury, MA
	ALVARO SOLDANI GONDIM de FREITAS	October 17, 1997	Tisbury, MA
September 23, 2023	ALEZANDER THOMAS BILZERIAN	December 6, 1992	Tisbury, MA
	DEBORA VENTURA MIRANDA	March 12, 1994	Tisbury, MA

DATE OF MARRIAGE	NAMES	DATE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE
September 30, 2023	BRITTNEY MARIE GIAMMANCO	November 20, 1991	Carmel, CA
	RYAN JORDEN MELCHER	May 21, 1983	Carmel, CA
September 30, 2023	SEAN PAUL MAHONEY	December 26, 1989	Oak Bluffs, MA
	THERESA BRIANNA DIMATTIA	September 24, 1990	Edgartown, MA
September 30, 2023	IGOR TOLKACH	September 7, 1988	Jersey City, NJ
	ALEXANDRA CAROLINE GARCIA	September 4, 1992	Jersey City, NJ
October 5, 2023	JOHN JAMES KNOWER	June 27, 1989	Charlotte, NC
	MARY HANNAH SNYDER	May 14, 1991	Charlotte, NC
November 1, 2023	THAIS RIBEIRO VIEIRA	January 7, 2000	Tisbury, MA
	HUDSON JONATHAN MONTEIRO de SOUZA	July 20, 1992	Tisbury, MA
November 8, 2023	CARLOS GONCALVES MOREIRA	December 18, 2002	Tisbury, MA
	EDUARDA ROZENA CABRAL	October 24, 2002	Tisbury, MA
November 19, 2023	ERICA MARIA VIAL de OLIVEIRA	June 29, 1993	Tisbury, MA
	IRACILDO MOZER da SILVA	February 22, 1983	Tisbury, MA
November 21, 2023	LEVOR TERRENCE KING	May 16, 1989	Edgartown, MA
	SHANALEE AALIYAH WILLIAMS	April 22, 1995	Edgartown, MA
November 24, 2023	SMILJANA ZIVOLIC	May 18, 1983	Tisbury, MA
	DUSAN MIJATOVIC	January 19, 1988	Tisbury, MA
November 30, 2023	BRIAN TEIXEIRA LEMOS	December 22, 2004	Tisbury, MA
	LUCIANA POLERA CORREIA CARDOSO	September 30, 1984	Tisbury, MA
December 15, 2023	SUZANA MEDEIROS URBANO	April 13, 1970	Oak Bluffs, MA
	RAMON de OLIVEIRA ALVES	March 14, 1991	West Tisbury, MA
December 16, 2023	JASON THOMAS GRUNER	February 25, 1996	West Tisbury, MA
	ARINA PRIBYLNOVA	June 23, 1998	West Tisbury, MA
December 31, 2023	LEWIS CHARLES COLBY	August 5, 1984	Tisbury, MA
	SONYA MARIE MAYRAND	January 8, 1987	Tisbury, MA



## TISBURY DEATHS RECORDED 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Town of Death</u>	<u>Burial</u>
1/13/2023	RICHARD S. PATTON	77	BURLINGTON	PURITAN CREMATORY PEABODY
1/16/2023	SARAH G. SHEPARD	87	OAK BLUFFS	DUXBURY CREMATORY
1/20/2023	CAROLYN H. ROGERS	73	OAK BLUFFS	DUXBURY CREMATORY
1/28/2023	PATRICIA G. ROGERS	92	TISBURY	OAK GROVE CEMETERY
2/02/2023	BARBARA A. CASEAU	91	TISBURY	WEST TISBURY CEMETERY
2/16/2023	JESSE A. THAYER	35	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
3/02/2023	NATHAN S. GRAY	50	BOSTON	DUXBURY CREMATORY
3/06/2023	WILLIAM P. COSTANZA	88	TISBURY	ST. MICHAEL CREMATORY BOS.
3/09/2023	NELLY KATZMAN	24	TISBURY	ST. MICHAEL CREMATORY BOS.
3/28/2023	RICHARD B. SANDS	72	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
4/24/2023	WARREN R. HARTWELL	78	BOSTON	DUXBURY CREMATORY
5/20/2023	THOMAS E. THATCHER	96	MASHPEE	WEST TISBURY CEMETERY
5/21/23	BARBARA B. PESCH	92	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
5/24/2023	LYNN C. TUCK	79	OAK BLUFFS	DUXBURY CREMATORY
5/31/2023	FREDERIC G. TEXIER	53	OAK BLUFFS	DUXBURY CREMATORY
6/01/2023	GEORGE N. NICHOLS JR.	54	BOSTON	WORCESTER PARK PAXTON
6/05/2023	WESLEY E. COTTLE	82	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
6/17/2023	JULES P. KIRSCH	93	TISBURY	M. V. HEBREW CEMETERY
7/17/2023	JASON S. MILLEN	28	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
7/22/2023	JAMES H. LOBDELL	79	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
7/26/2023	JONATHAN W. CUNEO	70	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
8/08/2023	BETTY A. DIXON	99	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
8/17/2023	HERBERT F. CUSTER	90	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
8/21/2023	JOHN H. ROLLINS	86	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
8/26/2023	NORMAN E. GARDNER	80	BOSTON	ST. MICHAEL CREMATORY BOS.
8/31/2023	MILDRED M. DIAS	86	TISBURY	OAK GROVE CEMETERY O.B.
9/02/2023	IRENE P. DUGAN	96	FALMOUTH	DUXBURY CREMATORY
10/02/2023	HELEN D. ALWARDT	92	OAK BLUFFS	SACRED HEART CEMETERY O.B.
10/03/2023	PHILIP D. FLEISCHMAN	92	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
10/13/2023	BRANDY TAYLOR	70	OAK BLUFFS	DUXBURY CREMATORY
10/24/2023	PETR MULDOWNNEY	81	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
10/28/2023	ANNE BURKE-SILVA	89	OAK BLUFFS	DUXBURY CREMATORY
11/01/2023	PAULA SMALL	71	MASHPEE	OAK GROVE CEMETERY
11/02/2023	MICHAEL B. FLYNN SR.	69	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
11/25/2023	JACQUELINE F. BAER	90	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
11/30/2023	EDWARD S. STERNICK	84	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
12/17/2023	CORLISS R. MACIEL	66	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
12/17/2023	LESLIE B. MAHAFFEY	65	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY
12/25/2023	NATALIE D. KING	91	TISBURY	DUXBURY CREMATORY



**TOWN OF TISBURY**  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023 AT 7:00 PM

The Special Town Meeting of the Town of Tisbury was called to order by Moderator, Deborah Medders at 7:16 PM in the Martha's Vineyard High School Performing Arts Center, 100 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, in the Town of Oak Bluffs with a quorum of 166+ voters. After reading the call of the warrant and the return of service, the Moderator declared them to be in order. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM to proceed with the business of the Annual Town Meeting. Counters for this meeting were John Schilling, David Schwab, Maura Valley, Heidi Rydzewski, Allan Rogers and Geneva Corwin.

**ARTICLE 1 TO OBTAIN OFFICIAL BONDS**

Acting on Article 1, the Town voted unanimously in favor to instruct the Select Board to obtain of the Town Officers from whom bonds are required in FY2024 only such bonds as are secured by regular bond and surety firms and, when the bond of any Town Officer is accepted by the Select Board, that the Town shall bear the expense of the amount paid by him or her for said bond. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

**ARTICLE 2 TO AUTHORIZE THE TREASURER TO BORROW IN ANTICIPATION OF REVENUE**

Acting on Article 2, the Town voted unanimously in favor to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow from time to time in anticipation of revenue for FY2024, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one (1) year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one (1) year, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

**ARTICLE 3 TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A COMPENSATING BALANCE AGREEMENT**

Acting on Article 3, the Town voted unanimously to authorize the Finance Director to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for FY2024, pursuant to Chapter 44 Section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

**ARTICLE 4 TO ELECT A FISH COMMITTEE**

Acting on Article 4, the Town voted unanimously to elect Janet Messineo, James Tilton, and John M. Wilbur as a Fish Committee in FY2024, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40 of the Special

Acts of 1847 as it relates to the regulation of herring fishing at Chappaquonsett Pond and Creek and access thereto. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 5 TO AMEND THE TISBURY PROCUREMENT AND PROPERTY DISPOSAL BYLAW

Acting on Article 5, the Town voted unanimously to amend the Town's Procurement and Property Disposal Bylaw to increase the dollar value for Chief Procurement Officer review.

PROCUREMENT AND PROPERTY DISPOSAL BYLAW

All procurement of supplies, equipment and services, including construction and design services, with a value of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more shall be reviewed and approved by the Chief Procurement Officer or his designee prior to execution of any contract or purchase order therefor.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 6 TO ESTABLISH THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

Acting on Article 6, the Town voted unanimously to create the new full-time position of Assistant Town Clerk to be placed on the Classification and Compensation Plan for Full-time Managerial and Professional Employees at a grade M1, with funding for such position to be appropriated at a later date. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 7 TO ADD PARCELS TO THE CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM SERVICE AREA

Acting on Article 7, the Town voted unanimously to extend the Centralized Wastewater Collection and Treatment System Service Area to include the lots identified on the Tisbury Assessors' Maps as follows.

- 22-A-1 State Road and Holmes Hole Road
- 22-A-4.1 6 Breakdown Lane
- 22-A-4.2 Holmes Hole Road
- 22-A-4.3 22 Vickers Way
- 22-A-4.32 53 Short Hill Road
- 22-A-4.4 11 Vickers Way
- 22-A-4.5 32 Breakdown Lane
- 22-A-4.8 13 Breakdown Lane
- 22-A-5 64 Short Hill Road
- 23-A-19 317 State Road
- 23-A-19.2 17 DeBettencourt Way
- 23-A-19.3 DeBettencourt Way
- 23-A-19.4 DeBettencourt Way

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 8 TO AMEND SECTION 03.01 OF THE TISBURY ZONING BY-LAWS

Acting on Article 8, the Town voted unanimously to amend Section 03.01 of the Tisbury Zoning By-Laws entitled

Types of Districts by adding the proposed text shown below, or take any action relative thereto:

**TZBL 03.01** Types of Districts:

For the purposes of this Bylaw, the Town of Tisbury is divided into the following types of use districts:

Residential District 10 (Map Symbol R10)

Residential District 20 (Map Symbol R20)

Residential District 25 (Map Symbol R25)

Residential District 50 (Map Symbol R50)

Residential District 3A (Map Symbol R3A)

Business District 1 (Map Symbol B1)

Business District 2 (Map Symbol B2)

**Lagoon Harbor Park (LHP)**

Waterfront/Commercial District (Map Symbol W/C)

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 9 TO AMEND SECTION 04.02.08 OF THE TISBURY ZONING BY-LAWS

Acting on Article 9, the Town voted majority opposed to amend Section 04.02.08 of the Tisbury Zoning By-Laws, regarding permitted uses in the Residential Districts and entitled

Use of premises or building thereon in connection with one’s trade, by deleting the current language and inserting in its place the proposed language shown below.

**TZBL 04.02.08**

**Current:** Use of premises or building thereon in connection with one’s trade by a resident carpenter, electrician, painter, plumber, or other artisan, provided that no manufacturing or business requiring substantially continuous employment of more than one (1) person on the premises be carried on. No outside storage of material’s connected with said business shall be permitted in Residential Districts.

**Proposed:** Use of premises or building thereon in connection with one’s trade business, provided that no manufacturing or business involving regular employment of more than one (1) person, not including the property owner or primary occupant, working on the premises be carried on. Outside storage of materials and equipment must be screened from abutting properties and public or private ways. Only two (2) vehicles connected with said business, inclusive of employee vehicles, shall be allowed and all such parking, whether overnight or for any period of the day, shall be entirely within the property boundaries. No vehicle larger than 26,001 pounds (lbs.) requiring a class B CDL license shall be permitted to park on said premises. Outdoor operations associated with said business will

be limited to between 8AM-5PM Monday through Saturday. No outdoor business activities shall occur on Sunday. It shall be considered a violation of this Bylaw if regular daily gathering of employees or use of equipment occurs that exceeds noise, illumination and odors restrictions as stated in Bylaw Section 07.09; limiting noise and disturbance to abutting properties may be required by the Town Building Inspector. The use of vegetative or other means of screening and noise reductions may also be required by the Building Inspector.

**Reason:** Clarification that only one person can be employed on the property full time and that multiple commercial vehicles are not permitted. A common zoning complaint has been a tradesperson parking multiple work vans or trucks on the lot and then workers report to the home early in the morning to get in their van for the day causing extra noise in residential neighborhoods as well as noise caused by use of equipment outdoors. VOTED MAJORITY OPPOSED

ARTICLE 10 TO AMEND SECTION 09.01.06 OF THE TISBURY ZONING BY-LAWS

Acting on Article 10, the Town voted majority in favor to amend Section 09.01.06 of the Tisbury Zoning Bylaws, regarding Coastal Districts and entitled Regulations and Restrictions, by deleting the first sentence of the “height of Structures” paragraph and inserting in its place the proposed language shown below;

.06 TZBL 09.01

The maximum height of structures as measured vertically from the mean natural grade level shall be as follows: Twenty-six (26’) feet for a pitched roof and Thirteen (13’) feet for a flat or shed roof (which is a roof of pitch one (1) in four (4) or less). Chimneys used solely for exhausting smoke/gas are exempt from the maximum height limit. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 11 TO AMEND THE TISBURY ZONING BY-LAWS, ADD NEW SECTION 07.17

Acting on Article 11, the Town voted majority in favor to amend the Tisbury Zoning By-Laws by adding a new Section 07.17, entitled Time Share, Interval and Fractional Ownership Units, as set forth below:

TZBL 07.17 Time Share, Fractional and Interval Ownership Units:

.01 Findings and Purpose.

The purpose of this section is to preserve and protect limited housing stock in the Town from the market pressures attendant to time share, interval and fractional ownership uses and to protect neighborhoods from the impacts of such uses.

- a. Fractional ownership, interval and time share units have similar character as commercial hotels, motels, lodges, and other commercial occupancy uses due to their transient nature and multiple short-term occupancies. Such commercial or quasi-commercial use is inappropriate in residential areas due



to the increased traffic generation and multiple occupancies disturbing the peace and quiet of residential neighborhoods.

- b. The needs of transient occupants are averse to the interests sought to be protected and preserved in residential neighborhoods, because commercial uses for transient occupants may sacrifice other values critical to residential neighborhoods.
- c. The Town deems it necessary and appropriate to protect the existence of year-round residences and the quiet and peace of the Town by preventing unwarranted commercialization from encroaching therein, including commercialization caused by the misuse of single-family residences.

.02 Definition.

- a. Time Share, Interval or Fractional Ownership Unit. Any Dwelling Unit which is owned by a limited liability company, corporation, partnership, or other joint ownership structure in which unrelated persons or entities own, sell, purchase or otherwise for consideration create or acquire any divided property interest including co-ownership or fractional or divided estates, shares, leaseholds, or memberships which are subject to, or subsequently bound by any agreement limiting the right or functional ability of interest holders or their designees to occupy or use the property to their respective interests or any other agreement which limits interest holders' or their designees' use of the property to fractional reservations through stay limitations of any duration. Such use is established by any of the following elements:
  - 1. co-ownership or fractional or divided estates, shares, leaseholds, or memberships which are openly advertised, marketed, or offered for sale and sold individually at separate times.
  - 2. centralized or professional management.
  - 3. reservation systems.
  - 4. maximum or minimum day limits on each interest holder's occupancy or use of the property; or
  - 5. management agreements or fees reflective of interval use or ownership, irrespective of whether the agreement may be cancelled individually or by any party.

.03 Prohibition of fractional ownership, interval, and time share units.

The use of any dwelling unit in the Town as a fractional ownership, interval or time share unit is prohibited in the residential districts R-10, R-20, R-25, R-50, and the R-3A

- a. Exceptions.

1. This section shall not be deemed to preclude the creation of mortgages, liens, easements or other similar interests encumbering the residential property as a whole to secure a loan or for any other legitimate purposes.
2. This section shall not apply to non-commercial groups, such as families, partnerships, associations, or trusts with divided interests or agreements in which the real estate is held and transferred within the family, partnership, association or trust, as opposed to sold in fractional or divided interests on the open market.

.04 Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this section is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this section. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 12 TO AMEND SECTION 04.03.13 OF THE TISBURY ZONING BY-LAWS

Acting on Article 12, the Town voted majority in favor to amend Section 04.03.13 of the Tisbury Zoning By-laws, regarding uses requiring a permit from the Board of Appeals and titled "Accessory Apartments," by striking condition (b) shown as underlined below and re-lettering conditions (c) and (d) as (b) and (c).

TZBL 04.03.13

Accessory Apartment Purpose and Intent; The purposes of this Bylaw are to:

1. Provide affordable, community and year-round rental housing within the architectural context of the Town's single family home character.
2. Provide an opportunity for family members and seniors who choose to live in a close proximity but separate to remain within that family environment.
3. Provide caregiver housing for the health and security concerns of elder or disabled homeowners who wish to remain in their home.
4. Provide homeowners with additional income to help them retain ownership of their homes.
5. Protect residential stability, property values, and the single-family character of the neighborhoods.
6. Make it possible for the Town to supervise and monitor such additions for code compliance and safety.

Conditions:

Only one accessory dwelling unit is permitted in a single-family residential dwelling pursuant to a special permit issued under the provisions of Section 04.03.13 and provided that:

- (a) The lot on which the accessory apartment is situated is not in either the

R3A or the Coastal District.

- (b) No more than one (1) accessory apartment shall exist on a lot. If a guesthouse or accessory apartment exists on the lot, no additional accessory apartment shall be allowed.
- (c) The accessory apartment shall measure no more than forty (40) percent of the existing habitable area not to exceed six- hundred (600) square feet in all residential districts. At no time shall either dwelling unit be made a condominium and held in separate ownership. The appearance of the building shall remain that of a single-family residence in keeping with the character of the neighborhood.

VOTED IN THE MAJORITY

#### ARTICLE 13 TO RE-NAME AND EXPAND THE PURPOSE OF THE ENERGY STABILIZATION FUND

Acting on Article 13, the Town voted majority in favor, pursuant to Section 5B of Chapter 40 of the General Laws, to re-name the Energy Stabilization Fund, which was established by the vote under Article 12 of the warrant for the 2022 Annual Town Meeting, as the Climate and Energy Stabilization Fund, and to expand the purpose of the fund to include all of the following: costs of improvements related to energy conservation, reduction, generation and storage for Town facilities and for climate resilience projects. VOTED IN THE MAJORITY A 2/3 majority was achieved

#### ARTICLE 14 AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF THE REGIONAL AGREEMENT FOR MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Acting on Article 14, the Town voted unanimously to accept and approve the amendment and restatement of the Regional Agreement for the Martha's Vineyard Regional School District which was initiated and approved by a vote of the School Committee for the Martha's Vineyard Regional School District on September 1, 2022, and which has been submitted as an amended and restated "Regional Agreement for Martha's Vineyard Regional School District" to the Town Clerks of each Member Town, consistent with Section XIII of the existing Regional Agreement, titled "REGIONAL AGREEMENT Martha's Vineyard Regional High School"; or take any action relative thereto.

Explanation: The School Committee for the District has proposed an amendment and restatement of the District's Regional Agreement to supersede the original 1954 regional agreement and all other amendments to the original agreement, and which will reflect and comply with changes in applicable law.

This amendment and restatement of the Regional Agreement will take effect only if all six member towns accept and approve the amendment and restatement at their respective Town Meetings and only upon approval by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A copy of the full text of the amended and restated Regional Agreement is included below and is available from the Town Clerk, and also will be available at Town Meeting.

**REGIONAL AGREEMENT FOR  
MARTHA’S VINEYARD REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

This amendment and restatement approved by the School Committee: September 1, 2022 supersedes the original 1954 agreement and all other amendments to the original agreement.

**REGIONAL AGREEMENT**

This Agreement is entered into pursuant to Chapter 71 of the General Laws of Massachusetts (“M.G.L.”), as amended, among the towns of Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, Edgartown, West Tisbury, Chilmark, Aquinnah (formerly known as Gay Head), in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, hereinafter sometimes referred to as “member towns” for the purpose of establishing a regional school district and setting forth the terms and conditions for its operation. The regional school district shall be called the Martha’s Vineyard Regional School District (hereinafter sometimes referred to as “District”). This restatement is made pursuant to Section XIII of the original regional agreement, as previously amended, by amending and restating the regional agreement in its entirety. The provisions of this restatement supersede any contrary or inconsistent provisions of the original regional agreement and any contrary or inconsistent provisions of any amendments prior to this restatement. In consideration of the mutual promises herein contained, it is hereby agreed as follows.

Section I. The Regional District School Committee

- (a) The powers and duties of the District shall be vested in and exercised by a District School Committee (hereinafter referred to as the “Committee”). The Committee shall consist of nine (9) members: two from the town of Tisbury, two from the town of Oak Bluffs, two from the town of Edgartown, one from the town of West Tisbury, one from the town of Chilmark, and one from the town of Aquinnah.
  
- (b) At any time during the month of May, the local school committee of the member towns of Edgartown, Oak Bluffs and Tisbury shall annually appoint from its own membership the number of Committee members specified in Section I (a) above to serve for one year commencing the first day of June following their appointment and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The Select Boards of the towns of Chilmark, Aquinnah and West Tisbury shall each appoint as the Committee member from such member town the same representative who is elected or appointed from their town to fill the “member town” seat of the Up-Island Regional School District of Martha’s Vineyard, as set forth in *Section III, Representation to the Up-Island Regional School Committee* of the Up-Island Regional School Agreement.
  
- (c) Committee members from the towns of Chilmark, Aquinnah and West Tisbury will serve from the time of their appointment by their Select Board until their successors are appointed and qualified.
  
- (d) In the event that any then serving member of the Committee shall be unable to continue to serve in such office due to death, resignation or lawful removal from office, such event shall be deemed to create a vacancy hereunder. In the event that any newly appointed Committee member shall fail to qualify for office due to death

or declination to serve, such failure to qualify shall be deemed to create a vacancy hereunder. If a vacancy occurs on the Committee with respect to a Committee member from the towns of Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, or Tisbury, the respective local school committee shall appoint from its own membership a Committee member who shall serve for the balance of the unexpired term and until such new Committee member's successor is appointed and qualified. If a vacancy occurs on the Committee with respect to a Committee member from the towns of Chilmark, Aquinnah or West Tisbury, the Select Board of the member town in which such vacancy occurs shall appoint a Committee member to serve for the balance of the unexpired term and until such new Committee member's successor is appointed and qualified; the new Committee member so appointed by said Select Board may be, but is not required to be, the same individual who is appointed to fill the corresponding vacancy on the Up-Island Regional School Committee.

#### Section II. Organization of the Regional School District Committee

- (a) Annually during the month of June, the Committee shall organize by the selection by ballot from its own membership of a chairperson and vice chairperson. At the same meeting or any other meeting, the Committee shall appoint a secretary and treasurer who may be the same person and need not be members of the Committee.
- (b) The Committee may appoint such other officers and agents as it deems advisable, determine the terms of office of its officers (except the chairperson and the vice-chairperson who shall be elected as provided above), and prescribe the powers and duties of any of its officers. Provision shall be made by the Committee for the times and places of its regular meetings, and for the calling of special meetings.

#### Section III. Powers and Duties of the Regional District School Committee

- (a) The Committee, for and on behalf of the District, may, by purchase, or the exercise of eminent domain or otherwise, acquire such real estate and other property, and may enter into such contracts or agreements, and may employ such architects, contractors, and engineers, attorneys or other experts, and may be necessary or desirable for the District to carry out its purposes and powers.
- (b) The Committee, for and on behalf of the District, shall establish and maintain within the District a central office for the transaction of its business, the place to be determined by the Committee; and the Committee shall have power to equip said central office and to purchase such supplies as may be required in the transaction of the business of the District.
- (c) The Committee shall have all powers conferred, and all the duties imposed, by this agreement and such other additional powers and duties as are specified in sections 16 through 16l inclusive of Chapter 71 of the M.G.L., and any amendments thereof or additions thereto now or hereafter enacted, and as may be specified in any other general law or in any applicable special law; and shall have all the powers and duties conferred and imposed upon school committees by law. The Committee shall have

authority to act on any other matters, not incompatible with law, which the Committee members thereof deem advisable.

- (d) The Committee shall designate a District clerk as required by M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 14E.
- (e) Each member of the Committee shall be entitled to one vote. The quorum of the Committee for the transaction of business shall be six Committee members, but a lesser number may adjourn.

#### Section IV. Type of School

The district school shall be a senior high school consisting of grades 9 through 12, inclusive. The Committee is hereby authorized, in its discretion, to establish and maintain state-aided vocational education, acting as trustees therefore, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 74 of the M.G.L. and acts amendatory thereof, in addition thereto or dependent thereon.

#### Section V. Location of Regional District School

The District School shall be located in the general area Southwest of the Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, northeast of the Martha's Vineyard Airport, and adjacent to the Martha's Vineyard State Forest.

#### Section VI. Membership

- (a) All students residing in any member town and qualified to attend a senior high school may attend the district school under the same regulations as would apply if a public senior high school existed in such town.
- (b) Students residing outside the District may enroll in and attend the District School upon the approval of the Committee on a tuition basis and upon such terms as determined by the Committee. Income received by the District from tuition students may be deposited into an approved revolving account and expended by the Committee without further appropriation by the member towns.
- (c) Any student residing in a member town who is desirous of attending a trade or vocational school outside the District shall have all the privileges of attending such a school as now or may be hereafter provided by law, and the cost of tuition for attending such a school and the cost of transportation, when necessary, shall be included in the District's budget and assessed to the member towns as an Operating Cost.

#### Section VII. Apportionment and Payment of Costs Incurred by the District

- (a) In compliance with 603 Code of Massachusetts Regulations ("CMR") 10.03(3), as amended, the District shall adopt and consistently use for all accounting purposes, the Chart of Accounts, as amended, established and maintained by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education or its successor ("DESE"). District budgets shall be consistently prepared using the line items and associated definitions described in said Chart of Accounts.
- (b) For the purpose of apportioning assessments among the member towns, costs shall be divided into two categories: Capital Costs and Operating Costs.

- (c) Capital Costs shall include all expenditures relating to capital outlay, including without limitation all expenses as outlined in M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 16(d) as it may be amended from time to time, the cost of acquiring land, the cost of constructing, reconstructing, and adding to buildings, and the cost of remodeling or making extraordinary repairs to a school building or buildings, including without limitation the cost of the original equipment and furnishings for such buildings or additions, plans, architects' and consultants' fees, grading and other costs incidental to placing school buildings and additions and related premises in operating condition, the cost of sewer systems and sewerage treatment and disposal facilities or the cost of purchase or use of such systems with a municipality, and the cost of any other capital asset or outlay which the District may acquire or for which the District may be authorized to borrow under any applicable general or special law now or hereafter in effect, payment of principal and interest on bonds or other obligations issued by the District to finance Capital Costs.
- (d) Operating Costs shall include all costs not included in Capital Costs, as defined herein, including without limitation costs such as salaries, wages, supplies, tests, repair and maintenance expenditures, interest on notes issued in anticipation of revenue, and other costs incurred in the day-to-day operation of the school.
- (e) Capital Costs of the District shall be apportioned as follows:
- (1) Capital Costs incurred in connection with the renovation, repair, alteration and/or reconstruction of Martha's Vineyard Regional High School pursuant to building project undertaken in connection with an invitation in 2022 to apply to Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA") for partial funding of such project (the "2022 MSBA Project") in connection with such project shall be apportioned to the member towns as follows:

A.	Town of Aquinnah	2.40%
B.	Town of Chilmark	8.26%
C.	Town of Edgartown	30.13%
D.	Town of Oak Bluffs	22.89%
E.	Town of Tisbury	22.90%
F.	Town of West Tisbury	13.42%
  - (2) All other Capital Costs of the District shall be apportioned to the member towns as follows: Such Capital Costs shall be apportioned to the member towns based on the ratio which that member town's Foundation Enrollment, calculated on the basis of the member town's combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for the member town, bears to the total Foundation Enrollment for all member towns in the District, calculated on the basis of a combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for all member towns, provided that the ratio for each member town shall be not less than one percent (1%) and, to the extent that any member town's ratio is less than one percent (1%) and is fixed at one percent (1%) for the purposes of this apportionment calculation, the remaining ninety-nine percent (99%) of such other Capital



Costs under this subsection (2) for that year will be apportioned to the other member towns on the basis of the respective ratios that each member town's Foundation Enrollment, calculated on the basis of the member town's combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for the member town, bears to the total Foundation Enrollment for all member towns in the District, calculated on the basis of a combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for all member towns. The Foundation Enrollment for purposes of calculating apportionment of Operating Costs will be determined using figures reported to DESE by each member town on October 1 for the preceding three years.

- (f) Operating Costs shall be apportioned to the member towns based on the Alternative Assessment Method as calculated and outlined in subsection (2) below or based on the Statutory Assessment Method, calculated as set forth in subsections (1) below. The Committee will have the option to vote the Alternative Assessment Method or the Statutory Assessment Method each year:

(1) Statutory Assessment Method:

A The apportionment of Operating Costs for each member town for each fiscal year will be the sum of the following: (i) the member town's required local contribution to the District as determined by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education ("Commissioner"); (ii) the member town's share of that portion of the District's net school spending, as defined by M.G.L. Chapter 70, Section 2 that exceeds the total of the required local contributions for all member towns; and (iii) the member town's share of costs for transportation and all other expenditures (exclusive of Capital Costs as defined under Section VII (c) above) that are not included in the District's net school spending. A member town's share of (ii) and (iii) herein will be based on the ratio which that member town's Foundation Enrollment, calculated on the basis of the member town's combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for the member town, bears to the total Foundation Enrollment for all member towns in the District, calculated on the basis of a combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for all member towns, provided that the ratio for each member town shall be not less than one percent (1%) and, to the extent that any member town's ratio is less than one percent (1%) and is fixed at one percent (1%) for the purposes of this apportionment calculation, the remaining ninety-nine percent (99%) of (ii) and (iii) herein will be apportioned to the other member towns on the basis of the respective ratios that each member town's Foundation Enrollment, calculated on the basis of the member town's combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for the member town, bears to the total Foundation Enrollment for all member towns in the District, calculated on the basis of a combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for all member towns. The Foundation Enrollment for purposes of calculating apportionment of Operating Costs will be determined using figures reported to DESE by each member town on October 1 for the preceding three years.

(2) Alternative Assessment Method:

Each member town's share of Operating Costs for each fiscal year shall be determined based on the ratio which that member town's Foundation Enrollment, calculated on the basis of the member town's combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for the member town, bears to the total Foundation Enrollment for all member towns in the District, calculated on the basis of a combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for all member towns, provided that the ratio for each member town shall be not less than one percent (1%) and, to the extent that any member town's ratio is less than one percent (1%) and is fixed at one percent (1%) for the purposes of this apportionment calculation, the remaining ninety-nine percent (99%) of (ii) and (iii) herein will be apportioned to the other member towns on the basis of the respective ratios that each member town's Foundation Enrollment, calculated on the basis of the member town's combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for the member town, bears to the total Foundation Enrollment for all member towns in the District, calculated on the basis of a combined three-year rolling average of Foundation Enrollment for grades 9 – 12 for all member towns. The Foundation Enrollment for purposes of calculating apportionment of Operating Costs will be determined using figures reported to DESE by each member town on October 1 for the preceding three years.

- A. Use of the Alternative Assessment Method must be approved by all member towns in each fiscal year in which it is utilized.
- (g) For purposes of defining enrollment related to assessments, student enrollment shall be defined as the number of students in all grades nine through twelve (9 – 12), inclusive, included in the state's definition of Foundation Enrollment.
- (h) Each member town shall pay its proportionate share of Operating Costs and Capital Costs to the District each year in four (4) equal instalments within thirty (30) days of July 1, October 1, January 1, and April 1.
- (i) The District will maintain a so-called "Excess and Deficiency Fund" which shall be administered consistent with directives from the Department of Revenue and consistent with the terms of M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 16B ½.

Section VIII. Annual Report

- (a) The Committee shall submit to each of the member towns an annual report, in sufficient time for inclusion in the annual reports of said member towns. This annual report shall include a detailed financial statement showing the methods by which each member town's share of the annual charges assessed against each member town, including without limitation operating and capital costs, were computed, together with such additional information relating to the operation and maintenance of such school as may be deemed necessary by the Committee or by the Select Board of any member town.
- (b) The Committee shall conduct an annual independent, financial audit and receive the audit report in public session. Copies of the audit report shall be provided within ten (10) days to the Select Board of each member town, to the school committees of

each member town, and to such other officers of the member towns and the District as may be required by law.

Section IX. Budget

- (a) At the opening of each academic year, the Committee shall as promptly as practicable, proceed to determine the amounts necessary to be raised to maintain and operate the District for the next fiscal year, and the amount required for payment of debt and interest, incurred by the District which will be due in said year, and shall prepare a tentative operating budget containing all proposed operating expenditures, capital expenditures and debt service payments to be paid from general revenues of the District. The budget shall identify each separate revenue source, and the amount estimated for each revenue source; shall specify whether member town assessments are to be calculated pursuant to the statutory assessment method or the alternative assessment method then provided for in the regional agreement, if any; and shall specify the total amounts to be assessed to the member towns for the support of the budget. All non-recurring expenditures shall be itemized. This tentative operating budget shall be itemized in such further detail as the Committee may deem advisable. Such tentative operating budget shall be approved by a majority of the members of the Committee. The Committee shall submit copies of such tentative operating budget to the chairperson of Finance or Advisory Committee of each member town at least thirty (30) days prior to the date on which the final operating and capital budget is adopted by the Committee. If there is no Finance or Advisory Committee in a member town, such copy shall be sent to the Select Board of such member town.
- (b) The Committee shall hold a budget hearing consistent with M.G.L. c. 71, §38N, as amended, annually on its proposed annual budget not less than seven days after publication of a notice thereof in a newspaper having general circulation in the region. Following the public hearing on the proposed annual budget, the Committee may make any such modifications to its proposed annual budget as it may deem necessary or desirable before voting to adopt a final budget.
- (c) Following such hearing, the Committee shall adopt a final budget by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all of its Committee members, incorporating such changes from the proposed budget that the Committee has deemed appropriate. The budget and assessments shall be so constructed to show debt service, transportation, operating, and capital costs. It shall also list all sources of revenue used to reduce operating costs. Said adoption of a final budget shall occur not later than forty-five (45) days prior to the earliest date on which the business section of the annual town meeting of any member town is to be held, but in no event later than March 31 (provided that said budget need not be adopted earlier than February 1).
- (d) Within thirty (30) days from the date on which the budget is adopted by the Committee, and in no event later than April 30, the District treasurer shall certify to the treasurers of the member towns that member town's assessed share of such budget.

- (e) The District's annual budget, as adopted by the Committee, and the member town's assessment as certified by the Treasurer of the District shall be placed before each local appropriating authority for its consideration. The annual budget, as adopted by the Committee shall require the approval of two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) of the member towns by an affirmative vote of the appropriating authorities for such member towns, provided however, that, as stated in Section VII (f)(2)B, above, if the Alternative Assessment Method is used, the annual budget shall require the approval of all member towns by an affirmative vote of the appropriating authorities for such member towns. A vote by the local appropriating authority to appropriate the member town's assessment shall constitute approval of the District's budget. The District budget, so approved, shall be apportioned among the member towns in accordance with the terms in Section VII (e) and (f) above, of this agreement, and assessments pursuant to such approved budget shall be paid by the member towns to the District in accordance with the terms of Section VII (h) above, of this agreement.

Section X. Transportation

School transportation shall be provided by the District according to M.G.L. Ch. 71, Section 16C as amended and the cost thereof shall be apportioned to the member towns as an annual Operating Cost pursuant to Section VII (f).

Section XI. Admission of Additional Towns to the Regional School District

- (a) By an amendment of this agreement adopted under and in accordance with Section XIII, hereinafter, any town or towns may be admitted to the District upon adoption of such amendment and upon acceptance of the agreement as so amended by the town or towns seeking admission and only upon compliance with such provisions of law as may be applicable, including, but not limited to, 603 CMR 41.05(6), as amended, and with such terms as may be set forth in such amendment. Notwithstanding the timeline and effective date outlined in Section XIII (b) and (c), a new member town may only be admitted at the beginning of a fiscal year, effective on July 1 of that fiscal year, and only if the approval of all member towns and the Commissioner has been obtained on or before the preceding December 31<sup>st</sup>. The authorizing votes of the member towns may provide for the deferral of said admission until July 1 of a subsequent fiscal year.
- (b) Upon admission of a new member town to the District, assessments levied against the other member towns by the District to meet capital costs as defined in Section VII (c) shall be reapportioned, the terms of reapportionment to be stipulated in the amendment to the agreement by which the newly admitted member town is admitted to the District.
- (c) The newly admitted member town shall pay to the District its share, as determined in Section XI (b) and XI (c) of this agreement the funded indebtedness of the District already retired. For the purpose of this calculation such funded retired indebtedness shall be deemed to be the difference between (1) the original capital costs incurred by the District plus any subsequent capital costs, exclusive of interest and the total state construction grant, depreciated at the rate of 2 percent per year, and (2) that

part of capital costs as yet unpaid less that part of the state construction grant not yet received. Such share of the newly admitted member town shall be paid over the remaining scheduled period for repayment of such indebtedness, in four equal installments, to be paid not later than the twentieth of March, June, September, and December in each year during this remaining period of indebtedness. Payments thus made toward retired indebtedness shall be credited to the other member towns comprising the District in amounts proportionate to the share of those same capital costs that each of those other member towns paid in the past.

Section XII. Withdrawal of a Town from the Regional School District.

- (a) The withdrawal of a member town from the District may be effected only by an amendment to this agreement in the manner hereinafter provided in this Section XII. Any member town seeking to withdraw shall, by vote at an annual or special town meeting, request the Committee to draw up an amendment to this agreement setting forth the terms by which such town may withdraw from the District. No withdrawal will take effect on other than July 1 of a given year, and the vote referred to in the preceding sentence, the notification to the District consistent with subsection (b) below, and the submittal of a long range education plan consistent with subsection (c) below, must all occur no less than one (1) year prior to the desired date of withdrawal.
- (b) The clerk of the member town seeking to withdraw, within seven (7) days of the vote of the annual or special town meeting requesting the Committee to draw up an amendment to this agreement for the purpose of withdrawal of such member town, shall notify the Committee chairperson and the District's superintendent of schools in writing of such vote and shall provide a certified copy of the vote with such notification. Thereupon, the Committee shall draw up an amendment to this agreement consistent with the terms and provisions of this Section XII and setting forth such other terms of withdrawal as the Committee deems advisable, subject to the limitations contained in Section XIII. The Secretary of the Committee shall mail or deliver a notice in writing to the Select Board of each member town that the Committee has drawn up an amendment to this agreement providing for the withdrawal of a member town and enclosing with such notice a copy of such proposed amendment. The Select Board of each member town shall include an article stating the amendment in the warrant for the next annual or special town meeting of the Town.
- (c) No less than two (2) full years prior to the desired date of withdrawal, the member town seeking to withdraw, in addition to the other requirements referred to in subsections (a) and (b) above, will submit to the Commissioner and to the District a "Long Range Education Plan" consistent with 603 CMR 41.02 (2). The Long Range Education Plan will address, in addition to any other factor required by the Commissioner, the following: the expected educational benefits of reorganization; the current and projected enrollments; an inventory of all educational facilities under the jurisdiction of the member town and under the jurisdiction of the District and construction efficiencies, if any; the proposed administrative structure; the fiscal

ramifications of the withdrawal upon the withdrawing town as well as the other member towns in the District; the geographical and physical characteristics of the area; and the effect that withdrawal will have on student transportation.

- (d) In addition to other terms and requirements which the Committee may include in the proposed amendment, the member town seeking to withdraw (1) shall have paid over to the District any operating costs for which it became liable as a member of the District, (2) shall remain liable to and shall continue to make payments to the District for its share of the indebtedness of the District outstanding at the time of such withdrawal, and for interest thereon, to the same extent and in the same manner as though the town had not withdrawn from the District, (3) shall remain liable to and shall continue to make payments to the District for its share of such other liabilities incurred by the District during all times that the withdrawing member town was a member of the District (e.g., Other Post-Employment Benefits (“OPEB”)) as determined by the Committee; and (4) shall have paid to the District the costs, including legal fees, that accrue to the District as a result of the withdrawal, provided that the withdrawing member town’s responsibility for such continuing obligations as set forth in clauses (2) and (3) of this subsection (d) shall be reduced by any amount which such withdrawing member town has paid over at the time of withdrawal and which has been applied to the payment of such indebtedness, such other liabilities incurred during the period that the withdrawing member town was a member of the District, including without limitation, OPEB, or interest. The Committee’s proposed amendment may condition withdrawal upon the irrevocable deposit by the withdrawing member town, in trust in the name of the District, of funds in an amount sufficient to meet such responsibilities pursuant to Section XII (f), below.
- (e) Said petitioning town shall cease to be a member town only if the Committee’s proposed amendment to this agreement is approved by the Committee, the petitioning town and each of the other member towns, and by the Commissioner; approval by the Committee to require a majority vote, and approval by the petitioning town and by the other member towns to be by majority vote at an annual or special town meeting. Such withdrawal shall become effective no earlier than one full year after the last to occur of the following events: completion of the approval of the proposed amendment to this agreement by the Committee, the member towns (including the withdrawing member town), and the Commissioner, and shall become effective only at the beginning of a fiscal year of the District. The authorizing votes of the member towns may provide for the deferral of said withdrawal until July 1 of a subsequent fiscal year.
- (f) Money received by the District from the withdrawing member town for payment of funded indebtedness, OPEB, such other liabilities incurred by the District during all times that the withdrawing member town was a member of the District or interest thereon shall be used only for such purpose and until so used shall be deposited in trust in the name of the District with a Massachusetts bank or trust company having a combined capital and surplus of not less than \$1,500,000.

- (g) Upon the effective date of withdrawal, the terms of office of all Committee members from the withdrawing member town shall terminate and the total membership of the Committee and the calculation of a quorum from Committee business shall be decreased accordingly as set forth in the amendment to this regional agreement made at such time.

Section XIII. Amendments

- (a) This agreement may be amended at any time, and from time to time, in the manner hereinafter provided, but no such amendment shall be made which shall substantially impair the rights of the holders of any bonds or notes the District then outstanding, or the rights of the District to procure the means for payment thereof, provided that nothing in this section shall prevent the admission of a new town or towns to the District and the reapportionment accordingly of capital costs of the District represented by bonds or notes of the District then outstanding and of interest thereon.
- (b) Any proposal for amendment, except a proposal for amendment providing for the withdrawal of a member town (which shall be acted upon as provided in Section XII) may be proposed by (i) a majority vote of all of the members of the Committee or (ii) by the vote of any town meeting of any member town or (iii) by a petition signed by 10% of the registered voters of any one of the member towns which is then approved by a majority vote at a duly called meeting of the Committee. In the case of amendments proposed pursuant to Section XIII (b)(ii), the town clerk of the member town proposing such an amendment shall forthwith deliver a copy of such vote to the secretary of the Committee. In the case of amendments proposed pursuant to Section XIII (b)(iii), said petition shall contain at the end thereof a certification by the town clerk of such member town as to the number of registered voters in said town according to the most recent voting list and the number of signatures on the petition which appear to be the names of registered voters of said town and said petition shall be presented to the chair of the Committee and submitted by the Chair of the Committee to the Committee for approval by a majority vote at a duly called meeting of the Committee as stated above. In each case the secretary of the Committee shall forthwith deliver a notice in writing to the Select Board of each of the member towns that a proposal to amend this agreement has been made and shall enclose a copy of the vote proposing the amendment and a copy of the proposed amendment, provided however that in the case of an amendment proposed pursuant to Section XIII (b)(iii), the secretary of the Committee shall not deliver such notice or copies to the Select Boards of each of the member towns until such time as the proposed amendment has been approved by a majority vote at a duly called meeting of the Committee.
- (c) The Select Board of each member town shall include in the warrant for the next annual meeting or at a special town meeting called for the purpose an article stating the proposed amendment. Except in the case of amendments resulting from the addition of a new member, which shall become effective as set forth in Section XI, such amendment shall take effect upon its acceptance by all of the member towns,

acceptance by each member town to be by a majority vote at a town meeting as aforesaid, and only after approval of the Commissioner.

- (d) Should the amendment impact the budget, said amendment will only take effect on the first July 1 which falls after acceptance by all of the member towns and receipt of approval of the Commissioner, and only when there has been sufficient advanced time to prepare the budget and assessments in accordance with the new procedure set forth in such amendment. All amendments must be approved by the Commissioner.
- (e) Recognizing that circumstances often change over time, and intending that this agreement should continue to serve the best interests of the member towns, the Committee should, at five year intervals, review the need to establish an ad hoc study group composed of knowledgeable persons to study the agreement and report to the Committee as to whether or not any changes to this agreement might be beneficial in light of then prevailing conditions. The Committee shall give any such ad hoc study group's report due consideration, but may exercise its own discretion as to whether or not it will implement any of the group's recommendations.

Section XIV. Incurring of Debt.

The District may borrow under M.G.L. c. 71, §16(d) and any other applicable general or special law now or hereafter in effect. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71, §16(d), not later than seven days after the date on which the Committee authorizes the incurring of debt, other than temporary debt in anticipation of revenue to be received from any source, written notice of the date of said authorization, the sum authorized, and the general purpose or purposes for authorizing such debt, shall be given to the Select Board for each member town. No debt may be incurred until authorized in accordance with M.G.L. c. 71, §16(d) or pursuant to the provisions of any other applicable general or special law now or hereafter in effect. Notwithstanding the provision of this Section XIV, the Committee may, by a vote of two-thirds of all of its members, require that the approval of any particular authorized issue of indebtedness shall be by the registered voters of the member towns pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 71, §16(n) rather than pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 71, §16(d). VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

A true copy,

Attest:

J. Hillary Conklin

Town Clerk





**TOWN OF TISBURY**  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023, at 7:00 PM

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Tisbury was called to order by Moderator, Deborah Medders at 7:10 PM, on April 25, 2023 in the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Performing Arts Center with a quorum of 166+ voters. Ms. Medders reminded the audience of the following:

All of the school property is smoke free, please keep the aisles open, note the emergency exits, all non Tisbury voters must sit in the section to the right. All cell phones except those used by emergency personnel must be turned off. Voters were asked to identify themselves and use the microphones when commenting on Articles and to remember to line up at the microphone when speaking. Supplies for amendments are available at the checkers' tables.

The Moderator thanked the Town of Oak Bluffs and their Police Dept., Performing Arts Center Director Charlie Esposito, Executive Assistant Elena DeFoe, Constables Michael Ciancio and Kenneth Barwick, Town Clerk Hillary Conklin, Clerk's Office Staff and Checkers. The Moderator noted the attendance of the Student Council.

It was moved, seconded and voted to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting and proceed to the business of the Special Town Meeting at 7:16pm.

Town Clerk Hillary Conklin shared a few words in gratitude and recognition of Deborah Medders' twenty-four years of service as the Town Moderator. The Select Board presented Deborah with a gavel while the audience proceeded with a well-earned standing ovation. Deborah graciously thanked the Select Board, Clerk Hillary Conklin and town meeting floor for the privilege of ushering them through their annual town business.

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Tisbury was reconvened by Moderator, Deborah Medders at 8:13 PM, with a quorum of at least 220 voters. The Moderator read the In Memoria from the Annual Town Report and called for a moment of silence for those listed.

Finance Director Jonathan Snyder reported 84.6% of the revenue required to operate the Town comes from real estate and personal property taxes and largest expenses are the Tisbury School and the MV Regional High School which make up about 40% of our spending followed by debt and interest and insurance. Salaries and benefits are 62% of the budget as the town is run by people. Short-term rental revenue is increasing rapidly.

The average property value increased by 35%. The Finance Director explained the term free cash and the 2 ½ levy limit. The town has maintained its AA bond rating including the school debt.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.27pm with 229 names checked on the voter list. Counters for this meeting were David Schwab, John Schilling, Heidi Rydjweski, Allan Rogers, Maura Valley and Geneva Corwin.

ARTICLE 1 TO HEAR OR RECEIVE REPORTS

Acting on Article 1, the Town voted unanimously in favor to hear or receive the reports of the Select Board and other Town boards, commissions, committees, and officials. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 2 TO PAY BILLS OF PRIOR YEAR

Acting on Article 2, the Town voted unanimously in favor to appropriate and transfer from designated sources the sum of Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars and Four Cents (\$18,856.04) to be expended in FY23 by the departments listed below for the payment of bills incurred in a prior fiscal year.

DEPARTMENT	FUNDING SOURCE	VENDOR	AMOUNT
Police	General Fund	SymbolArts, LLC	\$140.00
Casualty Insurance	General Fund	MEGA Property and Casualty Environmental Partners, Inc	\$8,379.00
Consultant Fund	General Fund	Inc	\$585.00
Emergency Management	General Fund	Grainger	\$513.36
Wastewater	Wastewater Enterprise Fund	Comcast	\$128.39
Wastewater	Wastewater Enterprise Fund	Comcast	\$ 129.89
Water Works	Water Works Enterprise Fund	Town of West Tisbury	\$ 240.00
Water Works	Water Works Enterprise Fund	S.B.S the Grain Store	\$75.00
Water Works	Water Works Enterprise Fund	Envirotech Labs, Inc	\$2,550.00
Water Works	Water Works Enterprise Fund	Tyler Technologies, Inc	\$2,608.00
Water Works	Water Works Enterprise Fund	Wampanoag Environmental Lab	\$ 1,275.00
Water Works	Water Works Enterprise Fund	AT & T	\$1,482.40
Water Works	Water Works Enterprise Fund	Millers Pro Landscape, Inc.	\$750.00

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR A 4/5 majority was achieved

ARTICLE 3 TO ADD FUNDS TO THE SICK/VACATION TRUST FUND

Acting on Article 3, the Town voted unanimously in favor to transfer from Unreserved Fund Balance the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) to be added to the Town Sick and Vacation Trust Fund and appropriate and transfer from Wastewater Available Surplus the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to be added to the Wastewater Sick & Vacation Trust

Fund, and to appropriate and transfer from Water Available Surplus the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Water Department Sick & Vacation Trust Fund to pay for accrued sick and vacation time owed to employees leaving their employment with the Town. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

#### ARTICLE 4 EMBARKATION FUND EXPENDITURES

Acting on amended Article 4, the Town voted unanimously in favor to appropriate in FY2023 the sum of Two Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand, Two Hundred Forty-Four Dollars (\$265,244.00) from the passenger ferry embarkation fee receipts, said funds to be expended by the departments listed below in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 46, Section 129 of the Acts of 2003, as amended, for the specific purposes set forth below, each expenditure to be considered a separate appropriation:

- a) One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be expended jointly by the Select Board and Dredge Committee for permitting, surveying, and hiring consultants for, and dredging of the harbor and north groin and for future dredge projects. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- b) Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) to be expended by the Police Department for salaries, equipment, and clothing for traffic safety officers and/or full-time police officers to mitigate the impact of traffic to and from and calls for service at the Steamship Authority terminal in Vineyard Haven. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- c) Five Thousand, Seven Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$5,725.00) to be expended by the Police Department to pay the annual membership costs associated with the Martha's Vineyard Law Enforcement Tactical Team. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- d) Fifty-One Thousand Dollars (\$51,000.00) to be expended by the Department of Public Works to resurface and line Water Street. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- e) Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be expended by the Department of Public Works for gateway improvements in the downtown area, including Main Street, Union Street, Water Street, Beach Street Extension and surrounding area. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- f) Twenty-Three Thousand, Five Hundred Nineteen Dollars (\$23,519.00) to be expended by the Fire Department to pay 50% of the annual cost to finance the replacement of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus equipment. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

#### ARTICLE 5 TO FUND VARIOUS COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT PROJECTS

Acting on Article 5, the Town voted majority in favor to appropriate and transfer from FY2023 reserved and unreserved Community Preservation Fund revenues, unless otherwise specified, the following sums to be expended in FY2024 for the following purposes, each project to be considered a separate appropriation:

- a) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Historic Reserve Fund, the sum of Seventy Four Thousand One Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$74,120.00) and Fifty Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$50,880.00) from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, for a total of One Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000.00),

towards the Tisbury Town Hall Roof Replacement project, located at 51 Spring Street as shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #7-M-4. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

- b) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) towards the restoration of Tisbury gravestones, located in Old Village and South End Cemeteries, located at the corner of Franklin and Center Streets, behind Town Hall, and Causeway Road, south of State Road, respectively, as shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #7-M-4 and Parcel #8-M-7. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- c) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of Forty Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$40,800.00) towards consulting services from a structural engineer and architect to determine the structural condition and capacity of the Nathan Mayhew School building located at 112 Main Street, as shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #7-C-3, and to develop a plan for preserving the existing structure for future use by the community, including design plans, production of illustrative drawings and construction documents, development of a scope of work, timeline construction cost estimate, and securing appropriate permits and permissions, with disbursement of funds to be subject to placement of a historic preservation restriction on the property. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- d) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of Seven Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$7,680.00) toward the creation of "Blue Trails," water trails for kayakers and canoeists to experience Lake Tashmoo and Lagoon Pond, including public notice and marketing of the trail through print media and identification signs located at various landing sites in Tisbury to identify public sites owned by the Town of Tisbury, Sheriff's Meadow Foundation, and the Land Bank on various Tisbury water bodies, and including design, construction and installation of signs, to be placed at approximately fifteen stops on Lake Tashmoo and Lagoon Pond, and development of digital maps for the two trails, Lake Tashmoo being shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #39-A-7 and Lagoon Pond being shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #13-D-3. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- e) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Open Space/Recreation Fund, the sum of One Hundred Ten Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars and Forty-Six cents (\$110,633.46) and from Community Preservation Unreserved Fund the sum of Eighty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-Six Dollars and Fifty-Four cents (\$89,366.54), for a total of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00), to complete reconstruction of the Owen Park Bandstand at Owen Little Way, on property shown on Tisbury Assessor's Maps as Parcel #6-C-35, including assessment of the existing bandstand foundation, development of engineering and construction documents, construction of a new foundation, and construction of the new bandstand with ADA-compliant access. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR
- f) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of Fifteen Thousand One Hundred Ninety-One Dollars (\$15,191.00) towards the addition of Tisbury park amenities including three benches, eight outdoor metal benches and two ADA-compliant picnic tables, to be located on town park properties including, but not limited to:

Lake Street Park, located on Lake Street, as shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #37-B-1; 50 Church Street at the Town Tennis Courts, as shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #7-H-2; and Tashmoo Springs, as shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #39-A-7. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

- g) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-Four Dollars (\$12,944.00) toward the construction and installation of an equipment shed and support facilities for the Town Tennis Courts, located at 50 Church Street, as shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #7-H-2, including installation of an internet router to enable provision of a secure gate access system, online payment and court registrations. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- h) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) toward the development of a website for Tisbury Parks and Recreation to effectively communicate detailed information about Tisbury parks, current and proposed activities, hiltig trails, blue trails, tennis courts and playgrounds. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR
- i) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) for the Tisbury Municipal Housing Trust Fund. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- j) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) as Tisbury's share towards the Harbor Homes of Martha's Vineyard Affordable Housing program, to fund the acquisition and development of future housing for homeless persons/residents earning less than 30% of the County median income, with expenditure of these funds subject to and contingent upon the completion of the sale of the subject property for the project, and subject to an appropriate and permanent affordable housing deed restriction to secure the use of the property for such housing purpose. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- k) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of Ninety-One Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$91,650.00) as Tisbury's share for the Island Autism Center and Neighborhood project's funding of an affordable housing project for construction of two four-bedroom residential units to house eight adult autistic Island residents at 515 Lamberts Cove Road in West Tisbury, as shown on West Tisbury Assessor's Maps as Parcel #11-2, the development being permanently deed restricted as affordable housing for eligible Island autistic residents. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- l) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) for the Island Housing Trust's "Cat Hollow" project, for new construction of two, two-bedroom dwellings to be permanently deed restricted as affordable housing, at 25 Lobster Alley, as shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #121-B-17. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- m) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Housing Reserved Fund, the sum of One Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Forty Dollars (\$149,040.00) and Nine Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$960.00) from the Unreserved Fund, for a total of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) for the Island Housing Trust's Leland Avenue project of new

construction of affordable housing, one, two-bedroom townhouse to be permanently deed restricted as affordable housing at 0 Leland Avenue, as shown on Tisbury Assessors' Maps as Parcel #2-A-9. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

- n) To appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Unreserved Fund, the sum of One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000.00) to fund the annual cost of the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority's Rental Assistance Program. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- o) To appropriate and transfer from the current year CPA revenues, the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for FY 2024 administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee including wages, dues and advertising. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

#### ARTICLE 6 TO ESTABLISH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FY2024 BUDGET RESERVE ACCOUNTS

Acting on Article 6, the Town voted unanimously in favor to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund established pursuant to Chapter 44B of Massachusetts General Laws and set aside for later expenditure, the following amounts to the following reserve funds as required by law:

FY2024 Community Preservation Committee Budget Reserve Account:

- \$ 79,600.00 to the Community Preservation Open Space Reserve Fund;
- \$ 79,600.00 to the Community Preservation Historic Reserve Fund;
- \$ 79,600.00 to the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve Fund;
- \$ 557,168.00 to the Community Preservation Budget Reserve Account.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

#### ARTICLE 7 TO FUND WATERWAYS CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Acting on Article 7, the Town voted unanimously in favor to appropriate and transfer from the Waterways Fund in FY2024 the sums of money listed below, to be expended by the Harbor Department for the purposes listed and deemed to be waterways capital expenditures:

- a) Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) to be expended by the Harbor Department for the maintenance and or installation of Town owned moorings. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- b) Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000.00) to be expended by the Harbor Department for repair, replacement, engineering and permitting of the Owen Park Pier. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- c) Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) to be expended by the Harbor Department for the hauling, transportation, and disposition of abandoned vessels. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- d) Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00), to be expended by the Harbor Department to build an enclosure for the proposed Lake Street Landing portable toilet. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

## ARTICLE 8 TO FUND DREDGING

Acting on Article 8, the Town voted unanimously in favor to transfer from the Dredge Stabilization Fund the balance of One Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Five Dollars (\$122,325.00) to be expended by the Harbor Department for dredging in Vineyard Haven Harbor and Lake Tashmoo.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR A 2/3 majority was achieved

## ARTICLE 9 CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS AND OTHER NEW EQUIPMENT

Acting on Article 9, the Town voted majority in favor to appropriate and transfer from Unreserved Fund Balance in FY2024, the sums of money listed below, to be expended by the indicated Departments for the purposes listed and deemed to be capital expenditures:

- a) Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00) to fund professional services that may include but are not limited to existing conditions assessment, design, architectural, engineering, procurement, cost estimating, energy audit and similar technical services, and construction management all as may be required under MGL c. 149 and/or MGL c. 7C and/or MGL c. 30B, and to be expended for needed capital construction, maintenance, repairs, renovations and addition to the Vineyard Haven Public Library, which includes both the exterior and interior of the building, mechanical systems, roof system, electrical and plumbing, wastewater, doors, windows, ceiling and floors and for energy saving related improvement such as rooftop solar and other related improvements. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- b) Twenty-Three Thousand Five Hundred and Eighteen Dollars and Twenty-Eight Cents (\$23,518.28) to fund a 50% share of the yearly cost of the 5-year financing payment plan for SCBA equipment, which purchase was approved by vote of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- c) Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00) to upgrade the Town's information technology network infrastructure including replacing the current server and network devices for DPW and Wastewater, firewall, routers, switches and new rack design to securely house equipment and patch cables, including the costs of vendor services, consulting, purchasing of equipment, configuration, implementation, testing and workstation reconfiguration to connect to the new server and equipment. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- d) Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000.00) for interior repairs at the Emergency Services building located at 215 West Spring Street, including but not limited to ceiling tile, interior painting and floor replacement. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- e) Eight Thousand Two Hundred Forty-Five Dollars (\$8,245.00) to purchase a new polling place scanner and tabulator, and two tote bins, including shipping costs. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- f) Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) for exterior repairs at the Town Hall Annex trailers located at 66A High Point Lane, including but not limited to, siding, roofing, window, door, and exterior trim replacement. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

- g) Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to make repairs to the Natural Resource Office located at 10 Owen Park Way. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- h) One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) for burying of utilities and removal of telephone poles on Union Street. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR
- i) Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) to paint the exterior of the following buildings:
  - a. Town Hall, the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00)
  - b. Police Station, the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00)
  - c. Senior Center, the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00)
 including but not limited to painting and minor trim repair/replacement. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 10 REPLACEMENT AND NEW EQUIPMENT

Acting on Article 10, the Town voted unanimously in favor to appropriate and transfer from Department of Public Works Stabilization Fund Balance in FY2024, the sums of money listed below, to be expended for the purposes listed:

- a) Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) to purchase a replacement tilt trailer, replacement dump bed, and new poly water tank for truck bed and attachments for a John Deere skid steer. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- b) Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to purchase two (2) replacement standing lawn mowers. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 11 TO FUND GENERAL STABILIZATION FUND

Acting on Article 11, the Town voted unanimously in favor to appropriate and transfer from Unreserved Fund Balance the sum of One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000.00) to be placed in the General Stabilization Fund. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 12 TO FUND CAPITAL BUILDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE STABILIZATION FUND

Acting on Article 12, the Town voted unanimously in favor to appropriate and transfer from Unreserved Fund Balance the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) to be placed in the Capital Building and Infrastructure Stabilization Fund. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 13 TO FUND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR TISBURY MUNICIPAL FACILITIES AND CONSOLIDATED TOWN HALL

Acting on amended Article 13, the Town voted majority in favor to appropriate and transfer the remaining balance, in the amount of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00), of the sum appropriated under Article 39 of the warrant for the 2016 Annual Town Meeting; to appropriate and transfer the remaining balance, in the amount of Six Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Eight Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$6,328.50), of the sum appropriated under Article 10 of the warrant for the 2018 Annual Town Meeting; and further, to appropriate and transfer from Unreserved Fund Balance in Fiscal Year 2024 Thirteen Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-One Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$13,671.50), for the total sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000.00), to fund professional



services for the evaluation of municipal operations and facilities, including space needs, site evaluation and feasibility studies and plans for consolidated municipal operations and Town Hall, including but not limited to design, architectural, engineering, procurement and cost estimating technical services, as well as energy generation and conservation and resiliency goals of the Town, all as may be required under MGL c. 149 and/or MGL c. 7C and/or MGL c. 30B. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 14 TO FUND QUINQUENNIAL CERTIFICATION OF ALL REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

Acting on Article 14, the Town voted unanimously in favor to appropriate and transfer from Unreserved Fund Balance the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be expended by the Board of Assessors for the certification of all real estate and personal property in the Town, as required to be done every five years by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 56. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 15 TO APPROVE THE WATER WORKS DEPARTMENT FY2024 BUDGET

Acting on Article 15, the Town voted unanimously to approve the proposed Water Works Department Enterprise Fund Budget for FY2024, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, and as shown below, to be expended by the Board of Water Commissioners to operate the Tisbury Water Works Department in FY2024, and to appropriate and transfer the sum of One Million Seven Hundred Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred and Ten Dollars and Thirty-One Cents (\$1,719,810.31) from Estimated Revenues for said purpose.

Salaries and Wages	\$685,017.00
Operating Expenses	\$510,050.00
Benefits/Fixed Expenses	\$403,602.00
<u>Debt/Interest</u>	<u>\$121,141.31</u>
Total Operations, Debt Service	\$1,719,810.31
Total Estimated Revenue to Offset Expenses	\$1,719,810.31 Water Related Earnings

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 16 TO FUND VARIOUS WATER WORKS DEPARTMENT CAPITAL EXPENSES

Acting on Article 16, the Town voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Water Enterprise Fund Available Surplus in FY 2024 the sum of Eight Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$839,000.00) to be expended by the Board of Water Commissioners for the purposes listed below and deemed to be capital expenses.

a) Vehicle Replacement	Utility Truck	\$30,000.00
b) Water Meter Replacement Program		\$50,000.00
c) Vehicle Replacement		\$20,000.00
d) Water Main Replacement Program		\$542,720.00
e) Fire Hydrant Replacement Program		\$25,000.00
f) Standpipe Rehabilitation		\$20,000.00
g) Office Copier		\$14,000.00
h) <u>Lead Removal Program</u>		<u>\$137,280.00</u>

Total Capital Projects \$839,000.00  
 VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 17 TO ADOPT FY2024 WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGET

Acting on Article 17, the Town voted unanimously to approve the proposed Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget for FY2024 of One Million Five Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$1,524,700.00), a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, and as shown below, to be expended by the Select Board, to operate and maintain the Tisbury Wastewater Collection and Treatment System for FY2024, and appropriate from user fees the following sums therefor.

Estimated Wastewater Fund Expenses

Salaries and Wages	\$402,982.
	00
Benefits/Fixed Expenses	\$201,274.
	00
Operating Expense	\$297,900.
	00
Debt & Interest	<u>\$267,886.</u>
	<u>00</u>
Total Wastewater Budget & Debt Service	\$1,170,042.00
Budgeted Surplus	<u>\$354,658.</u>
	<u>00</u>
Total Wastewater Expenses & Budgeted Surplus	\$1,524,700.00

Estimated Wastewater Revenue to Offset Expenses

Sewer User Fees (Tiered Billing)	\$1,450,000.00
Sewer Interest & Penalty Charges	\$5,000.00
Sewer Flow Changes Fee	\$1,200.00
Grease Trap Maintenance Fees	\$1,900.00
Wastewater Labor Charges	\$6,000.00
Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand Charges	\$15,000.00
Quarterly Base Charges	\$29,600.00
Abatement Meter Charges	\$6,000.00
Sewer Connection Fees	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
Total Wastewater Related Earnings	\$1,524,700.00

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 18 TO FUND A WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT MUNICIPAL INSURANCE TRUST FUND

Acting on Article 18, the Town voted unanimously to accept the provisions of section 13 of Chapter 40 of the General Laws for the purpose of a Wastewater Department Municipal Insurance Trust Fund and to establish a Wastewater Department Municipal Insurance Trust Fund, to be expended by the Sewer Commissioners, for the purposes of paying Wastewater Department insurance claim deductibles; and to appropriate and transfer from the Wastewater Enterprise Fund Available Surplus in FY2023 the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to such fund. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 19 TO FUND VARIOUS WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE FUND CAPITAL EXPENSES

Acting on Article 19, the Town voted majority in favor to appropriate and transfer from the Sewer Enterprise Fund Available Surplus the sums of money listed below, to be expended by the Wastewater Operations division of the Department of Public Works for the purposes listed and deemed to be Sewer Enterprise Fund capital expenses:

- a) One Hundred and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$140,000.00) to purchase and equip a new 4WD multi use utility truck with necessary accessories, including a two-thousand-pound (2,000lb.) crane, powered lift gate, snowplow, emergency lighting; and to authorize the trade-in or surplus of a 2015 Ford F-150 truck in connection therewith. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR
- b) Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to purchase tools and safety equipment to outfit the new multiuse utility truck. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 20 TO ADD TO THE CLIMATE AND ENERGY STABILIZATION FUND

Acting on Article 20, the Town voted unanimously to transfer from Unreserved Fund Balance the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to add to the Climate and Energy Stabilization Fund for sustainability projects approved by the Town. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 21 TO FUND REGIONAL SOCIAL SERVICES

Acting on Article 21, the Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sums of money listed below, to be expended by the indicated Departments for the purposes listed below.

- a) Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to fund the Town of Tisbury's share of the expenses of the All-Island School Committee's contract for continued and community education in Fiscal Year 2024. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- b) Eight Thousand One Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$8,186.00) to support the Dukes County Public Benefits Access program in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time, or take any action related thereto. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- c) Ten Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Six Dollars (\$10,526.00) to support the Homelessness Prevention Program on Martha's Vineyard through Dukes County in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

- d) Seventeen Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars (\$17,978.00) to support the CORE program to provide coordinated counseling, outreach, and referral services to our residents who are 55 years and older through Dukes County in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- e) Twenty-One Thousand One Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars (\$21,162.00) to support the planning, advocacy and education for Healthy Aging on Martha's Vineyard through Dukes County in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR
- f) Eight Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$8,586.00) to support the Substance Use Disorder Coalition in addressing needs related to substance use prevention, treatment, recovery support and harm reduction on Martha's Vineyard through Dukes County in accordance with the Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 22 TO FUND DUKES COUNTY PROJECTED BUDGET SHORTFALL

Acting on Article 22, the Town voted majority in favor to raise and appropriate, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of Five Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty-Two Dollars and Twenty Cents (\$5,632.20) as the Town's apportioned share of the revenue replacement supplement for the FY 2024 Dukes County budget, for costs of administration of regional services. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 23 TO FUND REPAIRS TO THE DUKES COUNTY HEALTH CARE ACCESS BUILDING

Acting on Article 23, the Town voted unanimously to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Three Hundred and Forty Dollars (\$35,340.00) as the Town's apportioned share of the cost of repairs to the Dukes County Health Care Access building located at 114 New York Avenue, Oak Bluffs. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 24 TO FUND MAINTENANCE COSTS OF THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Acting on Article 24, the Town of Tisbury voted unanimously to raise and appropriate, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2024, the sum of Forty-Six Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$46,897.50) to support the maintenance costs of the Martha's Vineyard Public Safety Communication System in accordance with the Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Communications and Dispatch Services, provided that the funding is contingent on all Island Towns paying for such costs in Fiscal Year 2024 according to the agreed upon dispatch and fixed cost formula. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 25 TO FUND LOCAL DROP OFF AREA

Acting on Article 25, the Town voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer the sum of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00) from the reserve for appropriation for sanitary landfill as provided for Article 19 of the Special Town Meeting of November 2, 1993 and raise and

appropriate Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) for the total sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) , to be expended by the Select Board for operation of the local drop off area and ancillary curbside recycling and refuse services and residential hazardous waste disposal for Fiscal Year 2024. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 26 TO FUND TOWN'S SHARE OF FEASIBILITY STUDY IN CONNECTION WITH POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT OR RENOVATION OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Acting on Article 26, the Town voted majority in favor to approve the Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) borrowing authorized by the Regional District School Committee of the Martha's Vineyard Regional School District for the purpose of paying costs of a feasibility study relating to the possible replacement or reconstruction of the District High School, located at 100 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto (the "Study"), and for which the District may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee; that the Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any Study costs the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District and its member towns; provided further that any grant that the District may receive from the MSBA for the Study shall be as set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA; and that the amount of borrowing authorized by the District shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA; provided further that approval of the District's borrowing shall be conditioned upon and subject to an affirmative vote of the Town to exclude the amounts needed to repay the Town's allocable share of this borrowing from the limitation on local property taxes contained in G.L. c. 59, §21C (also known as Proposition 2½). VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 27 TO ESTABLISH AND FUND A PARAMEDIC SUPERVISOR POSITION FOR THE TISBURY AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT

Acting on Article 27, the Town voted unanimously to establish the position of Paramedic Supervisor under the direction of and reporting to the Ambulance Department, under the union contract at Grade 10, Step 3; and to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety-Three Thousand Eighty-Four Dollars (\$93,084.00) to fund the position for FY 2024, which will be in place of the EMS Director position for FY 2024. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 28 TO FUND THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE'S ADMINISTRATOR

Acting on Article 28, the Town voted majority in favor to appropriate and transfer from the allocable Town portion of the Municipal Housing Trust Fund the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) for a part time housing administrator to provide administrative and technical support for the work of the Affordable Housing Committee. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 29 TO ESTABLISH AND FUND EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT POSITION FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Acting on Article 29, the Town voted unanimously to establish the position of Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police, under the FY2024 Classification Plan for Managerial and Professional Employees at Grade 1, Step 1; and to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighteen Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars and Seventy-Six Cents (\$18,395.76) to fund the position for FY 2024. VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 30 TO FUND THE COST OF RE-CODIFICATION AND AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN OF TISBURY ZONING BYLAWS

Acting on Article 30, the Town voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from the Unreserved Fund Balance in FY 2024, the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) to fund all costs (incidental and related) to re-codify and develop comprehensive amendments to the Town of Tisbury's Zoning Bylaws under the direct supervision of the Planning Board. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 31 TO ESTABLISH AND FUND A PLANNING BOARD ADMINISTRATOR

Acting on Article 31, the Town voted unanimously to establish and fund the position of Planning Board Administrator, under the Union contract at Grade 7, step 3; and to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy-Nine Dollars (\$10,279.00) for FY 2024 for said position. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 32 TO AMEND CLASSIFICATION PLAN FOR NON-UNION PART-TIME, SEASONAL AND TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES

Acting on Article 32, the Town voted unanimously to amend the Classification and Compensation Plan for Non-Union Part-Time, Seasonal and Temporary Employees to become effective July 1, 2023, as follows.

Position	Step					
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
Casual Labor, Dock Attendant, Library Page	\$15.59	\$16.01	\$16.45	\$16.90	\$17.36	\$17.82
Comfort Station Attendant DPW Laborer, Election Officer Harbor Attendant, Lifeguard Tennis Attendant, Receptionist	\$18.91	\$19.45	\$19.99	\$20.55	\$21.12	\$21.72
Board or Committee Secretary Comfort Station Leader Crossing Guard, Harbor Asst. Head Lifeguard Lifeguard/Water Safety Instr. Shellfish Assistant Special Traffic Officer	\$21.11	\$21.73	\$22.35	\$22.99	\$23.67	\$24.35
Asst. Animal Control Officer Asst. Harbormaster Asst. Shellfish Constable Library Aide/Part-Time Sub. Part Time Police Officer	\$24.44	\$25.15	\$25.88	\$26.64	\$27.42	\$28.21
EMT	\$27.35	\$28.54	\$29.80	\$31.11	\$32.48	\$33.91
Paramedic	\$30.62	\$32.02	\$33.48	\$35.02	\$36.61	\$38.29

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 33 TO FUND SALARY CHANGES UNDER MANAGEMENT & PROFESSIONAL COMPENSATION STUDY

Acting on Article 33, the Town voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00), and further to appropriate and transfer the sum of Five Thousand Two Hundred Dollars(\$5,200.00) from Water Enterprise Fund Available Surplus, and Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500.00) from Wastewater Enterprise Fund Available Surplus, for a total of Forty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$48,700.00) to fund FY 2024 salary changes as recommended by the 2023 Management & Professional Compensation and Classification Study. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 34 TO AMEND THE CLASSIFICATION PLAN FOR MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES

Acting on Article 34, the Town voted majority in favor to approve the following amendment to the Classification and Compensation Plan for Full-time Managerial and Professional Employees, effective July 1, 2023.

<u>Grade Number &amp; Class Titles</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Step 4</u>	<u>Step 5</u>	<u>Step 6</u>	<u>Step 7</u>	<u>Step 8</u>	<u>Step 9</u>	<u>Step 10</u>
<u>M1</u>	75,627.36	78,091.20	80,575.92	83,144.16	85,816.80	88,572.96	91,370.88	94,356.72	97,321.68	100,411.92
<u>M2</u> HR Coordinator/Admin.Asst. Assistant Local Building Inspector Ex Assist to Town Administrator Shellfish Constable Council on Aging Director EMS Coordinator	85,712.40	88,405.92	91,266.48	94,231.44	97,175.52	100,307.52	103,523.04	106,822.08	110,225.52	113,816.88
<u>M3</u> IT Administrator Library Director Deputy Fire Chief Facilities Manager Assist Water Superintendent	90,765.36	93,688.56	96,674.40	99,785.52	102,959.28	106,237.44	109,640.88	113,148.72	116,802.72	120,519.36
<u>M4</u> Building Inspector Health Agent Harbormaster	98,887.68	102,040.56	105,318.72	108,638.64	112,125.60	115,737.84	119,412.72	123,254.64	127,159.20	131,209.92
<u>M5</u> Town Accountant Wastewater Supt/Lab Director Human Resources Director	102,666.96	105,966.00	109,348.56	112,856.40	116,468.64	120,206.16	124,027.20	128,015.28	132,107.76	136,325.52
<u>M6</u> Police Lieutenant Water Superintendent	107,427.60	110,872.80	114,380.64	118,055.52	121,855.68	125,760.24	129,790.08	133,966.08	138,267.36	142,693.92
<u>M7</u>	111,373.92	114,944.40	118,640.16	122,419.44	126,365.76	130,395.60	134,571.60	138,872.88	143,320.32	147,893.04
<u>M8</u> Finance Director Fire Chief DPW Director	127,347.12	131,147.28	135,114.48	139,144.32	143,320.32	147,621.60	152,048.16	156,620.88	161,318.88	166,142.16
<u>M9</u> Police Chief	138,914.64	143,090.64	147,371.04	151,797.60	156,370.32	161,047.44	165,891.60	170,861.04	175,976.64	181,280.16
<u>M10</u> Town Administrator	153,342.72	158,249.52	163,323.36	168,543.36	173,951.28	179,505.36	185,247.36	191,177.28	197,295.12	203,600.88

VOTED MAJORITY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 35 FISCAL YEAR 2024 OPERATING BUDGET

Acting on amended Article 35, the Town voted unanimously in favor to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Seven Million, Nine Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand, One Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars and Fifteen Cents (37,935,162.15); to transfer from Reserve for Betterments the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00); to transfer from the Waterways Fund the



sum of Fifty Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$50,750.00); to transfer from the Premium and Interest on Bonds Fund the sum of Three Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-One Dollars and Eighty-Five Cents (\$3,261.85); to transfer from the Reserve for Excluded Debt the sum of One Million One Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand Forty-Six Dollars (\$1,127,046.00), for a total FY2024 operating budget of Thirty-Nine Million, Two Hundred Sixty-Six Thousand, and Two Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$39,266,220.00); with approval of the Regional School District assessment for Martha's Vineyard Regional High School subject to non-binding recommendation that no further funds be expended on the Regional School District v. Town of Oak Bluffs litigation; to defray Town charges as set out in Appendix A of this warrant for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 (FY2024); and to set the FY2024 expenditure limit for the Tashmoo Spring Building Revolving Fund. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

ARTICLE 36 TO TRANSFER FROM UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE TO REDUCE THE TAX RATE  
Acting on Article 36, the Town voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Unreserved Fund Balance the sum of Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) to meet the limitations of Chapter 59 of the General Laws, (Proposition Two and One-Half, so called), as amended, or to reduce the tax rate. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR

A true copy,

Attest:

J. Hillary Conklin

Town Clerk

# ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

## May 9, 2023

Pursuant to the warrant for the Annual Town Election was held at the Tisbury Emergency Services Facility at 215 Spring Street, on Tuesday, Monday May 9<sup>th</sup> at twelve noon. There were 3,706 registered voters.

The ballot box was checked by the Assistant Election Warden Allan Rogers, Election Clerk Colleen Morris and Constable Mark Campos and found to be in order, with the register set at zero at 11:30 a.m. The box was then locked by the Constable and the polls were declared open by the Assistant Election Warden at twelve noon for the reception of votes. The polls were closed at 8:00 p.m. by the Assistant Election Warden with the ballot box registering 678 ballots cast. There were three ballots counted by hand that could not be read by the tabulator. The checked voter's list and count of ballots showed 681 names checked and ballots counted.

**The declaration of the vote was as follows:**

<b>For MODERATOR (1 for 3 yrs)</b>	
Donald C. Rose Jr.	525
All Others	2
BLANKS	154
<b>For TOWN CLERK (1 for 3 yrs)</b>	
J. Hillary Conklin	566
All Others	3
BLANKS	112
<b>For SELECT BOARD (1 for 3yrs)</b>	
Abbe Burt	311
Christina Margaret Colarusso	314
MacAleer B. Schilcher	49
All Others	1
BLANKS	6
<b>For CONSTABLE (1 for 3yrs)</b>	
Kenneth A. Barwick	519
All Others	1
BLANKS	161
<b>For ASSESSOR (1 for 3 yrs)</b>	
James B. Norton	536
All Others	1
BLANKS	144
<b>For BOARD OF HEALTH (1 for 3 yrs)</b>	
Jeffrey C. Pratt	525
All Others	1
BLANKS	155

<b>For LIBRARY TRUSTEE (3 for 3 yrs)</b>	
Christine Gregory Burke	468
Jean B. Lewellyn	464
Virginia F. Crisman (Write in )	30
All Others	0
Blanks	1081
<b>For LIBRARY TRUSTEE (1 for 1 yrs)</b>	
Carolyn Ruth Henderson	485
All Others	3
Blanks	193
<b>For SCHOOL COMMITTEE (1 for 3 yrs)</b>	
Jennifer Marie Cutrer	514
All Others	2
Blanks	165
<b>For WATER COMMISSIONER (1 for 3 yrs)</b>	
David J. Schwab	546
All Others	1
Blanks	134
<b>For FINANCE AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE (3 for 3 yrs)</b>	
Ruth Davis Konigsberg	443
Louis Pashman	428
John Alexander Meleney (Write in )	61
All Others	0
Blanks	1111

For PLANNING BOARD (1 for 5 yrs)	
Benjamin F. Robinson	442
All Others	11
Blanks	228

For MARTHA'S VINEYARD LAND BANK COMMISSIONER (1 for 3 yrs)	
Nancy Lee Weaver	512
All Others	2
Blanks	167

Question #1:

Shall the Town of Tisbury be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition Two and One Half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the Town's allocable share of the bond issued by the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District to pay costs of a feasibility study relating to the possible replacement or reconstruction of the District High School, located at 100 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, including all costs incidental and related thereto?

YES	-	415
NO	-	185
BLANKS	-	81

Attest:

J. Hillary Conklin  
Tisbury Town Clerk



# ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION OFFICIAL BALLOT TISBURY, MASSACHUSETTS May 9, 2023

*J. Hillary Conklin*  
TOWN CLERK

To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the candidate's name. To vote for a person not on the ballot, write that person's name and residence in the blank space provided and fill in the oval.

### MODERATOR

Three Years Vote for not more than ONE

**Donald C. Rose Jr.**   
152 Edgartown Road

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### TOWN CLERK

Three Years Vote for not more than ONE

**J. Hillary Conklin**   
55 Leland Avenue Candidate for Re-election

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### SELECT BOARD

Three Years Vote for not more than ONE

**Abbe Burt**   
42 Skiff Avenue Candidate for Re-election

**Christina Margaret**   
74 Bernard Circle

**Colarusso MacAleer B.**   
71 Lake Street

**Schilcher**   
WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### CONSTABLE

Three Years Vote for not more than ONE

**Kenneth A. Barwick**   
141 Causeway Road Candidate for Re-election

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Three Years Vote for not more than ONE

**James B. Norton**   
181 Head of Pond Road Candidate for Re-election

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### BOARD OF HEALTH

Three Years Vote for not more than ONE

**Jeffrey C. Pratt**   
330 Franklin Street Candidate for Re-election

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### PLANNING BOARD

Five Years Vote for not more than ONE

**Benjamin F. Robinson**   
172 Main Street Candidate for Re-election

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Three Years Vote for not more than THREE

**Christine Gregory**   
10 Mariner Road

**Burke Jean B. Lewellyn**   
256 Sandpiper Lane Unit 10

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

One Years Vote for not more than ONE

**Carolyn Ruth Henderson**   
123 William Street Candidate for Re-election

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Three Years Vote for not more than ONE

**Jennifer Marie Cutrer**   
221 Lake Street Candidate for Re-election

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### WATER COMMISSIONER

Three Years Vote for not more than ONE

**David J. Schwab**   
141 Canterbury Lane Candidate for Re-election

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### FINANCE AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Three Years Vote for not more than THREE

**Ruth Davis**   
23 Authier Avenue

**Konigsberg Louis**   
71 Daggett Avenue

**Pashman**   
WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### MARTHA'S VINEYARD LAND BANK COMMISSIONER

Three Years Vote for not more than ONE

**Nancy Lee Weaver**   
21 Pond View Way Candidate for Re-election

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

### Question 1

Shall the Town of Tisbury be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition Two and One Half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the Town's allocable share of the bond issued by Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District to pay costs of a feasibility study relating to the possible replacement or reconstruction of the District High School, located at 100 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, including all costs incidental and related thereto?

Yes

No

# SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION

## January 24, 2023

Pursuant to the warrant for the Special Town Election was held at the Tisbury Emergency Services Facility at 215 Spring Street, on Tuesday, January 24th<sup>h</sup> at twelve noon. There were 3,706 registered voters.

The ballot box was checked by the Assistant Election Warden Allan Rogers and Constable Michael Ciancio and found to be in order, with the register set at zero at 11:30 a.m. The box was then locked by the Constable and the polls were declared open by the Assistant Election Warden at twelve noon for the reception of votes. The polls were closed at 8:00 p.m. by the Assistant Election Warden with the ballot box registering 496 ballots cast. The checked voter's list and count of ballots showed 496 names checked and ballots counted.

**The declaration of the vote was as follows:**

SELECT BOARD (1 for 1 YEAR)	
Abbe Burt	188
Bruce J. Campbell	21
Christina Margaret Colarusso	179
Donald C. Rose Jr.	105
WRITE INS	3

Attest:

J. Hillary Conklin  
Tisbury Town Clerk



**SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION  
OFFICIAL BALLOT  
TISBURY,  
MASSACHUSETTS  
January 24, 2023**

*J. Hilary Conklin*  
TOWN CLERK

To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the candidate's name. To vote for a person not on the ballot, write that person's name and residence in the blank space provided and fill in the oval.

**Select Board**

One Years      Vote for not more than ONE

**Abbe Burt**   
42 Skiff Avenue

**Bruce J. Campbell**   
75 Dudley Street

**Christina Margaret**   
74 Bernard Circle

**Colarusso Donald C. Rose Jr.**   
152 Edgartown Road

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

SAMPLE



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EMS-AMBULANCE SERVICE	64
FIRE DEPARTMENT	66
POLICE DEPARTMENT	68

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

In 2023, the Emergency Management Department (EMD) experienced a number of challenges, some of them familiar and some unanticipated. In July, flight cancellations due to poor weather conditions and flight crews being “timed out” caused the stranding of several dozen passengers at the airport; EMDs around the island provided support to the airport by assisting with sheltering stranded visitors overnight. This response was further evidence of the Island community’s exceptional ability to come together in the face of unforeseen challenges. Tisbury EMD also held a tabletop exercise for Beach Road Weekend, inviting Town Emergency Department officials, officials from Mutual Aid towns, and MEMA representatives to take part. This successful tabletop showed that the Town Emergency Departments are prepared for an event of that size. Tabletop exercises are important to practice, and they help us prepare for managing events and/or major emergencies in Town.

By the beginning of 2023 Patrick B. Rolston had been appointed EMD Director, and in July Samantha Dore took over as the Assistant EMD Director for the Town of Tisbury. The largest task the EMD Directors faced was the review and completion of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) and Incident Action Plans for major events such as Beach Road Weekend, First Fridays, the Tisbury Street Fair, and any other events during the year.

Throughout 2023 the Tisbury EMD managed the readiness of its CodeRED program, in which residents are able to sign up via the Town’s website to receive text or phone notifications regarding emergencies. Tisbury residents were also able to sign up for the Town’s Storm Coverage Outreach Program (SCOP), allowing our living-at-home seniors to receive check-ins from Tisbury Fire, Tisbury Police, and Senior Center personnel regarding their physical and/or medical requirements in the event of an emergency. We maintained our inventory of required supplies should it become necessary to open a warming and charging shelter in the ESF Building and continued to work with our fellow Emergency Management Departments to keep the Island’s regional shelter at the ready.

The Tisbury Emergency Management Department continued its in-person and virtual training through the Incident Command System (ICS), the standardized approach to the command, control, and coordination of emergency responses. We continue to coordinate with all Town departments to keep them informed of upcoming storms and foreseeable issues.

My thanks to Fire Chief and EMS Coordinator Gregory Leland, Police Chief Chris Habekost, DPW Director Kirk Metell, and their respective departments for their assistance and guidance in planning for and responding to emergencies. Finally, my sincere thanks to the taxpayers of Tisbury for their continued support of the Tisbury Emergency Management Department.

Respectfully submitted,

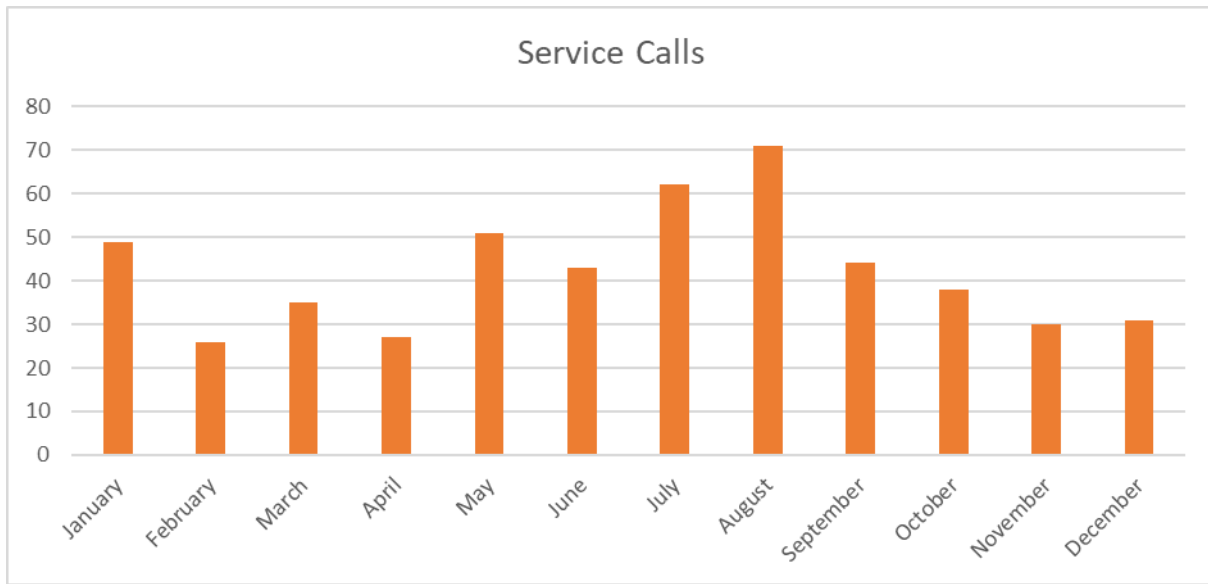
Patrick B. Rolston, Tisbury Emergency Management Director

Samantha Gitschier, Tisbury Assistant Emergency Management Director

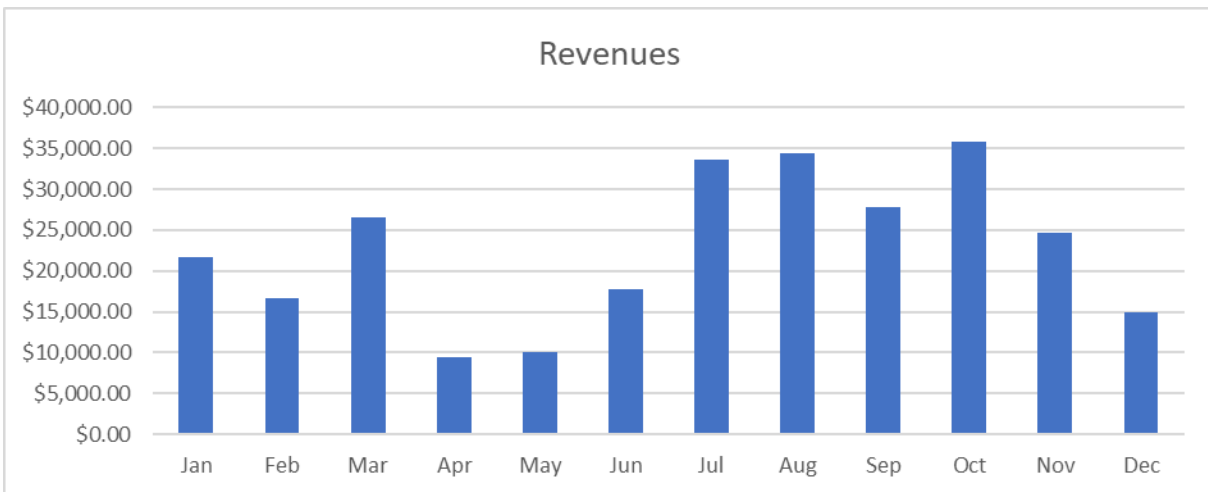


# TISBURY AMBULANCE SERVICE

Tisbury Ambulance Service continues to adapt to the ever-evolving scope of pre-hospital care for the Tisbury community. In addition to supporting our Town residents, we also respond and provide mutual aid support to our surrounding communities. In the year 2023, the Tisbury Ambulance Service had 585 calls for service, including 387 Treat & Transports, 138 Public Assists, 50 Mutual Aid, and 45 Motor Vehicle Accidents.



The department continuously seeks to reduce overall costs and in 2023 the Service revenues from ambulance calls generated \$273,504.31 into the general fund.



In 2023 the Tisbury Ambulance Service added new members to their full-time staff; Nisa Webster joined in March as a newly-accredited paramedic after working as an EMT-Basic for seven years. In July, Krystle Schaeffer became the Service’s Paramedic Supervisor, after eight years of service with the Town. She started her career as an EMT-Basic in 2008 and shortly after progressed to an EMT-Paramedic in 2013. She spent ten years at the Martha’s Vineyard Hospital,

working as a medical scribe and scribe manager, effectively managing scribe training, payroll, and policies and procedures roll-outs. Finally, in December Dawn Gompert was hired as a full-time EMT-Basic; Dawn became an EMT in 2006 and has worked for the Tisbury Ambulance Service for 18 years. The Service is thrilled with these additions to our full-time staff.

Our department is continuously adapting to the challenges of recruitment and retention within our community. This past year we were fortunate to have three new recruits join the Service: Michael Schmelzer (EMT-Basic), Elizabeth Wajda (EMT-Basic), and Michelle Halpin (EMT-Paramedic).

Our staff is committed to providing the highest quality care to the Town. Nightly training sessions are conducted at shift change to better prepare us in handling medical, trauma, and environmental emergencies. Monthly classes are provided by EMS members from all departments on the Island to improve knowledge, stay up-to-date with the developing changes in EMS, and deliver the best care possible.

Special thanks in particular to the Ambulance Service's full-time employees: Jason Davey, Dawn Gompert, Lindsay Hopkins, Ben Stevens, and Nisa Webster. Their hard work, professionalism, and commitment to excellence over the past year has been greatly appreciated. Many thanks to the dedicated individuals of the Tisbury's Police and Fire departments for their continued support.

In closing, the Department also wishes to offer its appreciation to the following EMTs and Paramedics, many of whom have gone above and beyond the call of duty to help in the success of Tisbury Ambulance: Arielle Abt, Henry Bassett, Yuliya Bilzerian, Belinda Booker, Bradley Carroll, Sheri Caseau, Jim Davin, Dawn Gompert, Amanda Gonsalves, Michelle Halpin, Bailey Herrmann, Ansley Higgins, Em Kraak, Haley Krauss, David Marinelli, Greg Martino, Matthew Montanile, Ben Retmier, Gleyzielle Rodrigues, Patrick Rolston, Trulayna Rose, Michael Schmelzer, David Smith, Meghan Sonia, Vanessa Vacharasovan, Elizabeth Wajda, and Ashley Wood.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gregory K. Leland, EMS Coordinator  
Krystle R. Schaeffer, Paramedic Supervisor

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

*Volunteers proudly serving our community since 1884.*

To the Honorable Selectboard and the Citizens of Tisbury:

For the calendar year of 2023, the Tisbury Fire Department responded to 523 calls for service, on par with the previous calendar year. The majority of our calls are automatic alarms, followed by cooking fires and EMS assistance calls. We responded to nineteen building fires of various degrees, with no loss of life or injuries to the public or department members.

Throughout 2023 our members continued their commitment to training and professional development, attending training both locally and through the State Fire Academy. Some of their most valuable training has been utilizing the State's fire simulation trailers. These training sessions give firefighters real smoke, heat, and fire experience in a controlled environment. In addition to their regular fire training, six members of our department participated in the All-Island Firefighter 1&2 Program, and tested at various times throughout the year.

In 2023 the Tisbury Fire Department continued to look for ways to offset spending by applying for State and Federal Grants; the following State grants were awarded to the department: Firefighter Safety Equipment from the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services in the amount of \$12,500, and the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation, Bureau of Forest Fire Control & Forestry matching funds in the amount of \$6,000.

On the first Friday of each month in the summer season, the department supported the Tisbury Business Association and its First Friday events by providing an engine for the beach bonfires held at Owen Park. We also provided support for other events taking place throughout our community.

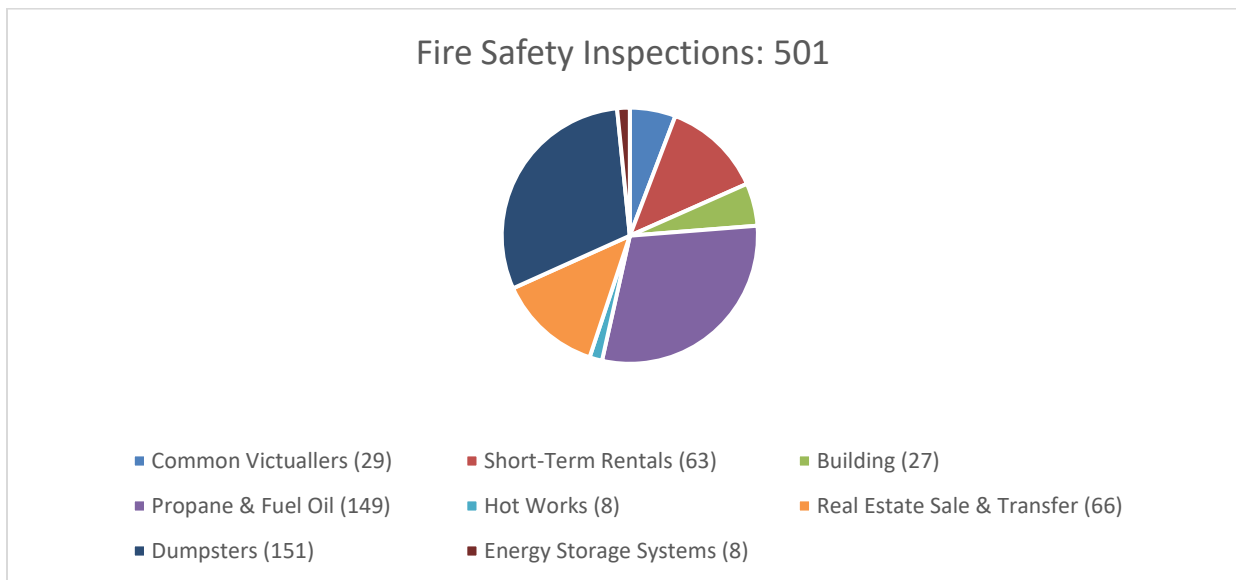
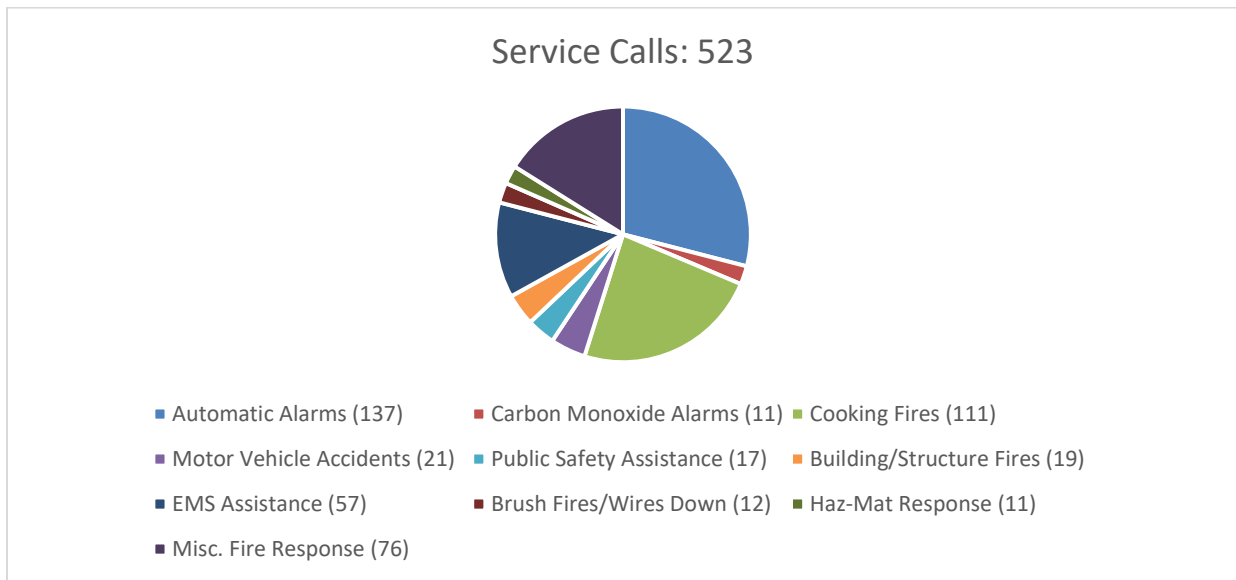
On April 9<sup>th</sup>, Easter Sunday, the Tisbury Fire Department responded to the Sun Island Delivery & Self Storage facility at 355 State Road for multiple storage units on fire. Our first arriving company accessed the locked storage units and began extinguishment. Firefighters worked the fire scene for nearly three hours to fully extinguish and overhaul the affected units. In all, five units were severely damaged and considered a total loss; all units sustained smoke damage. The units have since been demolished and replaced with new ones. On the night of August 22<sup>nd</sup> the Tisbury Fire Department responded to 208 Sandpiper Lane for Tisbury's first lithium ion battery fire. Upon arrival, we found that a large battery for an electric bicycle had caught fire while charging in the dining room of the unit. Our first arriving company, with quick thinking, wrapped the burning battery in the carpet on which it was laying and removed it from the building, effectively stopping the spread of fire to any other portion of the building. Firefighters then submerged the battery in a steel barrel of water until all of the energy had been discharged. Throughout the year Tisbury Firefighters supported our neighboring communities with their structure fires through our comprehensive mutual aid policies.

The Tisbury Fire Department would like to thank Oak Bluffs Fire and Ambulance, Edgartown Fire and Ambulance, West Tisbury Fire Department, and Tri-Town Ambulance for all of their assistance throughout the year, and we look forward to continuing to work with them in the upcoming year in training and on the fire grounds.

We would like to recognize the strong working relationship we have with the Tisbury Ambulance Service and the Tisbury Police Department. The seamless integration of our three services enables us all to provide you with effective and professional response to your emergencies.

On behalf of the members of the Tisbury Fire Department, thank you to the taxpayers of Tisbury for their continued support of our mission. To the employers and families of our members, thank you for supporting our members in their service. Without your encouragement and understanding, our volunteer system could not effectively serve our communities' emergency needs.

### 2023 YEAR END DATA



Respectfully submitted,  
 Gregory K. Leland, Fire Chief/Forest Warden/EMS Coordinator  
 Patrick B. Rolston, Deputy Fire Chief

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

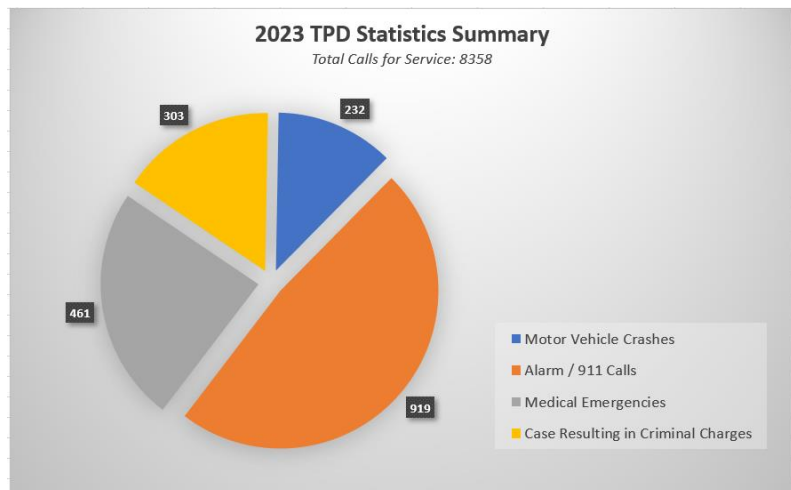
To the Honorable Select Board and the Citizens of Tisbury,

2023 was a year of continued rebuilding of our agency including filling vacant positions. We hired two new Patrol Officers and are now staffed fully according to our budgeted positions and staffing plan. One of the new Patrol Officers was previously trained and was previously employed by the Edgartown Police Department before being hired by this agency, and is an island native. The other Patrol Officer was hired and then sent to the Police Academy and has since graduated and moved to the island. I'm confident that these two new Patrol Officers are of the highest quality and possess the highest integrity, which is paramount to our rebuilding process and to our current and future reputation.

There were several dynamics which shaped our communities and subsequently our law enforcement agencies during the year of 2023. We've seen an increase in disturbance related calls for service including more volatile behavior and more calls for mental health related incidents as well as an increase in our homeless population. There has also been an increase in conflicts worldwide, including the conflict between Israel and Gaza, which has led to threats directed at our Jewish Community in town, which necessitates increased police presence.

The department has purchased an unmanned aerial aircraft (drone) and has certified our officers in its use. This law enforcement tool has been utilized in various calls for service including: vehicle collision mapping, search and rescue of people and animals, assistance and observation at large scale events such as the music festival and Tisbury Street Fair.

The Police Department handled 8,358 total calls for service in 2023, a breakdown of which is provided in the chart above. This rate of productivity meets or exceeds that of other similarly sized police departments on Martha's Vineyard. There has been a 31.16% increase in criminal cases filed in Edgartown District Court by the Tisbury Police due to the increased severity of our calls for service. We have worked collaboratively with other town departments and other island law enforcement agencies to provide consistent, effective, and fair public safety services to the citizens of, and the visitors to, the town of Tisbury. We look forward to a safe, healthy, and peaceful 2024.



Respectfully submitted,  
Christopher P Habekost  
Chief of Police

William P Brigham  
Police Lieutenant





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# BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The assessors of each community are responsible for developing a reasonable and realistic program to achieve the fair cash valuation of property in accordance with constitutional and statutory requirements. The nature and extent of that program will depend on the assessors’ analysis and consideration of many factors, including but not limited to, the status of the existing valuation system, the results of an in-depth sales ratio study, and the accuracy of the existing property record information.

State law requires that local assessed values reflect market value every year. Every five years Massachusetts cities and towns are mandated to re-evaluate the assessed values of their municipality. During the calendar year 2023, our office reviewed and analyzed the sales data from the calendar year 2022 of real property. Depending on the market conditions and property value trends, adjustments may increase, decrease, or leave values unchanged.



Total town expenditures increased 18% from fiscal year 2022 (\$27,761,687) to fiscal year 2023 (\$31,031,602). The residential tax rate is \$7.32 per thousand and the commercial tax rate is \$6.72 for the fiscal year 2023. The reason for the different tax rates is a result of the Select Board’s voting to continue the benefit of the residential exemption. As the total assessed value of the exemptions decreases the residential class assessment, the tax rate of the residential class, which covers 91% of the town budget, decreased from \$8.70 to 7.32.

The fiscal year 2023 assessed values of all town real estate is \$3,418,048,413, an increase from the fiscal year 2022.

Listed below is the breakdown of classes of property for the fiscal year 2023:

2933	Residential Parcels	\$3,863,945,645
312	Commercial Parcels	\$317,513,739
16	Industrial Parcels	\$7,340,100
1713	Personal Property Accounts	\$84,003,227
222	Exempt Parcels	\$290,449,699

Part of the process of assessing fair and equitable is collecting data for the department, to keep the town records and values up to date when building permits are issued. Ms. Alycelee Pigman, the data collector, collects valuation data through a cyclical inspection program required by the Massachusetts Division of Local Assessment as part of the revaluation certification over a ten-year



period. During the inspection, we are confirming the information on the Assessor's record card regarding the construction details, depreciation of the home, and other valuation variables.

The Board of Assessors congratulates Alycelee Pigman in obtaining the Massachusetts Accredited Assessor designation.

The Board of Assessors would like to thank the staff, Principal Assessor Ann Marie Cywinski, Data Collector Alycelee Pigman and Administrative Secretary Sarah Coddling for all their hard work throughout the year. Without them we would not have a tax base.

Respectfully submitted,

James B. Norton, Chair  
David Dandridge, Member  
Fala Freeman, Member

## FINANCE AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Finance and Advisory Committee is a volunteer board of nine Tisbury residents elected (or, if vacancies occur – appointed by joint action of the committee and the Select Board) to recommend the town budget to town meeting and to review and make recommendations on all articles brought to the citizens for a vote. “The Voter Guide” distributed at town meeting shows how the committee’s members voted on each article and it summarizes the arguments on each side when the committee vote is not unanimous.

The majority of the committee’s work is done in the months before town meeting. Much time is spent with town departments and others proposing warrant articles, as we work with them to establish realistic operating budgets, capital expenditures and funding requests. Additionally, Finance and Advisory Committee members are voting members of a number of town committees and attend other town and island committees throughout the year to stay informed on developing issues and projects.

This past year, we had joint meetings with the Select Board, the Personnel Board, the Planning Board and the Master Plan Steering Committee to allow time for more discussion about specific areas of mutual concern. We also met with the Oak Bluffs Finance Committee to see if we could identify cost savings for both communities by working together.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Clough, Vice Chair  
Nancy B. Gilfoy, Chair  
Ruth Konigsberg  
Alex Meleney  
Rachel Orr  
Louis Pashman  
Allan Rogers  
Dan Seidman

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

From fiscal year 2021 to fiscal year 2023, the town's annual budget grew a total of 24% over two years, driven primarily by the debt service on the new bond to pay for the renovation of the elementary school, which accounted for almost half that increase. Other cost increases included the costs to run the elementary school, the assessment from the regional high school, and the police and public works budgets. There is no easy solution to rising budgets since, in addition to funding the town budget, we must address infrastructure. The challenge will be to provide core services – education, public safety, and many others - while funding infrastructure improvements.

Our stabilization or “rainy day” fund is a reserve to cover unexpected financial expenditures. As of the end of fiscal year 2023, the general stabilization fund had a balance of \$2.6 million, and our relatively new capital and infrastructure stabilization fund had a balance of \$2.0 million.

Maintaining a strong stabilization fund helps our credit rating – our Standard and Poor's credit rating remains a solid “AA+ stable,” an excellent rating for a town our size.

Our independent auditors, Scanlon & Associates, are completing the fiscal 2023 audit, examining all aspects of town finances. Copies of the audit report and management letter will be available for anyone interested in reviewing the results of the audit and the comments from the auditors. This year's annual report includes selected financial statements, as that audit has not yet been completed.

Finance Department staff members include Assistant Treasurer/Collector Kim Serpa, Financial Assistant Tomás Speckert, and Assistant Town Accountants Libby Cleary and John Minnehan. Our goal is to serve you, the citizens of Tisbury. Please feel free to call or stop by the office any time. We will be happy to assist you.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan V. Snyder, Finance Director  
Suzanne E. Kennedy, Accountant

**TOWN OF TISBURY, MASSACHUSETTS  
BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2023**

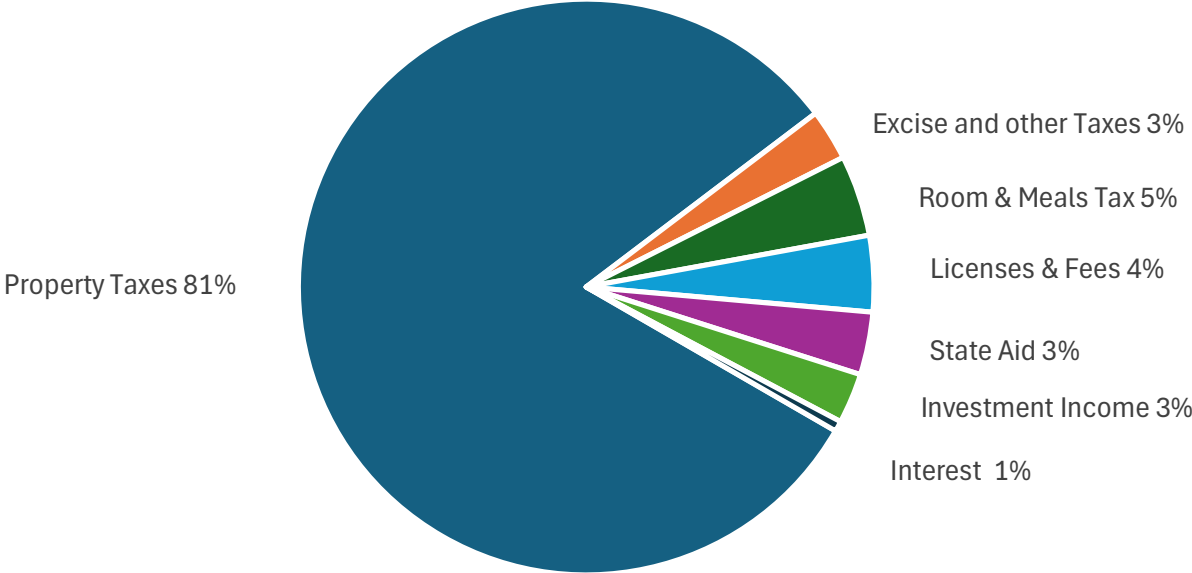
	General Fund	School Renovation Fund	Roadway Improvement Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets:</b>					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 21,492,561	\$ 57,968,716	\$ 3,761,147	\$ 11,125,719	\$ 94,348,143
Investments	4,129,798	-	-	903,312	5,033,110
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectibles:					
Property Taxes	553,384	-	-	16,529	569,913
Tax Liens	525,348	-	-	15,775	541,123
Excise Taxes	190,463	-	-	-	190,463
Departmental	73,353	-	-	145,790	219,143
Due from Other Governments	10,574	-	-	1,234,583	1,245,157
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 26,975,481</b>	<b>\$ 57,968,716</b>	<b>\$ 3,761,147</b>	<b>\$ 13,441,708</b>	<b>\$ 102,147,052</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>					
Warrants Payable	\$ 1,066,207	\$ 3,220,697	\$ 389,914	\$ 302,546	\$ 4,979,364
Accrued Payroll	711,306	-	-	27,828	739,134
Payroll Withholdings	306,138	-	-	-	306,138
Other	21,663	-	-	-	21,663
Unearned Revenue	-	-	-	335,361	335,361
Bond Anticipation Notes Payable	-	150,000	-	-	150,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,105,314</b>	<b>3,370,697</b>	<b>389,914</b>	<b>665,735</b>	<b>6,531,660</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources:</b>					
Unavailable Revenue	1,300,122	-	-	1,202,932	2,503,054
<b>Fund Balance:</b>					
Nonspendable	-	-	-	669,575	669,575
Restricted	1,127,046	54,598,019	3,371,233	7,603,097	66,699,395
Committed	-	-	-	3,300,369	3,300,369
Assigned	7,834,621	-	-	-	7,834,621
Unassigned	14,608,378	-	-	-	14,608,378
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>23,570,045</b>	<b>54,598,019</b>	<b>3,371,233</b>	<b>11,573,041</b>	<b>93,112,338</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 26,975,481</b>	<b>\$ 57,968,716</b>	<b>\$ 3,761,147</b>	<b>\$ 13,441,708</b>	<b>\$ 102,147,052</b>

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this Statement.

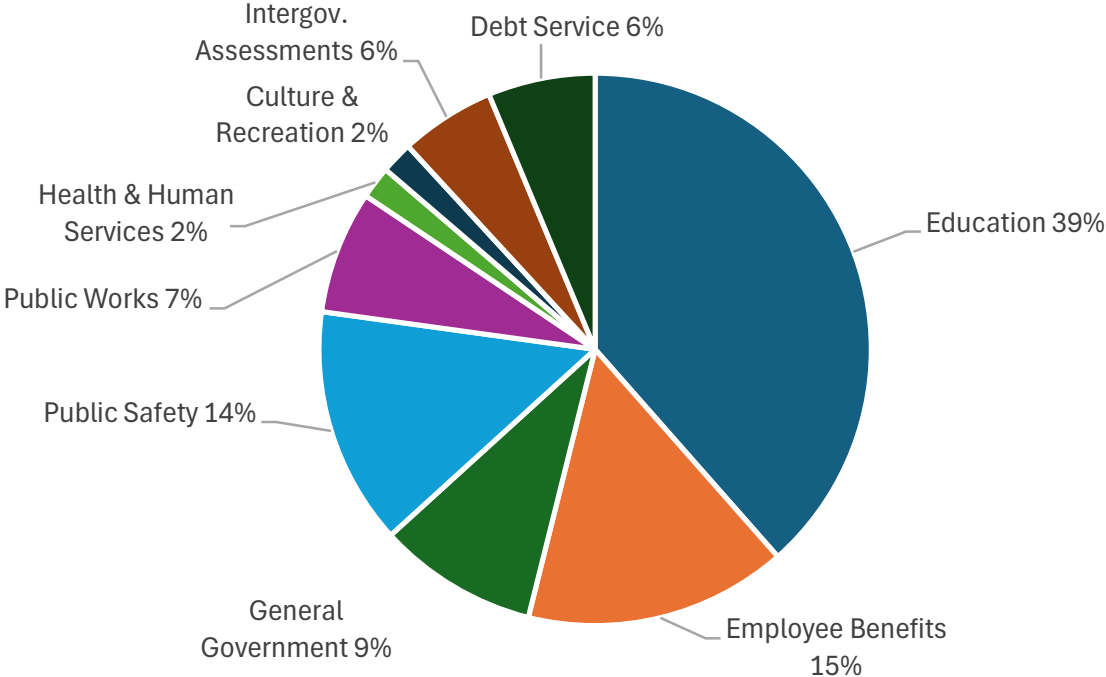
**TOWN OF TISBURY, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES - BUDGETARY BASIS -**  
**(NON-GAAP) - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

	Budgeted Amounts			Actual Budgetary Basis	Amounts Carried Forward to Next Year	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Amounts Carried		Final Budget			
	Forward from Prior Year	Original Budget				
<b>Revenues:</b>						
Property Taxes	\$ -	\$ 30,805,441	\$ 30,805,441	\$ 31,025,608	\$ -	\$ 220,167
Intergovernmental	-	1,624,373	1,624,373	1,346,296	-	(278,077)
Excise and Other Taxes	-	978,000	978,000	1,098,846	-	120,846
Hotel Room Occupancy, Meals and Cannabis Taxes	-	700,000	700,000	1,739,766	-	1,039,766
Licenses, Permits, Fees	-	1,122,000	1,122,000	1,630,187	-	508,187
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	-	220,000	220,000	222,273	-	2,273
Investment Income	-	30,000	30,000	1,079,915	-	1,049,915
<b>Total Revenues</b>	-	35,479,814	35,479,814	38,142,891	-	2,663,077
<b>Expenditures:</b>						
Current:						
General Government	1,106,914	3,398,058	4,486,100	3,225,634	799,837	460,629
Public Safety	839,684	5,125,447	5,980,392	4,799,685	818,258	362,449
Public Works	969,303	2,419,192	3,393,345	2,481,471	547,421	364,453
Education	1,437,391	13,303,247	14,740,637	13,261,446	1,329,952	149,239
Health and Human Services	1,114	694,300	695,414	653,847	-	41,567
Culture and Recreation	170,000	703,107	873,107	643,931	185,171	44,005
Employee Benefits and Insurance	926	5,876,236	5,885,541	5,298,773	5,207	581,561
Intergovernmental Assessments	-	1,858,356	1,858,356	1,914,888	-	(56,532)
Debt Service:						
Principal	-	824,739	824,739	824,739	-	-
Interest	-	2,589,451	2,589,451	1,337,303	-	1,252,148
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	4,525,332	36,792,133	41,327,082	34,441,717	3,685,846	3,199,519
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	(4,525,332)	(1,312,319)	(5,847,268)	3,701,174	(3,685,846)	5,862,596
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>						
Operating Transfers In	-	524,799	524,799	585,663	-	60,864
Operating Transfers (Out)	-	(1,599,998)	(1,599,998)	(1,599,998)	-	-
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	-	(1,075,199)	(1,075,199)	(1,014,335)	-	60,864
<b>Net Change in Budgetary Fund Balance</b>	(4,525,332)	(2,387,518)	(6,922,467)	\$ 2,686,839	\$ (3,685,846)	\$ 5,923,460
<b>Other Budgetary Items:</b>						
Free Cash and Other Reserves	-	2,387,518	2,397,135			
Prior Year Encumbrances	4,525,332	-	4,525,332			
<b>Total Other Budgetary Items</b>	4,525,332	2,387,518	6,922,467			
<b>NET BUDGET</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			

### FY2023 Revenues



### FY2023 Expenditures





TOWN DEPARTMENTS

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# ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

“A dog might destroy your shoes, but will never break your heart“. – Unkown

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Tisbury,  
 This year the Animal Control Department logged in a total of 1553 calls for service.

## 2023 STATISTICS:

Dogs licensed	678	Cats killed by dogs	0
Cats impounded	9	Dogs found or restrained	70
Dogs impounded	22	Cat bites to people	1
Cats hit by car	4	Dogs returned to owner	54
Dogs transported to ASMV	1	Farm animal calls	95
Cats brought to ASMV	3	Dogs left in car (summer)	11
Dogs hit by car	3	General animal concerns calls	103
Cats found	31	Dog bites to people	24
Barking dog complaints	72	General information calls	126
Cats reported missing	36	Dog bites to other dogs	19
Dogs surrendered	4	Wildlife calls	123
Cats returned to owner	11	Dangerous/Nuisance dog	14
Deceased cats	4	Tropical bird calls	1
Deceased dogs	3	General dog complaints	88
Dogs killing fowl	4	Assist other depts./towns	15
Cats left in car (summer)	0	Animals taken to vet	2
Dogs loose or missing	174	Animal cruelty calls	18

2023 as a very busy year for the Animal Control Department. We have an Assistant Lou Slingerland. The building had minor repairs done on the outside. On the inside the entire place was repainted. Inside and outside doors and pulls were adjusted and repaired. A heat pump system was installed. A new washing machine machine and dehumidifier put in. Donated small animal cages are being put to good use. The citizens of Tisbury should be proud to say they have the best Dog Kennel on Marthas Vineyard. I invite you all to stop by and check it out. A donated freezer from the USDA for animals to be tested for rabies has been put to good use. More than 25 wildlife were tested an all were negative. 4 bats were sent away for rabies and came back negative. I have attended training with NOAA, International Fund For Animal Welfare, Mystic Aquarium, Animal Control Officers Association of MA, MA Police Chiefs Association, Marthas Vineyard Horse Council to name a few. I organized a Coyote Talk at the Ag Hall. Dan Proulx came down and talked about ways to keep ourselves and our pets





safe. We learned how to haze them so they will hopefully stay out of our space. I helped organize and run the rabies clinic in March. More than 100 dogs and cats were vaccinated. We are hoping to have another in early spring of 2024. I was able to help with capturing and transporting a seal to rehab at the Mystic Aquarium. I have read "Can I pet Your Dog?" to the Tisbury kindergarten, 1st and 3rd grade classes. To try and educate children on the health and well being of animals. We had a documentary film showing of By My Side at the Tisbury Fire Station. A film about soldiers who suffer from PTSD and how service dogs help them. An ACO Mutual Aid Agreement was written and signed by Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, and Edgartown. I taught a wreath making class at the Tisbury Council on Aging. 20 ladies attended. I have become involved in the Large Animal Emergency Response Committee through the Marthas Vineyard Horse Council. Tisbury is the only town that has Horse Identification Forms on file. Through MVHC we are working to find ways to help get more veterinary care for both small and large animals. I'm working closely with the Town Clerks to try and every dog living in Tisbury licensed. In this coming year I would like to have an online dog license option. I would like to thank the continued support of the Police Department, the DPW, The Selectboard, and the Citizens of Tisbury.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Maciel, Animal Control Officer

# BUILDING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

The total number of building permits issued for the calendar year 2023 is Four Hundred and Thirteen (413). This is an increase of four (4) permits from last year. The Department continues to administer all building, electrical, plumbing, and propane gas permits under the applicable Massachusetts codes. We also continue to enforce Tisbury Zoning Bylaws for new projects and conduct enforcement to address bylaw violations.

As the new Building Commissioner for the Town of Tisbury I would like to thank the entire town staff for their support, there is a true sense of “esprit de corps” within the staff. I am looking forward to working with all the island’s regulatory agencies and building professionals.

We strive for consistent and fair administration of the Massachusetts Building Code and the Tisbury Zoning Bylaws to preserve public safety throughout the Town, and to ensure construction conforms to all development regulations.

### END OF THE YEAR DATA

#### Commercial Permits

New Construction	5
Additions	0
Renovations	19
Specialty Construction	2
Solar	1

#### Residential Permits

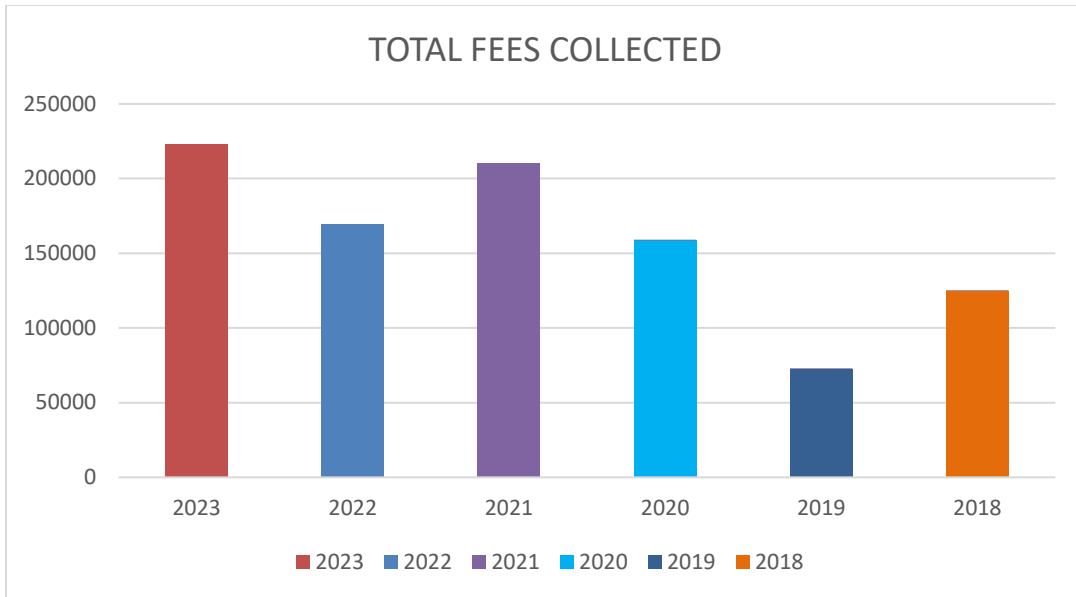
Single Family Dwellings	17
Accessory Apartments	5
Demolition	5
Additions	19
Accessory Structures	15
Renovations	127
Multi-Family Dwelling	2
Minor Work Permit	247
Workforce Housing	

#### Other Types of Permits

Signs	14	Solar Arrays	45
Wood Stoves	2	Swimming Pools	10
Sheet Metal	10	Tents	40
Alarm & Sprinkler Systems	3	Short Term Rentals Reg.	60

### TOTAL COST OF CONSTRUCTION IN TISBURY

Commercial	\$16,293,499.00	Residential	\$ 37,620,268.00
------------	-----------------	-------------	------------------



Respectfully Submitted,

Gregory T. Monka  
Building Commissioner/Inspector of Buildings  
Zoning Enforcement Officer

## **WIRING INSPECTOR**

For the calendar year 2023 a total of 311 electrical permits were issued. This is a increase of 37 permits from last year. The total of fees collected for all wiring permits and inspections during the calendar year of 2023 was \$84,450.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond Gosselin  
Wiring Inspector

---

## **GAS INSPECTOR**

For the calendar year 2023 a total of 118 gas permits were issued. This is a decrease of 16 permits from last year. Most were for installations of central heating systems, hot water heaters, and gas fireplaces. The total of fees collected for all gas permits and inspections during the calendar year of 2023 was \$24,420.00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Ciancio  
Gas Inspector

---

## **PLUMBING INSPECTOR**

For the calendar year 2023 a total of 119 plumbing permits were issued. This is an decrease of 11 permits from last year. The total of fees collected for all plumbing permits and inspections during the calendar year of 2023 was \$31,7850.00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Ciancio  
Plumbing Inspector

## TISBURY COUNCIL ON AGING

The Town of Tisbury and Tisbury Council on Aging would like to wish a happy and healthy retirement to our director of 44 years, Joyce Styles-Tucker and our Activities Director Sandy Whitworth. Together they made the Senior Center what it is today. Their commitment to serving our senior population has been exemplary. After working with the Tisbury Board of Health for 15 years I look forward to continuing to serve our senior population as the new Director.

The Council on Aging strives to meet the needs of the growing population of seniors.

We refer many of our clients to Elder Services. They provide Home Care Elder Service contracts in conjunction with VNA of Cape Cod and Greater Boston Healthcare. They are instrumental in delivering Homecare, Meals on Wheels and other services. These programs strive to enable independent living with our clients remaining in their homes.

Catie Blake's class in Functional Fitness, which concentrates on strength, balance, flexibility, and agility, is still very popular and meets every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 10:00 am. We have maintained our core group and added many new participants. Our other programs: Line Dancing, yoga, meditation, silver quilters, ukulele, play reading, bridge and discussion of T. S. Elliotts Four Quartets are going strong. I encourage you to follow us on Facebook and Instagram for daily updates.

Attorney Bergeron is offering informative presentations on MVTV. Attorney Bergeron is seeing clients one on one at the senior center for anyone who needs legal assistance or advice. Please call 508-696-4205 for an appointment.

We value our volunteers who deliver holiday meals, distribute fish and lend a helping hand with special events held at the center. Volunteers provide a great service to our community. We are always looking for volunteers at the Council on Aging.

SHINE Counsellors are available to assist with aiding with medical insurance claims and answer questions regarding insurance plans that would best serve their needs. Call the Senior center for information at 508-696-4205.

We offer numerous assistance programs. They include fuel assistance, SNAP (food stamps), housing, food, tax assistance, legal services are provided by Elder Law attorney though Legal Services of Cape Cod & the Islands. Please reach out to us to make an appointment.

Healthy Aging of Martha's Vineyard works with the Council on Aging, the Vineyard Transit Authority and Martha's Vineyard Hospital to address transportation needs for Older Adults. A grant was received to continue the Home Modification program. This vital community program installs ramps, grab bars, and railings, thus making homes safer to help prevent falls.

The column, 55 Plus is published the last Thursday of the month in the Martha's Vineyard Times. Additionally, our website is [www.tisburyma.gov](http://www.tisburyma.gov). I encourage you to explore both to stay up to date on all the exciting programs and initiatives offered at your Tisbury Senior Center.

The mission of the Tisbury Council on Aging continues to provide services and programs to Older Adults in the Town of Tisbury. We welcome everyone to our center and participate in our various activities offered.

Catie Blake, Director

Constance Teixeira, Chairperson

Sandra Pratt, Secretary

Tristan Israel, Assistant Chairperson

Elanor Morad

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

To the Citizens of the Town of Tisbury:

The Department of Public Works (DPW) continued to serve the public and perform the services outlined in our charter adopted in 1991. The Department provided local drop off services for refuse and recycling collection, maintained roads and sidewalks, cleared snow from roadways, provided parks and recreation services, maintained cemetery operations and services, and maintained municipal buildings and sewer plant operations and services.

### Refuse and Recycling and Hazardous Waste Disposal Services:

The Town, through the DPW and in partnership with Oak Bluffs, continues to operate the Tisbury and Oak Bluffs Refuse Transfer Station located on Pennsylvania Avenue in Oak Bluffs for disposal of the Town's municipal solid waste (MSW), which is then transported to the Crapo Hill Landfill in New Bedford for final disposal. The department continues to review the manner of transporting MSW off-Island to try to reduce the cost of disposal where possible. The Town continues to contract with Bruno's Inc. for curbside and recycling pick-up. The Town still provides municipal courtesy barrels and pick-up services on a daily basis. The Department continues to provide local drop-off services for the refuse and recycling needs of the Town and has continued its partnership with the Martha's Vineyard Refuse Disposal and Recovery District for the disposal of residential hazardous waste.

### Highway and Sidewalk Maintenance:

The Department is very proud to announce this year completed project list:

Main Street Sidewalk Improvements, which included new paving, brick island, benches, signage, and planters.

Paving:

Franklin Terrance

Sections of West Spring

Pine Street

O.B Transfer Station

Summer St.

### Parks and Recreation:

The Department recreation programs has been extremely busy, this side of our business has constructed 2 clay tennis courts on Church Street with a new parking lot that can hold more than 25 vehicles, in addition to this wonderful upgrade, Lake Street Park is the home of 3 new pickleball courts and an oversize parking lot that can accommodate 10 boat trailers.



Again, Veterans Park hosted the Beach Road Music Festival, the concert, The Town worked closely with the Concert promoter and formulated a successful maintenance plan. Parkgoers will be impressed with the lush green grass that now covers a majority of the park.

Thank you, Adam Epstein and Teles Landscape.

**Cemetery Maintenance and Operations:**

The Town continues to operate and maintain the four Town cemeteries. We would like to thank Quitsa Landscaping for helping us maintain these properties, without them it wouldn't have been possible.

**Acknowledgments:**

This Department would like to thank the taxpayers of Tisbury and other Town departments and boards for their continued support, and the fine people which make up our Public Works Team.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kirk Metell  
Director of Public Works



# HARBORMASTER

The Tisbury Harbor Department is responsible for the safe and responsible use of town waterways by pleasure boaters, commercial and recreational fishermen, daily visitors and shoreside commercial enterprises of vital importance to our Island economy. The Harbor Department strives to maintain a welcoming atmosphere and provide a balance that is beneficial to the town and protects our beautiful harbors.

Currently, the department oversees 800 permitted moorings spread across Vineyard Haven Harbor, Lagoon Pond and Lake Tashmoo. On any given day, visiting boaters arrive in all manner of craft from small sailboats to luxury yachts. The town also hosts the Island’s two busiest public launch ramps. Added to that mix, is the Steamship Authority. Our town waterways are busy.

In 2019 the Town of Tisbury negotiated a contract with Woods Hole Group to obtain permitting, grant writing to fund the dredge project, assembling the bid package, review of bids and selection and oversight of the Dredging Project for the Town’s inner harbor. The entire project is expected to be completed by fall 2024.

We dredged the Lake Tashmoo entrance channel to a depth of 6 feet. This is done every other year. We once again reached an agreement with the Town of Edgartown to have their dredge and crew complete the project that was overseen by the Woods Hole Group.

The Harbor Department continues to operate an active boat pump out service. In 2023 we pumped out 234 vessel sewage holding tanks totaling 9,100 gallons. Thanks to the Wastewater Department the Owen Park dockside facility holding tank was connected to the Town wastewater system. The connection allows the Harbor Department to empty our pump out vessel into our wastewater system. Previously the Martha’s Vineyard Shipyard allowed us to empty our vessel at their facility. We take this opportunity to publicly thank them for their assistance and generosity.



The Tashmoo pump out vessel has outlived its useful life. To resolve the matter, we intend to install a fixed pump out station on the Lake Street Landing Pier. We are working with the MA Clean Vessel Act Administrator to acquire the funding to design, purchase and install the system.

The Harbor logged 51 Incidents during the year. The Harbor Department towed several disabled vessels, pumped out vessels in danger of sinking and rescued a number of vessels that dragged anchor or broke free during storms. We also rescued a dog that fell off the pier.

There have been a couple of new developments in Lake Tashmoo. After listening to the public the Select Board voted to enact an anchoring moratorium in the lake. The moratorium substantially reduced vessel traffic this past summer. To accommodate vessels wanting to visit Lake Tashmoo we installed 8 guest moorings that were well received by the boating public. In addition, the

Department of Public Works installed a portable toilet for the convenience of the public. We would also like to publicly thank the Tashmoo Boatyard for their donation of time and their crane to commission and decommission the Tashmoo Landing dinghy floats.

We are pleased to announce a new employee, Morgan Reitzas. Morgan began working for the Town in August as the Natural Resources Administrative Assistant. In addition to his Harbor Dept duties Morgan also serves as an administrative assistant to the Shellfish Constable. Morgan has extensive boating and customer service experience. We wish him well.

It would remiss if the Harbor Department did not note the assistance by members of the tight-knit maritime community. Their vigilance and assistance is greatly appreciated. The department was assisted this summer by several seasoned high school students, who have been with us for the past few years.

Revenue figures for fiscal year 2023 are as follows:

	<u>Acct</u>	<u>FY2023</u>
Vessel Excise	416023	27,464
Mooring Application Fees	432104	3,825
Mooring Permit Fees	432023	139,583
Town Mooring Leases	432102	78,333
Dockage Fees	432103	18,525
Transient Mooring Fees	432101	113,560
New Mooring Fees	432107	1,100
Dinghy Stickers	432108	1,900
Parking Permit Fees	424303	1,450
Total		<u>385,740</u>

Respectfully submitted,

John Crocker  
Harbormaster

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

To the Honorable Select Board and Citizens of the Town of Tisbury:

The Information Technology Department is responsible for the overall technical infrastructure of the Town which includes the WAN/LAN at each town building, data, servers, LAN peripherals, communications, software applications, user workstations, hardware, network security, cloud-based services such as email, backup, communication system, overall website maintenance/updates, local Wi-Fi and end-user support.

The Information Technology Department continues to be busy with new installations, and upgrades and now planning for our newly upgraded website in the months to come, which is still under construction. Launching of a new website with the goals of offering a positive experience for users and efficiently disseminating information to our citizens with the latest technology in web design. Each department maintains its page and information to keep its section updated. There will be a new design, and ease of use by drag-drop in the back end for users updating their respective page. This technology offers a newer, more efficient approach to doing business with our citizens, business community, and visitors. Before the final design, we allowed the public and users to attend a demonstration via Zoom. We held two separate sections for those who signed up.

The Information Technology Department continues to increase the bandwidth at town buildings. Routers at these locations continue to be upgraded to be able to handle the increased bandwidth. At the ESF building smart Promethean ActivePanel(s) were installed in the training room and Command Center to enable a hybrid meeting environment that is Zoom-certified with cameras, speakers, video conferencing features, and with a virtual professional training package. In addition, outside cameras were replaced with additional ones installed inside the bays, and switches were upgraded in the server room. We also installed two additional Promethean panels at the Katherine Cornel Theater and the Senior Center.

We continue to maintain card-only parking Kiosks (Park and Ride and an old fire station next to Cumberland Farms using the Flowbird app.

The IT Dept. acts as a Help Desk offering daily support to end-user issues, consulting services for projects, and having technical vision for evolving WAN/LAN infrastructure. Cloud services will continue to expand town employees conduct file sharing with a cloud storage solution. Aging equipment will continue to be upgraded with new as time goes by as will the file servers. Emphasis has been given to the security of our LANs with a managed antivirus solution. We continue to update policies and procedures implemented to further secure our data and systems. A broader cloud-based backup solution was implemented in the event data restoration is needed. User workstations continued to be upgraded in batches and this will continue.

The Technology Department's goal is to continue to identify priority areas in which we can automate and improve efficiencies, implement a solution, and measure that process.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heidi Ryzewski, Information Technology Manager

## SHELLFISH CONSTABLE

To the Tisbury Town residents,

What a busy year for the Tisbury Shellfish Department; here are some of the highlights from 2023.

The Shellfish Department had an incredible staff and interns this past summer. We had our long time Deputy Fred Benson, Shellfish Assistant Nelson Sigelman, and joining our team new hire, part-time assistant Aiden Morrison. We were fortunate to have shared Lagoon Pond Association interns Maddy Blaha and Robert Simpkin this summer. When the interns weren't with us, they were with the Oak Bluffs Shellfish Department on the Lagoon. Aiden and our interns helped our department immensely with propagation, eelgrass planting, WQ sampling and regular monitoring of overnight boats in the Lagoon.

In 2023, the Select Board has enacted a "no anchoring" policy for all of Lake Tashmoo, to keep the boaters from anchoring in eelgrass beds. In addition to this policy the Harbor Dept. had 8 new moorings installed for boaters to come, this will be on a first come, first serve basis. While this was happening in Tashmoo, the Lagoon had undergone many changes to its Designated Shellfish Growing Areas. Due to the regulation changes within the NSSP and recent management concerns, Lagoon Pond, V11, is now split in two V11.6 for VH and V11.4 for OB. On the Tisbury side we produced a designated anchoring area V11.10 where transient boaters can anchor and can be seen on the shellfish page of our Town website. This was done so we can keep the majority of Lagoon open to shellfishing.

On July 8, the Shellfish Department & Friends hosted another superb Family Shellfish Day where we had over 70 kids and adults in attendance. This has really become a cornerstone event for our department.

Although we had a tough growing season for our seed quahogs. We had a wonderful year for hatchery bay scallops in the Lagoon. Increased algal blooms throughout the summer months affected the survivability of seed. An early *Prorocentrum* bloom in the Lagoon and was responsible for high mortality in the seed quahogs. In late August we saw a thick rusty bloom of *Margalefidinium* in Tashmoo, this dinoflagellate is known to kill finfish and shellfish. This concentration is linked with the high mortality rate of young bay scallops, thus making it difficult for us to reestablish a healthy scallop population in Tashmoo.

This summer under the guidance of Alley McConnell, Restoration Coordinator at MVSG, we continued to plant flotsam shoots of eelgrass into legged nursery rafts in Lagoon, as a part of our ongoing eelgrass restoration in Lagoon Pond. Even more exciting while relaunching a data logger at the head of the Lagoon Pond we discovered a large bed of eelgrass at the head of the pond that was said to have disappeared according to more recent DEP eelgrass maps. This eelgrass bed starts

across from the Lagoon Pond causeway and wraps around towards the Oak Bluffs side just outside of many of the docks south of the Sailing Camp.

Scallop season for the Lagoon Pond was cut short again due to the increasing number of seed the department was finding in harvesters' baskets as the days went on.

This December we had a surprising amount of scallop seed spread out during the storm just before Christmas. This December storm brought thousands of juvenile bay scallops into the shallows and during the Christmas low tides I and a couple of determined volunteers were able to move ~20 totes of scallops out to deeper water so they are protected from the elements.

Fun fact, we sold the same number of permits as we did last year.

**Shellfish by the Numbers:**

	Quahogs	Steamers	Bay Scallops
Recreational amount (in bushels)	112.5	8.5	29
Commercial amount (in bushels)	500	9	18
Total bushels	612.5	17.5	41
Total \$/bushel (approx.)	\$263	\$175	\$165
<hr/>			
Total Value	\$161,088	\$3,066	\$6,765
Total Commercial Value using DMF 3.5 economic multiplier (based off commercial limits, this is use by the division to show how much money from shellfishing circulated throughout the community)	\$460,250	\$5,513	\$10,395

**Permits Sold:**

Senior Residents/MA Veterans (\$5)	<b>209 = \$1,045</b>
Residents/MA Veterans (\$40)	<b>183 = \$7,320</b>
Commercial (\$350)	<b>9 = \$3,150</b>
Year-round non-resident (\$400)	<b>1 = \$400</b>
<u>Short term non-resident (\$25-75)</u>	<u><b>139 = \$4,000</b></u>
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>531 = \$15,915</b>



*Family Shellfish Day 7/8/23*

Sincerely,

Danielle Ewart  
Tisbury Shellfish Constable

# WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

Citizens of Tisbury,

The Tisbury Wastewater Treatment Facility (TWWTF) processes commercial and domestic wastewater from the Tisbury downtown area, between Main Street, Lagoon Pond Road, and Beach Road. The TWWTF processed 14,725,355 gallons of flow in 2023, with a total removal of 8,667 pounds of nitrogen from the Lagoon Pond and Vineyard Haven Harbor watersheds. The Wastewater Department staff have been busy this year upgrading aging grinder pumps throughout the sewer collection system to more modern and efficient E-One grinder pumps. New equipment has begun arriving for the TWWTF expansion project by the Robert B. Our Corporation,



the first step towards completing the B-2 Sewer District. This project will add larger pumps, air blowers, mixers, and equalization tanks to increase plant capacity and is expected to be completed by summer 2024. This past spring, the Wastewater Department installed a new low pressure sewer pump station at the Tisbury Harbor Masters Office at Owen Park for boat pump outs. Finally, the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) is well under way with the completion of the first two phases: the Needs Assessment, and the Alternatives Analysis. This study by Environmental Partners will give Tisbury a data-driven, long-term plan for protecting public health and preserving our valuable water resources.

This year has brought a few changes in the Wastewater Department Staff. In November, Jared Meader ended his tenure as superintendent, taking a position with the Mashpee Wastewater Department. Michael Alberice has taken over as interim superintendent, and Eric Alexander has moved up to grade 4 operator, and is working to pass his grade 6 operator’s exam.

Tisbury WWTF Annual Averages				
Parameter	Influent	Effluent	Removal %	lbs Removed
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	324.04	10.82	96.66	41,388
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	N/A	301.79		
Total Solids (mg/L)	N/A	333.17		
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	485.00	4.53	99.07	62,272
Total Kjeldhal Nitrogen (mg/L)	74.42	3.71	95.02	8,813
Nitrate (mg/L)	0.10	1.13		
Nitrite (mg/L)	0.00	0.21		
Ammonia (mg/L)	N/A	0.58		
Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	74.51	5.06	93.21	8,667
Fats, Oils and Grease (mg/L)	66.22	0.00	100.00	8,453
Ortho Phosphorous (mg/L)	N/A	5.50		
Total Phosphorous (mg/L)	N/A	6.07		
Sodium (mg/L)	108.00			
Chloride (mg/L)	72.44			
Fecal Coliform (MPN/100mL)	N/A	0.12		

Respectfully,  
Michael Alberice, Wastewater Superintendent



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## AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

The Tisbury Affordable Housing Committee began the year with a review of the committee 'charge', mission and membership. Three new members appointed by the select board, Caitlin Burbidge, Jean Hay, and Henry Nieder were welcomed to the committee. The committee also sent a letter of appreciation to founding member, Abbe Burt on the occasion of her leaving the committee.

The committee established 2 priorities to guide its efforts to expand access to housing that is affordable to all residents: 1. To identify opportunities that expand access to Accessory Dwelling Units; and 2. To identify opportunities that mitigate the impact of Short-Term Rental inventory on the supply of rental and ownership housing available for Tisbury residents.

The committee is actively gathering information re the current/existing policies that govern accessory dwelling units. Regarding short term rentals, the committee gathered information about the policies, practices and by-laws that govern short term rentals in other communities; and submitted a request for funding from Tisbury Community Preservation Committee to conduct an independent baseline assessment of the current volume, characteristics, and compliance status of short-term rentals in Tisbury. The committee is planning a public listening session in early 2024 to solicit resident thinking about these priorities and related concerns and solutions to increase access to long term rental and ownership housing for all Tisbury residents.

The committee continued working with partners, including Planning Board, Community Preservation Committee, Dukes County Housing Authority, Island Housing Trust, Harbor Homes, and the new affordable housing initiative of the Martha's Vineyard Commission. The committee provided letters of support for projects proposed by Island Housing Trust and Harbor Homes; the ongoing work of Dukes County Housing Authority, and in support of Island -wide applications by MVC for an updated housing inventory need assessment; and the Mass Housing Partnership, Complete Neighborhoods Program.

In September, 2023 the committee welcomed Shanette Deleon, as a part time support staff consultant to the committee. Ms. Deleon will provide administrative logistics, as well as requisite research and follow up support to committee activities.

The committee has one vacant member position for a Tisbury resident with interest and willingness to work to expand housing opportunities for all residents, and we look forward to making recommendations that will expand access for all residents in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caitlin Burbidge, Vice Chair; Victor Capoccia, Chair; Jean Hay; Elaine Miller; Henry Nieder; Dan Seidman



## BOARD OF HEALTH

Under Massachusetts General Laws, state and local regulations and community direction, Boards of Health are held responsible for disease prevention and control, health and environmental protection and promoting a healthy community. Boards of Health serve as the local arm of both the Mass. Department of Public Health and the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection. To fulfill their duties, Boards of Health develop, implement and enforce health policies, oversee inspections to maintain minimum standards for sanitation in housing and food service, and assure that the basic health needs of their communities are being met.

Ever mindful of our responsibility, the Tisbury Board of Health collaborated on Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plans with the Wastewater Department, the Water Resources Committee and our consultants, Scott Horsley and Environmental Partners to support the Town's efforts to reduce nitrogen damage to our already compromised lakes and ponds. As part of the process, the Town submitted a Targeted Wastewater Management Plan for Lake Tashmoo which will address the health of the waters of Lake Tashmoo and present a plan to work toward reducing further nitrogen degradation of the pond. Also, in support of wastewater management planning, the Board of Health held public hearings to revise our nitrogen regulations. Effective January 1, 2024, Board of Health regulations require that all properties within the impaired Lake Tashmoo and Lagoon Pond watersheds upgrade to an enhanced innovative alternative system upon any change in ownership. The regulations continue to require the installation of enhanced I/A systems whenever a new system is installed, upgraded or relocated within the watersheds and/or whenever there is an expansion of use beyond that previously approved by the Board of Health. These revised regulations put the Town of Tisbury in an advantageous position to comply with Mass DEP regulatory revisions currently enforced on Cape Cod which will likely be required on Martha's Vineyard in the near future. Copies of both the Tashmoo Targeted Wastewater Management Plan and the Board of Health nitrogen regulations are available on the Town of Tisbury website at [www.tisburyma.gov](http://www.tisburyma.gov).

The Town of Tisbury continued their participation in the Public Health Excellence Grant Program through a partnership with other Island towns and the Island of Nantucket Boards of Health. The Grant Program currently funds a shared services inspector, Public Health Educator and a Wildlife Biologist, shared by the seven communities on the two Islands. These positions will help the Islands work on issues related to vector-borne illnesses and addressing public health and mental health disparities in the communities. In the new year the grant group hopes to expand the services provided under the grant so that public health issues are addressed on an island wide basis with a more cooperative approach to policies and programs.

Under the auspices of the Public Health Excellence Grant, Wildlife Biologist Patrick Roden-Reynolds expanded public education programs around tick-borne illnesses with a focus on alpha-gal syndrome (AGS), an allergic reaction to alpha-gal, a sugar found in the tissues of mammals, except humans and other primates. In AGS an antibody response activates to fight against alpha-gal and may cause allergic reactions after consuming mammalian products. Allergic reactions to alpha-gal range in severity and usually occur 3-8 hours after consuming mammalian

products. The lone star tick, a tick becoming more prevalent on the Island, is believed to be the main transmitter of AGS in the United States.

Fernando Lana, our trilingual Community Education Specialist under the Public Health Excellence Grant, developed programs to expand Board of Health outreach to the Brazilian community on public health topics. He has also been developing an onsite fertilizer management course to be sure landscapers understand the importance of proper fertilizer management as another means of protecting our ponds from nitrogen. In addition to educational programs, Mr. Lana works closely with CERT and the American Red Cross, representing local health.

To further safeguard public health, the Board of Health worked with the Tisbury Water Department to develop regulations requiring that all private water service lines that are not lead free be replaced whenever a property is sold or transferred. The full text of the regulation, which is effective as of July 1, 2024, is available on the Town of Tisbury website.

The Board of Health also oversees a nursing contract to provide home visits to new mothers, home nursing visits to senior citizens, blood pressure screenings and other important health care needs such as dental clinics for income qualifying residents and educational programs through the schools and the Council on Aging. This office is also responsible for the continued inspection and regulation of over 60 food service establishments as well as testing and monitoring bathing beach water quality in the Harbor, Lagoon and Lake Tashmoo, thus ensuring that dining out and other recreational activities in Tisbury remain an enjoyable and risk-free experience.

In 2023 the Board of Health bid farewell to two longtime employees. After 30 years with the Tisbury Board of Health our Health Agent Maura Valley retired. Catie Blake, our Assistant Health Agent, moved on to become the Director of the Tisbury Council on Aging after 15 years with the Board of Health. During this time of transition, the Board is fortunate to have the services of Valerie Soushek, our Administrative Assistant, and we welcome Drew Belsky as our new Health Agent.

The Board of Health continues to hold hybrid meetings so that the public may join in person or remotely. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. Please refer to posted agendas for a meeting link if you wish to join the remote meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

MALCOLM BOYD, Chair  
MICHAEL D. LOBERG  
JEFFREY PRATT

# COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

“History is who we are and why we are the way we are.”

David McCullough

To Tisbury Town Residents:

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) enables Massachusetts Communities to levy a surcharge of property tax bills to raise funds to expand their community’s open space, historic, recreational, and affordable housing assets. At Annual Town Meeting in 2005, the Town voted to adopt the provisions of the Community Preservation Act, which established a nine-member Community Preservation Committee (CPC) which receives applications for funding and makes recommendations to the Town. The CPC helps develop and administer projects funded with CPA monies.

The CPA funds are derived from a 3% surcharge on real estate taxes, supplemented annually by state funds from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund. Each year, depending on revenues, the State pays a percentage of the surcharge to the Town. The supplemental funding percentages for each year are as follows:

FY 2006 - 100%	FY 2011 - 37.1%	FY 2016 - 27.6%	FY 2021 - 65.0%
FY 2007 - 100%	FY 2012 - 36.9%	FY 2017 - 23.2%	FY 2022 - 43.0%
FY 2008 - 90.4%	FY 2013 - 73.5%	FY 2018 - 27.1%	FY 2023 - 29.1%
FY 2009 - 50.2%	FY 2014 - 43.0%	FY 2019 - 34.7%	
FY 2010 - 39.9%	FY 2015 - 39.7%	FY 2020 - 42.0%	

This translates into \$4,415,715.00 of State funding since the adoption of the Community Preservation Act by the Town of Tisbury.

The Community Preservation Committee encourages participation by interested community members. All recommended projects are specifically voted on at Town Meeting by the citizens of Tisbury. Information about the CPC and the projects currently under consideration is available on the Town website:

<https://www.tisburyma.gov/community-preservation-committee>

Tisbury has appropriated \$13,426,016.00 over the past seventeen years, FY 2006 - FY 2023. In fiscal year 2023, the following CPC projects completed include:

- Harbor Homes of Martha’s Vineyard - Affordable Housing - Mortgage Paydown
- Dukes County Regional Housing Authority Rental Assistance
- Island Autism Center - Affordable Housing Predevelopment
- Grace Church Bell Tower and Building Restoration
- Katharine Cornell Theatre - Steeple, Weather Vane Restoration and Replacement
- Tisbury Park Amenities - Picnic Tables, Bike Racks, Benches
- Church Street Tennis Court Renovation
- Church Street Parking Lot Renovation
- Lake Street Pickleball Court Development and Tennis Court Renovation
- Gabion Wall Retention - Martha’s Vineyard Shellfish Hatchery

The CPC welcomes comments, suggestions and invites applications for funding in any of the eligible categories, Historic Resources, Community Housing, and Open Space/Recreation. Eligibility guidelines, application instructions and timelines are posted on the website shown above.

Respectfully submitted,

John Bacheller  
Clarence A. Barnes, III  
John Best  
Victor Capoccia  
Cheryl Doble  
David Ferraguzzi  
Jean Hay  
Paul Munafo  
Carolyn Wallis

Heidi Dietterich  
Administrator

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Tisbury Conservation Commission is a seven-member board appointed by the Selectmen. Its primary responsibility is the administration of state and local statutes, the purpose of which is to protect Tisbury's wetlands, shorelines, and flood plains. Projects within these areas that may environmentally alter or impact these resources must be reviewed and approved by the board prior to commencement of work.

Typical projects reviewed by the Commission were Chapter 91 licensing for existing piers, septic system upgrades, construction within wetland buffer zones and various construction projects such as stairs, decks, landscaping and dwelling renovations which may impact wetland resources, and which fall within the board's jurisdiction.

The Beach Road area along the harbor, the lagoon and Lake Tashmoo continue to be of major concern to the Conservation Commission. Septic system problems, increased demand for use, road runoff and applications for new water related construction such as piers continue to put pressure on our water resources. The Conservation Agent and harbormaster have been working on permitting various dredging, and pier maintenance projects in town. The Commission has been seeing more frequent applications for the armoring of eroding banks, repair and maintenance of bulkheads and revetments.

The Commission thanks the administrative staff, Assistant Laura Barbera and Conservation Agent Jane Varkonda for providing invaluable service and expertise. We appreciate the assistance of the Harbormaster, Division of Marine Fisheries, Shellfish Warden Daniele Ewart, the Board of Health and the Building/Zoning Department for their advice and cooperation over the past years.

The Commission meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at a new time of 4:30 p.m. The commission is meeting live at the Town Hall Annex. Meetings are open to the public and all interested persons are welcome to attend. The Commission would also welcome any and all interested citizens willing to serve.

Respectfully Submitted,

John D. Best  
Caroline Little  
Lillian Robinson  
Thomas Robinson, Chair

Nancy Weaver  
Amelia Hambrecht  
Sandra Demel

## MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

The Tisbury Master Plan Steering Committee is a ten-member board that was appointed by the Planning Board in March 2022. Monthly meetings with Barrett Planning Group (BPG) took place between April 2022 and December 2023, and always included Planning Board representation.

Our primary responsibilities have been to provide guidance to BPG, the lead consultant for the Town Master Plan - while ensuring an inclusive planning process spanning the many stakeholder groups addressed in the Plan. We have taken this commitment seriously, and believe we've delivered.

During our charge, we directly facilitated or helped orchestrate:

- 30+ internal working group meetings
- 10+ stakeholder group meetings
- 5 Business Owner Open Houses
- 2 dozen Informational Interviews with town officials & island-wide reps
- 10 group sessions with Town Department leads or Volunteer Boards

From the onset, we made this a participatory-driven project, establishing forums to solicit and respond to the community input we received. Early vision alternatives for our commercial districts were jolting to some community members. The Committee worked hard to understand their apprehensions and we are confident the joint visions and final report duly respond to the concerns raised. This level of stakeholder engagement took time, and we are grateful to our consultants for pacing the project accordingly, while approaching our challenges & opportunities with an authentic curiosity that matched our own. In turn, the Committee was able to better understand the complexities of and relationships between many issues, allowing us to provide stronger direction to our consultant team.

The focus of these many hosted sessions also aligned with the broad purview of this Plan. Housing, Natural Resources, Economic Development, Community Health, Governance, Zoning & Land Use, along with Transportation are all covered in the final report, slated to be presented to the Planning Board for approval in Winter 2024. These themes often integrate, requiring a keener level of understanding to appropriately prioritize actions and understand their implications. The Plan's goals have been identified as follows:

**Goal 1:** Provide Town government with the human and financial resources and facilities to implement the Master Plan.

**Goal 2:** Act as responsible stewards for our natural environment and partner with other island towns whenever possible.

**Goal 3:** Foster a beautiful, enduring and sustainably built environment.

**Goal 4:** Encourage private investments and improvements to the town's business districts (Waterfront Commercial, B-1, and B-2) to drive the economy, while maintaining the character of the town and its harbor and being responsive to the impacts of climate change.

**Goal 5:** Develop a multi-modal transportation system that reduces congestion and dependence on automobiles and creates a safer environment for residents and visitors.

**Goal 6:** Increase equitable and sustainable housing choices.

**Goal 7:** Ensure our year-round residents, including our under-resourced populations, seasonal residents, and visitors have access to quality health services.

Tisbury's Master Plan includes an Implementation Program with policies and actions that correspond with each of the goals above. We hope you will spend time with the materials to understand where the Town must now turn its attention. High priority actions are given particular focus, while recognizing that Tisbury has limited resources.

The Committee thanks the Planning Board, the consultant team, town staff across all departments, and most notably the public for their willingness to show up, hear from us and one another, and share their insights. As such, they have made this a stronger plan, one that will help our town face its true north.

The Martha's Vineyard Museum graciously hosted the meetings and has served as the Committee's anchor venue. We, again, thank them for being such wonderful and generous hosts.



Please visit the Master Plan website – [www.tisburymasterplan.com](http://www.tisburymasterplan.com) - to access key documents generated from the Plan and see the final report.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyndsay Famariss, Chair  
Elissa Turnbull  
Sean Roach  
Susannah Bristol  
Phil Hale

Rick Homans  
Mary Ellen Larsen  
Nikeya Tankard  
Melinda Loberg  
Cheryl Doble, Planning Board Representative

## OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Select Board, works closely with the Department of Public Works (DPW) and collaborates with Island conservation groups and the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) to implement the town's 2019 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The full plan is available on the Open Space and Recreation page of the Town website.

### Maintenance and Stewardship

A study of Veteran's Memorial Park stormwater concerns, funded by Community Preservation Act funds, was undertaken by the Horsley-Witten Group. A dozen stormwater control measures for the watershed leading to the park, as well as in the park itself, were reviewed. Reduction in the nitrogen load impacting Mud Creek was a key objective. Three refined conceptual designs, married to suggested enhancements in recreational activities, are now being assessed.

The Committee played an active role in guiding the development of plans for the restoration and maintenance of Veteran's Park athletic fields. The Town hired Tom Irwin Associates, turf specialists, to conduct a field assessment, provide a plan for restoration following the 2023 concert and develop a plan for ongoing field maintenance. This maintenance program is in place, and we look forward to seeing Youth Soccer play on Veteran's field in the Spring of 2024.

### Park and Recreation Improvements

The two Church Street clay tennis courts were completely restored with a new Har-Tru green clay surface, sprinkler system, new fencing, nets, storage shed and benches. Tisbury CPC funds supported the cost of this work. The Church Street parking lot for the courts and local business users was also totally redone with a new circulation pattern, new curbing, pebble surface and attractive native planting in a garden bed facing the sidewalk. The Courts at Lake Street Park were repaired and resurfaced with CPC funding to create one regulation-size tennis court and three pickle ball courts. The parking lot was regraded and resurfaced to provide additional parking space.

With the support of a West Chop benefactor, and guidance of David McNamara, West Chop Tennis director, the West Chop tennis pros again taught free clinics for Tisbury residents. Adult tennis clinics were offered 3 mornings a week at the Church Street Tennis Courts and kids lessons were offered at the Lake Street Courts. New this year, Pickleball clinics were added at the Lake Street Courts. Committee and program participants expressed enthusiasm and appreciation for this generous contribution by the West Chop Tennis Program.

Construction drawings for the Owen Park bandstand have been completed and will go out to bid in early 2024 with construction in the spring or fall. The committee continues to expand and improve public access and experience of the natural areas at the Tashmoo Spring Building. A meandering mowed walking path through the field above the Spring Building provides a pleasant 15-minute walk. Benches will be added next summer. A new woodland trail to Lake Tashmoo has been established and plans are underway to remove invasive species and construct a viewing area and kayak landing at the south end of Lake Tashmoo.

Planning is underway for improvements and additional recreation opportunities at Lake Street Park. Based on public input received at a 2022 workshop, the committee is working with a group of neighbors on design alternatives, which will be shared with the community in spring 2024.



With CPA funding, the Committee and DPW continue to make annual improvements to facilitate access and use of our parks by all residents through the addition of ADA parking, accessible pathways, bike racks, and ADA compliant benches and picnic tables.

*Planning for Pedestrian and Bike Networks*

The Committee is working with the MVC Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee and the West Tisbury Complete Streets Committee to identify bike routes that will safely connect the two towns.

*Improving/Expanding Waterfront Access*

The Committee recognizes the value of the small neighborhood beaches located at the end of Town roads. This past summer, Mobi Mats were placed at Owen Little Way Beach and Owen Park to provide ADA access to the water. We continue to add bike racks and other support amenities at these neighborhood beaches.

With CPA funding and support from the Land Bank the Committee is working in with the Sheriff's Meadow Foundation to develop a Blue Trail on Lagoon Pond and Lake Tashmoo. This project will identify and welcome boaters to a series of canoe and kayak landings located on conservation and publicly-owned town properties.

*Preservation of Open Space and the Town Master Plan*

The Committee participated in the Master Plan process attending workshops and stakeholder meetings and reviewing the consultant's draft documents. The committee looks forward to working on actions identified in the implementation program including: stewardship of public lands, permanent protection of open space, development of bike and pedestrian networks and a policy to guide comprehensive park planning.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Doble  
James Burrows  
Gerard Hokanson  
Henry Stephenson  
Carolyn Wallis

## PERSONNEL BOARD

To the Honorable Select Board and the Citizens of Tisbury.

The Personnel Board's mission is to put in place personnel policies and procedures that are appropriate for a well-run municipality and fair to all affected employees, both current and future.

The Board works closely with the Town Administrator John Grande who also holds the position of Personnel Director for the Town and the Human Resources Director.

The board met this past year on the third Friday of the month at 1:00 pm.

In 2023 the Board met to discuss the following matters:

The Annual Town Meeting of 2023 approved the funding for the establishment of Tisbury's Human Resources Department. With this approval, effective July 1st, Pam Bennett became Tisbury's first full time, certified Human Resources Director. The past 3 years working with the Personnel Board, Pam has shown great personal initiative and commitment towards the Town's Human Resource needs. She has achieved the appropriate professional certifications for this position all the while undertaking multiple projects to update town policies and procedures. More importantly during this time Pam has earned the trust and professional respect of the employees necessary to be successful in this role. The Personnel Board congratulates Pam Bennett on her achievement and looks forward to our continued work together.

This position and the creation of the Human Resources Department has been an initiative the board has worked diligently toward to be able to create a fair and equitable system. Transition planning for departments to maintain institutional knowledge and to address a growing need in the town.

The Board conducted a Management and Profession classification and compensation study. The study was a comprehensive look at the positions, duties, classification, and compensation in relation to similar communities. The scale was created based on a comprehensive compensation analysis. The Board approved a Cost-of-Living Adjustment of 4.5 % for Fiscal Year 2025 for Managerial & Professional Wage Scale and the Seasonal, Temporary and Part-time scale.

Updating of existing policies and procedures in relation to benefits, vacation and hours of work.  
Updating the town Personnel bylaw which will continue to update until it is aligned with current standards and practices.

We would like to thank Christine Redfield for her service, she served on the board for 3 years. We welcomed James Rogers and look forward to working with him.

Respectfully submitted,

John Schilling, Town Clerk Appointee and Chair

Marilyn Wortman, Finance Committee Appointee

James Rogers, Select Board Appointee

## **PLANNING BOARD**

### **2023 COLLABORATIVE AND INDUSTRIOUS EFFORTS WERE PRODUCTIVE AND FRUITFUL FOR TISBURY**

2023 saw an increasing complexity to the Planning Board's work. Permitting activity, especially in the waterfront commercial district, has meant juggling many often-contradictory issues, from sea level rise to housing. The need for a more resilient infrastructure to support development is a factor in the review of projects. As the workload has increased the board has been strategic in utilizing resources including applicant-funded 53 G accounts, along with professional services both to foster the Master Plan process and upcoming Bylaw recodification. The Board has also been considering how to appropriately fund and staff the department to best meet the growing needs of the Town.

### **MASTER PLAN**

Over the past two years, members of the Planning Board collaborated with the Master Plan Steering Committee, the Barrett Planning Group, and their consultant team, along with Town staff and residents on the Tisbury Master Plan. We have had the opportunity to meet many Tisbury residents, business owners, artisans, and stakeholders at numerous public meetings, which informed this planning process. Typically, our primary contact is with people presenting and commenting on projects being reviewed by the Planning Board; however, this past year was special because of the direct interaction with many of you as part of this comprehensive planning process.

We are grateful for the considerable efforts of the Master Plan Steering Committee and the essential role they played in guiding this process, organizing public meetings, and reviewing the consultant's drafts. (Please see full Steering Committee report). Through a collaboration with the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC), the Board hired Dan Doyle to provide additional planning expertise and administrative support. The Board has been pleased by the in-depth research performed by the consulting team and the inclusive participatory environment they helped to create. Their experience guided our planning process, enabling us to develop and craft a comprehensive plan that reflects the community's needs and desires.

### **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

With the direction of an experienced and well-varied Board, the addition of an adept associate member, and the diligent assistance of our purposeful Administrator, the Board reviewed a considerable number of special permits and subdivision proposals. We continue to receive an increasing number of applications, some of which are neither straightforward nor typical and require careful and thoughtful attention. The waterfront and waterside commercial district is undergoing a great deal of transformation, and the Board is steadfast in its intention to manage these changes positively. We have worked closely with the MVC in a concerted effort to consider both local and Island-wide factors.

The staff at the Annex has seen turnover this year, and with some fresh new perspectives, they are learning the ropes and working to best utilize the recent incorporation of a user-friendly permitting portal, which has effectively upgraded the permitting process into the technological era. All permits are now accessible online via forms and permits at the Town of Tisbury homepage,

<https://tisburyma.viewpointcloud.com>. We are also developing a new Town website, and staff are eager to engage in modernizing this platform for ease of access for all. Additionally, the Board has upgraded the administrative assistant position to a full-time administrator and has hired Amy Upton to this position. We also want to thank Teresa Kruszewski for the well drafted minutes she has provided throughout the year. As the Board transitions to meet the needs and growing demand for planning, these staffing adjustments reflect a responsive posture to the importance of planning for an increasingly complex future.

### **BOARD PARTICIPATION, ZONING BYLAWS & TOWN PLANNING PROJECTS**

Individual members of the Planning Board serve on various town boards and committees to report back on activities and information that may be pertinent as they review applications and consider plans for Tisbury. Individual members of the Planning Board participate in the following: All-Island Planning Board, Community Preservation Committee, Land Bank Advisory Committee, Martha's Vineyard Commission, Open Space and Recreation Committee, Sewer Advisory Committee, Site Plan Review Board, Tisbury Housing Committee, VTA Advisory Board, Tisbury Climate Committee, and the Water Resource Committee. Outside studies, including MassDOT's review of the Five Corners intersection, drainage studies for Veterans Park, and the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan, as well other planning concerns around the Town are being followed and monitored by the Board.

We drafted five amendments to the Zoning bylaws this past year. Four were approved at the 2023 Town Meeting, addressing the following issues:

1. Recognize Lagoon Harbor Park as a zoning district.
2. Modified maximum building height in coastal districts in response to the requirement to elevate structures due to coastal flooding.
3. Protect residential districts from fractional ownership, and timeshare units.
4. Modified one requirement of an Accessory Apartment recognizing that an accessory apartment is contained within the house and does not need additional yard space like a guest house does.

We appreciate getting feedback from the community and the public is always welcome to attend our virtual meetings held on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Agendas and links are available within 48 hours of the meeting on the Planning Board landing page of the Town Website. Visit us online for more detailed and updated information.

[www.tisburyma.gov/planning-board](http://www.tisburyma.gov/planning-board)

### **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Climate Change is a primary planning concern for the Board. A Planning Board member serving on the Tisbury Climate Committee and the Planning Board continues to work with the MVC on implementing the Climate Action Plan (CAP). One of our Board members is the chair of the MVC Climate Action Task Force coordinating an island-wide response to both the mitigation of fossil fuel use, and the adaptation required to maintain a resilient Island. Two board members participate on the CAP Community Coordinating Committee, which facilitates communication and collaboration on town and island-wide CAP initiatives. One member serves on the Climate Fair Committee, organizing an annual event that provides hands-on activities to help island residents understand steps they can take to become more resilient in the face of climate change.

The Tisbury Climate Committee is a participant in resilience-focused grants looking at energy resilience through the U.S. Department of Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP) and is currently working on a grant application through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Resilience Regional Challenge that will look at three sites in need of resiliency planning including Vineyard Haven Harbor.

## **HOUSING**

Another primary planning concern is housing. As the costs of housing continue to rise, already well above the affordability levels for low to middle income residents, the Board is focused on addressing the seasonal pressures on housing and the mix of types of units in Town. Protecting the character and built fabric of the community and introducing housing options entails careful planning and zoning decisions. With the conclusion of the master plan and the upcoming zoning re-codification, the coming year will see a real focus on this issue in particular.

## **FINAL THOUGHTS**

2024 promises to be another exciting planning year for Tisbury, with many opportunities for the community to shape Tisbury's future. We look forward to working with other Island boards, departments, committees, and residents, to achieve the best results for our community as a whole.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Robinson, Chair  
Connie Alexander, Clerk  
Cheryl Doble  
Casey Hayward  
Elaine Miller  
Lora Ksieniewicz - Associate  
Amy Upton - Administrator

## SPRING BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The restored 1887 Tashmoo Spring Building, owned by the Town of Tisbury, continues to provide a beautiful waterfront venue for events/ meetings held by town committees and the Tisbury School, with a reduced rate for use by nonprofit organizations. Additionally, private and nonprofit events during 2023 have included family gatherings, art shows, anniversary, retirement and graduation parties, memorial services, weddings, and the Annual Memorial Day Picnic. Revenues received from the 12 events in 2023 yielded \$5000, allocated to the Spring Building Revolving Fund to maintain the building. All are invited to inquire about rentals by calling the Tisbury Dept of Public Works. Further information is posted on the Town of Tisbury website under the Forms and Documents section/ Tashmoo Spring Building Area Management Committee.

Water quality readings at the site have been taken by Martha's Vineyard Commission staff and by the nonprofit organization, Tisbury Waterways, Inc. to continue to provide scientific data, as well as to monitor the algae-reducing effectiveness of the aeration equipment installed by TWI, Inc. and the Town Public Works Dept. with support from the Edey Foundation.

The Committee thanks the town employees who are fully involved in the maintenance, booking and rental of the building. We continue to be grateful to the Community Preservation Fund, which provided essential support for the building's restoration and reuse.

The committee continues to discuss and decide upon issues related to the upkeep and continuing restoration of the main building and the brick outbuilding, in coordination with the DPW. The outbuilding, constructed in the same style as the main building and also included in the National Register of Historic Places, requires replacement of the windows, door and some structural work in order to be fully usable.

We welcome feedback from town residents and those who use the building as we collaborate to maintain this beautiful, historic building in its lovely waterfront setting at the head of Lake Tashmoo.

Respectfully submitted,

Harriet Barrow  
Lorraine Wells  
Patricia Carlet

## TISBURY CLIMATE COMMITTEE

The Tisbury Climate Committee was initiated by the Planning Board and appointed by the Select Board in August, 2021. This committee continues the work of the former Energy Committee and adds climate resiliency to the mission.

Our mission is to advise and support the Select Board on energy and climate matters. The committee will work to protect and enhance the Town's safety, health, natural assets, and fiscal stability by enhancing community understanding and engagement in the climate crisis, by developing and recommending emergency and adaptation strategies that will strengthen the Town's resilience, and by establishing goals and policy leading to increased sustainability and greatly reduced reliance on extracted resources. The committee will review and make recommendations of rules, regulations and policies affecting energy and climate.

In evaluating progress towards our collective goals for the town, it is useful to restate our goals as appeared in our last annual report:

The over-arching challenges can be separated into three areas: energy generation, energy efficiency, and mitigation of the effects of climate change.

Initially, the Committee identified critical concerns related to the potential vulnerabilities of the energy infrastructure of the town. These are:

- In extended periods of loss of power, how do we ensure a water supply to all residents?
- In extended periods of loss of power, how do we continue the operation of the wastewater collection and treatment system?
- How do we protect our municipal buildings and residences and businesses from loss of power/heat/AC to carry out critical functions?

Second, the Committee looks at the critical infrastructures that are most vulnerable to the effects of sea-level rise and climate change. These are:

- The Steamship Authority
- The location of the Police Station and access to it
- Roads essential to the Steamship Authority and hospital
- The Commercial district along Beach Road, with special attention to Packer's Wharf for its role in supplying essential goods and services to the island.

Addressing these challenges requires necessary prioritization, much of which will depend upon the availability of funding and staffing to carry out a transition to a more climate resilient community. Here are the current status and work in progress:

- Town Buildings that have been completed or are approved and funded for reduction in their dependence on fossil fuels include: DPW, Emergency Services Facility, Tisbury School and Library, all of which have electric heating/cooling and hot water. Each year the Town is eligible to apply for another Green Communities grant as long as we have completed the installation from a previous grant. This year, Tisbury Senior Center is our project to be funded by the Green Communities Grant for final conversion to electric heating throughout. The building evaluation has been conducted and we await the project's inclusion in the next grant funding phase. Installation of a solar roof on the Tisbury Senior

Center is the next generation project on our list. The building is solar ready thanks to a recent roof project there. You will see a warrant article on this year's Annual Town Meeting asking the Town for funds to meet our match for the Green Communities grant to install enough solar panels to meet the building's electric power needs.

- The Committee will also recommend a warrant article sufficient to complete installation of the solar array on the roof of the new Tisbury School. The original plan called for rooftop solar in order to achieve a Net Zero school building. Electric costs for the new building will be greater because it is an all-electric building. Electric rates will steadily increase as well. Any extra power generated by the rooftop solar can be credited to other municipal buildings.
- Other good locations for solar generation are the Tisbury Park and Ride and other municipal buildings and parking lots. At present, one is planned for the Tisbury School lot.
- Tisbury has joined Oak Bluffs and Edgartown in a grant coordinated by Kate Warner at the MVC that is focused on receiving technical support for hardening our water departments to enable continuous functioning in the event of a prolonged loss of power. The Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project, ETIPP, has met with representatives of each Town's Climate Committee and had a working session with the Water Department Superintendents to assess the needs related to resiliency. The work will continue through the first half of 2024.
- All Towns on Martha's Vineyard voted to adopt the new stretch code that went into effect this year. New building and renovations will be required to adhere to stricter requirements for electrification going forward.
- To address energy resiliency, we should target more generation through solar and wind, more likely focusing on solar projects. The Town's solar field at the landfill at High Point Lane generates revenue annually paid to the Town for the lease of the land by the owner and installer. These are the figures from the last four years:  
2020 \$81,973      2021 \$78,278      2022 \$98,119      2023  
The lease ends in 2034. The Committee is working on plans to acquire the solar field at the end of the lease. It's not too soon to plan!

#### Sea Level Rise and Increased Storm Activity

Sea levels are predicted to rise here on the Vineyard from between 2.5' and 7' by 2040.

#### Department Of Transportation (DOT) initiatives

The entire island depends upon protection of transportation routes into and through Tisbury, the island's primary port. MA DOT is in the process of conducting two focused studies in town. One has the goal of addressing Five Corners as a flood-prone failed intersection. A recent report to the public highlighted the number of accidents in the intersection and adjacent roads. Along with the persistent flooding during rainstorms as well as from high tides, the bicycle, pedestrian, auto and truck traffic are subject to dangerous conditions in a small shared roadway. A second study takes a broader look at the system of roads and stormwater infrastructure contributing to additional flooding in Five Corners and closures and detours as a result. The single outflow pipe to the Harbor for all this stormwater is subject to regular silting in, resulting in a backup into the roadways unless it is cleaned out before and sometimes during rainstorms.



The Town is working with the Martha’s Vineyard Commission (MVC) and DOT to develop proposals and technology to address these issues. However, this area is virtually at sea level now, so any fixes will have the effect of a short term, perhaps 20-year band-aid. Larger projects or strategic retreat are to be expected in the future with an uncertain time line.

Martha’s Vineyard Commission Initiatives:

The MVC has included Vineyard Haven Harbor in a regional resilience NOAA grant to provide a framework to analyze roads, infrastructure and natural resources. This grant has been accepted into the second round. We await the final decision next summer.

The Town is collaborating with the MVC under a Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant. Led by our consultant team from Tighe and Bond, feasibility planning is underway for rehabilitation and enhancement of the Beach Road seawall. They will hold public meetings in January to present up to three options for the Town to consider.

The Climate Committee participated in sessions to ensure that climate and resiliency goals will be part of the Master Plan that sets goals for the town and forms the basis for a rewriting of our building and zoning codes. Tisbury also is working collaboratively with Tisbury Planning Board Chair and MVC Commissioner, Ben Robinson; Planning Board liaison to the Climate Committee, Casey Hayward; Planning Board member, Cheryl Doble; and MVC leadership including Kate Warner and Liz Durkee to assist in implementation efforts for the Climate Action Plan. One of our members, Keith McGuire, is a member of that Steering Committee and a liaison to our committee. Additional information about the plan can be found at [www.thevineyardway.org](http://www.thevineyardway.org).

Much coordination and the assistance of a dedicated staff member who can write and administer grants is necessary if the Town wishes to maximize its efforts to take advantage of grant opportunities to accomplish our goals. The Climate Committee is pleased that the Town recently hired a half-time Facilities Manager. Given the urgent nature of our climate resiliency goals and the condition of many of the Town’s buildings, we hope that this position can be enlarged to full time in the coming year.

All of us are searching for ways as individuals that we can better prepare for the climate and energy needs of our future. Local resources for information and guidance include: Vineyard Power, Island Climate Action Network (ICAN), Mass Save, Cape Light Compact, and Cape and Vineyard Electric Compact (CVEC). As the Town re-develops its website, we intend to strengthen communication with our residents and businesses by bringing resources and information to the site. We welcome your participation and suggestions as we work together for a more resilient Town.

Feel free to contact any committee member with questions and suggestions. The committee meets bi-monthly on Mondays from 5:30-7:00 and guests are always welcome.

Sincerely,

The Tisbury Climate Committee

Melinda Loberg, Chair

Louise Clough	Kate Shands
Keith McGuire	Bill Straw
Rachel Orr	Bruce Stuart
Dan Phelan	Holly Stephenson

# TISBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

## WILLIAM STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Tisbury Historical Commission and the William Street Historic District Commission are a seven-member board appointed by the select board. The William Street Historic District Commission is a legally constituted governing entity within the Town of Tisbury and is responsible for preserving the District's historic character.

The board members of Tisbury Historical and William Street Historic are the same. As the William Street Historic District Commission, we are entrusted with preserving and protecting 55 properties on the State and National Register of Historic Places. As Tisbury Historical Commission, we are asked by the local building inspectors or the Martha's Vineyard Commission to give our recommendations on properties over 100 years old that lie outside the Historic District.

This year the William Street Historic Commission has received and approved six applications for renovations within the district. As Tisbury Historical Commission, we have worked with the Martha's Vineyard Commission on four projects including a potential solution for finding a home for the Caleb Prouty house located on Cromwell Lane, one of the earliest remaining residences in the town. Additionally, funds received from the CPC will be used for the long needed repair of the cemetery stone wall on Center Street.

As we advance into 2024, we hope to update the current William Street Historic By-Laws (last edited in 1991) and present them at the annual Town meeting as required for any changes. We expect the language changes will make the application process for district residents less cumbersome yet still follow the same design and by-law guidelines that protect our beautiful neighborhood.

The Commission meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 4:00 p.m. either at the Katherine Cornell Theater at the Tisbury Town Hall or the Emergency Services Facility at 215 Spring Street. Please check the Town website for venue location as it is subject to change due to seasonality. Meetings are open to the public, and all interested persons are welcome to attend. Every meeting agenda is posted with the Town Clerks' office on the posted hearing notices board.

The Commission would also welcome any and all interested citizens residing in Tisbury willing to serve.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith E. Federowicz   John Bacheller   Leo Cristian   Bow Van Riper   Michael Levandowski  
Polly Simpkins

# TISBURY WATER COMMISSIONERS



To the Citizens of the Town of Tisbury:

Please accept this as the official annual report of the Tisbury Water Works for 2023.

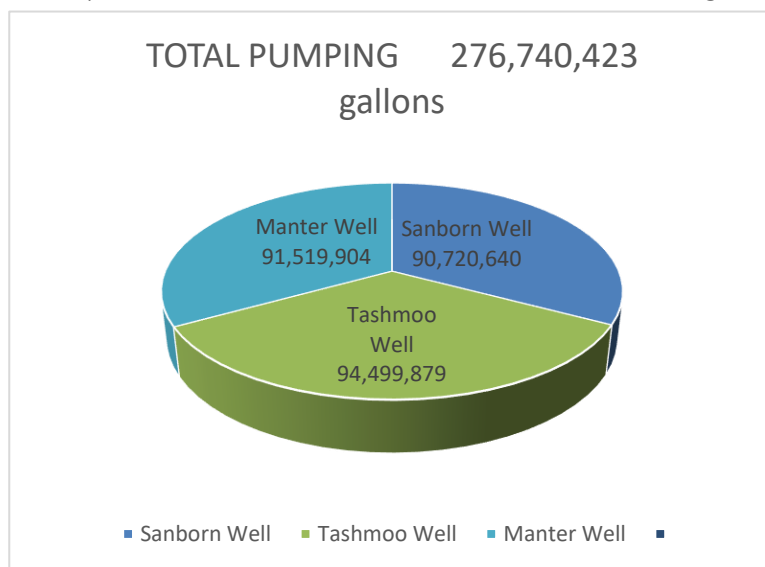
Tisbury Water Works replaced 296 water meters, installed 1,500 feet of water main and 660 feet of service line on Summer Street, which included 3 new fire hydrant installations and renewals of 37 water services in 2023. The increased fire flow and water quality have proven this project to again be a continued improvement on infrastructure for the town.

The Elevated Storage Tank cleaning and Standpipe Sanitary Survey was completed in 2023 to continue providing safe, clean drinking water to the citizens of Tisbury.

The Hydrant Flushing Program was completed in early April. Every water main in the system is flushed annually and any hydrant that requires maintenance is addressed. The hydrant flushing enhances water quality and ensures that all our hydrants are operational. There are now 318 hydrants in the system.

The wells produced the following water during 2023:

As represented from the above chart, the total gallons pumped for the year 2023 was



276,740,423. The maximum daily pumping was 1,828,856 gallons on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The maximum week was 11,391,648 gallons during the week of July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>. The average gallons per day was 758,193 gallons per day in 2023. There was 55.7 inches of rainfall for 2023 measured at the Tashmoo Well.

During Year 2023, the Water Works collected \$2,182,772 for water usage, system development fees, and lease revenue.

The Water Works continued to provide safe drinking water to the community and produced both an Annual Statistical Report (ASR) for the Department Environmental Protection and the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for our customers. The ASR is available online or by request. The CCR is available online on the Water Department's website Tisbury MA.GOV. The CCR is also available at our office located at 400 West Spring Street.

The Water Works continued the Town's Water Use Restriction Bylaw throughout the year in 2024. We ask our customers to observe our voluntary water restrictions. During the hot summer months customers are more likely to use greater quantities of water than normal. This can diminish our ability to supply the Town with adequate fire flow protection as well as affect our operating permit issued by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. We would also like to thank Rhonda DeBettencourt, Mariah BenDavid, Brian Patrick Hall, Phil Levesque, Kyle Stobie, Michael Irizarry and James Cleary for their hard work and dedication to the residents and Town of Tisbury.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Schwab, Chairman  
Roland M. Miller,  
Elmer Silva, Jr.

## TOWN PICNIC COMMITTEE

The Tisbury Town Picnic of 2023, open to all, was held on Memorial Day 2023, in keeping with town tradition. Due to the unprecedented low water level in the pond, row boating was suspended for this year's event. We hope to be able to provide this unique opportunity for families to row around the pond next year. Funds for the Picnic are partially provided by a contribution from the Vineyard Playhouse organizers, who use the amphitheatre on the grounds for summer performances.

The Flying Elbows and Tristan Israel provided rousing music, Stop and Shop donated watermelons, Cronig's donated hot dogs and rolls, and many volunteers (including the Tisbury Select Board) donated their time and grilling expertise. Chris Baer's moveable panels about the history of the site and the Tashmoo Spring Building provided an informative backdrop.

Special thanks to the Tisbury School for loaning us their grill, the DPW for hauling assistance, Seaside Celebrations for the use of a tent to protect our Select Board members and other Grillers from the elements. The Town of Tisbury provided ice cream, while committee members planned, grilled, organized, gave tours of the historic Tashmoo Spring Building, circa 1887, and supervised chalk art, three legged races, sack races and "tennis ball on a spoon" competitions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harriet Barrow

Patricia Carlet

Danielle Ewart

Tristan Israel

Jon Snyder

Henry Stephenson

Lorraine Wells

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The primary function of the Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals is to hear and decide applications for Special Permits, Variances and Appeals as they apply to the Zoning By-Laws of the Town of Tisbury. The Board has attempted, in every case, to determine the intent of the Zoning By-Law as regards the protection of the integrity of the Town of Tisbury and the rights of the individual citizens to use their properties in a proper manner under the By-Law approved by the people of the Town over fifty (50) years ago.

We urge all who come before this Board to prepare their cases carefully and seek professional assistance, if appropriate. We often find that this is not the case and undue delays result. Also, be reminded by the Zoning By-Law, Section 10.03.01 that “Permits, Special Permits, and Variances are not granted as a matter of right; they are privileges which may be granted as appropriate in specific circumstances, and which are in keeping with the intent of the Zoning By-Law. It is incumbent upon applicants to demonstrate the appropriateness of their petitions for Permits, Special Permits and Variances.”

This year, as in previous years, the Board continues to see an increased number of applications for accessory apartments, guest houses and swimming pools and fewer applications for projects within the coastal district. The Board has also been working with the Tisbury Planning Board and Affordable Housing Committee to address changes to the Zoning Bylaws in an effort to address the need for new affordable housing opportunities.

We would like to thank Town Counsel, Kopelman & Paige, for their advice and counsel in helping us understand and interpret the Zoning By-Law and Massachusetts General Laws. Thanks also go to Laura Barbera in her thirtieth year of outstanding service as the Board’s Administrator. Further thanks go to the Building/Zoning Department, Planning Board and Board of Health for their continued cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Kristal, Chairman  
Mmichael Ciancio, Clerk  
Anthony Holand  
Neal Stiller  
Akeyah Lucas  
Richard Homans, Associate  
Frank Piccione, Associate



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## CAPE LIGHT COMPACT

Cape Light Compact JPE is an intergovernmental organization consisting of the 21 towns on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard and Duke's County. The Compact's mission is to serve our 205,000 customers through the delivery of proven energy efficiency programs, effective consumer advocacy, and renewable competitive electricity supply.

Effective July 1, 2017, the Cape Light Compact reorganized itself as a joint powers entity pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40 Section 4A1/2, becoming the first joint powers entity in Massachusetts. Reorganizing as a joint powers entity protects member towns from potential liabilities and mandates greater financial accountability through expanded reporting requirements to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and member Towns, and designation of Treasury functions to an independent entity.

### *POWER SUPPLY*

During calendar year 2023 (CY23), the Compact's power supplier for all residential, commercial, and industrial customers was NextEra Energy Services of Massachusetts (NextEra). The Compact is pleased that our residential price in CY23 remained below the utility's basic service residential price, while also being 100% renewable.

The Compact has been a green aggregation since January 2017, matching Compact power supply customers' annual electricity usage above the mandated state requirements with voluntary renewable energy certificates (RECs) to provide a 100% renewable product. By retiring RECs to match the Compact's customers' usage, Compact customers are financially supporting renewable energy resources, including resources located on Cape Cod. In addition, NextEra deposits all premiums paid for voluntary RECs, plus their supplier and retail fees (expected to total over \$3 million per year), into a trust fund to be used solely for the development of new renewable energy resources. By purchasing electricity through the Compact, all Compact power supply customers are supporting renewable energy and acting locally to combat climate change.

As part of its power supply product, the Compact receives energy and RECs from a solar photovoltaic (PV) project, Farmington Solar, in Maine. The Compact entered into a long-term fixed price contract for energy and Class 1 RECS from just under 5 MW of this project as part of the Compact's commitment to renewable energy and price stability.

At a regional level, New England continues to face electricity pricing spikes during the winter months. Over the last fifteen years, New England has greatly increased its reliance on natural gas for electricity production; however, natural gas pipeline capacity has not substantially increased during that same period. This creates a supply shortage of natural gas for electricity production during winter cold snaps, and therefore increases prices for electric generators, which is passed on to all New England power supply customers. Until such time as this issue is resolved, either through additional natural gas or electric transmission infrastructure, demand reduction, or other targeted programs, the possibility of future high winter pricing remains, and as such, consumers should still expect seasonal pricing fluctuations for the foreseeable future.



This past winter (2022-2023) especially, consumers saw a significant increase in electricity prices. These increases in prices reflected the increase in New England-wide wholesale electricity market prices, which was largely driven by increased natural gas prices due to the war in Ukraine and a reduction of alternative sources of electricity generation (e.g., coal, nuclear). While prices did not dramatically spike this winter (2023-2024), they remain elevated when compared to past years and are unlikely to decline over the next few years. The Compact will continue to seek ways to help customers reduce their electricity costs through innovative energy efficiency programs to mitigate the impacts of higher winter electricity pricing.

As of December 2023, the Compact had approximately 2,926 electric accounts in the Town of Tisbury on its power supply.

#### *CONSUMER ADVOCACY*

Since 1997, Cape Light Compact has advocated for the ratepayers of Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard at the local and state level.

In CY23, the Compact focused on the following regulatory proceedings at the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU):

- Grid modernization (DPU docket 21-80):
  - The Compact continued to participate in this docket with a focus on ensuring that customers on the Cape and Vineyard are able to benefit from Eversource's proposed grid modernization and advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) investments. The Compact's key concern is that municipal aggregations and their competitive suppliers be able to access the data available through smart meters in order to design and offer time varying electric rates (TVR) to their customers.
  - In CY23, the Compact participated in monthly AMI stakeholder sessions that were required as part of the DPU's order in this docket regarding TVR and data access for competitive suppliers.
- Cape Cod Capital Investment Project (DPU Docket 22-55)
  - The Compact participated in this docket advocating for the approval of Eversource's Cape Cod Capital Investment Project (CIP). Cape Cod CIP seeks to resolve the significant barriers to interconnection faced by distributed energy resource facilities requesting to interconnect to the electric power system in the Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard area.
- Municipal Aggregation Investigation (DPU Docket 23-67)
  - The Compact and several other Massachusetts cities and towns are participating in an investigation the DPU opened into Municipal Aggregation. Specifically, the DPU proposed a draft Guideline and Template Plan for Municipal Aggregations that the Compact views as being overly prescriptive. The Compact is advocating for recognition of municipal control and decision-making in the operation of aggregations.
- Eversource Electric Sector Modernization Plan (DPU Docket 24-10)

- In the fall of CY23, Eversource filed a draft plan with the Grid Modernization Advisory Council. The Compact submitted comments on the draft plan highlighting Cape specific issues. Eversource will be required to file its Electric Sector Modernization Plan with the DPU in early CY24. The Compact plans to participate in the adjudicatory process at the DPU when it begins.

In the fall of 2022, the Compact redesigned its Cape & Vineyard Electrification Offering (CVEO) to align with legislation that passed as part of the Massachusetts Climate Act in the summer of 2022. The Compact filed its redesigned CVEO with the DPU in November 2022 and received approval in January 2023. The Compact began implementing the program in June of 2023. The redesigned CVEO will serve 100 non-gas heated low- and moderate-income participants, installing cold climate heat pumps and solar PV. A limited number of customers will also receive battery storage.

*ENERGY EFFICIENCY*

Funding for the energy efficiency programs (i.e. energy audits for homes and businesses, rebates on the purchase of energy efficient appliances and energy education in our schools) comes from the monthly customer “energy conservation” charge on each customers’ electric bill, which is multiplied by the number of kilowatt hours used during the month (\$0.03301 for residential customers and \$0.01589 for commercial and industrial customers).

Jan – Oct 2023	# of Participants	Customer Savings	kWh Saved	Rebates/Incentives Paid to Customers
Low Income	10	\$0	0	\$432,526.92
Residential	396	\$0	0	\$638,637.06
Commercial	58	\$39,012.40	195,062	\$232,412.70
<b>Total</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>\$39,012.40</b>	195,062	<b>\$1,303,576.68</b>

*Note: Please note that this data does not include activity that occurred in November and December 2023 due to the date of this publication. Also, in the Residential Retail Initiative, several measures may reduce energy use from one fuel source but may increase use of another fuel resulting in negative kWh savings. Strategic electrification for example is primarily focused on the adoption of Heat Pump technology which may reduce the use of oil or propane but increase the use of electricity and increase peak demand. The Program Administrators have determined that these measures are still cost effective, and provide benefits to customers in a more holistic, integrated approach that helps customers address their energy use and associated costs based on their individual needs and goals, while aligning with the broader Commonwealth energy and greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.*

Tisbury Representative – Russ Hartenstine

# DUKES COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

When the six towns of Martha’s Vineyard established the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority (DCRHA) through State charter in 1986, it was in response to the Island’s growing need for stable, year-round, and affordable housing options for its residents. The number of 12-month leases had begun to shrink even as rents rose, inexpensive winter rentals were drying up, and the Vineyard Shuffle between at least two different rentals per year was on the rise. 37 years later in 2023, the advent of short-term-rentals, the effects of the worldwide pandemic, and changes to Island demographics have combined to raise the cost of the few year-round rentals to be found beyond the reach of a widening range of Island households, winter rentals have grown expensive, and the “shuffle” now is from that costly winter rentals to summer season work commutes from off-Island summer rentals and families divided up amongst friends. An increasing number of our retail and service employees leave their homes on the upper Cape, New Bedford and beyond to drive, park and ferry twice daily for their Island workdays.

In 2023, the Island can also look back on the 35 years of development of over 500 units of affordable rental and ownership housing by Island Elderly Housing, DCRHA, Island Housing Trust, the Tribal Housing Authority, private developers, and the towns. Currently, the Trust, the Atwood Company, and others are working with the towns to bring over 200 new ownership and rent-to-own units to occupancy beginning this year and continuing through 2026. Importantly, the successful Housing Bank campaign to create additional funding for a wider range of housing



development and support is working its way through the legislative process on multiple fronts in concert with other municipalities across the State. Relatedly, DCRHA advertised expansion of its rental waitlist from 100% of Area Median Income to 150% where growth in need and opportunity are presently expanding year to year.

DCRHA staff, fully funded by the towns since 2005, have been called on by town boards and committees, developers, Island organizations, property owners and other constituents to provide perspective and 45 years of collective experience to a range of creative actions and plans for new housing and support. Our rental waitlists, lottery agency, and management experience

are being utilized in Aquinnah where the Trust’s development of the 4 rental units of Carl Widdis Way nears completion, in Chilmark where planning at Peaked Hill continues, and in West Tisbury where, in addition to lottery assistance with resale of a Trust developed affordable home and resale of an affordable home in Co-Housing, 401 State Road rental particulars are being arranged. DCRHA staff assisted Oak Bluffs with their addition of two apartments at the Noyes Building and with their Town’s PILOT offering of our Rental Assistance program to households with higher incomes than those funded through the Community Preservation Act surcharge. In Edgartown, where DCRHA staff completed a lottery resale of a home initially funded through the Town’s Home Buy-Down program, the Affordable Housing Committee’s Housing Heros outreach to prospective Rental Assistance landlord is combining with the Oak Bluffs Pilot to raise

awareness of both the need and the opportunity of support through Rental Assistance. In turn, our annual requests to Town Community Preservation Committees for 2025 funding are higher in hopes of the addition of new landlord participation.

One example of the partnerships and shared housing efforts increasingly required on the Island is the DCRHA's relationship with the Martha's Vineyard Community Foundation (MVCF). Forged during the Covid period with their funding of our Rental Relief program - an assist to many Island households – the partnership has continued with MVCF support of two rounds of our Emergency Financial Assistance Program support of applicants and tenants of Morgan Woods, Island Elderly Housing, Harbor Homes, and through Dukes County Human Services. Additionally, the MVCF has been working with our Board to focus on next step efforts to address Island housing needs at a fundamental level with a January work session scheduled.

Island-wide, the Housing Authority continues to provide income certifications and administrative assistance for town programs such as accessory apartments, homesite subdivisions, demo delay referrals, and multi-family density allowances. The Housing Authority actively partners with Harbor Homes, the Housing Assistance Corporation, The Resource Inc, the County Manager's office, and other organizations that assist with rent, utilities, emergency support and apartment rehabilitation for island tenants and their landlords.



In 2023 DCRHA managed 98 Affordable rentals on 16 properties in 5 island towns. O'Brien Property Management (OPM), the Housing Authority's longtime and widely experienced property manager, has worked with Rise and the Cape Light Compact to replace old heating units in the apartments of 5 properties with highly efficient heat and air "splits". OPM also worked with The Resource Inc. (TRI) to replace original roofs and windows on two of our oldest West Tisbury apartment complexes. This year, DCRHA and OPM staff have completed an increasingly large annual number of apartment turnovers due to reduced employment schedules the other factors and uncertainties affecting many Island households of all incomes. After turnover rehab is completed, the process of rent-up begins with the longest waitlisted households, and includes income and tenant certification, repeated annually through the life of the tenancy. DCRHA has recently began use of a software program to efficiently allow for tenant requests and management responses, as well as the improved communication and record keeping needed for annual apartment inspections, work on turnovers, and compliance with multiple funding source requirements including program and household income audits and Fair Housing policy strictures.

DCRHA staff work daily with households in search of affordable rentals and home ownership at its office at 21 Mechanic St. off State Road in Vineyard Haven and through remote efforts via

email and phone. For more information please call (508) 693-4419 or check our website at <https://housingauthoritymarthasvineyard.org/> where staff emails are also available.

A final word: 2024 marks the end of 23 years of shared office space at 21 Mechanic St with the Island Housing Trust. During that time, the DCRHA has had the best view of all that went into the Trust's successful development of over 250 units of increasingly needed and appreciated rental and ownership housing. As importantly, the attendant growth in capacity managed by Executive Director, Philippe Jordi, essential Trust Board members and staff, and a host of community partners and supporters, is now currently at work on another 200 units currently in development. Add to that numerous advocacy, policy, and community practice advancements, and it is more than understandable that the Trust's necessary growth in capacity requires the new, larger office that they are at work on moving into as this report is written. The Duke County Regional Housing Authority wishes the Island Housing Trust godspeed in this important new chapter of its work on behalf of the residents of Martha's Vineyard.

The DCRHA Board of Directors and Staff:

ANN WALLACE: *Chilmark*  
MARK LEONARD: *Oak Bluffs*  
DAN SEIDMAN: *Tisbury*  
RUDI SANFILIPPO: *Aquinnah*  
LUCY MORRISON: *At-Large*  
RISE TIERNEY: *West Tisbury*  
JASON MAZAR-KELLY: *Edgartown*  
*Candidate Referred: Governor's Appointee*

DAVID VIGNEAULT: Executive Director  
TERRI KEECH: Finance Manager  
KAY-ANN FRASER: Operations Coordinator  
KARIN KUGEL: Administrative Assistant

## ELDER SERVICES OF CAPE COD & THE ISLANDS INC.

Elder Services of Cape Cod & the Islands Inc. is a private not-for-profit community-based organization serving the changing needs of the older adult population in the twenty-two towns of Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket counties. Since 1972, we have been dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for elders in the community and help to assist them in maintaining maximum independence and dignity. We are the federally designated Area Agency on Aging (AAA), the state designated Aging Services Access Point (ASAP), and the Aging Disability Resource Consortium (ADRC).

In FY 23 Elder Services Nutrition program (Meals on Wheels, Senior Dining) served 45,542 meals on MV. 309 seniors received meals delivered to their homes by a corps of over 105 Meals on Wheels volunteers. Under the oversight of the Elder Services registered Dietitian, all meals are prepared through our contract with the Martha's Vineyard Hospital and are delivered to homes and dining sites in all six towns by our volunteers. Our Senior Dining sites are located at the Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, and Up Island Councils on Aging. Our Nutrition program coordinator also participates in the Island Food Equity Network Summit that meets to collaborate on food access for Martha's Vineyard residents. \*\* Our Senior Dining program has re-opened and is now serving on Thursday at the Tisbury COA and up-island COA.

Our Home Care Program provides eligible elders with the supportive services they need to live safely and independently at home. Professional Care Managers assess needs, develop a service plan, arrange for necessary support, and see elders on going to ensure continuous management of services. In FY 23, The Home Care Program served 242 elders on MV. There were 22,539 hours provided through; personal care assistance, medication management, light cleaning, meal prep, shopping, chore, and laundry services contracted through our vendors. In addition, 127 elders were enrolled with a Personal Emergency Response System (PERS). Home Care can also include services provided by the Martha's Vineyard Center for Living including their Supportive Day program and Alzheimer's and Dementia coaching.

A volunteer Nursing Home Ombudsman regularly visits residents of Windemere Nursing and Rehabilitation Center to provide advocacy and support. Elder Services of Cape Cod and The Islands has also been an active member of The Dukes County Health Council since its inception. We also serve on the Oversight Committee of its Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard as well as the Falls Prevention sub-committee. Our Protective Services unit has joined Martha's Vineyard Community Services' Connect to End Violence elder abuse prevention effort and Safe Seniors collaboration. We look forward to active and ongoing participation in these local initiatives.

In addition to the Elder Services' in-house programs that serve the elder population, the AAA distributes Older America Act Title III funds to other community agencies/organizations to

provide needed care and assistance. Martha's Vineyard was awarded funds for programs offered through Martha's Vineyard Community Services. Martha's Vineyard Community Services provides bi-monthly support groups for caregivers of elders. MVCS also provides some funding for respite needs while caregivers attend the support group. This program was awarded \$5,400. Martha's Vineyard Community Services also provides home/community short-term assessment, intervention, and referral for mental health and substance abuse issues for elders 60 and over. This program was awarded \$10,000.

Elder Services of Cape Cod and the Islands uses federal, state, town, and private funds to provide essential community programs/services. The value of these funds is greatly enhanced by Town support, the cooperative efforts of the Councils on Aging, and the many Island residents who volunteer their time and skills. We appreciate the value of the community support we receive and expect to continue to work collaboratively and productively with local organizations to meet the challenges of the future.

Respectfully submitted,  
Megan Panek, MV Director



## Programs and Services

**Information & Referral:** A central source of information on all services available to older adults on Cape Cod and the Islands as well as the entry point for referral to Elder Services' many programs. All referrals Call 1-800-244-4630. For additional information visit our website at [www.escci.org](http://www.escci.org).

Martha's Vineyard Office- 508-693-4393.

**Protective Services:** Help is available 24/7 for anyone over the age of 60 who has been abused, neglected, financially exploited or is at risk of harm due to self-neglect. Call 1-800-922-2275 to report 7 days a week 24 hours a day.

**Home Care Program:** Services are provided to help an elder remain safely in the community; Care Managers assess the needs, develop a service plan, arrange for supports, and see elders on going to manage services, and help with resources. To qualify, individuals must be sixty or older, meet financial eligibility guidelines, and have specific unmet care needs.

**Senior Nutrition Program:** Senior Dining Centers are located at Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, and Up-island Senior Centers; Meals on Wheels are delivered by volunteers in every town for any elder who is homebound. Delivery is Mon-Fri usually between 10-Noon.

**Family Caregiver Support Program:** Provides education, advocacy, and connections to community resources that will enable the caregiver to better care for their loved ones as well as themselves.

**Money Management Program:** Volunteers, trained and certified, meet with elders in their homes to help them balance their checkbooks, pay bills, and oversee other routine financial management tasks.

**Senior Community Services Employment Program:** Provides training and part-time employment to individuals fifty-five and older.

**Senior Service Corps:** A corps of volunteers who enhance the community by participating in a wide variety of service activities.

**Options Counseling:** Provides information and short-term counseling to assist consumers (elders aged 60 and older or individuals over the age of 18 with any disability) in making informed choices about long term care services, support, and settings.

**Long Term Care Ombudsman Program:** Ombudsmen are trained and certified advocates with the authority to make weekly unannounced visits to facilities to monitor the condition of the home and meet with residents and/or their families to discuss any concerns they might have about the quality of their care.

**Long Term Care Screening:** Registered nurses assess an individual's health and functional abilities in order to determine medical eligibility for Medicaid funding of nursing home care.



# MARTHA'S VINEYARD CENTER FOR LIVING

29 Breakdown Lane, Vineyard Haven

Hours: M-F 8:30am to 4:30 pm

## **Our Mission:**

Martha's Vineyard Center for Living strives to improve the quality of life for those impacted by issues of aging and impairment. Our vision is to create an age friendly environment, promote dignity, reduce stigma, support independence and foster community engagement.

The Center for Living (MVCL) is generously supported by all six island towns and governed by a Board of Directors consisting of members from each island town and one County representative. In FY2023, board members included Sandra Joyce, President; Shirley Dewing, Treasurer; Jane Keenan, Clerk; Gail Barmakian; Christine Burke; Martha Solinger; Rise Terney; Martina Thornton; Beverly Wright.

## **Martha's Vineyard Center for Living Programs & Services:**

### **Supportive Day Program:** M-F 9am to 2pm

The Supportive Day Program (SDP) is a day program for older adults who may experience memory challenges and a level of disability where they are unable to participate independently in community activities and programs. The SDP provides community-based support and opportunities for social connections to combat isolation and loneliness, the greatest threats to the wellbeing of our clients and their caregivers. Just as important is the respite we provide for caregivers. Our clients come to us with varying levels of disability; some with multiple medical conditions and chronic illnesses, including Alzheimer's and other dementias. The respite and support the caregiver receives by sending their loved one to the Supportive Day Program is critical for their overall well-being and that of their loved one. When a caregiver has a few hours for rest and self-care, the quality of life for both the caregiver and care recipient improves significantly.

In FY2023, our early efforts were focused on outreach to increase the number of families served in our programs. We successfully brought our numbers up, reaching over 50 families and providing over 21,000 hours of socialization, enrichment, and care for our clients, and as many hours of respite for their caregivers. In comparison, a conservative estimate of the cost to families paying at least \$35/hour for private duty care is \$735,000. The daily cost for the Supportive Day Program is \$60 with an additional \$10 fee for transportation. These fees are paid either privately, or by Elder Services of Cape Cod and the Islands (the regional Home Care Agency) covering some or all the cost for low to moderate income elders. MVCL also offers a modest, donation supported scholarship program.

At the Center for Living, we are "person centered" which means careful attention is paid to the physical and emotional needs of each client, and a care plan designed to meet those needs is in place. Everyone, regardless of ability, can engage in community and enjoy the company of friends and peers in a safe environment free of stigma. The Supportive Day program offers a wide range of activities tailored to individual needs and interests, including exercise and yoga, music, singing, dancing, arts and crafts, discussion groups and games. We also regularly engage other community organizations and talented individuals such as musicians and artists, to share

their talents and expertise with us. A morning snack and nutritious, home-made noon meal are prepared on-site and served family style. With a van at our disposal, we've added weekly outings to our schedule and take small groups out to local libraries, MV Museum, Polly Hill, the YMCA, Oak Bluffs Pier or just for a ride to enjoy fresh air and our beautiful island.

### **Respite Innovations:**

In May of 2023, MVCL was awarded one of only 41 grants statewide, to provide new and innovative services to address the needs of and support family caregivers. Caregiver respite is a critical aspect of the services we provide, and Respite Innovations funding gives us the opportunity to expand our services into the home setting. Due to various circumstances, the Supportive Day program may not always be the right fit for, or be accessible to some families, and a home-based option is another opportunity for caregiver respite. The physical and emotional effects of long-term caregiving can be debilitating and even life threatening for the 24/7 unpaid family caregivers. Despite the challenges, many families choose to care for their loved ones at home for as long as possible and the reality is on Martha's Vineyard there are few other options. Caregivers experience increased depression, anxiety, stress, and heart disease, exacerbated by decreased levels of self-care and immune response. They are routinely faced with psychological, social, physical, and often financial hardship. Respite Innovations will send a trained respite worker into the home for two-hour sessions to provide companionship and person centered activities for the care recipient, so the caregiver can get break.

### **Transportation**

In FY2023, MVCL acquired a Lift Van from the VTA, and hired a driver to enhance our transportation services. Transportation to and from the SDP is available either on the MVCL van, or via the VTA (Vineyard Transit Authority) Lift service. The VTA manages the maintenance and upkeep of the MVCL van as well as the training and testing required of all Lift drivers.

### **New in 2023: Shopping Shuttle:**

With the Lift Van at our disposal and available during the middle of the day when we are not transporting SDP clients, we were asked to pilot a Shopping Shuttle service for older adults in the general community on behalf of the Councils on Aging. This service is for community members who no longer drive to do their own shopping and errands and was initially funded with a grant from the MV Community Foundation. Subsequently we have received a combination of two state grants, one from Elder Services Title IIIB and one from MaDOT, to continue the service for two years. We expect future funding to continue through a combination of local and government grants. The Shopping Shuttle is available three days a week; Wednesdays shopping in Tisbury; Thursdays, Edgartown is the shopping destination, and Fridays the shuttle takes people to Oak Bluffs, including the Island Food Pantry at the PA Club. In line with our mission, the Shopping Shuttle helps to reduce isolation, promote independence, and provides an opportunity for older adults to enjoy the social aspects of being out in the community.

### **Memory and Music Café:**

In FY2023, the Memory and Music Café was moved to a once a month "open house" format on the third Thursday every month from 10am to 12pm. SDP clients enjoy the Café as part of their SDP routine, and caregivers and community members are welcome to join us every week for live music, companionship and of course dancing. Memory Cafés have spread across Massachusetts,

the country, and the world, as an inclusive community engagement model for those experiencing disability, memory loss and/or cognitive impairment, along with their caregivers.

#### **Dementia Family Support Services:**

Dementia Family Support Services is funded by grants and donations outside of the town funded MVCL operating budget. It is available to families and caregivers caring for a loved one with memory loss and cognitive decline due to Alzheimer's or other dementias. We connect families and caregivers with other agencies including Elder Services of Cape Cod and the Islands, the MV Community Services CORE program, Dukes County Health Care Access program and the Elder Law program for additional support and services.

The **Dementia Caregiver Support Group** meets weekly on Zoom, Fridays 10am-11:30am. In 2023, 25 individual caregivers joined us from both on and off island, to find a community of support with others experiencing the challenges and concerns raised by caring for a loved one with dementia.

In FY2023 **Dementia Coaching (Habilitation Therapy)** was added to our service model. Habilitation Therapy supports caregivers to create and maintain a positive environment for a person experiencing the effects of a dementia related illness. The objective is to provide education and support to the caregiver and to recommend ways to modify elements of the home environment that may exacerbate the symptoms of the disease. A Dementia Coach provides knowledge and expertise to caregivers (and the person with the disease when appropriate) in understanding the disease process, as well as techniques of communication, behavior management, structuring the environment, creating therapeutic activities, and planning for future care needs.

#### **TV for Living:**

TV for Living was created in response to the COVID pandemic, and is a series of 30-minute, informational programs aired on MV Community Television Channel 13. Topics include Healthy Aging, Caregiver Tips and information, MV Center for Living programs, live demonstrated Functional Fitness work outs and art projects that can be done at home and much more. There are well over 100 episodes archived and can be viewed on the MVTV website at [www.mvtv.org](http://www.mvtv.org) and entering TV for Living in the search bar.

#### **MV Community Foundation Rent and Utility Support 2022-2023**

As a response to the pandemic and the resulting widespread loss of income and resources, the MV Community Foundation, with a combination of state funding and generous local philanthropic support, was able to provide significant relief to islanders by funding a Utility and Rental relief assistance program. To administer and distribute these funds the MVCF sought to partner with other island non-profit organizations with experience in these areas. MV Center for Living stepped forward to take applications and distribute nearly \$40,000, assisting 138 island families with rent and/or utility bills. We received referrals from Dukes County Social Services, Councils on Aging, the MVCS CORE program, Morgan Woods, MV Hospital Social Workers for island families in need of assistance.

#### **FEMA/Emergency Food and Shelter Program 2022-2023**

##### **Phase 39**

In FY2023, a total of \$9360 was allocated for Dukes County to assist residents in need of emergency food and shelter assistance. Of these funds, \$5213 was designated for MVCL to island senior residents with rent or mortgage payments.

**Emergency Food Program:**

Martha's Vineyard Center for Living is the sponsoring agency of the Greater Boston Food Bank emergency food distribution program on Martha's Vineyard. The Edgartown, Tisbury, and Up-Island Senior Centers as well as the Serving Hands Pantry at the Baptist Church Parish House on Williams St. in Vineyard Haven are the local distribution sites. Each site orders a variety of nutritious foods monthly from the Greater Boston Food Bank and MVCL coordinates with Island Food Products (IFP) to pick up these orders to come back to the island for distribution.

The local Stop & Shop has designated the Center for Living Emergency Food Program as the recipient organization for their community foundation give back programs. Cronig's Market regularly donates food directly to the Emergency Food Program through the Serving Hands Pantry.

**55PLUS Times: Information and Referral**

The 55PLUS Times is published monthly in the MV Times and is a resource for information pertaining to programs and services available to all 55+ Islanders and their families. MV Center for Living is responsible for editing and submitting the information published in the 55Plus Times.

**Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Luncheon Program:**

Once a month between 25 and 40 folks enjoy a delicious gourmet meal prepared and served by the MVRHS Culinary Arts students. Chef/Instructors Jack O'Malley and Kevin Crowell share their talent and expertise with the students and oversee their learning and experience in the culinary world.

**Home Delivered Holiday Meals:**

MVCL coordinates with the Councils on Aging and Martha's Vineyard Hospital to provide a home delivered holiday meal to older adults who are alone or homebound every year on the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter holidays. The Martha's Vineyard Hospital food service prepares and packages the meals and the Councils on Aging coordinate volunteers to deliver the meals in their town. On Thanksgiving Day 2022, 123 meals were delivered; Christmas Day 2022, 152 meals delivered; Easter Sunday 2023, 149 meals delivered.

**Older Americans Act / Senior Nutrition Program:**

The Elder Services Nutrition Program, (Meals on Wheels and Senior Dining Centers), is supported financially by the six island towns through the Martha's Vineyard Center for Living annual budget. In FY2023, the island towns contributed \$36,750 to Elder Services of Cape Cod & the Islands in support of this vital nutrition program.

We are grateful for the generous support of all town Boards of Selectmen, Finance Committees, Councils on Aging, other municipal agencies, as well as our non-profit partners and the community at large. This support and generosity make a positive impact on the lives of many islanders and is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Clapp, Executive Director

## MARTHA'S VINEYARD COMMISSION

The Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC or Commission) is the Regional Planning Agency (RPA) for Dukes County, offering planning services to the seven towns in Dukes County (including Gosnold); and to the County itself. The Commission's enabling legislation also allows Island towns to adopt special regulations targeting Districts of Critical Planning Concern (DCPCs) and requires the Commission to review Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs) on the Vineyard.

The 17-member Commission includes nine members elected Island-wide biennially, and one appointed member each from the Dukes County Commission, each Island Select Board, and the Governor of Massachusetts. Commission officers in 2023 were Joan Malkin of Chilmark, Chair; Brian Smith of Oak Bluffs, Vice-Chair; and Ernie Thomas of West Tisbury, Clerk-Treasurer. The Commission is supported by a professional staff of fourteen, two of whom are vision fellows. More detail is provided below and is available on the Commission's website, [www.mvcommission.org](http://www.mvcommission.org).

### COMMISSION FOCUS 2023

#### Removal of Nitrogen from Island Ponds

The Commission continues to focus on the development of a robust pond monitoring program and participating in innovative technologies designed to address nitrogen contamination. In 2023, Commission staff completed the eighth year of extensive testing. Since 2016, multiple samplings have been conducted in 16 Island ponds. Water samples are used to measure nutrient and chlorophyll content, pond visibility, temperature, salinity, and other factors. The testing was conducted using the same locations and methods as those used in the Massachusetts Estuaries Project, which ensures comparable results. Comprehensive reports between 2016 and 2018 detail the results of the testing and evaluate the current trends for each pond. A similar report will be completed for the data obtained over the summer of 2023. A trends analysis report evaluating the changes observed over the prior period of study will also be completed for 2023. The MVC continues to update the website to make pond data and reports more accessible to the public.

The Commission was heavily involved in the development and testing of various alternative technologies. Two years of monthly monitoring and testing for efficacy of the permeable reactive barrier (PRB) along the coast of Lagoon Pond in Tisbury has been completed. Results from the testing have shown almost complete removal of nitrogen through the barrier. Another site for a PRB in the Lagoon Pond system is being explored with hopes for implementation in 2024.

The MVC also funded and participated in the development and monitoring of innovative wastewater systems that have the potential to radically reduce the amount of nitrogen leaching into ponds from Title 5 septic systems. In order to demonstrate their effectiveness to State and Federal regulators, these systems require extensive and meticulous testing. The systems have functioned well and are expected to make large impacts in addressing the nitrogen degradation in Island ponds. MVC staff continues to assist with the testing of the pilot systems. Results have been promising and several of the installations were conditioned in MVC DRIs. Mass DEP has implemented amendments to the Title 5; these implementations are not currently required on

Martha’s Vineyard but will be put in place within the next several years. The MVC will work with Towns to meet these new proposed regulations.

#### Martha’s Vineyard Statistical Profile

In December 2023, the MVC updated the Martha’s Vineyard Statistical Profile, which includes hundreds of datasets and highlights trends in demographics, land use, the economy, health and education, housing and real estate, transportation, energy and the environment, and taxes and town services in Dukes County. This update covers several important developments since the previous version in 2019, including the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2020 Census, the 2022 Vineyard Climate Action Plan, and the 2024-2044 Regional Transportation Plan. A PDF version of the report is available on the MVC’s website and print copies are available at the Town Halls, libraries and the MVC building.

#### MVC Quarterly

In June, the MVC released the first issue of the MVC Quarterly, a newsletter covering the MVC’s planning activities. The MVC has periodically issued newsletters on various topics since 1974, including early publications on fisheries and water quality. MVC Quarterly revives this tradition with a focus on general planning. Each issue is posted on the MVC’s website and distributed via email. To join the email list, please contact Alex Elvin [elvin@mvcommission.org](mailto:elvin@mvcommission.org).

#### Finances

The Commission’s FY2023 income was \$2,130,998 and expenses totaled \$2,448,126 comprised of the following components:

##### Fiscal Year 2023

Total Revenues	\$2,130,998	100%	Total Expenses	\$2,448,126	100%
Town Assessments	\$1,365,389	64.07%	Salaries	\$1,203,645	49.17%
Grants and Contracts	\$615,356	28.88%	Salary Related Costs	\$428,902	17.52%
DRI Fees	\$30,074	1.41%	Legal Fees	\$209,534	8.56%
Other Income	\$120,179	5.64%	Other Expenses	\$563,234	23.00%
			Mortgage Interest payments for two MVC-owned properties	\$42,811	1.75%

The annual audit by Anstiss Certified Public Accountants showed fiscal soundness. The FY2024 budget and FY2022 audited financial statements are available on the website.

## ALL-ISLAND EFFORTS

### Affordable Housing

Launch of the MVC Housing Action Task Force: The MVC coordinated bi-monthly workshops bringing Island governmental officials, boards, committees and agencies together with regional and State resources and our legislative delegation for the pursuit of comprehensive Island housing solutions. Meetings were either hybrid or virtual and were widely publicized and open to the public. All meetings were recorded and posted to the MVC YouTube channel and housing playlist. Some of the topics included:

The State of Housing Workshop provided easy-to-access data baseline, outlined depth and scale of the housing crisis, and began to set actionable goals for the community.

Provincetown's All of the Above Housing Strategy: Hybrid workshop with Provincetown's Town Manager Alex Morse and Select Board member Leslie Sandberg on Provincetown's two-year multi-pronged approach to scaling up year-round housing inventory and related programs at all income levels.

Zoning for Year-Round and Affordable Housing: Virtual workshop with Christine Madore of Mass Housing Partnership.

Incentivizing Year-Round Rentals: Virtual workshop with Kai Frolich of Placemate.com

Complete Neighborhoods Initiative: An in-depth presentation on Mass Housing Partnership's regional grant program for housing solutions through a climate-forward lens geared for Town governments.

Joint Affordable Housing Group (JAHG): The MVC has restructured and relaunched the JAHG as a think tank/planning platform for the Town's affordable housing committees and trusts and Island housing groups to share resources and progress.

Fractional Ownership/Interval Use/Timeshare (FOITs) Ordinances: The MVC supported the Towns and regional partners with research and resources on emerging investment platforms targeting residential housing stock in resort communities. In Spring 2023, Tisbury passed the first FOITs bylaw in the Commonwealth. Edgartown and Chilmark and at work on bylaws expected at the next Annual Town Meeting.

Municipal Employee Workforce Housing Initiative: At the request of all six towns, MVC staff has initiated a partnership with Nantucket's Housing Director, regional legislators, and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities to forge a new legal pathway for the use of public funds for municipal employee workforce housing, including preferences in state-funded projects for town hall, emergency services, and school district staff.

Affordable Housing Inventory Analysis: The MVC has begun to work with all six towns to create an inventory of all deed-restricted housing across the Island at all income levels, and to update the Towns' subsidized housing inventories.

Housing to Protect Cape Cod: MVC staff established a strong Island presence, in partnership with Nantucket, in this regional policy development coalition. The group is working with the Governor's office and regional legislative delegation to elevate regional housing policy priorities.

Grants: The MVC secured a grant for a consultant to support the update of the 2014 Affordable and Community Housing Zoning Analysis and filed a joint grant application on behalf of all six towns for Mass Housing Partnership's Complete Neighborhoods Initiative.

Community Outreach and Education Efforts: The MVC's housing planner attends community meetings as an invited speaker to educate community groups and the public about the Island housing crisis and potential courses of action to address it.

#### MVC Biochar Vision Fellowship 2023

Demonstrated how to use a flame cap kiln at IGI using brush from John Keene Excavation. The biochar produced went to the IGI fruit tree orchard.

In October, hosted a team of scientists to collect data at John Keene Excavation on flame cap kiln emissions and efficiency, to quantify the amount of carbon sequestered and the emissions produced by this technology. The data will be presented in a formal report and inform an instruction manual of best practices tailored to island climate and feedstock. The approximately 1.5 tons of biochar created will be "charged" over winter by nutrients from composting, urine, manure, and animal bedding, in preparation for spring plantings. The charred logs were used in a "Chargulkultur" berm to help capture run off from the IGI compost facility.

Presented to the public at the MV Agricultural Society Harvest Festival and a potluck in the Ag. Hall.

Presented to the Water Alliance and Mill Brook Watershed Committee about how biochar can help restore pond ecosystems by capturing nutrient-rich run off.

Sourced feedstock for winter kiln demonstrations, diverting woody debris from the waste stream with help from island partners: invasive plant material from Biodiversity Works, scrap wood from South Mountain Company, tree prunings from Hagerty Tree and brush from the Oak Bluffs Transfer Station. (Kiln demonstrations were postponed due to rain and high winds.)

Sourced free materials to build a brick kiln at Native Earth Teaching Farm.

#### Climate Change Planning

Climate Action Task Force: MVC staff has provided support to the political working group and convened a series of meetings with Senator Markey's office. The MVC hosted separate meetings with Tisbury and Oak Bluffs partners, along with Senator Markey, to coordinate formal Water Resources Development Act authorization requests through the US Army Corps. MVC staff also facilitated several sessions for high school students to participate in a Day of Dialogue focused on climate issues and their intersection with local, State and Federal policies.

Climate Action Plan (CAP) Implementation [www.thevineyardway.org](http://www.thevineyardway.org)

The MVC works with towns, the Commonwealth, and Federal agencies on planning coastal areas, ocean conservation and development, and mitigating natural hazards. Coastal planning in 2019 focused on hazard mitigation and especially climate change adaptation. There is very little doubt that climate change has begun to produce significant effects on the Vineyard, and that it is accelerating. However, there are many ways that the impacts can be mitigated. Adaptation to sea-level rise, in particular, involves a choice of retreat, abandonment, or elevation of buildings and infrastructure—all necessary and costly options. There are difficult choices ahead for Island



leaders, homeowners, and business owners. As planning professionals, it is the responsibility of MVC staff to provide material for thoughtful solutions and to encourage responsible and clear-headed decision making.

Ecosystem Resilience Grant: The MVC was awarded an MA Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program grant to address ecosystem resilience. This collaborative project includes updating the Island's vegetation maps, eelgrass delineation maps to identify potential aquaculture sites, a campaign aimed at promoting resilient landscaping, and planning for the 2024 Climate Action Fair. The Climate Action Plan Community Coordinating Committee meets on the second Friday of the month with representatives from the Town Climate Committees to coordinate climate change actions.

Climate Action Fair 2023: Held on May 7, 2023 at the Ag Hall, the Climate Action Fair had a general focus on waste management, and was a huge success. There were workshops on mending clothes, composting, and there were onsite energy consultants, raffles and giveaways, food and dancing.

WMVY Series: In the spring of 2023 WMVY Radio held a series of zoom panel discussions called Walking Through the Vineyard Climate Action Plan. The discussions can be viewed on WMVY's website, Community Outreach page. The topics include: Managed Retreat from the Coast, Consumption and Waste, Public Health, Climate Change and the Local Economy, and Renewable Energy. A special thank you to the former WMVY community outreach director Laurel Reddington for organizing and moderating the series.

New MV Times Climate Connections Column: Launched in June 2023, a new monthly MV Times column called Climate Connections looks at what is being done on the Island to address climate change and highlight what everyone can do to help make a positive difference. The column is written by retired educator Doris Ward, with Liz Durkee providing guidance and background.

### Energy

In 2022, the Martha's Vineyard Vision Fellowship awarded a two-year fellowship to the MVC for an Energy Planner. Kate Warner was chosen to develop this new role. The Energy Planner's job is focused on the regional level on the Island's transition away from fossil fuel use and towards 100% electricity from renewable sources to address the climate crisis and increase our Island's energy resilience. The Energy Planner works to influence major Island players, such as Eversource and the Steamship Authority, and support resilience projects to encourage the necessary transition.

Eversource: Quarterly meetings with Eversource, with representation from each of the Towns, the County, the MVC and Vineyard Power, have focused on strategies to increase and modernize our electrical infrastructure as demand for electricity rises. Additionally, to increase our energy resilience, discussion has included how to work with Eversource to interconnect microgrid - with solar and batteries - for Town and Island critical facilities that would allow them to continue to operate during times of power failure. Eversource will be installing one new cable and one replacement cable by 2025 which will provide adequate power for our summer peak demand and our projected power needs at least through 2050. The new cables will also allow for the end of the use of five diesel generators and the Tisbury temporary generators.

Steamship Authority: The Energy Planner held an event in March called “Ferries Now” to raise awareness about the transition of ferries away from fossil-fuel propulsion. Speakers from Denmark, Maine and Washington State spoke about their electrification plans. The goal was to support the Steamship in moving towards electrification. The Steamship is beginning to address how they will meet the State’s mandated climate goals for 2050 using alternative propulsion methods. Emissions reductions will also provide health benefits to residents of the port towns, in particular. Letters of support to the Steamship to encourage this work would be appreciated.

Energy Resilience: A technical assistance grant from the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL)/US Department of Energy called the Energy Transition Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP) has been obtained to look at strengthening the resilience of the down-island water departments in times of prolonged power failure. Having adequate water- for the public and for wildfire prevention- and energy supply continue to be a challenge in other places after major weather events.

Getting to Net Zero: The Energy Planner has developed a Getting to Net Zero document to provide information about our island’s energy use and address the non-binding resolution passed at each town meeting with a goal of 100% electric from renewable sources by 2040 and the State’s mandated decarbonization goals by 2050. This report is available on the MVC website and in other public places.

#### GIS (Geographic Information System) Department

The MVC’s mapping department continued to support primarily regional projects in 2023. Projects were either lead by the MVC or Town Departments working with their respective cohorts across the Island.

What we do: The MVC’s mapping department provides the following to all Town Departments, Boards, and Committees within Dukes County.

*We make maps.* Either delivered as static JPEG or PDF images or as interactive online maps.

*We create digital spatial data, deliver data, and disseminate data.*

Spatial data is compiled through either GPS or extracted from authoritative basemaps and subsequent GIS analysis.

Deliver spatial/GIS data to Town’s hired consultants via our ArcGIS OnLine data hub and direct delivery for custom requests.

Dissemination of our GIS spatial data is done through our Gateway. The links on the Gateway lead one directly to the GIS data for download but also to our Online Gallery of interactive dashboards and story maps that engage and inform.

Curated Gallery of online interactive maps created by *other* organizations that provide useful information to Town employees and residents on a wide range of topics.

*We provide GIS software technical support* and guidance/mentorship to all the entities who participate in our Regional GIS software contract with ESRI.

How to get mapping assistance: Any Town Department, Board, or Committee may contact the MVC’s mapping department at any time. For most projects, our work is considered pre-paid through the Town’s annual assessment to the MVC. Email Chris Seidel (she/her): [seidel@mvcommission.org](mailto:seidel@mvcommission.org)

Mapping Contribution to Regional Projects, Grant Applications, Reports & Miscellaneous Town Request:

Vegetation Delineation, Potential Aquaculture Sites, and Wildlife Corridors - MVP Grant FY24 “Eco-Resilience” There are several projects within this grant that the MVC’s GIS Department is involved in. First, vegetation mapping/delineation. The MVC GIS staff spent the first half of 2023 garnering project support & input from local conservation groups and MassWildlife/Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program (NHESP) and key research groups like Harvard Forest and Woodwell Climate Research Center to identify the project’s scope and approach. The second half of 2023 included hiring the consultant and providing baseline datasets to, Thomson Environmental Consultants to map the Vineyard’s vegetation habitats per the NHESP Natural Communities classification scheme. Vegetation on MV was last mapped in circa 2000 by The Nature Conservancy and UMass Amherst. This update of vegetation communities is critical to habitat management and climate change/resiliency planning. A draft dataset is anticipated by the end of 2023 and the final version in the Spring of 2024.

The second project within this grant is Potential Aquaculture Siting within Tashmoo, Lagoon, and Sengekontacket Ponds. The GIS department has created a series of datasets which detail areas where aquaculture is excluded. Eelgrass surveys will be conducted outside the exclusion areas to further pinpoint where future aquaculture could be sited.

The third project within the MVP Grant is to map wildlife corridors. This is a collaboration of the MVC with BiodiversityWorks. Knowing the location of the critical wildlife corridors will inform the final delineation of Ecosystem Resilience Prioritization Areas, which will be done in collaboration with all the local conservation groups. The MVC and BiodiversityWorks have met several times this fall to discuss the methods for mapping the wildlife corridors.

All work within the MVP24 Eco-Resilience grant supports the implementation of the Climate Action Plan of 2022.

Fire Hydrants: Continuing to support the fire departments of Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, & West Tisbury with their First Due planning & responding software, the MVC GIS Department digitized the hydrant locations for Edgartown and Tisbury. For both towns, the hydrant locations existed on paper maps but not as digital GIS data. These data have now been created and submitted to the FirstDue company for inclusion in the Town’s FirstDue software program. Per the Edgartown Fire Department’s request, the MVC created an online interactive map showing the hydrants and parcel boundaries. This map is not shared with the public, per the Edgartown Water Department’s request, and so no URL link to the map is provided here.

Storm Tide Pathways: The MVC GIS staff continue to educate and promote the Storm Tide Pathways data and its applicability to impending storm preparation and future sea level rise impacts. See this document for links to Storm Tide Pathways resources and a town-wide map for each Island town showing the potential inundation based on the National Weather Service Flood Stage Categories.

Statistical Profile Maps: Every so many years the MVC updates the County-wide Statistical Profile report and 2023 was one of those years. This a great go-to resource for baseline info covering

many fronts – transportation, census, economy, etc. The MVC GIS staff created several [maps for the statistical profile](#). Check them out!

Miscellaneous: Supporting the MVC GIS Department’s motto of “New Day – New Map” there are a multitude of requests for maps from MVC staff and Town employees throughout the year. Here are some notables from 2023:

Community Neighborhoods Initiative

Regional Transportation Plan - Percent Racial Minority Block Group 2020

Zoning Maps requested by Town Boards

State of Housing on MV Presentation

West Tisbury Visionary Map requested by Town Planning Board. Includes:

Building Ownership by Seasonal or Year-Round resident

Building Use - Residential or Other

Affordable Housing Sites - Complete inventory as of 2019

Ongoing Data Updates: The MVC continually maintains a trails and open space/conservation land database for Dukes County with input from the Island Conservation Partnership. This data changes frequently as new properties are acquired into conservation and new trails are constructed. These data are shared with the public in our ArcGIS OnLine cloud space ([open space](#), [trails](#)). From that portal, the data are pushed into the Sheriff’s Meadow Foundation’s [TrailsMV App](#) as well as the [Martha’s Vineyard Land Bank’s online map](#). These resources allow the public to appreciate this work and the beauty of the Island. Maintaining these datasets also benefits the Towns for completion of their Open Space Plans (required by the State) and planning of special ways, scenic ways, and expansion of the Island’s Shared Use Paths and signed bike routes.

In collaboration with the Dukes County Registry of Deeds, the MVC’s mapping department maintains an online interactive data dashboard with the monthly real estate sales that have occurred in Dukes County. The registry supplies the MVC with the monthly sales spreadsheet. [Visit the dashboard](#).

### Transportation

The MVC performs transportation planning for the Vineyard, in association with the Towns, VTA, Martha’s Vineyard Airport, the Steamship Authority, MassDOT, and the public.

Support of the 3C Process: The MVC facilitates meetings of the JTC, made up of appointees from each Town, the Tribe, and the County; along with ex-officio members from the VTA, MVC staff, Federal Highway and Transit administrations, Steamship Authority, Martha’s Vineyard Airport and MassDOT, to coordinate Island transportation planning. MVC staff also participates in weekly Land Use Planning Committee Meetings (LUPC), weekly Commission public hearings (MVC), staff applicant meetings for Developments of Regional Impact (DRI), municipal Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Zoning Board, and Conservation Commission meetings.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes and provides budgetary information for the transportation planning tasks and activities, which are to be conducted in the region during the coming year. The Unified Planning Work Program is a federally required certification document, which must be prepared and endorsed annually by the

Martha's Vineyard MPO, prior to the start of the planning program. The Martha's Vineyard Commission has the responsibility of preparing the Unified Planning Work Program. The planning activities are organized first by work element in a format that will allow efficient administration, management, and reporting. The transportation planning activities are described as a procedure under specific work tasks. For each procedure, the anticipated accomplishment or product and the estimated manpower resources needed are also given. For each work task the total staffing requirements, task budget, and sources of funding are given. MassDOT contracts for planning in the region and provided approximately \$373,966 to the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023 MVC budget for transportation planning and related services, such as mapping, DRI project reviews, Regional Traffic Counting, Bicycle and Pedestrian activities, and an update to the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). In addition to these activities, the MVC provides support to the municipalities with local planning technical assistance.

Martha's Vineyard Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): The TIP is produced annually on Martha's Vineyard through the JTC and includes Federal-aid projects to implement within the constraints of available Federal and State funds. In Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023, \$930,352 in Federal funds were obligated for Martha's Vineyard. 2023 TIP projects included the following:

Steamship Authority Amendment: Two new vehicle transfer bridges and gallows - #S12843

VTA Amendment: Re-allocation of state monies to cover the costs for operating assistance, facility and system modernization, facility and vehicle maintenance, fleet upgrades, vehicle replacement, and technical assistance.

Tisbury Drainage Improvements #609459: Advanced to 25% design stage.

Martha's Vineyard Regional Transportation Plan 2024-2044: The MVC Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) adopted its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for 2024-2044, setting the stage for more targeted transportation planning in the years ahead. The RTP is updated every four years and includes detailed analysis of the transportation network, specific objectives and actions related to each transportation mode (ferry, bike, automobile, etc.) and proposed funding allocations over the next 20 years. Some highlights include discussion of the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, and expanded sections on the environment, demographics, and the Steamship Authority. A PDF version of the plan is available on the MVC's website, and a limited number of paper copies are available at the MVC building.

Title VI and Environmental Justice: Staff completed the 2023 Title VI report as well as the 2023 Title VI update. The MVC continues to work with the Communication Ambassador Partnership (CAP) for its translation services.

Public Participation: Long-Range Transportation Plan Update, Edge Lane Road Community Forums, Tisbury Master Plan, Climate Action Plan "The Vineyard Way", TIP Amendments, release of the UPWP, and permanent traffic counter locations are all activities that included heavy public participation. Online surveys were distributed. Articles and flyers in the newspaper, social media postings were all methods of getting information to include public participation.

Permanent Traffic Counters: The MVC coordinated siting with MassDOT, its designer, along with the manufacturer for the Island's first automated permanent bicycle/pedestrian counter along the newly installed Oak Bluffs shared use path along Eastville Ave.

Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC): The MVC staffs the BPAC, an advisory committee to the JTC and the wider community on bicycling and pedestrian matters. The BPAC interacted with town boards from Aquinnah, Chilmark, Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, and West Tisbury in identifying common initiatives. BPAC is focusing on updating information for inclusion on maps and websites concerning getting around by bicycle. The group is also focusing on connecting the missing links and pavement conditions throughout the entire SUP network. Staff assisted municipalities through the vulnerable road user sign process.

For the second year, the BPAC ran a full-page public service announcement of SMART tips for bicyclists. This year, with the Dukes County support of specialty license plate revenues, the PSA was published in the Vineyard Visitor Guide from spring through the fall.

The BPAC filmed a PSA illustrating the new Massachusetts law stipulating a 4-foot distance between motorists and cyclists or pedestrians. The PSA was shared across Facebook pages and other digital platforms.

Given the frenetic evolution of e-bikes and other personal e-devices, BPAC and town police chiefs agreed to focus on getting operators to not exceed 20 mph when on Share Use Paths (a.k.a. Bike Paths), with emphasis on moderating speeds for traffic conditions.

BPAC suggested to the Town of Oak Bluffs signs at the roundabout to guide bicyclists headed downtown to use the County Road SUP. The Town supported the idea and asked BPAC to seek input and support from the other towns to develop a consistent design for such bike signs.

Up-Island Shared-Use Path Feasibility: Along with BPAC representation, MVC staff has met with the West Tisbury Complete Streets Committee and Chilmark Planning Board to present findings from an assessment of North Road hazard areas, for instance where multiple user types are sharing the Right of Way. Conceptual recommendations have been identified as well. This is an ongoing project.

Trails Planning: The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank continues to contract with the MVC to assist with trail planning across the Vineyard. A decade-long project assembling easements from multiple landowners and coordinating with three town boards culminated in the creation of a new trail linking the Edgartown School and recreation center to Clevelandtown Road. Agreements with the Tisbury and Oak Bluffs selectboards were created or expanded for the land bank to manage trails over specific ancient ways on behalf of the towns. Staff also work closely with open space committees on establishing new networks and connections.

Transportation Managers Group (TMG): The MVC is a member of the Transportation Managers Group (TMG). As with the Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies (MARPA), the 13 regional planning agencies across the State that form the TMG are advisory bodies to member communities, private business groups, and State and Federal governments. The MVC Transportation Program Manager meets monthly with other members of TMG, along with senior Commonwealth officials, to discuss legislation and funding programs related to transportation, and to collaborate on many fronts.

Island Transportation Engineer: The MVC offered all Towns the opportunity to opt into the Island Transportation Engineering resource, managed by MVC staff. Oak Bluffs, West Tisbury and Aquinnah advanced projects during 2023. With input from the Towns, the MVC has structured a

cost-sharing agreement where towns could secure these engineering services once again in FY2025.

**Data Collection/Permanent Traffic Counters:** The MVC analyzed and presented data on the island's six permanent traffic counting stations. Data on traffic volumes, speeds, and vehicle classes can be found on the [MS2 portal](#) on the MVC website. The MVC conducted a total of 107 automated traffic recorder counts in 2023. A total of 80 counts were conducted along Island roadways, 27 counts were conducted along the shared-use paths. Staff also conducted 7 turning movement counts by hand. The MVC also assisted the Town of Edgartown in counting volumes on the Dike Bridge from July-October. Staff began data collection efforts along the Edgartown-West Tisbury Road Corridor for a future corridor study.

**Geographic Information Systems:** Staff continued to create maps for trails, soil types, bike path data, development of historic trends and future predictions, modeling location and quantity of potential development, environmental justice map, maps for climate action plan and long-range regional transportation plan, road maps for the statistical profile, special ways maps, and hazard impact maps. **Local Technical Assistance:** The MVC continued to work with different stakeholders to create a short- and long-term concept plan for the Aquinnah Circle that would improve bicycle and pedestrian circulation and improve vehicular use of the existing paved areas - both parking and departing. MVC is working with the Town's Highway Superintendent, Town Administrator, and Planning Board on a scope of work that focuses on traffic and bicycle and pedestrian improvements along the Edgartown-West Tisbury Road corridor, specifically the intersection of Barnes Road and Edgartown- West Tisbury Road and Airport Road and Edgartown-West Tisbury Road. Staff are currently evaluating the crash history as well as existing conditions to set up future meetings with all stakeholders. Staff are working with Oak Bluffs roads and byways committee identifying safety deficiencies in and around the network of crosswalks throughout the Seaview Avenue area. Staff are working with Chilmark on evaluating removable speed bumps on Basin Road.

**Project Reviews/Developments of Regional Impact:** The Transportation Program Manager provided traffic impact analysis and local technical assistance for the following project reviews/DRIs: Scrubby Neck Road, West Chop Club, Big Sky Tents, Outermost Inn, Old Stone Bank, Tisbury Marine Terminal, Southern Tier, Refuse District, Kuehn's Way, Four Sisters Inn, Airport Hanger Lot, Meshacket Commons, Safe Harbor, Navigator Homes, North Bluff roundabout, The Yard, Stillpoint Meadows, YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Edgartown Gardens, Black Dog, Sea Bags, Beecher Park, Arlington Avenue, Lagoon Pond Road, Surke Meadow, Crackatuxet Cove, Northern Pines, Dukes County Avenue, Island Food Pantry, Island Grown Initiative, Nina's dine and dash, MVRHS Athletic Fields, Bangs Subdivision, 3 Uncas Avenue, Caleb Prouty House, and Red Arrow Road. The program manager also works with the applicant's consultants throughout the DRI process. For some projects the DRI process can last over a year.

**Inter-Regional Transportation Activities:** Staff continued to work with groups such as Healthy Aging MV to address elderly transportation concerns. Staff assisted a fellow who is on island conducting bio-char presentations. The MVC is coordinating with Nantucket and FRCOG on a Safe Streets 4 All grant that was just awarded.

## Water Quality

The Commission continued its scientific and community work helping to protect the Vineyard's water quality, especially our threatened coastal ponds.

**Massachusetts Estuaries Project (MEP):** For more than a decade, the MVC provided extensive water-quality testing and land-use data analysis as a basis for the Commonwealth's Mass Estuaries Project, which prepares detailed models of water quality problems in coastal ponds and helps identify the most cost-effective solutions. In 2023, samples were taken for analysis four times in each system over the summer season, and where applicable, this included a sample prior and after the opening of the ponds. MVC staff worked with the Friends of Sengekontacket, Tisbury Waterways, the Lagoon Pond Association, and the Towns of Oak Bluffs and Tisbury Wastewater Committees to devise plans to address excess nitrogen, and assist with Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plans (CWMPs).

**208 Equivalency Planning for the Up-Island Towns:** The MVC received a grant from the DEP to develop a 208-management plan for the towns of West Tisbury, Chilmark and Aquinnah. The up-island towns are more rural in nature and face different water resource protection planning challenges than the down-island towns, each of which have their own wastewater collection and treatment facilities. The MVC has compiled available data and created a summary of pond conditions. A list of traditional and non-traditional nitrogen management options were created, and these methods will be considered for use in evaluating a management plan. The MVC is working with Pond working groups, Boards of Health and Conservation Commissions to develop the best plan for each Town and Pond.

**Water Testing:** In 2023, MVC staff again collected water samples from Farm, Sengekontacket, Lagoon, Tashmoo, Edgartown Great, Chilmark, Katama, Cape Pogue, Pocha, Tisbury Great, James, Menemsha, and Squibnocket ponds, and the Oak Bluffs Harbor, for analysis at the UMass Dartmouth School of Marine Science and Technology (SMAST). Results will be compared with data used for the MEP, to determine the status of the coastal ponds. Staff also collaborated with the Buzzards Bay Coalition and the Wampanoag Natural Resources Department for the sampling of Vineyard Sound-facing waterbodies.

**Water Alliance and Associations:** The Water Alliance continues to meet over zoom. The MVC Water Resource Planner is an active participant in the Martha's Vineyard Water Alliance, which meets monthly in the MVC building. Staff also attend and present at meetings of all Island pond advisory committees, and in 2019 staff presented their findings at pond association annual meetings.

**Groundwater monitoring:** In conjunction with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) the Water Resource Planner takes monthly groundwater measurements and maintains a database of groundwater elevation at nine well sites around the Island.

**SNEP (Southeast New England Program) Grant:** The MVC received a \$250,000 grant for an innovative project to reduce groundwater pollution into Lagoon Pond, through the installation and testing of a Permeable Reactive Barrier (PRB). Two years of testing and monitoring the PRB installation was completed in 2023. Preliminary results are excellent.



Marine Invader Monitoring & Information Collaborative (MIMIC): MVC staff monitors and collaborates with MIMIC, which is coordinated by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, and is a network of trained volunteers, scientists, and state and federal workers who monitor marine invasive species. The collaborative provides an opportunity for the public to actively participate in an invasive species early detection network, identify new invaders before they spread out of control, and help improve our understanding of the behavior of established invaders.

#### Inter-Regional Collaboration

Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies (MARPA): The Commission is one of thirteen regional planning agencies across the Commonwealth that are advisory bodies to local municipalities, private business groups, and state and federal governments. MARPA meets monthly to discuss legislation, programs, and funding with senior Commonwealth officials and other interest groups.

Citizen Planning Education and Training: The MVC hosted courses and information sessions on topics of interest to town officials, the business community, and members of the public. Each year the Commission offers Citizen Planner Training Collaborative (CPTC) workshops at no cost to attendees. These sessions aid planning and zoning board members in fulfilling their duties. The Zoning with Overlay Districts workshop originally set for November was rescheduled to early January 2024.

Translation Services: Considering the growing number of Dukes County residents with limited English proficiency, the MVC has begun exploring options for increased translation services related to its planning and regulatory activities. This may include automated translated captions for hybrid and zoom meetings, and various outreach methods for the non-English speaking community. According to the American Community Survey, about 6.4% of Dukes County residents aged five years and over speak English “less than very well,” which has almost doubled since 2016. The figure for residents aged 18 years and over is about 2.8%. At the same time, school enrollment data shows that 30% of Island students do not speak English as a first language.

Governor’s Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC): The MVC is one of nine regional planning agencies represented on a 15-member Governor’s Commission within the Executive Office of Economic Development. RPAC is charged with making recommendations to enhance the economic vitality of the Commonwealth’s rural communities and advance the well-being of residents. Much of its focus is on the limited local capacity of smaller communities to meet mandated standards or to apply for or manage existing assistance programs. 2023 saw the state’s creation and appointment of a Director of Rural Affairs to sustain focus on rural issues at the State level – the top priority of RPAC since it was established in 2016.

Transportation Safety Action Plan: The Martha’s Vineyard, Nantucket, and Franklin County regional planning agencies were awarded a Federal Highway Administration grant of \$575,000 to create Comprehensive Safety Action Plans for each region. This project is an opportunity for the geographically distinct communities to work collaboratively to discuss and develop solutions to rural roadway safety issues. A consultant has been engaged to assist with the development of the

plans. Outreach to towns and the public will begin by Spring 2024 and plans completed by mid-2025.

Commonwealth Socio-economic Projections: MVC staff joined other regional planning agencies in reviewing and commenting on Mass Department of Transportation's completion of a multi-year effort to update population, employment, and housing forecasts for use in long-range transportation planning. As these projections are required to be for typical (Spring and Fall) periods, at the request of the Cape and Islands and the Berkshires RPAs, a separate task had the UMass Donahue Institute examine various ways to quantify seasonal populations. After sampling methods locally and from across the nation, it recommended a framework for conducting population estimates and projections in seasonal regions.

## REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

### Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs)

In 2023, 45 projects were reviewed in some manner by the MVC through the DRI process. 16 projects were referred as full DRIs and reviewed with public hearings; of those, seven were approved with conditions, two are on hold at the request of the applicants, and seven remain under review at the end of the year. 11 projects were referred as Concurrence Reviews; of those, eight were remanded back to their Towns without a DRI public hearing, one was determined by MVC staff to be a premature referral and the project will come back to the MVC when it is ready, two were reviewed as full DRIs with public hearings at the request of the applicants, and of those, one was approved with conditions and the other remains under review at the end of the year. 12 projects were referred as Modifications to previously approved DRIs; of those, three were determined to be minor modifications not requiring a public hearing and were remanded back to their respective Towns for approval, one was partially approved and partially denied, one was granted an extension, five modifications were reviewed as full DRIs with public hearings at the request of the applicants, and three remain under review at the end of the year. Five projects were reviewed by the Land Use Planning Committee (LUPC) for post-approval plans such as landscape and lighting plans. A total of 11 projects remain under review at the end of the year.

In January 2023, the MVC welcomed Rich Saltzberg as the new DRI Coordinator replacing Alex Elvin who has since become the MVC's Research & Communications Manager.

DRI Checklist Review: In 2023, the MVC formed a committee to review the DRI Checklist for its biennial review of the DRI Checklist.

New Policies for DRI Review: The MVC is currently working on two new policies to assist Commissioners in the review of DRIs. A new Flood Risk Policy for projects within flood risk areas is intended to prevent or minimize environmental, health, and property damage resulting from climate change impacts. The MVC is also working on a new Materials Policy to address the environmental and human health impacts of construction materials. Public input on these new policies will be gathered in the new year.

## Districts of Critical Planning Concern

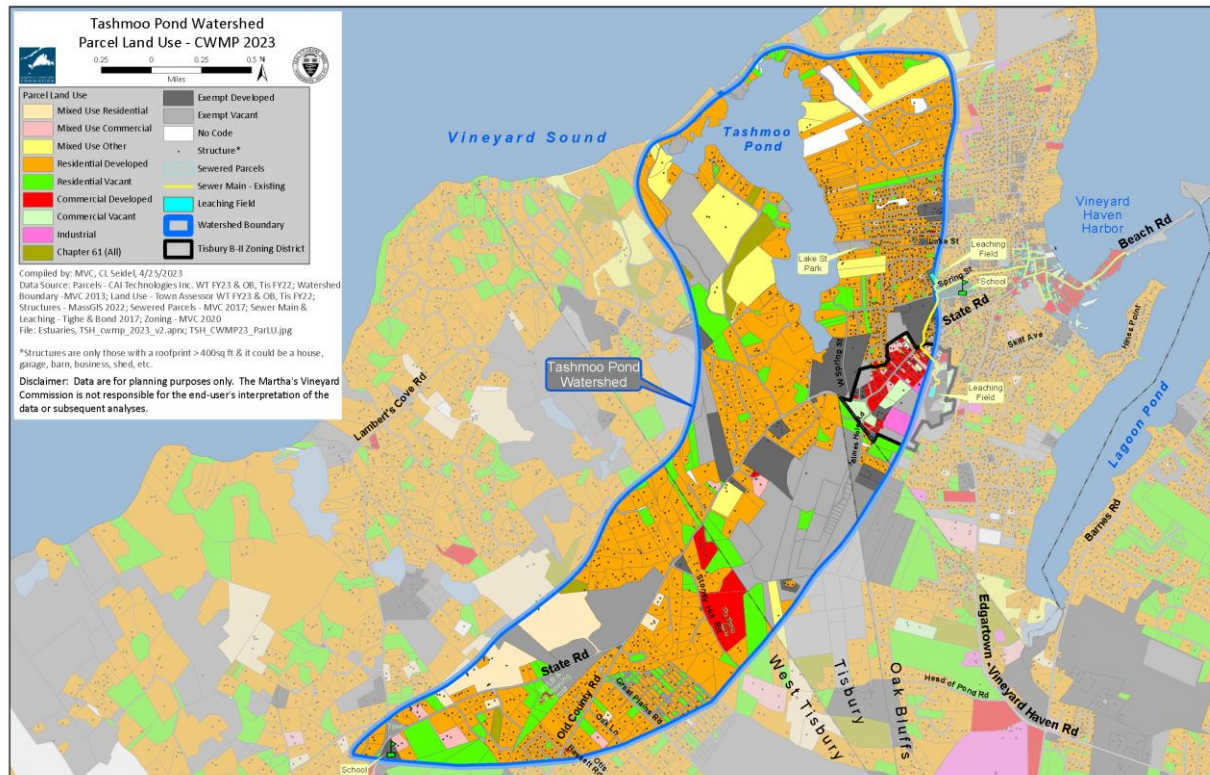
The Commission designates DCPCs to afford additional protection to sensitive areas, in support of special town regulations. In 2023, MVC staff provided responses to many queries from Town boards, attorneys, and property owners. In an otherwise quiet year for DCPCs, MVC staff assisted with the smooth functioning of the Districts in many ways.

## SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES FOR TISBURY

### Geographic Information Systems

The MVC's cartography services are available to all Town Departments.

This year, Lake Tashmoo Wastewater Plan map and data summaries



## Transportation

**Data Collection:** The MVC conducted Automated Traffic Recorder (ATR) counts at roughly nine locations along Town roadways, and one location on the Town Shared-Use Paths. The current 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) includes continued data collection efforts throughout the municipality.

**Local Technical Assistance:** Provided traffic impact analysis and local technical assistance for the following project reviews/DRI's: West Chop Club, Old Stone Bank, Tisbury Marine Terminal, Lagoon Pond Road, Caleb Prouty House, Safe Harbor Marina, Black Dog, and Seabags. Staff also assisted in the Town Master Plan working group.

Trails Planning: The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank continues to contract with the MVC to assist with trail planning across the Vineyard. Agreements with the Tisbury and Oak Bluffs selectboards were created or expanded for the land bank to manage trails over specific ancient ways on behalf of the towns. Staff also work closely with open space committees on establishing new networks and connections.

### Water Quality

The Commission continued its scientific and community work helping to protect Tisbury's water quality, especially the threatened coastal ponds.

Innovation: The Commission staff was heavily involved in the development and testing of various alternative technologies. Two years of monitoring and evaluation of the permeable reactive barrier (PRB) along the coast of Lagoon Pond were completed, and results have been very positive. Sampling performed in 2023 continued to show high nitrogen removal. Staff also continues to assist with the sampling and testing of the pilot/innovative NitROE septic system.

Water Sampling: MVC staff collected water quality samples and on-station field data of Lagoon Pond and Lake Tashmoo in cooperation with the Tisbury Shellfish Department and the Buzzards Bay Coalition. In 2023, samples were taken for analysis four times in each system over the summer season.

Lagoon Pond: MVC has developed several grants for nitrogen mitigation in the watershed. Water Resource Planner acts as science advisor to the Tisbury Wastewater Committee (TWI) and the Lagoon Pond Association. Staff assisted University of New Hampshire staff with the design and implementation of stormwater management systems in the Lagoon Pond.

Lake Tashmoo: Staff sampled Tashmoo Spring Pond and assisted TWI in their efforts to improve water quality of that water body. Staff also assisted in stormwater assessment and catchment issues that drain into Lake Tashmoo. Staff assisted University of New Hampshire staff with the design and implementation of stormwater management systems in Lake Tashmoo and the Vineyard Haven Harbor.

Community Involvement: The MVC Water Resources Planner participates in meetings with the Lagoon Pond Association and Tisbury Waterways Inc. The Water Resources Planner has provided technical support on storm water mitigation to the Town and to the Board of Health for use in changes to regulations. Staff has assisted visiting researchers in sample collection and site review. Staff has assisted the Town with the CWMP and Targeted Waste Water Management Plan for Lake Tashmoo.

### Developments of Regional Impact

17 Tisbury projects were reviewed by the MVC in 2023:

Safe Harbor Marina (DRI 258-M2) *Removal of four existing buildings, construction of two new boat racks, relocation of existing boat racks, relocation of a fuel tank and wash shed, and construction of a boardwalk along the bulkhead.* This application was approved with conditions after four public hearings in 2022; the written decision was approved on January 12, 2023.

Stone Bank Restaurant (DRI 674-M3) *Modification to allow for a 70-seat outdoor restaurant with an indoor kitchen.* The application was approved with conditions after two public hearings; the written decision was approved on March 9, 2023.

Sea Bags (C.R. 1-2023) *Evaluation of formula retail.* This application was remanded to the Town with no action by the MVC on May 4, 2023.

Black Dog Buildings, Pier & Marine Railway (C.R. 2-2023) *Form A Division of land, buildings, and associated marine infrastructure into three parcels.* This application was remanded to the Town with no action by the MVC on May 18, 2023.

Northern Pines Subdivision (DRI 740) *Form C Subdivision of 42 acres into eight buildable lots and one agricultural parcel.* This application was approved with conditions after two public hearings; the written decision was approved on August 10, 2023.

Nina's Dine & Dash (DRI 81-M5) *Proposal to raise the grade approximately four feet in areas of the parcel, some grade changes have already been made.* This application was approved as a minor modification without a public hearing on August 10, 2023.

Hambrecht ANR (C.R. 5-2023) *ANR plan to divide one lot into two in the coastal district.* This application was remanded to the Town with no action by the MVC on August 10, 2023.

Carroll's Tower (C.R. 6-2023) *Installation of three pieces of telecommunications equipment on a pre-existing 197-foot radio tower and site.* This application was remanded to the Town with no action by the MVC on September 7, 2023.

Carroll's Tower (C.R. 9-2023) *Installation of two microwave dishes on a pre-existing 197-foot radio tower and small outdoor radio cabinet on site.* This application was remanded to the Town with no action by the MVC on October 19, 2023.

44 Lagoon Pond Road ANR (C.R. 10-2023) *Form A Division of land into a 6,945-sf parcel and a 9,008-sf parcel.* This application was remanded to the Town with no action by the MVC on October 19, 2023.

51 Lagoon Pond Road Building Move (C.R. 11-2023) *Relocation and restoration of a historic boat building from Safe Harbor Marina to 51 Lagoon Pond Road.* This application was determined to be referred prematurely and was sent back to the Town with the intention of it being referred again when it is ready for review.

Stone Bank Development Modifications (DRI 674-M5) *Review of potential compliance issues of unapproved modifications, landscape & lighting plans, and other post-decision items.* This application was approved after many meetings on November 20, 2023.

Safe Harbor Marina (DRI 258-M2) *Post-approval plan review.* The landscape and lighting plans were approved by the Land Use Planning Committee on November 20, 2023.

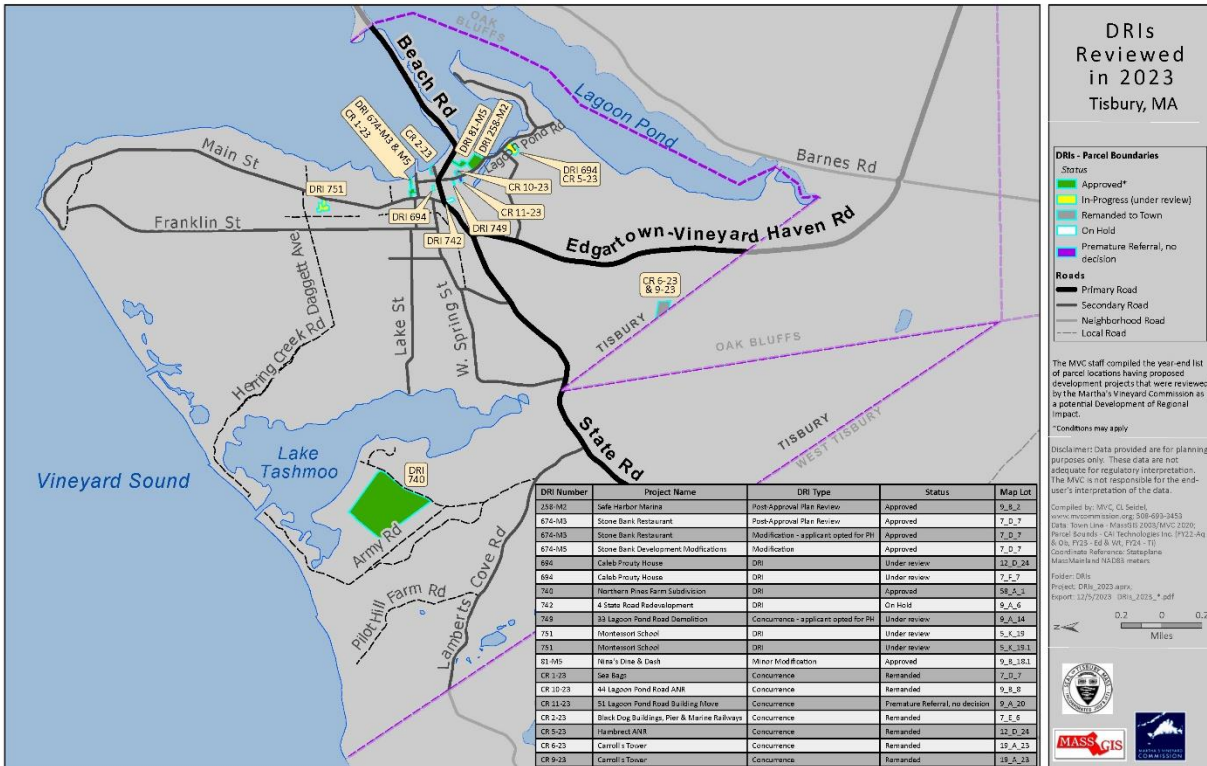
Stone Bank Restaurant (DRI 674-M3) *Post-approval plan reviews.* The landscape and lighting plans were approved by the Land Use Planning Committee on November 20, 2023.

33 Lagoon Pond Road Demolition (DRI 749) *Retroactive demolition of a structure older than 100 years to be replaced with a four-story structure in the flood zone.* This application was referred as a concurrence review; the applicant opted for review as a DRI with a public hearing. The application was approved on December 14, 2023 and a written decision is expected in January 2024.

4 State Road Development (DRI 742) *Redesigned application to renovate and expand the old Educomp building, including residential and commercial uses.* This application is on hold.

Caleb Prouty House Relocation (DRI 694) *Proposal to relocate a MACRIS-listed structure built in 1828 to Lagoon Pond Road.* This application remains under review at the end of the year. The public hearing is scheduled to resume in February 2024.

Montessori School (DRI 751) *Construction of an education building and installation of a third septic tank.* This application remains under review at the end of the year. A public hearing has not yet been scheduled.



Respectfully submitted,

COMMISSIONERS

- Jeff Agnoli                      Edgartown, elected at-large
- Trip Barnes                     Tisbury, elected at-large
- Christina Brown               Edgartown, elected at-large
- Jay Grossman                  Chilmark, elected at-large
- Fred Hancock                 Oak Bluffs, elected at-large
- Michael Kim                    Governor's Appointee
- Joan Malkin                     Chair, Chilmark appointed by the Select Board
- Greg Martino                    Tisbury, appointed by the Select Board
- Kathy Newman                 Aquinnah, appointed by the Select Board
- Kate Putnam                     Edgartown, appointed by the Select Board

Ben Robinson Tisbury, elected at-large  
 Doug Sederholm West Tisbury, elected at-large  
 Linda Sibley West Tisbury, elected at-large  
 Brian Smith Oak Bluffs, appointed by the Select Board  
 Ernie Thomas Clerk-Treasurer, West Tisbury appointed by the Select Board  
 Carole Vandal Aquinnah elected at-large  
 Peter Wharton County Appointee

STAFF

Adam Turner Executive Director  
 Sheri Caseau Water Resources Planner  
 Maggie Craig Biochar Specialist - Vision Fellow  
 Dan Doyle Special Projects Planner  
 Liz Durkee Climate Change Coordinator  
 Alex Elvin Research & Communications Manager  
 Mike Mauro Transportation Program Manager  
 Lucy Morrison Executive Assistant  
 Rich Saltzberg DRI Coordinator  
 Curt Schroeder Administrator  
 Chris Seidel GIS Coordinator  
 Laura Silber Housing Planner  
 Bill Venno Senior Planner  
 Kate Warner Energy Planner - Vision Fellow

**Commissioner Attendance 2023**

<b>AGNOLI, Jeff</b>	Edg	E	22	88%
<b>BARNES, Trip</b>	Tis	E	21	84%
<b>BROWN, Christina</b>	Edg	E	20	80%
<b>CONNELL, Peter</b>	Gov NV	A	0	0%
<b>GROSSMAN, Jay</b>	CH	E	23	92%
<b>HANCOCK, Fred J.</b>	OB	E	24	96%
<b>KIM, Michael</b>	Gov V	A	19	76%
<b>MALKIN, Joan</b> Chair	CH	A	23	92%
<b>MARTINO, Greg</b>	Tis	A	18	72%
<b>NEWMAN, Kathy</b>	AQ	A	19	76%
<b>PUTNAM, Kate</b>	Edg	A	24	96%
<b>ROBINSON, Ben</b>	Tis	E	25	100%
<b>SEDERHOLM, Doug E.</b>	WT	E	25	100%
<b>SIBLEY, Linda</b>	WT	E	15	60%
<b>SMITH, Brian</b> Vice-Chair	OB	A	25	100%
<b>THOMAS, Ernest R.</b> Treasurer	WT	A	25	100%
<b>VANDAL, Carole</b>	AQ	E	23	92%
<b>WHARTON, Peter</b>	County	A	25	100%

**E = Elected**

**A = Appointed**

**Gov V = Governor's Voting Appointee**

**Gov NV = Governor's Non-Voting Appointee**

## MARTHA'S VINEYARD LAND BANK COMMISSION

4102 acres, representing 7% of Martha's Vineyard, have been conserved by the land bank since voters created it in 1986. Please visit them; maps are available at town halls and libraries; online at [www.mvlandbank.com](http://www.mvlandbank.com); and at the land bank office in Edgartown.

### Acquisitions

A septempartite arrangement, perfectly complicated, was concluded. It resulted in the conservation of 4.9 acres of backdune, stream and pond, as the **Elder Jeffers' Pond Preserve**. The seller was the Moshup Trail Limited Partnership and the price was \$185,000. The tangles to be resolved in advance included pre-existing encroachments, boundary-line juggling and the disposition of overdue taxes. The seven parties included the land bank and its private-sector counterpart, the Sheriff's Meadow Foundation, as well as the town and the tribe, the latter two of which received donations of off-site property interests as a result of the land bank's efforts. The town's lot is slated to be used for affordable housing.

Affordable housing also figured in a second up-island transaction. The land bank expanded its **Gay Head Moraine** property by purchasing, for \$90,400, a 4.5-acre shrub swamp owned by the Island Housing Trust Corporation.

And it figured in a down-island transaction. The land bank and the town of Oak Bluffs exchanged fungible 24-acre properties at the **Southern Woodlands Reservation**, so that the town's would now have access back to a public road. The land bank had sought to effect the exchange in 2004, when the reservation was being assembled, but the town wasn't ready. The commonwealth legislature and governor had to approve the trade.

Islanders knew their priorities when they established the land bank thirty-seven years ago. One was the protection of old family farms and in 2023 the land bank completed one of its goals-since-inception when it conserved the 34.9-acre northerly field and environs at the venerable Flat Point Farm. This complimented the 2013 conservation of its 38.4-acre southerly pasture. The price was \$2,533,875 and the sellers were siblings Arnold Fischer, Jr., Eleanor Neubert and Jean O'Reilly. It is integrated into the land bank's **Short Cove Preserve**.

### Land management

Ecological inventories and studies continued at many land bank properties: Aquinnah Headlands Preserve, Black Brook Preserve, Cove Meadow Preserve, Edgartown Great Pond Beach, Elder Jeffers Pond Preserve, Great Rock Bight Preserve, Manaquayak Preserve, Ocean View Farm, Paint Mill Brook Preserve, Peaked Hill Reservation, Pecoy Point Preserve, Poucha Pond Reservation, Priester's Pond Preserve, Quenomica Preserve, Squibnocket Pond Reservation, Tisbury Great Pond Beach, Tisbury Meadow Preserve, Waskosim's Rock Reservation and Wilfrid's Pond Preserve.



The commonwealth is reviewing the Quenomica Preserve draft management plan. Staff is preparing applications under the various town bylaws, the wetlands protection act and the endangered species act necessary to the opening of the Squibnocket Pond Reservation.

General public access to a stretch of Lambert's Cove was achieved with the opening of the James Pond Preserve. But the preserve is more than its beach: the loop trail capitalizes on the prismatic nature of the property, as hikers on the path will observe the pond, the dune, the sound and Naushon Island shifting in and out of view. A reservation system, first used at the Manaquayak Preserve, will be used to allocate parking in the summer.

Upgrades included the installation of aluminum beach-access stairs at the Great Rock Bight Preserve escarpment, as well as replacement of the fishing pier and causeway boardwalk at the Blackwater Pond Reservation. Deteriorated decking on the walkways spanning the Fulling Mill Brook was targeted; the work is expected to be completed before the summer.

Habitat was improved. A cluster of old sheds was removed at the John Presbury Norton Farm but two of the concrete basements were retained, one for snakes and the other for bats. Staff uprooted pines that were encroaching into the sandplain grassland at the Trade Wind Fields Preserve, buckthorn that was colonizing the Farm Pond Preserve and Japanese stiltgrass that overran a portion of the Great Rock Bight Preserve.

Aspiring, more or less hopelessly, to thwart the ravaging southern pine-beetle, the land bank felled infested pitch pine at the Ripley's Field Preserve.

Thickening vegetation along both the North Road and Menemsha Crossroad sides of the beautiful Bliss Pond Farm was cut down. The vista is expansive. Likewise the vista at the Toms Neck Preserve, across Pease's Pond, and the Sepiessa Point savanna.

Trailheads were installed or expanded at the Caleb's Pond Preserve, Waskosim's Rock Reservation and Whippoorwill Farm. New trails were created at the Ripley's Field Preserve, per a request from neighbors to supplement the Red Coat Hill Path ancient way, and at the Wilfrid's Pond Preserve. Staff addressed erosion along the steep trails at the Great Rock Bight Preserve and Tisbury Meadow Preserve.

The land bank's livestock herd comprising some 173 goats, including 36 kids born in the spring systematically grazed 72 acres island-wide, as part of the agency's grassland restoration protocol. The land bank goatherd bred 20 does, using the institution's own arapawa buck plus an alpine buck borrowed from Flat Point Farm.

As usual, the land bank field crew continued ongoing general maintenance on various land bank properties across the island.

40-44 Meetinghouse Way, Edgartown

After 32 years at 167 Main Street in Edgartown center, the land bank office moved to 40 Meetinghouse Way and after 17 years at the Southern Woodlands Reservation, the land bank

land management workshop moved to 44 Meetinghouse Way. Purchase of the conjoined properties allowed the land bank for the first time to conjoin in one location all of its activities and functions administration, property management, staff housing and, as needed, pasturing of livestock, as 40-44 Meetinghouse Way abuts the land bank’s Quenomica Preserve North and its fields. The Edgartown town meeting will decide in 2024 whether to purchase 167 Main Street, at the discounted price of \$1,550,000.

XIH

The 31<sup>st</sup> annual XIH ranged 17.3 miles from the Long Point Wildlife Refuge in West Tisbury to the Tashmoo inlet in Vineyard Haven. Approximately ninety people participated in the cross-island trek. Some 75 started; 43 the most ever completed the entire hike. The route passed along 12 conservation properties and 8 named ancient ways.

Budget and related matters

The following chart synthesizes the land bank’s annual finances. Anyone wishing to review the budget in its entirety, which includes a narrative describing the purpose of each line item expenditure, is encouraged to read it on the land bank website:

	Fiscal year 2023 budgeted cash amount and percentage of total	Fiscal year 2023 actual cash amount and percentage of total	Fiscal year 2024 budgeted cash amount and percentage of total
Revenues	\$17,000,000	\$16,338,172	\$13,000,000 *
Administrative Expenses	(\$736,988) 4%	(\$656,157) 4%	(\$754,698) 6%
Land Management Expenses	(\$3,302,764) 19%	(\$1,949,647) 12%	(\$2,771,535) 21%
Debt Service Expenses	(\$7,857,137) 46%	(\$7,879,942) 48%	(\$8,190,837) 62%
Reserve Expenses	(\$ 100,000) 1%	(\$50,000) 0%	(\$50,000) 1%
Unencumbered Receipts	\$ 5,003,081 29%	\$ 5,802,426 36%	\$ 1,232,930 10%

As of December 1, 2023 the land bank treasury contained some \$12,365,000 in cash, to fund all expenses including new acquisitions and the payment of debt service for existing properties.

The asterisk (\*) indicates the land bank’s revenue projection.

Per statute, first-time homebuyers paid no land bank fee on purchase prices at or below \$800,000; in 2024 the threshold will be \$900,000. This is called the “m” exemption and 34 transactions qualified for it in 2023.

Gifts

The land bank gratefully accepted the following gifts: (1.) Robert and Patricia Ivry, \$72, in honor of Richard Kazis; and (2.) Tammy Kallman, \$100, in memory of Wayne Kallman.

Transfer fee revenues

Fiscal Year 2023 transfer fee revenues were:

Transfer fee revenues received July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

		Percent of total
Aquinnah Fund	\$ 176,120	1 %
Chilmark Fund	\$ 612,720	4 %
Edgartown Fund	\$ 3,603,504	22 %
Oak Bluffs Fund	\$ 1,659,147	10 %
Tisbury Fund	\$ 1,165,586	7 %
West Tisbury Fund	\$ 958,450	6 %
<i>central fund</i>	\$ 8,175,527	50%
	\$ 16,338,172	100%

This represented a 27% decrease over the previous year.

Commissioners and staff

The land bank commission currently comprises the following members: Steven Ewing, Edgartown; Pamela Goff, Chilmark; Wesley Mott, commonwealth; Kristen Reimann, Oak Bluffs; Sarah Thulin, Aquinnah; Nancy Weaver, Tisbury; and Peter Wells, West Tisbury. The year-round land bank staff comprises the following individuals: Janette Andrews, fiscal officer; Jean-Marc Dupon, conservation land assistant; Maureen Hill, office manager; Zachary Jessee, goatherd; Harrison Kisiel, land superintendent; Jeffrey Komarinetz, conservation land assistant; James Lengyel, executive director; Antone Lima, crew manager; Julie Russell, ecologist; Timothy Sheran, conservation land assistant; Blake Wasson, conservation land assistant; and Bryn Willingham, ecology assistant.

Respectfully submitted,  
James Lengyel  
Executive Director

# MARTHA'S VINEYARD SHELLFISH GROUP, INC.

To the Honorable Select Board:

The Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group, Inc. (MVSG) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that was formed in 1976 to preserve, enhance and restore shellfish resources on Martha's Vineyard. The Board of Directors is comprised of a resident and the Shellfish Constable from each member town for a total of 12 board seats. Each town receives an



The Chappy Point Nursery, seen from the beach.

equal share of shellfish seed from the MVSG hatcheries for a flat membership fee. In the 2023 fiscal year, the fee was \$39,000. Additional funding was received through contracts, grants or donations from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), Friends of Sengekontacket (FOS), Edey Foundation, MV Community Foundation, Vineyard Vision Fellowship, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), New York City Department of Environmental Protection, the Town of Chatham, about 300 private donors, and annual spring fundraiser at the Chilmark Community Center—the Bivalve Ball. The work of MVSG can be seen in our seed production, habitat restoration and shell recovery projects and programs, educational outreach, and contribution to seminal research in shellfish biology and hatchery science.



MVSG operates three distinct facilities in order to fulfil our mission. This year they all received significant maintenance, including a new roof on the Chappy Point Nursery on Chappaquiddick, an expanded stone gabion at the Richard C. Karney Solar Shellfish Hatchery in Vineyard Haven, and a new roof on the John T. Hughes Hatchery and Research Station in Oak Bluffs.

## **We spawn local shellfish to produce seed for the town propagation programs.**



Shellfish larvae and post-sets are cleaned and fed seven days a week. It takes about 8 weeks from spawning for a quahog to reach 1mm.

Completed outside of the growing season, the construction projects did not impede our operations and we produced over 30 million quahogs, bay scallops and oysters to distribute to the towns at about 1mm in size. West Tisbury, lacking quahog and scallop habitat, receives only oyster seed. The remaining 5 towns received quahog and scallop seed only. With seed-in-hand, the towns' shellfish departments use nursery systems to grow the tiny shellfish and protect them from predators, boats, and curious onlookers. In the fall, juvenile shellfish are released to good shellfish habitat where they will improve water clarity and ecosystem functions before being fished by recreational and commercial harvesters. MVSG strongly believes that the ability to harvest food from the ponds helps to connect islanders and visitors to the natural resources and natural beauty which makes the Vineyard special. Personal connection and firsthand knowledge inspires us to protect the water quality and habitat which it all hinges on. All of the projects and initiatives we take on are focused on that end.

We restore habitat to support shellfish populations and improve resiliency. MVSG has managed oyster restoration projects in Tisbury Great Pond for 30+ years, in Edgartown Great Pond for 14 years, and in Sengekontacket for five years. We add aged shell to the Great Ponds to harden the bottoms, provide a calcium-rich substrate that acts like an antacid against acidic mud, and provide a hard surface for wild oyster larvae to cement to and grow. Restoration is possible with shell we collect from restaurants and a public collection bin in front of the Hughes Hatchery through our



Aged, recycled shells are added back to Tisbury and Edgartown Great Ponds to improve pH of the bottom and oyster habitat, with the help of the Shellfish Departments and volunteers.

**Shell Recovery Partnership.** We are committed to removing shell from the waste stream, and aging it for a year to kill pathogens, before returning it to the ponds. In 2023, nearly **9,000 gallons** of local shell was collected and over **120 cubic yards** was returned to the Great Ponds. Slough Cove in Edgartown Great Pond is now home to a highly focused oyster restoration effort funded by The Nature Conservancy and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, through a project called **SOAR- Sustaining Oyster Aquaculture and Restoration.** Working with local oyster farmers and the Edgartown Shellfish Department, oversized oysters are purchased

by TNC and planted by MVSG to improve water filtration and ecosystem services. In Sengekontacket, the Friends of Sengekontacket have funded annual planting of spat-on-shell since 2018, to ensure a healthy ecosystem in the pond.

In March 2023, MVSG celebrated the unprecedented success of growing mature, **flowering eelgrass shoots** from seed in a greenhouse environment – a first in the scientific community. In early fall, volunteers from the Lagoon Pond Association and local Boy Scouts helped to collect eelgrass shoots and seed pods, and prepare them to be planted onto eelgrass restoration sites with the Tisbury and Oak Bluffs Shellfish Departments. As of December 2023, eelgrass seedlings are emerging in the unheated greenhouse at the Hughes Hatchery, for the third consecutive winter.



Young bay scallops cling to eelgrass blades to avoid predators, which is just one of the valuable roles eelgrass plays in the ecosystem.



Above, children handled and observed marine invertebrates at the MV Agricultural Society's Harvest Festival, one of several public events which MVSG provided learning opportunities.

MVSG increased our focus on **education and outreach** in 2023, through school visits, afterschool clubs, community programs and increased collaboration with local agencies. MVSG staff engaged over **2,938 individuals** with the history, culture, and biology of shellfish on Martha's Vineyard. For the first time in over 20 years, school busses pulled up to the Hughes Hatchery (old Lobster Hatchery) for students to view hatchery growing systems in the greenhouse, take guided walks in Brush Pond and build shore-side aquariums.

In 2024, we look forward to continuing community programming and school visits, working alongside the M.V. Commission and the Great Pond Foundation to continue mapping eelgrass beds in Lake Tashmoo, Lagoon Pond and Sengekontacket, while also monitoring an eelgrass restoration project with Oak Bluffs Shellfish Department. We will continue participating in the Ribbed Mussel Aquaculture Consortium, studying the emerging bay scallop parasite with Stonybrook University and the Chilmark Shellfish Department. We will continue necessary capital maintenance projects at each of our hatcheries to serve the shellfish needs of the Island for decades to come. We invite you to learn more about what we do by visiting our facilities in the Spring and Summer. In the meantime, visit our website, check out our newsletters and join our mailing list and stay involved! Visit [www.mvshellfishgroup.org](http://www.mvshellfishgroup.org), call (508) 693-0391 or email [mvshellfishgroup@gmail.com](mailto:mvshellfishgroup@gmail.com).

### Shellfish Seed Produced and Distributed in 2023

	Bay Scallops	Quahogs	Oysters Remote set	Oyster singles
Edgartown, Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, Aquinnah, Chilmark	2,650,000	2,426,000	-	-
Chatham <sup>2</sup>	-	300,000	-	-
Gosnold <sup>1</sup>	100,000	-	-	-
Wampanoag Tribe NRD <sup>2</sup>	150,000	-	-	-
Local growers <sup>2</sup>	70,000	-	-	5,000
Stony Brook University <sup>3</sup>	2,000	-	-	-
Tisbury Great Pond	-	-	5,000,000	529,000
Edgartown Great Pond <sup>3</sup>	-	-	200,000	61,000
Sengekontacket <sup>3</sup>	-	-	1,000,000	-
Univ. of Rhode Island <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	5,000
<b>Total Seed</b>	<b>13,572,000</b>	<b>12,430,000</b>	<b>6,200,000</b>	<b>600,000</b>
Eggs released	12,000,000	14,600,000	243,500,000	-
larvae released	24,400,000	1,000,000	63,500,000	-
Provided under: <sup>1</sup> State funding; <sup>2</sup> contract; <sup>3</sup> grant funding				

Thank you for bivalvifying\* the Vineyard with us.

Respectfully submitted,



EMMA GREEN-BEACH  
Executive Director and Biologist  
[emma.greenbeach@mvshellfishgroup.org](mailto:emma.greenbeach@mvshellfishgroup.org)



Visit our website  
for more pictures  
and information

\*Bivalvify: to add bivalves to a body of water to improve water quality and biodiversity.

# MARTHA'S VINEYARD TRANSIT AUTHORITY

## Leadership

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Tisbury	Elaine Miller, Chairman
Aquinnah	Kristina Hook
Chilmark	Leonard Jason
Edgartown	Mark Snider
Oak Bluffs	Robert Mackay
West Tisbury	June Manning
Rider Community Representative	Kim Leaird
Disabled Community Representative	Vacant
Administrator	Angela E. Gompert

## Service Modifications

Each fiscal year starts with the VTA's busiest peak season months, goes through the Off-Season and ends with the very beginning of the next year's In-Season. FY 2023 started in July 2022 with labor shortages causing service reductions on nearly all routes. By the end of the fiscal year in June 2023, the situation improved sufficiently, thanks to more effective vehicle operator recruiting and securing more seasonal housing, to allow the restoration of some service.

Training and employing a year-round and seasonal work force remains one of the VTA's most significant operational challenges. By the end of Fiscal Year 2023, the VTA was able to make some transit planning decisions based on expected travel demand again and not solely the availability of drivers. Transit travel demand is directly affected by the level of service provided for potential passengers to complete their trips. While the trend by the end of the fiscal year was improving, the goal of pre-pandemic ridership recovery remains for the future.

## Changes to In-Season 2022 as compared to In-Season 2021 (starting in July)

The part of In-Season 2022 in FY 2023 operated approximately the same dates as 2021. Specific service modifications for this period are listed below.

Route 1: No changes.

Route 2: Frequency reduced from 90 minutes to two hours (interlined with Route 4 instead of 10A).

Route 3: Evening service reduced as compared to 2021 in both peak and fall shoulder seasons.

Route 4: Frequency reduced from hourly to every two hours (interlined with Route 2), evening trips scaled back by two trips.

Route 5: Evening trips scaled back.

Route 6: Evening trips scaled back slightly.

Route 7: Evening trips scaled back significantly – four round trips.

Route 8: Evening trips scaled back.

Route 9: No changes.

Route 10: No changes.

Route 11: Daytime service ran two weeks later, then no service during a modified fall shoulder season.

Route 12: Return of the Sunset Bus, which did not run at all in 2021.

Route 13: Originally scheduled to change peak season headway mode (departures from all stops every 15 minutes) back to running through 9 pm, had to scale back to the 6:00 pm end time of 2021 for headway mode.

### **Changes to Off-Season 2022 - 2023 as compared to Off-Season 2021 - 2022**

With much lower labor requirements, the VTA Off-Season 2022 – 2023 represented a reversal of the trend of cutting some service to adding service back, as compared to the same season a year ago. In the Off-Season, the major routes – Route 1, Route 10 and Route 13 – have dedicated vehicles throughout the day. The routes that serve the rest of the Island are interlined, meaning the buses that travel over these routes serve more than one route. This has some advantages, such as making some transfers “same bus” transfers for passengers. For overall service, the comparative increase in resources meant that the buses were blocked, or interlined, differently than in years past. This changed the timetables and transfer connections for the Off-Season Fall schedule, which was operated from early October through December. The Winter schedule, which operated January through March, maintained what was offered throughout the Off-Season 2021 – 2022. A summary of the Off-Season Fall 2022 – 2023 route modifications are overviewed below.

Route 1: One extra round trip late night.

Routes 2, 4 and 10A were interlined on one bus again. Irregularly timed service was restored to every two hours on smooth headways on Routes 2 and 4. Route 10A, which had been eliminated entirely the previous year’s Off-Season, was restored with trips every two hours.

Route 5: Service increased, restoring smooth headway service every two hours.

Route 6: Trip departure times were modified with similar level of service.

Route 7: Additional late afternoon round trip added.

Route 8: Service re-added to schedule, operating every two hours.

Route 9: Added another round trip late afternoon.

Routes 10 and 13: No service modifications.

Routes 11 and 12: These seasonal routes continued to not operate during the Off-Season.

### **Changes to In-Season 2023 as compared to In-Season 2022 (mid-May to late June)**

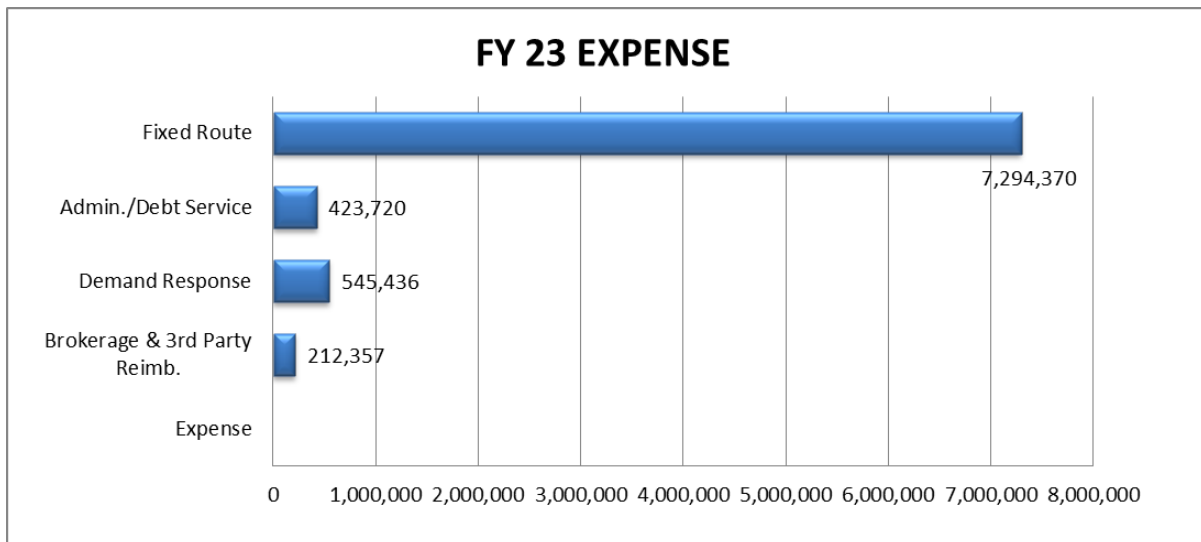
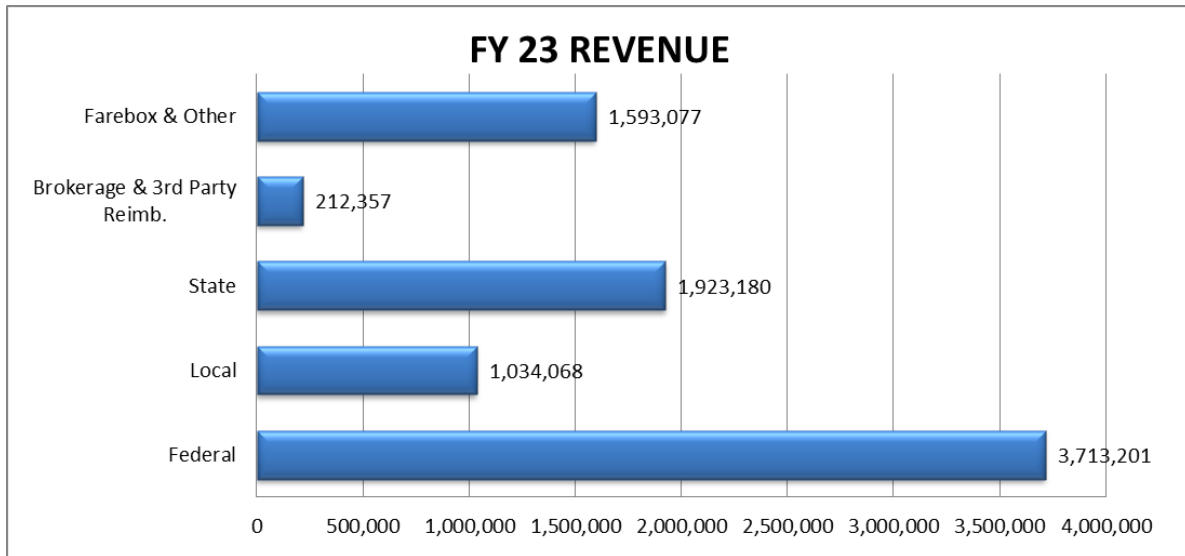
The start of In-Season 2023 (at the end of FY 2023) was an operational improvement on the previous year. Evening service was restored on up-Island Routes 3, 4, 5 and 6. Most importantly, the published schedule did not need to be modified on the fly due to labor shortages. Travel demand and ridership figures continued to trend toward the goal of pre-pandemic recovery. After three years of public health concerns dominating the transit industry, bus use was returning more to normalcy. New features such as contactless digital ticketing had been adopted at an accelerated rate, and are now accepted as the most common way of fare payment.

As always, the VTA will continue to evaluate schedules each season on a trip by trip basis, adding service (when possible) as requested by the traveling public and deleting underutilized trips. As part of the electrification of the full fleet (just over 50% complete), smaller fixed route vehicles have been added to the fleet. This will allow the VTA to better match vehicle capacity to travel demand on the different VTA routes. While not much of a change effectively for the



passenger traveling from Point A to Point B on Martha’s Vineyard, it is another example of the evolution of the VTA as an adapting rural transit system.

## Financials



**Operational Facts & Figures**  
**Fixed Route**

Operational Facts & Figures

**Facts:**

	FY 23	FY 22
Annual Ridership	899,699	772,214
Annual Farebox & Other Revenue	\$1,502,838.68	\$1,598,570
Annual Cost of Operations	\$6,978,323	\$5,381,257
% of Fare Box Recovery of Operating Costs	20%	27.1%
Fleet Size	33	34

**Fixed Route:**

Number of Fixed Routes	14	14
Annual Passenger Trips	899,699	772,214
Annual Revenue Hours	62,693	61,168
Annual Revenue Miles	997,479	981,295
Annual Vehicle Hours	66,755	64,797
Annual Vehicle Miles	1,056,651	1,039,507

**Performance Measures:**

Operating Expense Per Passenger Trip	\$11.59	\$10.78
Operating Expense Per Revenue Hour	\$116.39	\$96.76
Operating Expense Per Revenue Mile	\$7.07	\$5.90
Passenger Trips Per Revenue Hour	12.72	11.23
Passenger Trips Per Revenue Mile	0.81	0.70
Required Subsidy Per Passenger Trip	\$10.27	\$8.68

**Fare Information:**

Fixed Routes Fares:

Adult Base	\$2 / \$1.25 zone	\$2 / \$1.25 zone
Elderly Fare	\$1 / \$0.75 zone	\$1 / \$0.75 zone
Disabled & Veteran Fare	\$1 / \$0.75 zone	\$1 / \$0.75 zone
Under 12	\$2 / \$1.25 zone	\$2 / \$1.25 zone
Under 6	Free	Free
Student Pass	Reduced Fare	Reduced Fare

**Operational Facts & Figures Continued**  
**ADA – Demand Response**

**ADA - Demand Response**

**Facts:**

	FY 23	FY 22
Annual Ridership	10,266	7,976
Annual Farebox & Other Revenue	\$15,314	\$120,669
Annual Cost of Operations	\$601,017	\$576,205
% of Fare Box Recovery of Operating Costs	2.62%	21.09%
Fleet Size	8	8

**Demand Response Statistics:**

Annual Passenger Trips	10,266	7,976
Annual Revenue Hours	5,184	4,802
Annual Revenue Miles	74,089	68,800
Annual Vehicle Hours	5,760	5,336
Annual Vehicle Miles	82,321	76,444

**Performance measures:**

Operating Expense Per Passenger Trip	\$59.07	\$74.49
Operating Expense Per Revenue Hour	\$116.14	\$120.99
Operating Expense Per Revenue Mile	\$8.23	\$8.56
Passenger Trips Per Revenue Hour	\$1.99	1.67
Passenger Trips Per Revenue Mile	\$0.14	0.12
Required Subsidy Per Passenger Trip	\$57.54	\$59.15

**Fare Information:**

Paratransit:

Elderly	\$2.00/town	\$2.00/town
Disabled & Veteran	\$2.00/town	\$2.00/town
Pass Program	N/A	N/A
Ticket Program	N/A	N/A

**Statement of Net Position**  
**June 30, 2023 and 2022**

ASSETS	2023	2022
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 65,850	\$ 669,125
Receivable for operating assistance	\$ 2,442,324	\$ 1,941,289
Inventory	\$ 372,110	\$ 402,568
Prepaid expense	\$ 251,611	\$ 171,985
Prepaid fuel hedge	\$ -	\$ 27,521
Lease receivable	\$ 30,332	\$ 31,085
Total current assets	<u>\$ 3,162,227</u>	<u>\$ 3,243,573</u>
<b>Restricted &amp; Noncurrent Assets</b>		
Restricted assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 319,454	\$ 307,574
Receivable for capital assistance	\$ 5,143,791	\$ 1,655,590
Total restricted assets	<u>\$ 5,463,245</u>	<u>\$ 1,963,164</u>
Receivable for operating assistance	\$ 558,904	\$ 544,915
Capital assets, net	\$ 27,841,623	\$ 23,151,269
Net OPEB asset	\$ 242,424	\$ 453,474
Lease receivable, less current portion	\$ 66,166	\$ 94,015
Right to use asset	\$ 182,993	\$ 243,991
Total restricted assets & noncurrent assets	<u>\$ 34,355,355</u>	<u>\$ 26,450,828</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 37,517,582</u>	<u>\$ 29,694,401</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>		
Deferred outflows of resources related to pension	\$ 265,887	\$ 146,940
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	\$ 165,898	\$ 130,239
Total assets & deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 37,949,367</u>	<u>\$ 29,971,580</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expense	\$ 910,161	\$ 305,049
Lease liability	\$ 77,352	\$ 74,577
Total current liabilities	<u>\$ 987,513</u>	<u>\$ 379,626</u>
<b>Restricted and noncurrent liabilities</b>		
Liabilities payable from restricted assets		
Accounts payable and accrued expense	\$ 3,299,449	\$ 1,176,343
Total liabilities payable from restricted assets	<u>\$ 3,299,449</u>	<u>\$ 1,176,343</u>
Lease liability, less current portion	\$ 80,232	\$ 157,584
Net pension liability	\$ 456,041	\$ 77,080
Revenue Anticipation Notes	\$ 2,767,676	\$ 2,000,000
Total restricted and noncurrent liabilities	<u>\$ 6,603,398</u>	<u>\$ 3,411,007</u>
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 7,590,911</u>	<u>\$ 3,790,633</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>		
Deferred inflows of resources related to pension	\$ 50,050	\$ 273,503
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	\$ 93,160	\$ 192,605
Deferred inflows of resources related to leases	\$ 91,507	\$ 122,009
Total liabilities & deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 234,717</u>	<u>\$ 588,117</u>
Total liabilities & deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 7,825,628</u>	<u>\$ 4,378,750</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Invested in capital assets	\$ 27,841,623	\$ 23,151,269
Restricted	\$ 2,163,796	\$ 786,821
Other current assets	\$ 118,320	\$ 1,654,740
Total net position	<u>\$ 30,123,739</u>	<u>\$ 25,592,830</u>



**Dylan Fernandes**  
State Representative  
Barnstable, Dukes & Nantucket

**District Liaison**  
Kaylea Moore  
kaylea.moore@mahouse.gov

It is an honor to serve the people of Tisbury in the state legislature. This is an exceptional community, and I remain committed to ensuring your unique needs are heard and met at the State House.

In 2023, the state legislature addressed several pressing issues. My office began the year by filing 45 bills addressing climate change, the housing crisis, and the opioid epidemic. As one of the legislature's first acts, we also extended the option for local governments to hold remote meetings. This expansion helps broaden democracy and improve accessibility for residents to participate in the democratic process.

During the FY2024 budget process, I secured over \$1.2 million for Cape and Islanders. These funds will help expand access to care for seniors, boost our local blue economy, and support local businesses and nonprofits. \$75,000 in funding will be used to expand social services on Martha's Vineyard, with additional funding dedicated to facilitating off-island medical transportation. A further \$50,000 was allocated for MVY Radio to procure new equipment. We also secured \$300,000 for protecting clean water and healthy oceans in our region.

In the fall, the MA House of Representatives took significant strides in addressing gun violence by passing a bill regulating untraceable firearms, protecting sensitive public places like schools and polling places, and expanding red flag laws. We also passed legislation I co-sponsored to close the gender and racial pay gap by requiring businesses to disclose expected salary ranges in job postings.

Thank you to the residents of Tisbury for your continued advocacy and civic engagement. Please do not hesitate to reach out if our office can be helpful: My email is [Dylan.Fernandes@mahouse.gov](mailto:Dylan.Fernandes@mahouse.gov) and our phone number is 617-722-2230. We are here to serve you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dylan Fernandes





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## VINEYARD HAVEN PUBLIC LIBRARY

In 2023 the library welcomed more patrons into the library for visits and programs, with an increase in visits of 50%, and twice as many people attending in-person programs. This year saw the return of patron-favorite children's programs such as interactive movies, gingerbread houses, and water rockets, and a children's concert in Owen Park funded by a grant from the MV Cultural Council. Weekly programs for young children include storytimes and crafts, as well as classroom visits from the Tisbury School.

Highlights of adult cultural programming included a performance by Boston singer-songwriter Naomi Westwater, held at the Katharine Cornell Theater, and a songwriting workshop with Peter Halperin. In a standing-room-only talk at the library in July, A. Bowdoin "Bow" Van Riper, presented stories from the William Street neighborhood surrounding the library. Hundreds of participants took part in two multi-part literary seminars with Swarthmore Professor Emeritus Philip M. Weinstein, Janet Mandel's art history series on Zoom, and writing workshops with Caroline Joy Adams and Moira Silva.

Wellness programs included weekly chair yoga with volunteer instructor Kat LeBlanc, a monthly longevity series, and literary walking tours of West Chop with Wayne Nichols. Ongoing weekly and monthly programs for adults include a library Book Club, Spice Club, Poetry Reading Group, Great Decisions Discussion Group, Adult Crafts, French Conversation, and Mah Jong.

The Friends of the Library hosted several in-person fundraising events including the annual 5k run, a jewelry & accessories sale, and a performance by the Luce Playreaders at the Martha's Vineyard Film Center. These programs enabled the Friends to make gifts to the capital campaign, and supported library services including museum and beach passes and programs for all ages.

While the library continues to accommodate those who prefer to attend virtually, most library programs are now held in person, highlighting the need for our planned meeting room addition. An open, spacious, and well-ventilated space is more important than ever, and the expanded and redesigned interior and exterior spaces will provide the flexibility the library requires to provide future services with greater safety and comfort.

Extensive planning has continued for the renovation and addition project. The Town has engaged an Owner's Project Manager and completed an assessment of the existing building. The Library Trustees and Building Fund have nearly reached the \$2 million capital campaign goal for the program room addition. Pending approval of funding for necessary repairs to the existing building, the combined renovation and addition project will break ground in FY2025.

We thank the many volunteers from the Library Building Fund and the Friends of the Library for working to raise the funds needed to support this project. For those who wish to contribute, pledge forms and more detailed information about the capital campaign and building project are available at [www.vhlibrarybuildingfund.org](http://www.vhlibrarybuildingfund.org).

Vineyard Haven Library is open Monday through Saturday, with Sunday afternoon hours from September through June. In addition to lending books, magazines, eBooks, and other materials,



providing access to computers and technology, and offering a comfortable and welcoming place to spend time, library service highlights include:

- Museum & Beach Passes, provided by the Friends of the Library
- Notary services by appointment
- Live online tutoring and homework help daily from 2 PM to 11 PM
- Take-home technology including Wi-Fi hotspots and Chromebook Computers
- Free online resources including eBooks, streaming movies, classes, and language learning
- Free access to Consumer Reports, New York Times, and the Washington Post online

Respectfully submitted,  
Arch Smith, Chair  
Pamela Street, Vice-Chair  
Janet Hefler, Secretary  
Elizabeth Bates  
Christine Burke  
Virginia Crisman  
Carolyn Henderson  
Jean Lewellyn  
Myra Stark

<b>Key Statistics, Fiscal Year 2023</b>			
Collection size	100,832	Physical Item Circulation	75,949
<i>Books &amp; Magazines</i>	47,425	Electronic Collections Use	20,858
<i>Audio CDs</i>	3,058	In-person visits	38,887
<i>DVD, VHS &amp; Blu-Ray</i>	6,290	Program participation*	7,707
<i>eBooks &amp; eAudiobooks</i>	44,711	Registered borrowers	4,485

\*Includes in-person, hybrid, virtual, and “take & make” programs

## TISBURY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

It is my pleasure to share this report, on behalf of the Tisbury School community.

Beginning the 2023-24 school year in the temporary school felt settled, considering the transitions that we experienced the year prior. Welcoming students back to school was therefore enjoyable and celebratory, as we had already established practices and routines to support children. Additionally, we were able to observe contractors working on the school renovation/addition project, and seeing this progress was encouraging. Especially when the new gymnasium addition was framed, we were able to visualize this new space, and it was inspiring. On September 15, 2023, all students and staff gathered together in the parking lot for a brief but significant “topping off” ceremony, acknowledging the progress made, including the placing of the final steel beam.

Even as we look forward to occupying the school once construction is completed, we continue to conduct the important business of education, teaching and supporting students in grades Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup>. Working in the temporary school presents challenges, but also opportunities to find creative solutions and practice compromise. I’m proud of the manner in which students, staff, and families have accepted these obstacles. Often I’ve reminded others that these challenges are temporary, and what we have ahead is promising and reassuring. The inconveniences, sacrifices, and hurdles will be worthwhile. Despite these, Tisbury School students have demonstrated resilience, flexibility, and commitment in their learning and growth. This can be measured in a number of different assessments, but also – and perhaps more importantly – through anecdotal, regular observation. Our staff, working daily with students, has the opportunity and advantage of watching students’ progress from September through June. This is rewarding and encouraging.

The Tisbury School’s success can be attributed to its greatest strength – the people who make up its community. This continued support is necessary, but never taken for granted. The collective backing that our school receives is significant – from all Town of Tisbury departments, boards, and offices; the Tisbury School Committee and Tisbury School Advisory Council; the Tisbury School Parent-Teacher Organization; and the Martha’s Vineyard Public Schools and Superintendent’s Office. Additionally, two island organizations in particular have stepped up to help our school tremendously. Special thanks are due to American Legion Post #257 and the Martha’s Vineyard Camp Meeting Association. Their support exceeds mere generosity, and we are grateful.

Voters and residents of Tisbury are also due sincere thanks for ensuring our community’s commitment to having a strong school, and providing meaningful opportunities for students’ learning and growth. The investment that our community makes in its children is noteworthy.

Sincerely,  
John Custer

## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

In accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I am pleased to submit my 2023 Annual Report as Superintendent of Schools to the members of the six school committees of the Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVYPS).

I wish to take a moment to extend warm wishes and gratitude to our Island community. I believe good school systems embrace a culture in which everyone who is invested in some manner with our schools, becomes a steward of our schools, establishing a guiding principle in which a genuine positive and caring regard for all children pervades our community. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the well-being of our children and the Martha's Vineyard Schools as a whole.

As a steward of MVYPS for 22 years, and in my second year as superintendent, I understand the privilege and honor that has been bestowed on me and I embrace and appreciate being entrusted with our schools. I want to acknowledge that this year has brought challenges and losses to our community. The passing of loved ones leaves an indelible mark, and our hearts go out to those who have experienced such difficult times. As we reflect on this past year, let us support one another with kindness and empathy.

This past year, MVYPS administration and school committees, in concert with our towns, made significant progress in critical system-wide and school-specific goals in support of our Island's children. This included a successful effort in securing a revised Regional Agreement with all of our Island towns in the context of a potentially significant high school capital project. Town leaders, school administrators, and school committee members executed plans that ran parallel to the Massachusetts School Building Authority's (MSBA) Module 1, 270-day Eligibility Period, which resulted in securing funding for a comprehensive building project feasibility study for the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District (MVRSD). Module 2 was completed when the MSBA recently approved MVRSD's choice of an Owner's Project Managing Firm who will guide and assist us through the remaining modules of the project.

- Module 3 – Feasibility Study
- Module 4 – Schematic Design
- Module 5 – Project Scope and Budget and Project Funding Agreements
- Module 6 – Design Development, Construction Documentation, and Bidding
- Module 7 – Construction Administration
- Module 8 – Project Closeout

Additionally, I am grateful for the work of key town leaders, school committee members, union leaders, and school administrators to reach agreements on contract negotiations. I am grateful to our town board of health agents, school physician, and school nurses for their continued work to ensure for the safety of our children and fidelity of the learning environment. I am grateful for the work of MVYPS administrators who continue our work with the Mid Atlantic Equity Consortium to move forward in our efforts to ensure for cultural responsiveness and equity in our academic programs and practices. I am grateful for the continued efforts of our administration in supporting our children and staff with improved behavioral health interventions, resources, and practices and

in our efforts to improve the culture and climate of our schools and in the manner in which MVYPS responds in working with our community.

Our work in MVYPS will always reflect the best interest of all students. Our schools continue to enact measures to recapture children's learning and strengthen their social-emotional welfare. Effective collegial and congenial relationships will highlight our collaborative work in support of our children. For this year, feedback from MVYPS Cabinet Administrators and School Committee members helped to inform and organize strategies and programmatic interventions to guide our schools. The feedback highlighted and summarized strengths and opportunities within our schools and overall system. This summary of strengths and weaknesses informed the following Focus Areas.

- A System-Wide Commitment to Our Children
- A Commitment to Nurturing the Culture Within Our Schools
- A Commitment to a Strong School Community Approach

These Focus Areas span multiple indicators across the standards of our professional practice to form goals for the current school year, FY24. As a result, MVYPS is working to improve upon the supervision and evaluation of our school-based and central office administrators through increased collaboration regarding goal-setting and attainment. This will include broadening and deepening programmatic initiatives such as the Collaborative Problem-Solving Model and Co-Teaching to better support students' academic skills and strengthen their flexibility, frustration tolerance, and problem-solving skills.

Additionally, MVYPS is working to increase family and community engagement by broadening and deepening a culture of feedback to inform practices with families through the services provided from our schools, as well informing practices with students and staff regarding the climate in our schools. Feedback will be solicited and coded over the course of this year using the EDSCLS (Ed. School Climate Survey), VOCAL (Voices of Climate and Learning), and SELIS (Social Emotional Learning Indicator System) surveys.

Lastly, MVYPS is working to increase our focus on standards-based learning to more effectively support our students' achievement through direct collaboration with each MVYPS school administration in the composition and implementation of intervention plans. Multiple common assessments such as the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) will inform student growth and achievement.

Again, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the many individuals, departments, boards, and offices of our six Island towns and our Island organizations, as well as our school committee members, our parents, and our staff. I see your commitment in your continued support of our children and I want to thank our entire Island community for prioritizing the work of our schools. We have made great strides in the numerous opportunities and challenges over the past 18 months. I am incredibly proud of our students and staff. Thank you for your support as we move our schools forward in partnership.

Sincerely,  
Richard M. Smith, Ed.D.  
Superintendent, Martha's Vineyard Public Schools



# SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHOOL CALENDAR

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024  
MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**AUG./SEPT. 2023**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**OCTOBER 2023**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**NOVEMBER 2023**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

**DECEMBER 2023**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**JANUARY 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**FEBRUARY 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

**MARCH 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**APRIL 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**MAY 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**JUNE 2024**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

**LEGEND:**

Staff Preparation/Orientation Days	
Holidays and Vacation Days	
Teachers' Professional Days	
New Teacher Orientation Days	

2023

- August 28 & 29 New Teacher Orientation
- August 30 Full Professional Development Day
- Aug. 31 & Sept. 1 Staff Preparation/Orientation Days
- September 4 Labor Day
- September 5 All Schools Open**
- October 6 Full Professional Development Day
- October 9 Indigenous Peoples Day
- November 10 Veterans Day (*observed*)
- November 22-24 School Closed/Thanksgiving
- December 22 MVRHS Closes at 11:00/December Recess  
Elemen. Schools Close at Noon/December Recess
- Dec. 25-January 1 School Closed/December Recess

2024

- January 1 New Year's Day
- January 2 Schools Re-Open
- January 10 Professional Development Day – ½ day
- January 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 14 Professional Development Day – ½ day
- February 19 Presidents' Day
- Feb. 26-March 1 February Vacation
- March 6 Professional Development Day – ½ day
- April 15-19 April Vacation
- May 27 Memorial Day
- May 29 Professional Development Day – ½ day
- June 18 Last Day of School – ½ day
- June 19 Juneteenth Independence Day
- June 25 **Last Day of School with 5 Snow Days \***

**\*CALENDAR INCLUDES 185 SCHEDULED SCHOOL DAYS, INCLUDING 5 SNOW/EMERGENCY DAYS. IF THESE DAYS ARE NOT USED, THE CLOSE OF SCHOOL IN JUNE WILL BE ADJUSTED IN ORDER FOR THE CALENDAR TO CARRY A TOTAL OF 180 STUDENT SCHOOL DAYS.**

**ADDITIONAL DATES #**

- September 15 Rosh Hashanah\*
- September 24 Yom Kippur\*\*
- October 10 Cranberry Day
- March 29 Good Friday
- March 31 Easter
- April 10 Eid al-Fitr
- April 22 Passover\*\*\*

\*Rosh Hashanah starts sundown 9/15 observed 9/16  
\*\*Yom Kippur starts sundown 9/24 observed 9/25  
\*\*\*Passover starts sundown 4/22 – 4/30 evenings  
# Students absent for religious holidays will be excused

**HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS**

- September 1 Freshman Orientation
- June 9 Graduation (To Be Confirmed)

Parent Teacher Conferences-Early Dismissal		
	Fall	Spring
MVRHS	Nov 16, 17, 20, 21	N/A
Edg	Oct 17,19,23,25	March 12,14,18,20
WT	Oct 19,23,25	March 12,14,18
CH	Oct 19,23,25	March 12,14,18
OB	Oct 24,26,30 Nov 1	Mar 11,13,19,21
Tis	Oct 24,26,30	Mar 13,19,21

## MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

It is my pleasure to present to you a summary of the accomplishments of our departmental staff at the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School in the service of our students and community. There are many things to be proud of. As an all-island school, we strive to represent the best of this unique community through our high-performing academic core, our hands-on career and technical programs, our abundantly talented performing and visual arts departments, and our very competitive sports teams. It is through the dedication and support of the towns, school committee, staff, students, community partnerships, and parents that all of this is made possible on a daily basis.

### **Art, Design & Technology**

The Art, Design & Technology department continues to offer a rich variety of creative electives. We've added Art History and Intro to 3D Design. We welcome part-time instructor, Mr. George Michaels, to teach AP Computer Science. We held our annual showcase "Evening of the Arts" students also participated in exhibits at Featherstone and (with Vineyard Conservation Society) at the Film Center and Mocha Mott's. We partnered with the Martha's Vineyard Times to produce the "Art Class" newspaper supplement showcasing student art. Eighteen MVRHS student artists won a total of 23 awards in the **2023 Scholastic Art Awards**. Four students won the coveted Gold Key awards, and went on to the national competition. Art school-bound students attended Portfolio Day in Boston, where their portfolios were critiqued by college admissions professionals. Art History students held field trips to RISD and Salem, and architecture students went on site visits with Hutker Architects. After-school club attendance continues to remain at record-high levels; our art & literary magazine, SEABREEZES, won a coveted "Excellent" award in the 2022 NCTE state-wide REALM competition, and our new student-run film club is attracting new members, as is Art Club, Architecture Club, and Innovation Club.

### **Athletics**

There were several teams who qualified for State tournaments this year. Boys basketball, hockey, lacrosse, and tennis along with girls hockey and tennis. The track team also sent several competitors to state championships. The boys soccer team, girls soccer team, and football team came out victorious in the first annual "Battle in the Atlantic" which was held in late October. Now billed as "The Battle in the Atlantic" references the annual games between Nantucket and MV when field hockey, boys and girls soccer, and football play on the same day. With this inaugural year, three new trophies were added called the **Golden Anchor**. The winning team in each of these games takes home the trophy to hold until the next year's game, similar to the *Island Cup*. Boys basketball, boys lacrosse, boys tennis, and football all were league champions. Thanks to the Touchdown Club and many donors for the updated Vineyard Pride Weight Room. Teams have begun to use the new room with much appreciation for the new facility.

### **Career and Technical Education**

We officially welcome the Early Education and Care (EEC) program to our list of Chapter 74 approved programs. This designation is crucial to us being able to access funding and other resources earmarked for Career and Tech Ed Programs. EEC has already proved itself as a popular program with great interest from the local early childhood education community. The Auto Tech

program students are training on the new alignment equipment, heavy duty lift and a state of the art on the vehicle brake lathe machine. The auto tech students have begun their OSHA certification. The students in the Medical Assisting program completed their first blood pressure clinic. The Horticulture department implemented a program in which the students began planting spring bulbs, finalized landscape plans for the front of the High School and propagation of plants for the annual spring plant sale. Culinary Art students have been preparing for OSHA Certification and have continued to host various events for local groups. Students in the Building Trades program collaboration with the architecture program on a project to improve storage and material handling was designed and built. Students also installed split rail fencing around some of the building's perimeter. The Maritime Studies program has had several students attend Maritime colleges or with the credentials obtained through the program enter into the maritime industry. We continue to benefit from our biannual advisory meetings. Advisory groups made up of industry professionals provide valuable oversight of our programs.

### **English**

The English Department continues to offer skills that are critical to becoming competent and confident learners. Most students continue to perform above the state and national average on examinations. Students not only read and write an array of diverse literature, they also attend performances such as the Huntington Theater and the workshops offered at the New England Scholastic Press Association's Conference. Student publications also received state and national recognition this year. Our magazine, *Seabreezes*, received the designation of "Excellent" by the National Council of Teachers of English. *The High School View* received at the New England Scholastic Press Award ceremony, the Highest Achievement award is a testament to the quality of journalism students produce at MVRHS. Participation in the national Poetry Out Loud competition sent one student to the regional finals, where she performed beautifully. Many teachers of the English Department attended the Exeter Academy's Harkness Training for educators and Harvard University's Graduate School of Education's Universal Design for Learning course

### **ESL**

The 2022 ESL report described the department as "in the midst of change." The changes continued throughout 2023, necessitating numerous shifts in teaching and extensive professional development (PD) for the staff. The department has implemented a new schedule of benchmark assessing which will take place in October and May/June. These assessments are in addition to the Commonwealth's mandated ACCESS test in January/February. The additional assessments are intended to provide progress monitoring, so teachers can more effectively individualize lessons and student goal planning. The district has committed to ESL co-teaching. In preparation for the introduction of co-teaching in September, a new part-time ESL position was added, Jane McGroarty Sampaio, from the World Language Department, was hired to co-teach three ESL classes.

### **Guidance**

The guidance department and school adjustment counselors worked in concert with teachers and administration to keep all students engaged academically and emotionally. Guidance continues to work with all the island, sending schools to implement a comprehensive transition program for incoming 9th graders as well as to develop an individual post-secondary plan. Counselors work hard to offer academic programming and support for the island's growing ELL population. In 2022-

2023 the guidance department was able to welcome a full time ASP who is native of Brazil and has been integral in assisting all ELL students, but particularly ELL and former ELL students. All students continue to meet with their counselors in groups and individually to explore personality profiles, career opportunities, and college options. The Class of 2023 graduated a diverse group of 179 students, and the guidance department was again able to develop individual transitional plans for all students. 72% of the graduating class went on to a two or four-year college. The guidance department believes strongly that alternatives to the traditional college pathway should be explored for all students, and we are proud that almost 30% of MVRHS graduates are working and/or pursuing additional information in an area of their professional interest. This year's Class Night was another wonderfully successful culmination of the MVRHS scholarship program. Generous donors provided scholarships, grants and additional items that totaled 1.2 million dollars. 140 students in the 2023 graduating class received 505 awards.

### **History**

The Social Studies department has added Art History, which is extremely popular with the students and teachers. Students have participated in a field trip to RISD with many more trips to come. Psychology has returned as a Social Studies elective and students have been exploring ideas of States of Consciousness as well as the benefits of sleep and sleep disorders. The American Studies classes are collaborating with the ELL and SPED department to create an interdisciplinary approach that can meet the needs of a wide range of students. The teachers are expanding the American Studies curriculum to focus on the connections between Brazil and the United States and to highlight the idea of "the Americas" as American History. The students and teachers are collaborating to put on a Change Maker's Fair after Thanksgiving. This opportunity will be a chance for students to interact and speak with islanders who are making positive changes in our community. There are now two AP options from which students can choose. 10th graders can take AP US History or AP African American Studies and 11th graders can opt between AP Modern World History or AP Modern European History.

### **Library**

The Library has supported the school community through lending, resource accessibility, and instruction. The school librarian continues to co-teach the Capstone course, which is now available to both juniors and seniors, and teaches "Navigating Digital Information" to nearly all freshmen. This mini-course focuses on foundational research skills using library databases, the ability to discern news from other information sources, and techniques to combat the spread of misinformation. Book circulation continues to increase, suggesting heightened student engagement in reading. To date, nearly 1,400 books have been checked out, a 7% increase over last year. The library provides access to essential tools such as Turnitin (a plagiarism-prevention and classroom management platform), WeVideo (a collaborative video-editing platform), accounts for *The New York Times* available to all students and staff, and state-funded research databases. The librarian provides research instruction to various classes spanning different grades and departments.

### **Math**

The Math Department was quite ambitious and productive this past year. Mr. Chvatal attended the Advanced Placement Summer Institute in preparation for teaching the new AP Precalculus course offered by the college board this year. Ms. Magnuson attended the APSI to gain additional



experience as she gets ready to teach our AP Calculus course for the first time. Ms. Carlomagno completed curriculum maps both for our new (piloted last year) Explorations in Engineering course and the ever evolving Financial Literacy course. Ms. Muir spent time during the summer volunteering at a summer camp for students with disabilities, the take-aways she had to share with us were quite inspiring. Mr. Lavers, whom we share with the science department, set up a proper science/math classroom which now allows for more group activities and lab work in this larger space. Ms. Nelson finalized the new Statistics curriculum map to accurately represent this, now Dual Enrollment through Bristol Community College, course. Ms. Flanders took two online courses that focused on the AP Calculus (BC) curriculum and the use of technology to gain a deeper understanding of topics. All of these individual endeavors have added to the strengthening of our math courses and our department as a whole.

### **Performing Arts**

The Performing Arts Department has had 12 students accepted into the South East Music Festival, and three students (Annabelle Brothers, Jack Crawford and Samuel Hines) to All State. The Minnesingers won silver in the Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association competition. Orchestra and Big Band traveled to Music in the Parks, winning gold and over-all awards. 19 students auditioned for the South East Music Festival, with 11 accepted and 5 students receiving All State audition recommendations (Emma Burt, Samuel Hines, Zylar Flanders, Gabi Silveira and Aiden Weiland). We had our first department concert in October, where 7 groups performed - Orchestra, Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, MV Big Band, First Year Chorus, Vocal Ensemble, and the Minnesingers. We also invited 35 middle school singers to join us on stage. The annual Whaling Church show for the Minnesingers and Jazz Fest are scheduled for December.

### **Physical Education**

The Health/PE department has been really excited to spend the year continuing to improve on the work we have accomplished. Specifically, we are focusing on tightening up our 9th grade and 10th grade Health curricula—infusing Mental Health First Aid, Get Real, and Social Emotional Learning—into our daily rotation of courses. Since we all have a passion for moving and sports, we are really excited that the first and fourth quarters will be primarily dedicated to the PE portion of this 10th grade class. With the addition of the new weight room this fall, our Personal Training class is becoming more robust. We have also included an additional elective called Competitive Sports, this option is for students enthusiastic to participate in a team oriented capacity.

### **Project Vine**

Project Vine had the best-attended Chopped for Charity event to date. Students also attended a team-building challenge at 10 Pin Arcade and went on the first Boston overnight trip, touring the city in small groups and then seeing Blue Man Group. Students returned to Penikese Island for our sixth technology free retreat and the students hosted the seventh Island Lore event at the MV Museum. Project Vine graduate, Joseph Maccaferri, was the 2023 recipient of the Jake Sequoia Baird Memorial Scholarship. Ms. Charbonneau, named Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, attended a ceremony at White House and was able to speak with lawmakers representing Massachusetts about the Project Vine alternative model. She continues to work with the State Teachers of the Year cohort for 2023, and has recently spoken at Harvard's Graduate School of Education as we showcase our alternative model for other schools and students all across the state

and country. She has also had the opportunity to meet with education designers at Google about using tech in the classroom.

### **Science**

The Science Department has actively engaged in education, community outreach, and collaboration. Teachers took classes in educating diverse populations and in curriculum design, including general curriculum design, co-teaching and collaborative teaching models, and computer-based STEM design. We welcome a new Biology teacher, Ms. Macfarlane, who came to MV after a long teaching career in Arizona. The department has worked with several local groups, including BiodiversityWorks, Felix Neck, the Shellfish Hatchery, Island Grown Schools, and Cape Light Compact to provide project opportunities for students. We have continued to improve our co-teaching program currently offering 3 sections of Earth Science and 5 sections of Biology that are co-taught. Students continue to do well on the biology MCAS with most students scoring proficient or advanced above the state average. We continue to look to improve our growth in special populations in MCAS results.

### **Special Education**

The Special Education Department participated in Think Kids, a professional development focusing on collaborative problem solving models by Mass General Hospital and SMARTs Curriculum for Executive Functioning. Teachers continue to grow their expertise in the area of executive functioning and social emotional learning to better serve students with a variety of needs. While our prime directive is inclusion of all students relative to their strengths and needs, we also have programming that addresses more complex challenges. The Navigator, Voyager and Compass programs continue to strive to meet the developmental, cognitive, social and emotional needs of students. In addition to these programs, our liaisons support students in academic support classes as well as co-teaching in core content areas. Our students have participated in the Special Olympics, Friendsgiving, Brazilian Night, Unified basketball and Unified track and field. Other activities to promote student learning and integration with the school community include: Creative Coffeehouse, Poetry “slams;” field trips that enhance functional academic, social, communication skills; and, participation in school wide music and art activities. The Special Education Department continues to grow the close collaboration and interaction with the families, caregivers and parents as well as the community at large.

### **Wellness Program**

In the past year, the Wellness Department has continued to engage students in peer to peer programming. The SWEAR program held its second overnight retreat in June 2023. The retreat focused on deconstructing toxic masculinity and exploring the myths and repercussions of gender based violence. Our annual assembly is scheduled for January 2024. Our team is in the third year of TMHFA (Teen Mental Health First Aid) teaching mental health literacy to sophomore students. We continue to engage in racial equity and social justice work and held our annual Race Culture Diversity retreat at the Boys & Girls Club in November. For the first time, this year we invited students/staff from the MV Public Charter School to join us. Our bi- weekly WOC (Women of Color), BSA (Black Student Alliance) and Reimagine Manhood groups continue to meet during flex. The 10 week STRONG (Supporting Transition Resilience of Newcomer Group) curriculum for Newcomers continues to support their development of resilience and adjustment to the United States. As always we continue to support the social emotional well being of our students by

offering 1:1 support (in both English and Portuguese) for issues/concerns students and families may be experiencing. We continue to collaborate with CONNECT to end violence; ICC; IWYC, IHC Recovery Coaches and private clinicians to offer support to our students. This year we are offering group counseling with Hospice; CONNECT; and Alateen.

### **World Language**

The World Language Department continues to focus on the three modes of communication; Interpretive, Interpersonal and Presentational in the target language in order to help students practice and build their communication skills. We are proud to announce that our students demonstrated their advanced language skills with 19 graduates earning the Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish, 11 earning the Seal in Portuguese, 5 earning the Seal in both Spanish and Portuguese and 1 student earning the Seal of Biliteracy with Distinction in Spanish. The department saw a very successful showing for students that took the AP Spanish exam. A Portuguese Language Arts Narrative course was added to the Heritage Portuguese program in the 2022-23 academic year and this year we added Brazilian Humanities. Ms. Crawford, who joined the department in 2022 to teach Latin, has added level 2 to the program's progression. We continue to offer American Sign Language through the American School for the Deaf. We are so excited to welcome Ms. Martino from Cadiz, Spain via the Vineyard Montessori School to teach Spanish, Mr. Adams from Brazil to teach Spanish and Ms. Munhoz from Brazil to teach Portuguese to both Heritage students and non Portuguese speakers.

Thank you for letting me share this information with you, and your continued support of MVRHS. Our faculty and staff are committed to engaging students with challenging academics, additional support and resources to better prepare them for their journey after high school. It is through the dedication of our teachers, our administrators, the school committee, community partnerships, parents, and of course our students, that all of this is made possible. Without these groups working together as a team we would not be able to accomplish all that we have on a daily basis.

Respectfully,  
Sara Dingley, Principal

# MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

To the Citizens of Tisbury:

In compliance with Section VIII of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District Agreement under which the District was formed and according to the recommendations of the Office of the Directors of Accounts, we submit the following financial reports of the District for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

FY2023 Assessment  
FY2023 Expenditures – Budget vs Actual  
FY2023 Balance Sheet

Respectfully submitted,  
MARYLEE SCHROEDER  
Treasurer

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District  
Budget and Actual Expenditures  
June 30, 2023

Expenditure	Original Budget	Actual	Variance
Supt/Shared Services: Administration: Salaries	\$ 197,486.42	\$ 202,230.45	\$ (4,744.03)
Supt/Shared Services: Administration: Expenses	\$ 23,383.18	\$ 20,312.38	\$ 3,070.80
<b>Administration Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 220,869.60</b>	<b>\$ 222,542.83</b>	<b>\$ (1,673.23)</b>
Supt/Shared Services: Instruction: Salaries	\$ 318,123.91	\$ 296,111.34	\$ 22,012.57
Supt/Shared Services: Instruction: Expenses	\$ 36,880.00	\$ 18,522.43	\$ 18,357.57
<b>Instruction Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 355,003.91</b>	<b>\$ 314,633.77</b>	<b>\$ 40,370.14</b>
Supt/Shared Services: Operation & Maint of Plant: Salaries	\$ -	\$ 537.40	\$ (537.40)
Supt/Shared Services: Operation & Maint of Plant: Expenses	\$ 36,450.00	\$ 22,615.71	\$ 13,834.29
<b>Operation &amp; Maint of Plant Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 36,450.00</b>	<b>\$ 23,153.11</b>	<b>\$ 13,296.89</b>
Supt/Shared Services: Fixed Costs: Salaries	\$ 59,857.91	\$ 67,490.36	\$ (7,632.45)
Supt/Shared Services: Fixed Costs: Expenses	\$ 3,890.53	\$ 8,809.61	\$ (4,919.08)
<b>Fixed Costs Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 63,748.44</b>	<b>\$ 76,299.97</b>	<b>\$ (12,551.53)</b>
<b>TOTAL Supt/Shared Services</b>	<b>\$ 676,071.95</b>	<b>\$ 636,629.68</b>	<b>\$ 39,442.27</b>
High School Programs: Administration: Salaries	\$ 130,962.80	\$ 138,322.00	\$ (7,359.20)
High School Programs: Administration: Expenses	\$ 142,584.07	\$ 128,914.12	\$ 13,669.95
<b>Administration Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 273,546.87</b>	<b>\$ 267,236.12</b>	<b>\$ 6,310.75</b>
High School Programs: Instruction: Salaries	\$ 11,117,084.17	\$ 11,278,176.72	\$ (161,092.55)
High School Programs: Instruction: Expenses	\$ 903,370.07	\$ 879,299.31	\$ 24,070.76
<b>Instruction Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 12,020,454.24</b>	<b>\$ 12,157,476.03</b>	<b>\$ (137,021.79)</b>
High School Programs: Other School & Community Services: Sa	\$ 2,033,629.91	\$ 1,904,312.24	\$ 129,317.67
High School Programs: Other School & Community Services: Ex	\$ 1,220,431.86	\$ 1,080,338.01	\$ 140,093.85
Elementary Transportation Reimbursement	\$ (1,353,129.96)	\$ (1,196,184.44)	\$ (156,945.52)
<b>Others School &amp; Community Services Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 1,900,931.81</b>	<b>\$ 1,788,465.81</b>	<b>\$ 112,466.00</b>
High School Programs: Operation and Maint of Plant: Salaries	\$ 692,826.61	\$ 677,329.98	\$ 15,496.63
High School Programs: Operation and Maint of Plant: Expenses	\$ 1,376,675.49	\$ 1,514,102.65	\$ (137,427.16)
<b>Operation &amp; Maint of Plant Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 2,069,502.10</b>	<b>\$ 2,191,432.63</b>	<b>\$ (121,930.53)</b>
High School Programs: Employee Retirement	\$ 396,780.83	\$ 399,272.66	\$ (2,491.83)
High School Programs: Retired Municipal Teachers	\$ 603,638.41	\$ 876,493.74	\$ (272,855.33)
High School Programs: Other Post Employment Benefits	\$ 994,314.00	\$ 1,123,924.02	\$ (129,610.02)
High School Programs: Employee Separation Costs	\$ 10,430.00	\$ 16,186.00	\$ (5,756.00)
High School Programs: Insurance - Employee Related	\$ 2,751,971.27	\$ 2,579,179.90	\$ 172,791.37
High School Programs: Insurance - School Related	\$ 437,044.24	\$ 455,256.25	\$ (18,212.01)
High School Programs: Miscellaneous Fixed Charges	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 500.00
High School Programs: Bus/Vehicle Capital Purchase	\$ 349,505.00	\$ 449,583.41	\$ (100,078.41)
High School Programs: Consultant, Electrification of Fleet	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -
High School Programs: Roof Project Principal	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 180,000.00	\$ -
High School Programs: Roof Project Interest	\$ 8,100.00	\$ 8,100.00	\$ -
High School Programs: Residential Care Tuitions	\$ 1,281,185.00	\$ 1,192,854.91	\$ 88,330.09
High School Programs: Contingency/Reserve	\$ 600,000.00	\$ -	\$ 600,000.00
<b>Fixed Costs Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 7,640,468.75</b>	<b>\$ 7,307,850.89</b>	<b>\$ 332,617.86</b>
<b>TOTAL High School Programs</b>	<b>\$ 23,904,903.77</b>	<b>\$ 23,712,461.48</b>	<b>\$ 192,442.29</b>
<b>TOTAL Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 24,580,975.72</b>	<b>\$ 24,349,091.16</b>	<b>\$ 231,884.56</b>

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District  
Balance Sheet  
June 30, 2023

Assets	Special			Capital		Trust &		General	
	General	Revenue	Projects	Agency	Long-Term Obligations	Total			
Cash and Investments	\$ 5,320,765.55	\$ 1,209,056.24	\$ 422,575.40	\$ 160,878.71	-	\$ 7,113,275.90			
Receivables	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Intergovernmental	389,235.00	-	-	-	-	389,235.00			
Amount to be Provided	-	-	-	-	180,000.00	180,000.00			
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>5,710,000.55</b>	<b>1,209,056.24</b>	<b>422,575.40</b>	<b>160,878.71</b>	<b>180,000.00</b>	<b>7,682,510.90</b>			
<b>Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>									
<b>Liabilities</b>									
Warrants/Accounts Payable	1,045,022.53	214,788.21	127,954.83	24,664.94	-	\$ 1,412,430.51			
Notes Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Salaries Payable	-	-	-	1,020.00	-	1,020.00			
Accrued Payroll/withholdings	1,378,434.48	180,272.02	-	347,087.08	-	1,905,793.58			
Other Liabilities	82,424.83	-	-	-	-	82,424.83			
Agency Funds	-	-	-	(1,765,243.32)	-	(1,765,243.32)			
Bonds Payable	-	-	-	-	180,000.00	180,000.00			
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,505,881.84</b>	<b>395,060.23</b>	<b>127,954.83</b>	<b>(1,392,471.30)</b>	<b>180,000.00</b>	<b>1,816,425.60</b>			
<b>Fund Equity</b>									
Reserved for Encumbrances	948,682.92	-	-	-	-	948,682.92			
Reserved for Expenditures E&D/ Other	669,390.00	-	-	-	-	669,390.00			
Reserved for Special Purposed	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Excess and Deficiency/Undesign Fund Balance	1,586,045.79	813,996.01	294,620.57	1,553,350.01	-	4,248,012.38			
Designated for Deficits	-	-	-	-	-	-			
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>	<b>3,204,118.71</b>	<b>813,996.01</b>	<b>294,620.57</b>	<b>1,553,350.01</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,866,085.30</b>			
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Equity</b>	<b>\$ 5,710,000.55</b>	<b>\$ 1,209,056.24</b>	<b>\$ 422,575.40</b>	<b>\$ 160,878.71</b>	<b>\$ 180,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,682,510.90</b>			

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District  
FY23 Assessment

DESCRIPTION	FY23 AMOUNT					
Operating & Capital Budget	\$ 24,580,975.72					
Charter School/School Choice Tuition	765,489.00	25,346,464.72				
Less						
Chapter 70 State Aid	2,897,790.00					
Chapter 71 Regional Transportation Aid	355,990.55					
Other Revenues	256,827.50					
E&D Offset	963,780.00	4,474,388.05				
FY23 Net Amount for Assessments	\$	<u>20,872,076.67</u>				
<b>Town Apportionments</b>						
(i) Required Minimum Local Contribution	230,259.00	486,103.00	2,404,928.00	2,528,042.00	2,248,606.00	1,368,762.00
(ii) Excess of NSS over Required Minimum	226,015.04	565,037.60	2,679,892.63	3,228,786.30	3,067,346.99	1,630,537.08
(iii) Transportation	12,521.39	31,303.49	148,467.96	178,877.06	169,933.21	90,332.92
(iii) Capital	10,660.72	26,651.81	126,405.71	152,296.03	144,681.23	76,909.50
(iii) Other Costs	49.58	123.94	587.82	708.22	672.8	357.65
<b>Gross Assessments</b>	479,505.73	1,109,219.84	5,360,282.12	6,088,709.61	5,631,240.23	3,166,899.15
Less E&D Offset	19,111.78	47,779.46	226,611.16	273,025.50	259,374.22	137,877.88
<b>FY23 Assessments Per Statutory Assmt Method</b>	\$ <b>460,393.95</b>	<b>1,061,440.38</b>	<b>5,133,670.96</b>	<b>5,815,684.11</b>	<b>5,371,866.01</b>	<b>3,029,021.27</b>
<p>This schedule presents the town apportionments consistent with DESE's Statutory Assessment Methodology format.  Member Town % Based on Statutory Assessment Method (voted by School Committee)</p>						
Numbers may be off due to rounding.	1.73%	4.26%	26.23%	28.63%	24.10%	15.05%
School Population based on Town Census (10/1/23)	13	32	197	215	181	113
						751
						100.00%







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# VOLUNTEER TO SERVE YOUR TOWN

The Select Board seeks Tisbury residents to serve in appointed positions on various boards, commissions and committees. A file of names submitted will be established and made available to all Town departments for filling future vacancies.

Complete the form, indicate your areas of interest, and return with letter of interest, resume and/or list of qualifications to:

Tisbury Select Board  
Attn: Volunteers  
Tisbury Town Hall  
PO Box 1239  
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568  
pbennett@tisburyma.gov

## YOUR PARTICIPATION IN TOWN GOVERNMENT IS IMPORTANT.

.....

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Boards, Committees and Commissions

Affordable Housing  
Beautification  
Board of Registrars  
Climate Committee  
Council on Aging  
Community Preservation  
Conservation Commission  
Embarkation  
Land Bank  
MV Cultural Council  
Open Space and Recreation Committee

Picnic Committee  
Sewer Advisory  
Municipal Housing trust  
Vineyard Healthcare Access  
Waterways  
Zoning Board of Appeals

\*For a full list see town website.  
[www.tisburyma.gov](http://www.tisburyma.gov)

# TISBURY MUNICIPAL TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

AMBULANCE- EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES 215 Spring Street	508-696-4214
ANIMAL CONTROL 66 High Point Lane - (Dog Pound)	508-696-4209
ASSESSORS 51 Spring Street – (Town Hall)	508-696-4206
BUILDING/ZONING INSPECTOR 66 High Point Lane (Annex)	508-696-4280
CONSERVATION 66 High Point Lane (Annex)	580-696-4260
COUNCIL ON AGING 34 Pine Tree Road	508-696-4205
COUNTY COMMUNICATION CENTER (Non-Emergency)	508-696-1212
DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS 115 High Point Lane	508-696-4220
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 215 Spring Street	508-696-4246
FINANCE DEPARTMENT 51 Spring Street (Town Hall)	508-696-4250
FIRE DEPARTMENT To Report A Fire	911
FIRE DEPARTMENT, 215 Spring Street (Office- Non-emergency)	508-696-4246
HARBORMASTER 19 Owen Park Way	508-696-4249
HEALTH DEPARTMENT 66 High Point Lane (Annex)	508-696-4290
HUMAN RESOURCES 115 High Point Lane	508-696-4201
IT DEPARTMENT 66 High Point Lane (Annex)	508-684-8303
LIBRARY MAIN NUMBER 200 Main Street	508-696-4210
PLANNING BOARD 66 High Point Lane (Annex)	508-696-4270
POLICE DEPARTMENT 31 Water Street	
To Report An Emergency	911
Headquarters	508-696-4240
RECREATION/PARKS 115 High Point Lane	508-696-4220
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT 40 West William Street	508-696-6500
SELECT BOARD 115 High Point Lane – (Town Hall)	508-696-4202
SHELLFISH DEPARTMENT 19 Owen Park Way	508-696-4249
TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER 51 Spring Street – (Town Hall)	508-696-4250
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR 51 Spring Street – (Town Hall)	508-696-4203
TOWN CLERK 51 Spring Street – (Town Hall)	508-696-4215
TOWN ACCOUNTANT 51 Spring Street – (Town Hall)	508-696-4255
WATER DEPARTMENT 325 West Spring Street	508-696-4230
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 66 High Point Lane (Annex)	508-696-4260

**NOTE:** All Departments listed at 51 Spring Street are located in the Main Town Hall  
All Town Hall Annex Departments listed are now located at 66 High Point Lane

# YEARS OF SERVICE

## 10 + YEARS OF SERVICE

John W. Grande  
Jennifer Rapuano  
James Cleary

Audrey Tilton  
Ray Tattersall  
Julius Middleton

Jonathan Cohen  
Danielle Ewart

## 15 + YEARS OF SERVICE

Amy Ryan  
John Crocker  
Brian Gibson

Amy Maciel  
Catie Blake  
Patrick Murphy

David Lopes  
John Minnehan  
Sean Duarte

## 20 + YEARS OF SERVICE

Scott Ogden  
Rhonda DeBettencourt  
Sandra Whitworth  
Ken Maciel  
Jakob Levett  
Jason Robinson

Hillary Conklin  
Christ Habekost  
Maura Valley  
Ann Marie Cywinski  
Troy Maciel

Maura Valley  
Donald Fraser  
Alycee Pigman  
Marie Ann Maciel  
Darren Welch

## 30 + YEARS OF SERVICE

Kim Serpa  
Joanna Jernegan  
Glenn Pinkham

Joyce Stiles Tucker  
Laura Barbera  
Gary Sylvia

Suzanne Kennedy  
Brian Flanders  
George Medeiros

TOWN OF TISBURY WOULD LIKE TO THANK MENTIONED ABOVE EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS FOR THE MANY YEARS OF SERVICE AND DEDICATION!