



Town of Tisbury
Office of the Town Administrator/Personnel Director
51 Spring Street, P.O. Box 1239
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
(Tel. 508-696-4203)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

October 20, 2021

Short Term Rental

Ross Seavey, Building and Zoning Inspector will be providing an update on the registration of Short-Term Rentals in Tisbury. The Town passed short term rental bylaws for registration and companion enabling legislation which provided the town with a new revenue stream. The receipts from short term rentals to the town have been substantial from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Halloween 2021

Some brief announcements. The Board of Health Agent has reaffirmed that there continues to be no Board of Health restrictions on outdoor activities at this time. Town Hall again will not be having an open house for Halloween. The Police Department will have additional staffing on duty Halloween to respond to any needs that may arise and will be working closely with the Public Works Department. To date there are no proposed road closures, and received no requests for road closures.

Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Update

Based on my discussions with departments on fiscal year 2023 budget, the two departments which you will need to review more closely as to their Fiscal Year 2023 budget proposals are the Public Works Department and Police Department.

The Public Works Department is looking to fund in fiscal year 2023 the existing positions of Facilities Administrator and Building and Grounds Foreman. These positions have been unfunded for a couple of years. Public Works Director Kirk Metell is considering phasing in additional labor positions as well. Town owned facilities and infrastructure are driving this need. The funding for these positions cannot be deferred any longer.

Interim Police Chief Habekost upon assuming his duties in late July became aware that the police department had no transition plan in response to statutory changes for police agencies that become effective July 1, 2022. These new standards require minimum qualifications to carry out critical police functions which will limit or curtail special police officers from carrying out certain police duties. These changes will result in the composition of the police staffing to be altered, in order to be following these new mandatory standards for police officers. This will impact every island police department and

budget on island. I am of the understanding that the composition of staffing is changing and not the number of personnel. The transition plan is nearly complete.

I would recommend that both department heads meet at the earliest date possible with the Finance and Advisory Committee to review their budgets. I would recommend that the Select Board review the Transition Plan for the Tisbury Police Department at their November meeting.

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, Southeast New England Program

Approximately two years ago, the EPA partnering with the University of New Hampshire, and collaborating with the Martha's Vineyard Commission undertook and completed an evaluation of stormwater drainage runoff in the Town of Tisbury. The study area was focused in the built area of the downtown, but the stormwater buildout analysis encompassed a much larger area. Several recommendations and new technologies came out of this work.

Subsequent to the completion of the above study, the Select Board formed the Water Resources Committee. In addition to working on the Comprehensive Waste Management Plan, the Committee was also charged with the objective of improving stormwater management town-wide in response to the EPA Study and the Massachusetts Estuary Project Reports for Lagoon Pond and Lake Tashmoo.

Public Works Director Kirk Metell, Robert Raftery of Environmental Partners Group and I met last week with James Houle the lead engineer and professor from the University of New Hampshire to coordinate our activities and to advance projects toward final design and construction, including a status update on projects.

The Water Resources Committee is meeting Thursday. In preparation for this meeting, the following update is provided below.

Town of Tisbury Public Works Department

- Lamberts Road Culvert: Complete
- Center Street, Franklin Street Drainage Reconstruction: Complete
- Delano Road/Causeway Street: Complete
- Catch basin cleaning and restoration is ongoing. Catch basins are undergoing cleaning, maintenance, and replacement of absorbent pollution mitigation materials to improve function. Several locations.
- Drainage swales/basins have been cleared of overgrowth at Senior Housing off Edgartown/Vineyard Haven Road and Owen Little Way improving functionality.
- Grove Street Project: Incorporate media filter box(es), engineer and construct as part of drainage design for the roadway. Mitigates nitrate and bacteria pollutant.
- West Spring Street Drainage Project: Incorporate media filter box(es), engineer and construct at the terminus so as to intercept and mitigate nitrate and bacteria pollutants being discharged into Lake Tashmoo.

Martha's Vineyard Commission and MassDOT

- Permeable Reactive Barrier, a nitrogen reducing structure at Lagoon Pond: Complete.
- Beach Street Extension Outfall Pipe Replacement Project.

Open Space and Recreation Committee

- Veteran's Park Request for CPC funding for drainage study

Coastal Resiliency, Applied Coastal, Natural Resources

- Raised Berm, i.e., Veterans Park, Lagoon Pond Road.

Vineyard Wind, Marine Terminal

- Mitigation Project Re: Beach Road Outfall Pipe.

Next Steps

Environmental Partners will update their stormwater inventory and status of current projects. Except for the work by the Public Works Department and possibly a portion of the raised berm per the work of Applied Coastal, or possibly Beach Road Extension if funding is secured, other projects are at least 2 to 5 years out before designs are finalized and construction can commence, due to their complexity.

Grove Street and West Spring Street can be completed within the next two years. Assume a portion of the flood mitigation berm can be completed in 3 to 4 years.

Identify and Seek grant funding from outside sources.

Focus on MassDOT Beach Road Extension and Veterans Park to mitigate flooding

Begin the design, engineering and permitting of other projects. A five-year capital plan and spending plan will be developed for these projects.

Anniversary Coins

The Select Board need to set a price for the Town of Tisbury 350th anniversary coins, which I recommend be a not to exceed amount, say \$75.00

Respectfully Submitted

John W. Grande
Town Administrator