

Dukes County Commission (DCC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 6, 2021
4:00 PM

REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

Dukes County Commissioners Present: Christine Todd – Chair; John Cahill – Vice Chair, R. Peter Wharton, Keith Chatinover, Don Leopold, Leon Brathwaite *, Tristan Israel **

Other County Officials Present: Martina Thornton – Dukes County Manager, Paulo DeOliveira – Register of Deeds, Bruce Montrose – Veterans Services Officer, Ann Metcalf – County Treasurer

Others Present: Liz Durkee – MV Commission, Lucas Thors – MV Times

Christine Todd called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

Minutes

Don/Peter moved to approve minutes from 9-15-2021 and 9-20-2021. So voted.

Keith Chatinover -yes, Don Leopold - yes, R. Peter Wharton - yes, John Cahill – yes to 9-15-2021, and abstained to 9-20-2021 Minutes, Christine Todd - yes.

*Leon joined the meeting.

Airport Request

Peter introduced the request that was reviewed by the Finance Committee and recommended it to the County Commissioners for approval. Geoff Freeman answered additional questions that were raised. The Airport will come back to DCC in the spring when they have the actual cost of the project and will have more clarity on funding needed to complete the project.

Peter/Leon moved to approve the request as submitted by the Airport. So voted. Keith Chatinover -yes, Don Leopold - yes, Leon Brathwaite – yes, R. Peter Wharton - yes, John Cahill – yes, Christine Todd - yes. Motion carries.

Resolution was read into the record:

Whereas, the County of Dukes County (Sponsor) for the Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission, after thorough investigation, has determined that the work activity consisting of: WWTF Upgrades is both in the public interest and necessary to protect the public health, and that to undertake this activity, it is necessary to apply for assistance; and

Whereas, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (the Trust) of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, pursuant to Chapter 21 and Chapter 29C of the General Laws of the Commonwealth (Chapter 21 and Chapter 29C)

are authorized to make loans to municipalities for the purpose of funding planning and construction activities relative to Water Pollution Abatement Projects; and

Whereas, the Applicant has examined the provisions of the Act, Chapter 21 and Chapter 29C, and believes it to be in the public interest to file a loan application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County of Dukes County (Sponsor) as follows:

1. That the Airport Director is hereby authorized on behalf of the Applicant to file applications and execute agreements for grant and/or loan assistance as well as furnishing such information, data and documents pertaining to the applicant for a grant(s) and/or loan(s) as may be required; and otherwise to act as the authorized representative of the Applicant in connection with this application;
2. That the purpose of said loan(s), if awarded, shall be to fund design/construction activities.
3. That if said award is made the Applicant agrees to pay those costs which constitute the required Applicant's share of the project cost.

Leon/Peter moved to adopt the resolution as read into the record and for the Chair of the County Commissioners to sign on behalf of Dukes County as needed along with the County Treasurer as appropriate. So voted. Keith Chatinover -yes, Don Leopold - yes, R. Peter Wharton - yes, Leon Brathwaite – yes, John Cahill – yes, Christine Todd - yes. Motion carries All in favor.

Mapping Storm Tide Pathways on MV – Advisory Board suggestion to fund the full match for the project (\$74,866)

Liz Durkee explained that they have \$8K committed from Tisbury, \$1,000 from Rotary Fund and \$17K in kind so the remaining balance needed is \$23,866. Chilmark has additional \$5K warrant article on the fall town meeting. Discussion followed. Project will be completed by June 30, 2022 and the County Commissioners will receive a presentation on the results.

****Tristan joined the meeting.**

Leon/Peter moved to approve to allocate up to additional \$23,866 from the Cape and License Plates Fund to make sure that the MV Commission can meet the local match requirement. So voted. Keith Chatinover -yes, Don Leopold - yes, R. Peter Wharton - yes, Tristan Israel – yes, John Cahill – yes, Christine Todd - yes. Motion carries.

Climate Committee appointment – Climate Action Plan presentation

Liz Durkee shared slides to explain the process of developing MV Climate Action Plan (see on file). She asked to appoint County Commissioner to the Steering Committee for the Climate Action Plan. There will be climate action week held in May of 2022 with many activities planned.

Peter/ Keith moved to appoint Tristan Israel to the Committee as the Dukes County representative. So voted. John Cahill – yes, Don Leopold - yes, R. Peter Wharton - yes, Keith Chatinover -yes, Leon Brathwaite – yes, Tristan Israel – yes, Christine Todd - yes. Motion carries

ARPA Steering Committee – updates

Don shared slides and informed DCC that the application deadline was on September 30th and that we received applications for funding totaling about \$7.8M. There have been some categories identified: water/wastewater (\$3.7M), broadband (\$1.3M), health & safety (...), social services, housing, and other. Don said the ARPA Steering Committee did receive an application that has an immediate need with cash flow issues at the end of October and was recommending to expedite two months operating expense totaling \$60K to make sure that the Test MV can keep operating. Discussion followed. There will be more updates at the next meeting and the Steering Committee might be giving some recommendations to the County Commissioners after reviewing the applications and a due diligence of evaluating it according to the criteria the Steering committee developed.

FY2023 budget draft

Martina introduced the budget as reviewed by the Finance Committee. The budget was proposed with \$8,602 surplus. General Fund Revenue \$1,830,160, General Fund Expenses \$1,821,558. Registry of Deeds Revenue \$664,077 (\$379,744 from Maintenance of Effort and rest from Deeds Excise Registry Fund) and Expenses \$664,077 with \$0 surplus. This budget already includes the pay increases as proposed for FY23 pay scale. Discussion followed

Tristan/Leon moved to approve the FY2023 County pay scale with 1.8% increase Cost of Living Increase as proposed. John Cahill – yes, Don Leopold - yes, R. Peter Wharton - yes, Keith Chatinover -yes, Leon Brathwaite – yes, Tristan Israel – yes, , Christine Todd - yes. Motion carries

Manager's Report

Martina reported that she was mainly working on the ARPA as the applications were coming in until the last minute last week and on draft FY2023 budget for the past two weeks, along with getting proposals for some capital improvements. Her assistant is so far working out great.

Old Business

Keith/Tristan moved to send a letter in support of the Housing Bank legislation as per template provided by the MV Housing Bank Committee that is asking for higher Area Median Income setting as part of the legislation for Martha's Vineyard. So voted. John Cahill – yes, Don Leopold - yes, R. Peter Wharton - yes, Keith Chatinover -yes, Leon Brathwaite – yes, Tristan Israel – yes, Christine Todd - yes. Motion carries

Tristan was attending the Wind Farm hearings and was suggesting Commissioners have a discussion on the topic as some point in the near future.

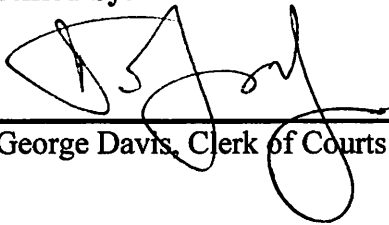
Public Comment- none

Leon/Keith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. So voted. . John Cahill – yes, Don Leopold - yes, R. Peter Wharton - yes, Keith Chatinover -yes, Leon Brathwaite – yes, Tristan Israel – yes, Christine Todd - yes. Motion carries

The Dukes County Commission meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 4:00PM.

Certified by:



T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts

Documents presented at the meeting and part of the official record:

- Meeting Agenda
- Airport requested resolution with supporting documentation
- FY2023 budget summary
- Housing Bank support letter sample