

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Town of Dennis
October 1, 2024

Robert C. Chamberlain, Moderator, called the Special Town Meeting held at the Dennis-Yarmouth Intermediate Middle School to order at 7:00 p.m. He declared a quorum present and noted that the Warrant had been posted by Gerald M. DeSalvatore, Constable. Tellers were Katie Clancy, Tracy Monroe, Robert Duffy, Daniel Chamberlin, Maggie McCormick and Dustin Pineau, Head Teller.

Moderator Chamberlain asked the assembly to kindly rise and salute the flag.

On motion of Finance Committee Chairman Carl Monroe, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to waive the formal reading of the Warrant.

The Skip Nelson Award was presented by Grethe Kaeselau, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Disabilities:

“Each year the Advisory Committee on Disabilities presents our Skip Nelson Award to an individual or business who has “shown great concern for the disabled by providing time, services, accessibility and accommodation to those citizens of Dennis” .This standard is certainly exemplified by this years recipient, our Beach and Recreation Department Director-Dustin Pineau. Dustin has repeatedly demonstrated his commitment to ensuring that ALL Dennis residents and visitors are able to fully enjoy the beauty of our town.

Dustin has been employed by the Town since 1997 and throughout his tenure he has advocated for the needs of those with disabilities.

To give you a few examples —

Dustin is responsible for bringing to our beaches the blue “Mobi Mats”, which provides beach access for those with mobility issues. The “Surf and Mobi beach chairs” which allow the disabled to take part in water and sand activities have been available for over ten years thanks to Dustin.

With his on-going quest to make recreation accessible, Dustin recently received CPC funding to help upgrade the ground cover of our towns playgrounds by adding rubber matting compliant with the American with Disabilities Act, also putting in ADA compliant crushed Blue Stone trails and walkways at the Johnny Kelley park.

Dustin is sensitive to practical concerns as-well. He is responsible for the placement of handicap accessible comfort stations at key Dennis locations, such as our beaches, parks, town landings and of course pickle ball courts.

As if Dustin didn’t have enough to do each summer, when the Disabilities Committee purchased a motorized beach wheelchair for Corporation Beach, Dustin took on the responsibility of its management, staff training, and promotion of our new chair. With all that, Dustin attends our Disability Committee meetings providing us with his twenty plus years of experience, giving technical assistance and support as we work together to make needed improvements in the town.

Dustin’s practical advice, positive can-do attitude and sense of humor are all valuable to our efforts and we appreciate all that he has done for us.

As one of Dustin’s long-time colleagues told us “his dedication to help others, is like no other” and we agree!!

Thank you Dustin. We are pleased to present you with the 2024 Skip Nelson Award.”

ARTICLE 1. On motion of Finance Committee Chair, Carl Monroe, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate \$43,720 and transfer \$39,889 from the Private Road Betterments Fund, for a total of \$83,609 to supplement the Fiscal Year 2025 Line Item appropriations under Article 4 of the May 7, 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

A. Short-Term Interest for Private Road Betterments	\$39,889
B. Municipal Buildings - HVAC Maintenance FS2 & COA	\$28,720
C. Property & Liability Insurance	\$5,000
D. Costs Related to Municipal Building Rentals	<u>\$10,000</u>
Total	<u>\$83,609</u>

ARTICLE 2. On motion of Select Board member, Paul McCormick, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to accept the following department fee changes in accordance with the Selectmen’s Fee Limitation By-Law:

Department	Fee Description	Current Rate	New Rate Jan 1, 2025
Historic Districts	Old Kings Highway Letter of Amendment	NEW	\$15.00
Historic Districts	Old Kings Highway Postage & Handling	\$.60	\$10.00
Historic Districts	South Dennis Historic District Letters of Amendment	NEW	\$15.00
Historic Districts	South Dennis Historic District Postage & Handling	\$.60	\$10.00
Natural Resources	Notice of Intent	NEW	\$150.00
Natural Resources	Amended Order of Conditions	NEW	\$100.00
Natural Resources	Certificate of Compliance 1st Request	NEW	\$75.00
Natural Resources	Certificate of Compliance Subsequent Request	NEW	\$50.00
Natural Resources	Extension Requests	NEW	\$50.00
Natural Resources	Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation (\$2/linear ft, minimum \$150)	NEW	\$150.00
Natural Resources	Reissuance of a Document	NEW	\$20.00
Natural Resources	After the Fact Filing (Three times the Filing Fee)	NEW	Varies

ARTICLE 3. On motion of Select Board chair, Chris Lambton, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to appropriate \$223,000 from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund Balance to retire a \$223,000 Bond Anticipation Note issued to stabilize and extensively repair the timber frame of the West Schoolhouse located at 61 Whig Street.

ARTICLE 4. On motion of Select Board chair, Chris Lambton, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to appropriate and transfer \$380,000 from the Community Preservation Open Space Reserves and \$958,114 from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund Balance for the Johnny Kelley Park new recreation building.

ARTICLE 5. On motion of Select Board chair, Chris Lambton, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to appropriate and transfer \$230,000 from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserves and \$414,120 from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund Balance for the Preservation and Restoration of the Josiah Dennis Manse Museum and any other costs related thereto.

ARTICLE 6. On motion of Select Board chair, Chris Lambton, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to appropriate and transfer \$304,929 from the Community Housing Reserves to fund the salary and benefits for a Housing Coordinator position for FY2025 – FY2028 and any other costs related thereto.

ARTICLE 7. On motion of Select Board chair, Chris Lambton, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to amend its acceptance of General Laws Chapter 40, Section 39M by increasing the Water Infrastructure Investment Fund Property Tax Surcharge from 1% to 3% commencing in Fiscal Year 2026, provided that the required ballot question under MGL Ch 40, Sec 39M is approved at the 2025 Annual Town Election.

ARTICLE 8. On motion of Select Board chair, Chris Lambton, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer \$57,600 from the Landfill Solar Special Revenue Fund to provide Childcare Subsidies to Dennis residents per the Dennis Childcare Subsidy Program guidelines established by the Select Board.

ARTICLE 9. On motion of Select Board chair, Chris Lambton, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted that the Town appropriates \$246,200,000 to fund Phase 1 of the Town’s Wastewater Implementation Plan, including without limitation, design, permitting and construction of a Water Resource Recovering Facility located off Theophilus F. Smith Road, and for the construction of a sewer collection system to serve the commercial planning district along Route 28, residential areas adjacent to the Bass River, and the East-West Dennis area (Route 134), including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to G.L. c. 29C, G.L. c. 44, §7(1), §8(14), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; that all or any portion of the amount authorized to be borrowed by this vote may be obtained through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (the “Trust”); that in connection with any borrowing through the Trust, the members of the Select Board, the Town Treasurer and any other appropriate officers of the Town are each authorized to execute and deliver any and all agreements with the Trust and the Commonwealth’s Department of Environmental Protection that may be necessary to obtain any such borrowing; provided, however, that no amounts shall be borrowed or expended hereunder unless the Town shall have voted to exclude the amounts required to repay any borrowing authorized by this vote from the property tax levy limits imposed by G.L. c. 59, §21C (also known as Proposition 2½).

ARTICLE 10. On motion of Select Board member, Paul McCormick, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted that the Town vote, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, of the Massachusetts General Laws to set the spending limits for the various revolving funds for the Fiscal Year 2025;

Program or Purpose	Authorized Representative or Board to Spend	FY2025 Authorization
COA Bus Revolving Fund - 562	Council on Aging Director	\$35,000
COA Revolving Fund - 565	Council on Aging Director	\$200,000
Golf Revolving Fund - 585	Golf Director	\$475,000
Board of Health Revolving Fund - 543	Health Director	\$10,000
Library Revolving Fund - 570	Library Director	\$15,000
Recreation Dept Revolving Fund - 590	Recreation Director	\$450,000
Cable Revolving Fund - 591	MIS Director	\$50,000

ARTICLE 11. On motion of Select Board member, John Terrio, duly seconded, it was defeated by a majority vote to accept the department fee changes in accordance with the Selectmen’s Fee Limitation By-Law;

Department	Fee Description	Current Rate	New Rate Jan 1, 2025
Council on Aging	DCAL, Howell Hall (Room 204)	NEW	\$2,000.00

Council on Aging	DCAL, Meeting Room (Room 213)	NEW	\$2,000.00
Council on Aging	DCAL, Courtyard Activity Room (Room 106)	NEW	\$1,500.00
Council on Aging	DCAL, Kitchen with Meeting Room (Rooms 212 & 213)	NEW	\$1,500.00
Council on Aging	DCAL, Kitchen only (Room 212)	NEW	\$1,000.00
Council on Aging	DCAL, Training Classroom (Room 112)	NEW	\$1,000.00
Council on Aging	DCAL, Dining Room (Room 102)	NEW	\$500.00
Council on Aging	DCAL, Ickis Room (Room 210)	NEW	\$500.00

ARTICLE 12. On motion of Select Board member, John Terrio, duly seconded, it was voted by majority to appropriate and transfer \$140,000 from the Waterways Dredge Capital Improvement Fund for permitting for dredging of the Swan River.

ARTICLE 13. On motion of Select Board member, Paul McCormick, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer \$72,000 from the Administration Budget line of the May 7, 2024 ATM, Article 4 to fund a classification market adjustment for the AFSCME A bargaining unit.

ARTICLE 14. On motion of Select Board member, Jim Plath, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to appropriate and transfer \$79,260 from free cash for improvements to the Old South Dennis Cemetery and Liberty Field.

ARTICLE 15. On motion of Select Board member, Jim Plath, duly seconded, it was voted 407 yes to 10 no, to appropriate and transfer \$440,00 from free cash to authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain, for cemetery purposes, the fee interest in the property located at 61A Old Hills Road, Dennis, shown as Lots 1, 2 and 3 on Land Court Plan No. 38229-B and more particularly described in Certificate of Title No. 216510 filed with the Barnstable Registry District of the Land Court on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deem in the best interests of the Town; and to appropriate and transfer from available funds, the sum of \$440,000,00 for said acquisition, including all costs incidental and related thereto; and further, to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient on behalf of the Town to effect said acquisition.

ARTICLE 16. On motion of Select Board member, Carlyn Carey, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Select Board to enter into a contract with BSC Group, Inc. for the required MassDEP Wetlands Monitoring for a period exceeding three (3) years.

ARTICLE 17. On motion of Select Board member, Carlyn Carey, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer \$150,000 from Free Cash for consulting services for assistance in updating the Dennis Comprehensive Plan.

ARTICLE 18. On motion of Select Board member, Paul McCormick, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to appropriate and transfer \$38,090 from free cash to update the Town phone systems to comply with Federal and State regulations.

ARTICLE 19. On motion of Select Board member, Paul McCormick, duly seconded, it was unanimously voted to appropriate and transfer \$19,980 from free cash to improve and streamline our data backup and recovery methods with the implementation of a new system.

It was unanimously voted to adjourn (dissolve) the meeting at 8:08 pm on October 1, 2024.

A True Copy, Attest:

Theresa T. Bunce, MMC/CMMC
Dennis Town Clerk