Date posted: May 30, 2023 by 4:00 P.M.

All items on this agenda are to be discussed and/or acted upon.

TOWN OF LITTLE COMPTON
TOWN COUNCIL
Wilbur McMahon School, Media Center
28 Commons
Little Compton, RI

MEETING OF JUNE 1, 2023

Live streaming at
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNoKeQBPql33aEtqzOXHO9g

AGENDA

7:00 P.M.

Salute to the Flag

7:00PM - Board of License Commissioners: Remonstrant’s Hearing
for the following Retail Beverage License Transfer application with accompanied applications for victualing license and holiday sales license:

REQUEST FOR TRANSFER:

Simmons Café & Marketplace LLC d/b/a Simmons Café & Market on premises located at 78 Crandall Road in the Village of Adamsville, transfer of the stock retailer’s beverage license Class BV-limited to F A Simmons, LLC d/b/a/ Simmons Café for the same premises.

Above transfer includes request for the following additional licenses:
1. Request from F A Simmons d/b/a Simmons Café to obtain a Victualing and Holiday Sales License to be located at 78 Crandall Road in the Village of Adamsville.

Announcements:

Approval of Minutes – May 18, 2023

Department Head Reports:

2. Town Administrator – May 2023 report
Old Business:

1. Review of impact of votes taken at last week’s Financial Town Meeting.
2. Request from Jim Lock to consider approving capital expenditure to carry on the solar project of the school.
3. Discuss end-of-year department head evaluations, including setting date for meeting.

New Business:

1. Request from the LC Agricultural Conservancy Trust to use the Town credit card to make purchases where payment by check is not allowed. The LCACT will cover any purchases made through this credit card from LCACT funds.
2. Request from the Town Administrator to advertise for the position of Director of Public Works.

Board of License Commissioners: none

Communications:

1. Letter received from Martina Halsey asking if the new town solicitor advise the CRMC relative to Revolution Wind forum as it may relate to any conflict of interest with his serving as the town of Little Compton’s solicitor.
2. Request from Megan Gonzalez and Jenna Magnuski Co-Presidents of Love Wins Coastal asking the Council to consider adopting a proclamation recognizing Pride Month and to raise awareness of the LGBTQ+ community.
4. Copy of a resolution adopted by the Tiverton Town Council requesting the General Assembly to restore general revenue sharing to cities and towns in the upcoming FY2024 budget.

Consent:

1. Multiple copies of emails sent by Frank Haggarty all concerning SouthCoast Wind and offshore wind projects
2. Copy of an email sent to the Beach Commission from Tucker Cronin, copied to the council. This communication was received by the Beach Commission for action.

Payment of Bills

Consent Agenda - All items listed are considered to be routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen so requests in which event the item will be withdrawn from the General Order of business and considered in the normal sequence on the agenda.

All are welcome to any meeting at the town, which is open to the public. Individuals requiring communication assistance or any accommodation to ensure equal participation will need to contact the Town Clerk at 635-4400 not less than 48 hours prior to the meeting.
Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on May 18th, A.D. 2023 at 7:00 o'clock PM held in in-person format at the Wilbur-McMahon School Library, 28 Commons, Little Compton, RI. Members present: Paul J. Golembeske, Andrew Iriarte-Moore, Gary S. Mataronas, Patrick McHugh and Robert L. Mushen. Also: Anthony DeSisto, Town Solicitor, Mark Hartmann, Asst., Antonio Teixeira, Town Administrator.

At 7:00 PM the Council President called the meeting to order with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Announcements:

1) Councilor McHugh wanted to recognize a young man (19) from Little Compton, Thomas Harrington, who passed away this week after a 10 year battle with Ewing Sarcoma, a type of bone cancer. Tom lived life to the fullest participating in many activities including being a member of the High School Band. A Moment of Silence was held in his memory.

2) Councilor Mataronas mentioned a recycling workshop hosted by the Garden Club to review recycling regulations. He learned that they now wish to have metal caps removed from glass jars and that plastic caps may remain on plastic jars. He collected magnets and flyers from RI Resource Recovery that evening and will deliver to the Town Clerk's Office for the public to pick up.

3) This week is recognized throughout the country as National Police week. Councilor Mushen asked that we reflect on our fine officers serving Little Compton.

4) Mike Steers asked Councilor Mushen to express his thanks and gratitude for the care given to him on April 23rd when he experienced a medical emergency after a paddle ball game. Friends used the defibrillator and administered CPR until EMS arrived who then took over saving his life.

5) Councilor Mushen encourages all to attend the Annual Financial Town meeting that will be held on Wednesday, May 24th at the Wilbur-McMahon School beginning at 7 pm.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Iriarte-Moore, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To accept, as written the May 1 and May 4, 2023 Town Council meeting minutes.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Iriarte-Moore, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To place on file the Police Department Head Report for April 2023.

A letter has been received from Michael Brimbau submitting a complaint against the Town's Harbor Master regarding an emergency with his 23-foot sailboat April 7th. Councilor Mataronas noted that he had reached out to the Harbor Master to discuss the situation. He noted the Harbor Master has never had a complaint filed against him. A brief review acknowledged the temporary mooring of this vessel on a fisherman's mooring location. Councilors Iriarte-Moore and Golembeske both commented that they have always found the Harbor Master very willing to help others in distress and that the letter seemed to show an existing displeasure with Little Compton in general.
The Town Solicitor emphasized that the Harbor Master acted in accord with the Town’s ordinances, specifically 9-1.11, e and 9-12 as they relate to moorings and anchoring during emergencies. He wanted it noted that the Harbor Master acted appropriately in this situation.

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Iriarte-Moore, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen):** To place on file a letter filed by Michael Brimbau concerning an emergency situation involving his 23-foot sailboat, the Coast Guard and the Town’s Harbor Master.

Councilor Mataronas noted that he solicited four (4) Requests for Proposals for the purchase of a hoist replacement for the Town Dock. Currently the Town has two (2) hoists one that was purchased in 2014 and one that was purchased in 2006. They keep one for backup use when the primary hoist is out for repairs. He is concerned that if the current primary is non-functional that the backup hoist will not be reliable during a lengthy repair period resulting in the fishing industry being forced to stop operations until a hoist is secured. The following are the four (4) proposals received:

- ACE Industries Inc. (California) $22,805.64
- MASS Crane and Hoist (Massachusetts) $24,169.00
- Hoist Direct (North Carolina) $27,964.00
- Walco Electric (Rhode Island) $36,300.00

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen):** To purchase an electric chain hoist with plain trolley with a 2 ton capacity from MASS Crane and Hoist of Tyngsboro, Massachusetts in the amount of $24,169 plus added shipping fees if assessed for delivery, all costs to be paid out of the Harbor Management Funds.

Councilor Mataronas expressed his gratitude to the Council for their continued support of the town’s fishermen.

Councilor McHugh asked the Town Administrator if the proposed 2023 engagement letter for the Town Auditors was the same as the 2022 letter. The Administrator responded that letters were the same, which was confirmed by the Town Solicitor that this is a standard engagement letter used by this auditing firm for municipalities. It was also noted that in 2022 this council voted to award the bid for auditing services for three fiscal years to Hague, Sahady and Co. The known value for those audits is what populates the proposed budget figures for the town meeting article.

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second from Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen):** To authorize the Council President, Town Administrator and Finance Director to sign an engagement letter between the Town of Little Compton and Hague, Sahady & Co., PC for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Iriarte-Moore, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen):** To designate the week of May 21 – 27, 2023 as Emergency Medical Services Week in Little Compton, further acknowledging the theme “Where Emergency Care Begins” and the exemplary EMS staff serving Little Compton.

At 7:22 PM the Town Council sitting as the Board of License Commissioners voted the following:
Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Iriarte-Moore, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To grant a Class F-1 one day Retail Beverage License to the LC Game Club for a clambake to be held on June 11, 2023 at the 88 John Dyer Road facility.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Iriarte-Moore, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To place on file an electronic communication received from Nancy Howard supplying the town with information about a Save Our Sakonnet River Rally to be held May 13, 2023.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second from Councilor Iriarte-Moore, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To place the consent calendar on file as follows:

1. Resolution from the Warren Town Council in support of FY 2024 Proposed Infrastructure Funds.
2. Resolution from the Richmond Town Council in opposition to Rhode Island Gun Control Laws.
3. Resolution from the Warren Town Council to the RI General Assembly requesting a repeal of section 44-5-68.
4. Resolution from the Portsmouth Town Council to join the Town of Jamestown in support of the request to RIDEM for the South Gould Island Public Recreation Area.
5. Electronic Communication received from Frank Haggerty sharing an article on South Fork Wind Farm RI Fishermen filing lawsuit notice

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second from Councilor Iriarte-Moore, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): That the bills be allowed and ordered paid as follows: $176,141.38

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RIAAO - Assessor $70.00  
Denise M Cosgrove - Assessor $77.89  
Southcoast Cleaning - Public Safety Complex  
Southcoast Cleaning - Town Hall $2,050.00  
WB Mason - Town Hall - Town Council $2,050.00 $52.18  
State of Rhode Island - Fire Dept. $150.00  
Anna's Uniform Supply Co. - Fire Dept. $110.00  
Anna's Uniform Supply Co. - Fire Dept. $345.00  
Cox - Fire Dept. $74.33  
Wilbur's General Store - Fire Dept. $20.22  
Crystal Rock - Fire Dept. $21.30  
Rob's Auto Care Inc. - Fire Dept. $125.00 $845.85  
FireX - Public Safety Complex $180.60  
Griggs & Browne - Public Safety Complex (fire) $50.00  
Griggs & Browne - Public Safety Complex (police) $50.00  
Bound Tree - Ambulance Reimbursement Fund $9.62  
Bound Tree - Ambulance Reimbursement Fund $111.70 $121.32  
The Angell Pension Group, Inc. - contingency  
Devin Itzkowitz - Police Dept. $65.00  
State of Rhode Island - Police Dept. $40.00  
Crystal Rock - Police Dept. $63.98  
State of Rhode Island - Police Dept. $80.00  
Putney Bowes - Police Dept. $175.98  
Rob's Auto Care Inc. - Police Dept. $775.98  
University of Rhode Island - Police Dept. $4,620.00  
West Place - Police Dept. (April) $458.00  
West Place - Police Dept. (May) $458.00  
WB Mason - Police Dept. $32.66  
WB Mason - Police Dept. $52.96  
WB Mason - Police Dept. $63.28  
AT&T Mobility - Police Dept. $47.68  
Cox - Police Dept. $77.60 $7,011.12  
The Damon Company - Town Hall restoration $902.52  
Helger Bros. - Town Hall restoration $1,720.00  
KS Statebank - Harbor Management Funds $4,685.41  
The Damon Company - Town Hall restoration $129,571.50  
Endolane Boat Storage - Harbor Management Funds $456.00  

With no further business before the Council the Council President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Carol A. Wordell, CMC, Town Clerk
Building Dept. Monthly Report

May, 2023

- Bringing Viewpoint up to date with active open permits.
- Working with Assessors Office on open active permits.
- Developing action plans for Zoning reviews & Building Inspections.
  - Developing guide/checklist for Residents applying for Permits.
  - Will be ready mid-late June.
- Participated in webinar training with Viewpoint.
- Registered for Zoning webinar with NFIB.
- May 2023 Metrics
  - 78 Permits issued
  - 107 Inspections logged
  - $21,130.52 Revenue collected.
To: Honorable Town Council  
From: Antonio A. Teixeira, Town Administrator  
Date: June 1, 2023  
Subject: May monthly report

**Town Hall Restoration** – Weekly meetings continue to be held with the Damon Company to discuss current and future construction plans.

- Finance area is being worked on; electric wiring, partitioning, rug removal, door removals
- Vestibule: asphalt transitioning to ramp, sheetrock, plastering, painting and installation of baseboard heat – the plan is to have the vestibule available by Friday, June 2nd.
- Front hallway – plastering done, painting is completed, polyurethane the railing
- Hardware installed on the front and handicap doors
- Town Council chambers – screens installed, windows cleared from the transporting plastic
- Fire safety – Crescent Alarms continues to work in various areas; vestibule, Finance area and Town Council Chambers.
- Interior painting is being done in various areas
- Janitor’s closet, kitchenette and conference room are being worked on
- Handicap bathroom has been drafted and some modifications being proposed

**Local Solar** – Funds were proposed at the Town Finance Meeting but an agreement will have to be drafted between the School Department and the Town Council.

**Town Budget** – The budget was approved with a couple modifications; reinstate the School budget to the original request and increase the Town’s Capital budget and dedicate the funds to the School solar project.

**Assessor and Finance Director** – have been relocated temporarily in the Town Council Chambers. It has worked out pretty well and the public has access via the stairwell or the elevator.

**Town Landing** - wellhead is being worked on, the roof has been prepared for the copper installation. Masonry work will be done to restore the stone in place.

**Municipal Resilience Program** – The quarterly report was submitted showing the progress made thus far: South Shore Beach and Town Landing projects.

**Wilbour Woods** – the committee met and discussion ensued about repair to the embankment of the brook and the traffic bridge. The Chair was going to approach some contractors to get some estimates.
To Carol Wordell, Town Clerk, Little Compton

Dear Carol,

I would like to add an agenda item for the June 7, Town Council meeting:

"To consider approving capital expenditure to complete the solar project for the school."

Thank you,

[Signature]

In Lock
May 23, 2023

Dear Little Compton Town Council Members,

The Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust requests permission to use the Town of Little Compton credit card to make purchases, where a check is not accepted. These purchases would include items such as increased storage for our Gmail account, our Landscape program and other like purchases. Each purchase would be approved by the LCACT trustees prior to the use of the credit card. Cheryl Cady would be the authorized representative for the LCACT. This request was authorized by the Trustees during the January 4, 2023, meeting, as reflected in the minutes of this meeting:

Credit Card Access and Usage: Members discussed requesting access to the Town’s credit card for purchases requiring such. All credit card purchases would follow the same process as other purchases i.e.: approval by LCACT trustees prior to purchase. B. Richmond to write a letter to the Town Council requesting Cheryl Cady have access to the Town credit card for approved expenditures by LCACT made by B.R. Second by N.L. 5-0 approve.

We look forward to a positive response from the Council. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

William Richmond, Chairman
To: Honorable Town Council

From: Antonio A. Teixeira  
Town Administrator

Date: June 1, 2023

Subject: Director of Public Works Vacancy

I am requesting authorization from the Town Council to advertise for the position of Director of Public Works.

The application period will begin the week of June 4, 2023 and closed at 3:00PM Friday, June 23, 2023.

Interviews will be held the week of June 25, 2023 to have a recommendation to the Town Council – Thursday, July 6, 2023.

Thank you.
Martina Halsey  
2 High Meadow Road  
Little Compton, RI 02837  

May 18, 2023  

Little Compton Town Council  
P. O. Box 226  
Little Compton, RI 02837  

Dear Town Council Members:

A recent article in the Providence Journal indicates that the CRMC has granted approval relative to the Revolution Wind forum. The CRMC has approved the plan of Revolution Wind. I believe all of the wind farms, including Revolution Wind, will have an adverse effect on the state of Rhode Island and the Little Compton fisheries. Did the new town solicitor advise the CRMC relative to this matter? If so, did the town waive any conflict?

Thank you,

Martina Halsey
May 18, 2023

Town Clerk Carol Wordell
Little Compton Town Hall
40 Commons P.O. Box 266
Little Compton, RI 02837

Dear Ms. Wordell,

Love Wins Coastal supports LGBTQ+ people and their allies in our community. In 2022, our organization expanded from Little Compton to include our neighboring towns of Tiverton and Westport.

As you may know, our country and state annually recognize June as “Pride Month”. These proclamations acknowledge the physical, social, and emotional harms inflicted upon LGBTQ+ people. They recognize the mixture of joy and pain within the LGBTQ+ community despite these challenges - according to the NIH, “US and international studies consistently conclude that LGBT youth report elevated rates of emotional distress, symptoms related to mood and anxiety disorders, self-harm, suicidal ideation, and suicidal behavior when compared to heterosexual youth.” Further, “Pride Month” proclamations raise awareness and encourage advocacy in support of the LGBTQ+ community.

People in Little Compton, some visibly and some quietly, identify as LGBTQ+. They are our family, friends, and neighbors. They, too, experience physical, social, and emotional harms. Therefore, we ask that the Town of Little Compton consider a similar proclamation.

Further, we invite all members of the community to attend our Third Annual Pride Block Party on June 3 from 1-4PM. We extend a special invitation to our Town Councillors. This event will raise awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of the LGBTQ+ community and their allies living locally. Offerings will include music, food, crafts, and vendors.

Sincerely,

Megan Gonzalez and Jenna Magnuski
Co-Presidents of Love Wins Coastal
WHEREAS, Annually, June is the month chosen to celebrate "Pride," a time for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and other gender and sexual identity (LGBTQ+) communities to reflect on the struggles, injustices, and joys of being LGBTQ+, alongside their allies and fellow Americans; and

WHEREAS, "Pride" is also time to embrace the range of sexual and gender identities and to celebrate the right to live authentically; and

WHEREAS, despite significant strides, LGBTQ+ Americans have not been able to access the full range of their inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ people still experience harassment, discrimination, and physical harm based on their sexual orientation and gender identity locally, nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Little Compton recognizes the infinite dignity and worth of each person and is therefore committed to supporting visibility, dignity, and equality for LGBTQ+ people in our community; and

WHEREAS, celebrating "Pride Month" increases awareness and provides support and advocacy to the LGBTQ+ community through dialogue and connection among the population-at-large; and

WHEREAS, the governments of the United States of America and the State of Rhode Island each recognize and proclaim June as “Pride Month” annually; and

WHEREAS, the rainbow flag is widely recognized as a symbol of pride, inclusion, and support for social movements that advocate for LGBTQ+ people in society; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Little Compton Town Council hereby proclaims the month of June 2023 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month in support of the LGBTQ+ community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the rainbow flag will be raised on this day, June 3, 2023, recognizing all LGBTQ+ residents whose influential and lasting contributions enrich our town.
The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council ("CRMC") is in receipt of a federal consistency certification filed on March 18, 2022, by SouthCoast Wind, LLC ("SouthCoast Wind"), formerly Mayflower Wind, for the proposed construction and operation of an offshore wind energy project. If approved by the Federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management ("BOEM"), SouthCoast Wind would be permitted to construct and operate an offshore wind energy facility consisting of up to 149 wind turbines and offshore substations located in federal waters on the Outer Continental Shelf ("OCS"). Under SouthCoast Wind's Project Design Envelope ("PDE"), up to six submarine offshore export cables, including up to four power cables and up to two communications cables, could be installed within the Brayton Point export cable corridor. These cables would run from Lease Area OCS-A 0521 in federal waters, through the CRMC's 2011 and 2018 Geographic Location Description ("GLD") areas, and into RI State Waters. The SouthCoast Wind turbines, offshore substations, and inter-array cables in the Lease Area are not subject to CRMC's federal consistency review.

SouthCoast Wind filed its Construction and Operations Plan ("COP") with BOEM on February 15, 2021, seeking a federal license to construct and operate the proposed project. On November 1, 2021, BOEM published a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (40 C.F.R. § 1500 et seq.) for the proposed SouthCoast Wind project. BOEM published a Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS on February 17, 2023. SouthCoast Wind's COP, Appendices, Draft EIS and other documents are available on the BOEM website at: https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/southcoast-wind-formerly-mayflower-wind

The portion of the proposed SouthCoast Wind project that is located within federal waters and within the CRMC's 2011 and 2018 GLD areas is subject to CRMC federal consistency review pursuant to the federal Coastal Zone Management Act ("CZMA"), 15 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq., and the CZMA's implementing regulations at 15 C.F.R. Part 930, Subpart D – Consistency for Activities Requiring a Federal License or Permit and Subpart E – Consistency for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Exploration, Development and Production Activities. The project Lease
Area, which includes the project’s wind turbines, offshore substations, and inter-array cables, is not within CRMC’s federal consistency review jurisdiction. The CRMC’s federal consistency review is restricted to the portion of the Brayton Point export cable corridor that passes through the CRMC’s GLD areas.

The CRMC, as the State’s authorized coastal zone management agency must issue a federal consistency decision as to whether the federal waters portion of the Brayton Point export cable corridor is consistent with the State’s federally approved enforceable policies located in the Ocean Special Area Management Plan (650-RICR-20-05-11). The State’s federal consistency decision is required before BOEM may approve the SouthCoast Wind COP pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 585.628(f).

The SouthCoast Wind project also proposes activities within Rhode Island State Waters to include the installation and operation of up to six submarine offshore export cables, including up to four power cables and up to two communications cables. These cables would run from the federal water boundary, through the Sakonnet River, make intermediate landfall on Aquidneck Island in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, reenter Mount Hope Bay and make landfall at Brayton Point in Somerset, Massachusetts.

The State Water portion of the proposed SouthCoast Wind project is not the subject of this public notice. The CRMC will be issuing a separate public notice for in-state activities as they require a State Assent.

SouthCoast Wind’s federal consistency certification request, which is the subject of this public notice, has been assigned CRMC File Number 2022-03-080. The consistency certification is available online at CRMC’s project page (http://www.crmc.ri.gov/windenergy/southcoast.html). The consistency certification is also available online in Appendix D3 of the SouthCoast Wind COP along with other project information here: https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/southcoast-wind-formerly-mayflower-wind.

The CRMC is providing this public notice concerning the federal consistency certification for the portion of the SouthCoast Wind project located within the Rhode Island GLD areas in federal waters only in accordance with 15 C.F.R. § 930.61. All interested parties are invited to submit written comments concerning the proposed project on or before July 23, 2023. Comments should be specifically directed as to the issue of whether the proposed SouthCoast Wind project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program. The CRMC will hold a public meeting on this federal consistency matter at a date and place to be announced at a later time.

Mailing Address for Public Comment Submissions:

Coastal Resources Management Council  
Stedman Government Center  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879  
Attn. Jeffrey Willis, CRMC Executive Director
Written comments may be emailed to the CRMC at: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov

Signed this May 24, 2023.

Jeffrey M. Willis, Executive Director
Coastal Resources Management Council
The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council ("CRMC") is in receipt of a federal consistency certification filed on May 17, 2022, by Park City Wind, LLC ("Park City Wind"), proponent of the New England Wind project, for the proposed construction and operation of an offshore wind energy project. If approved by the Federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management ("BOEM"), Park City Wind would be permitted to construct and operate offshore wind energy facilities on the Outer Continental Shelf ("OCS"). The New England Wind project would occupy Lease Areas OCS-A 0534 and potentially a portion of OCS-A 0501 and would be constructed in two phases, Phase 1 (Park City Wind) and Phase 2 (Commonwealth Wind). Phase 1 will be developed immediately southwest of Vineyard Wind 1 and Phase 2 will be located southwest of Phase 1 and occupy the remainder of Lease Area OCS-A 0534. Across both Phases, the New England Wind project would include up to 130 wind turbines and electrical service platforms, inter-array cables, and up to five offshore export cables. All export cables are proposed to be installed within a shared offshore export cable corridor that will pass through the Muskeget Channel making landfall in the Town of Barnstable, Massachusetts. Park City Wind has also proposed the South Coast Variant (SCV) cable corridor as an alternate Phase 2 export cable route. The SCV would travel west-northwest through federal waters and into Buzzards Bay. No portion of the New England Wind project enters Rhode Island State Waters.

Park City Wind filed its Construction and Operations Plan ("COP") with BOEM on July 2, 2020, seeking a federal license to construct and operate the proposed project. The COP was subsequently updated in Fall 2021 and Spring 2022. On June 30, 2021, BOEM published a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (40 C.F.R. § 1500 et seq.) for the proposed New England Wind project. BOEM published a Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS on December 23, 2022. Park City Wind’s COP, COP Addendum, Appendices, Draft EIS and other documents are available on the BOEM website:

Lease Area OCS-A 0534 and the SCV cable corridor are subject to federal consistency review by the CRMC. Both Phase 1 and Phase 2 occur within Rhode Island’s 2011 and 2018 Geographic Location Description (“GLD”) areas except for the portion of the export cable making landfall in the Town of Barnstable. Federal consistency review is being conducted by the CRMC pursuant to the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (“CZMA”), 15 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq., and the CZMA’s implementing regulations at 15 C.F.R. Part 930, Subpart D – Consistency for Activities Requiring a Federal License or Permit and Subpart E – Consistency for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Exploration, Development and Production Activities.

The CRMC, as the State’s authorized coastal zone management agency must issue a federal consistency decision as to whether the New England Wind project is consistent with the State’s federally approved enforceable policies located in the Ocean Special Area Management Plan (650-RICR-20-05-11). The State’s federal consistency decision is required before BOEM may approve the Park City Wind COP pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 585.628(f).

Park City Wind’s federal consistency certification request, which is the subject of this public notice, has been assigned CRMC File Number 2022-05-67. The consistency certification is available online at CRMC’s project page (http://www.crmc.ri.gov/windenergy/newengland.html).

The CRMC is providing this public notice concerning the federal consistency certification for the portion of the New England Wind project located within the Rhode Island GLD areas in federal waters only in accordance with 15 C.F.R. § 930.61. All interested parties are invited to submit written comments concerning the proposed project on or before July 23, 2023. Comments should be specifically directed as to the issue of whether the proposed New England Wind project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program. The CRMC will hold a public meeting on this federal consistency matter at a date and place to be announced at a later time.

Mailing Address for Public Comment Submissions:

Coastal Resources Management Council
Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879
Attn. Jeffrey Willis, CRMC Executive Director

Written comments may be emailed to the CRMC at: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov

Signed this May 24, 2023.

[Signature]

Jeffrey M. Willis, Executive Director
Coastal Resources Management Council
TOWN OF TIVERTON, RI
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-0009

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF TIVERTON REGARDING THE RESTORATION OF GENERAL REVENUE SHARING TO CITIES AND TOWNS

WHEREAS, Cities and Town across Rhode Island have been struggling with the recent inflationary environment; and

WHEREAS, in 2009 the General Assembly discontinued revenue sharing due to the economic collapse; and

WHEREAS, the removal of the General Revenue sharing forced the Cities and Towns to increase property taxes to make up for this loss in revenue; and

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode has seen a very good rebound from the economic crisis brought on by the COVID Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the past 2 fiscal years the State of Rhode Island has benefitted from the economic rebound with $417 and $878 million respectively and an anticipated $600 million surplus for FY 2023; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council respectfully requests the Rhode Island General Assembly and Governor reinstate General Revenue Sharing for all 39 Cities and Towns to help reduce the impact of inflation on the citizens of Rhode Island; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council respectfully requests the respective City and Town Councils of Rhode Island join in our request to have the General Assembly restore general revenue in the upcoming FY 2024 budget.

Adopted this 8th day of May 2023.

Denise deMedeiros, President
Tiverton Town Council

ATTEST: Joan B. Chabot, Town Clerk
Rhode Island Says NO To Falmouth's SouthCoast Wind

5/27/23

https://www.windtaskforce.org/profiles/blogs/rhode-island-says-no-to-falmouth-s-southcoast-wind

Up until May of 2022, SouthCoast Wind formerly known as Mayflower Wind proposed onshore cable landings under Falmouth Heights Beach, Massachusetts.

On June 8, 2022, Falmouth residents voiced overwhelming opposition (around 87 percent) to plans by SouthCoast Wind to run electric cables from its offshore wind farm through Falmouth at a public hearing held by the select board at a local school auditorium.

A Falmouth Select Board member, who chaired the board until the spring reorganization, asked SouthCoast if it had considered consolidating landing sites.
In April 2023 Falmouth Town Meeting backed the Select Board's decision to deny SouthCoast Wind access to sample more locations for cable landings.

The cable landing site in Falmouth has been moved to Brayton Point, Massachusetts as there is not enough grid capacity to get the power off Cape Cod.

SouthCoast's contracted projects, one for 800 megawatts and another for 400 megawatts, will now have to go through Island Park Beach in Portsmouth Rhode Island to get to Brayton Point.

Portsmouth, Rhode Island held a meeting on May 25, 2023, at the high school on the proposal by SouthCoast Wind to run cables through Portsmouth Island Park Beach.

Local Portsmouth citizens around 99 percent during the almost four-hour meeting opposed the offshore wind cables.

Speakers discussed buried cables up to 1200 megawatts at 345,000 volts through residential streets, loss of fishing habitat, residential and commercial property loss, and almost 800 pages of Freedom of Information Act documents between the Town of Portsmouth and SouthCoast Wind.

The main issue is the environmental damage to the Sakonnet River a "pristine habitat" and that the dredging to lay transmission cables will create sediment disturbances that will harm the environment.

The video link comments start at 25 minutes:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-SLUuKy9vYA&ab_channel=TownofPortsmouth%2CRIOfficialYouTubeAccount
Subject: Massachusetts & Rhode Island Ready For Offshore Wind

Massachusetts & Rhode Island Ready For Offshore Wind

NEW JERSEY – NEW YORK

- Dec. 5, 2022: Dead infant sperm whale, Keansburg, NJ
- Dec. 6, 2022: Dead humpback, Amagansett, NY
- Dec. 10, 2022: Dead juvenile humpback, Stratham NJ
- Dec. 12, 2022: Dead sperm whale, Rockaway Beach, NY
- Dec 23, 2022: Dead humpback Atlantic City, NJ
- Jan. 7, 2023: Dead humpback Atlantic City, NJ
- Jan. 12, 2023: Dead humpback, Brigantine, NJ
- Jan. 22, 2023: Dead common dolphin, Long Beach Township, NJ
- Jan. 30, 2023: Dead humpback, Lido Beach LI, NY
- Feb. 13, 2023: Dead humpback, Manasquan, NJ
- Feb. 17, 2023: Dead Minke whale, Rockaway Beach, NY
- Feb. 18, 2023: 3 Dead common dolphins, Sandy Hook NJ
- Feb. 22, 2023: Dead common dolphin Highlands, Hartshorne Woods Park NJ
- Feb. 27, 2023: Dead bottlenose dolphin, Avalon, NJ
- Feb. 28, 2023: Dead humpback, as reported by the US Coast Guard 4mi off Sandy Hook NJ.
- Mar. 1, 2023: Dead humpback, Seaside Park, NJ
  (inconclusive if same whale from 2/28)
- Mar. 1, 2023: Dead humpback whale found on jetty at Breezy Point, Qu NY
- Mar. 16, 2023: 2 dead Common Dolphins: (1 adult 1 calf) Sandy Hook Bay CG base pier, NJ
- Mar. 21, 2023: 8 Dead Common dolphins, Sea Isle City, NJ
- Mar. 24, 2023: Dead pygmy whale, Ocean City, NJ
- Mar. 28, 2023: Dead harbor porpoise, Ortley Beach, TR, NJ
- Apr. 1, 2023: Dead Common dolphin, Cape May, NJ
  Hartshorne Woods Park NJ
Planned Offshore Cables Could Bypass Falmouth Massachusetts

Gov Healey 250 Million For Grid Solutions

Five New England states as of October 2022 replied to a request for information for a modular offshore wind plan. The plan calls for all high-voltage direct current cables. Two studies by the Brattle Group for Anbaric (an independent transmission developer) are under consideration for a "planned" offshore grid.

The states of Massachusetts, Maine, Connecticut, and Rhode Island want to work together with the federal government to establish an offshore wind grid. One of the goals is to move construction away from residential communities.

The "planned project" uses several ocean submarine cables directly to the power usage locations like Boston. The submarine cables save wind companies from running twice as much cable through multiple residential communities.

The submarine cables also save time, resources and in rebuilding the electric grid. For example in the Town of Falmouth, the grid needs to be rebuilt and planned by ISO New England which could take years.
The Town of Portsmouth, Rhode Island residents have been holding rallies against the onshore cables. Portsmouth was the choice after the Falmouth electric grid lacked capacity. Portsmouth is having a workshop on onshore cables on May 25 at 7 PM at the Portsmouth RI high school.

All along the east coast, many residential communities are in rancorous battles over placing high-voltage cables through their streets with construction taking up to three years. The offshore cables at 800 megawatts each placed in residential streets and neighborhoods are more powerful than the old 680-megawatt Pilgrim nuclear plant.

Currently, each offshore wind developer is running cable Willy-Nilly to the closest grid location on Cape Cod without looking to future projects. The offshore projects are looking a lot like the failed poorly planned land-based wind projects all over Massachusetts. The state land-based agenda was 2000 megawatts and only achieved around 100 megawatts as the turbines were placed too close to residential communities.

Governor Maura Healey has created two new groups to advance offshore wind the Commission on Clean Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting (CEISFP) and the Interagency Offshore Wind Council (IOWC).

Governor Healey has also applied for 250 million matching funds for federal transmission funding. The funds are made available by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

The current signed offshore wind contract approved last year by Mass DPU was the 2016 "An Act Relative to Energy Diversity" which promised clean and reduced-cost electricity. These contracts may well be rebid in June at a higher rate.

If the current offshore wind contracts approved by the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities in 2022 are allowed to be rebid both residential and commercial electric rates will increase. Ratepayers will bear the brunt of increases unless there is a planned ocean wind grid.
Healey seeking $250m for grid upgrades

Federal funds would promote offshore wind interconnections

Massachusetts May 23, 2023
https://commonwealthmagazine.org/energy/healey-seeking-250m-for-grid-upgrades/

The approach would move transmission construction away from populated areas, standardize technology, and spread the cost across several states.

The current process for interconnecting offshore wind is a bit of a free-for-all, with each offshore wind developer required to build its own transmission line connecting their project to the grid. The approach has resulted in a hodgepodge of transmission technologies and a rush on interconnections on Cape Cod, which is close to the wind farm area but with limited access to areas where energy demand is highest.

A concept paper developed earlier this year by the New England states of Massachusetts, Maine, Connecticut, and Rhode Island proposed a collaboration between states and the federal government to develop a power grid of sorts at sea near the wind farm lease areas and then build standardized transmission lines to where the power is most needed. The approach would move transmission construction away from populated areas, standardize technology, and spread the cost across several states.

TRUNCATED CLICK LINK FOR THE ENTIRE STORY: https://commonwealthmagazine.org/energy/healey-seeking-250m-for-grid-upgrades/
In Portsmouth: A rally cry against offshore wind

About 90 people gather at Island Park Beach to condemn SouthCoast Wind’s proposal to run transmission cables up the Sakonnet River into Portsmouth

By Jim McGaw

PORTSMOUTH — Bill Thompson pointed to the wind turbine at Portsmouth High School, just east of Island Park Beach where about 90 people gathered Saturday to rally against offshore wind.

The machine, Thompson told the crowd, “serves as a daily reminder of the major transportation that’s about to take place off our coasts.”

Thompson, a Tiverton resident and one of the co-founders of the local grassroots organization Green Oceans, was referring to a proposal by SouthCoast Wind (formerly Mayflower Wind) to run transmission cables from an offshore wind farm up the Sakonnet River, beneath the beach where the rally was being held, up Boyds Lane and Anthony Road and over a golf course before reentering waters in Mt. Hope Bay and making final landfall in Somerset.

Many local residents are concerned such wind projects negatively impact the ocean ecology and hurt the local fishing industry, while not serving as a cure to climate change as promised.

On Saturday they gathered on the beach near signs that read “No to Cables — Save Our Sakonnet River & Mount Hope Bay,” “Vote No,” “Save Our Shores,” and others.

Karen Gleason served as emcee of the rally, which featured a dozen different speakers in an attempt to bring awareness of ongoing offshore wind projects currently being proposed. “We’re really here today to save our Sakonnet River, but also Mount Hope Bay,” she said.

Several residents tried to get on the Portsmouth Town Council agenda’s twice to discuss SouthCoast Wind’s plans, but were denied both times, said Gleason, the wife of council member Dave Gleason. The council, which has maintained there is no formal proposal from SouthCoast Wind before the town at this time, has nevertheless scheduled a workshop on the matter for 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 25, at Portsmouth High School. Gleason urged everyone to attend.
Here’s a sampling of what the speakers had to say about SouthCoast’s plans specifically and wind energy in general. This story has been edited for space, but you can read a longer version at eastbayri.com.

Testimony continues at link: https://www.eastbayri.com/portsmouth/stories/in-portsmouth-a-rally-cri-against-offshore-wind,112869

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SouthCoast Wind Workshop - Portsmouth Rhode Island High School May 25 2023
7 PM 120 Education Lane

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LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH, RI
NOTICE OF A TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP
Regarding the proposed SouthCoast Wind Project

A Portsmouth Town Council Workshop on the proposed SouthCoast Wind project will be held on Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the Portsmouth High School Auditorium, 120 Education Lane.

The workshop will also be live streamed on the web and by phone dial-in using the Zoom remote meeting service. Instructions for participating using a computer, smart device, or telephone can be found at https://livestream.portsmouthri.com/towncouncil. Interested parties may call the Town Clerk’s office at 401-683-2101 for the instructions.

Portsmouth High School is handicapped accessible; individuals requiring interpreter services for the hearing impaired should notify the Office of Town Clerk at 683-2101 not less than three (3) business days prior to the hearing date.

Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk
Subject: Portsmouth RI - Public Meeting SouthCoast Wind May 25 at 7 PM

PORTSMOUTH, Rhode Island High School: Town Council Workshop Public Meeting On SouthCoast Wind Project Thursday, May 25 at 7 PM
120 Education Lane

PUBLIC MEETING

Town Council Workshop on the proposed South Coast Wind project. Thursday, May 25th @ 7pm in the PHS Auditorium, 120 Education Lane
PORTSMOUTH RHODE ISLAND

SAVE OUR SAKONNET RIVER

SOUTHCOST WIND is proposing to bury HIGH VOLTAGE cables carrying 1200 MW of electricity from 147 Offshore Wind Turbines. Cables will travel up the Sakonnet River into Island Park, onto Boyd’s Lane, Anthony Road, and into Mount Hope Bay. This cable installation will affect the native fish stocks, marine life, businesses, and disturb and release contaminated sediments from the seabed. There are no direct benefits for RI residents.

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

PLEASE ATTEND AND OPPOSE SOUTHCOST WIND CABLES
Dear Beach Committee and Town Council,

I'm a resident of South Tiverton about 1/2 mile from Little Compton line. Our kids attend Wilbur McMahon School out of town, and we happily pay for and appreciate that high quality education in a safe environment.

Our kids and us always enjoyed going to South Shore Beach after 4pm, especially as we both work and our Little Compton family friends would meet us...its close by, and weekends are way too packed to even try during day. But ever since the pandemic you changed rules to only Little Compton residents after 4pm, which I can understand during past pandemic era overcrowding and resident concerns.

But now I would ask if you would please again and ONLY allow your neighbors in Tiverton RI to access the beach after 4pm. This could be done by license address check at gate house and/or a sticker applied for. To limit people you could only allow those from Tiverton a pass for that evening only if picked up from gate house by 4pm on weekdays. Or simply allow family's with children that attend Wilbur McMahon the same sticker as Little Compton residents/taxpayer only for as long as a child is attending Wilbur McMahon school, as we contribute to the town as a resident/taxpayer would yearly. I look forward to your reply.

Thank you,
Tucker Cronin