Date posted: DECEMBER 20, 2022 by 4:00 P.M.

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

TOWN OF LITTLE COMPTON
TOWN COUNCIL
Town Hall 40 Commons
Little Compton, RI

MEETING OF DECEMBER 22, 2022

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

AGENDA

7:00 P.M.

Salute to the Flag

Announcements:

Approval of Minutes – December 8, 2022

Department Head Reports:

Old Business:

1. Receive letters of interest to fill a vacancy on the LC Agricultural Conservancy Trust
2. Acknowledge seven (7) letters of interests received for position of Town Solicitor
   a. Acknowledge letters of support filed supporting the re-appointment of the current Town Solicitor, Richard S. Humphrey.
   b. Set date for interviews to be followed by vote to appoint Town Solicitor.
3. A Request for Proposals for solar panels on Town roofs, submitted by James Lock

New Business:

1. Request from the Budget Committee for a recommendation on the salary for the Town Clerk for FY24 per Home Rule Charter section 502B2
2. Consider approval of Amendment One to the LC Municipal Employees Union Local 860 Collective Bargaining Agreement to provide a maternity/parental leave policy.
3. Consider approval of Amendment One to the LC Fire Department IAFF Local 3957 Collective Bargaining Agreement to provide a work schedule for persons assigned to the day shift.

Board of License Commissioners: none

Communications:

Consent:
1. Copies of emails received from Frank Haggerty concerning Offshore wind projects, MA Commonwealth Wind and Mayflower wind
2. Copy of a letter received alerting the town of upcoming maintenance on the “Algonquin” pipeline that runs through a portion of Little Compton.

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be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen so requests in which event the item will be withdrawn from the General Order of business and considered in the normal sequence on the agenda.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 Town Council meeting held on December 8th, A.D. 2022 at 7:00 o’clock PM held in in-person format at the Town Hall, Council Chambers, 40 Commons, Little Compton, RI. Members present: Paul J. Golembeske, Andrew W. Iriarte-Moore, Gary S. Mataronas, Patrick McHugh and Robert L. Mushen. Also present: Antonio Teixeira, Town Administrator.

The Town Clerk called the meeting to order with a request to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Town Clerk administered the oath of office to the following elected Town Council members:

Paul J. Golembeske
Andrew W. Iriarte-Moore
Gary S. Mataronas
Patrick A. McHugh
Robert L. Mushen

A request for nominations for a member of the Council to serve as Town Council President for the ensuing year resulted in the following:

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen) opposed (Iriarte-Moore, McHugh): To elect Robert L. Mushen as the Town Council President for the ensuing term.

A request for nominations for a member of the Council to serve as Town Council Vice-President for the ensuing term resulted in the following:

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Mushen, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, Mushen) opposed (McHugh): To elect Paul J. Golembeske as the Town Council Vice-President for the ensuing term.

Presentation offered by Annette Bourne and Bryce Kelley of HousingWorks RI at Roger Williams University on behalf of the LC Housing Trust efforts to study housing needs in Little Compton. Ms. Bourne and Mr. Kelley reviewed data gathered during a survey of residents and individuals who offered local concerns and difficulties with regard to affordable housing in town. The documents produced during this review will be placed on the Town’s website for the public to review.

Announcements:

1) A recognition ceremony was held at the Public Safety Complex today to acknowledge those first responders responsible for saving the life of a surfer. Several individuals and emergency personnel were thanked for their actions.
2) A Narcan Training was held this evening by the LC Prevention Coalition. Carol A. Wordell, Town Clerk, Antonio Teixeira, Town Administrator and Gary S. Mataronas were all in attendance and were trained. Anyone interested in learning more about opioid overdose training should contact the Town Clerk to arrange training.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To approve, as written the Town Council meeting minutes for November 15, 2022.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To approve, as written the Town Council meeting minutes for November 17, 2022.
Discussion of Department Head Reports: Councilor McHugh asked about the notation on the Administrator’s report regarding the new handicap ramp. He wondered how the old ramp was not in compliance and what the purpose the vestibule served. The Administrator noted the prior ramp did not have a landing at the door entrance and that the vestibule assists with keeping the individuals out of the elements while entering the building.

For the record Council McHugh also commented that, in the future, he would appreciate the full Council to participate in any interview sessions for new hires. He noted that most recently a set of town officials (Administrator, Council President, Acting Building Official/DPW Director and Town Clerk) interviewed two (2) candidates for the vacancy in the Building Officials Department. He would have preferred the full Council to have been involved in that process. Councilor Mataronas agreed with this comment.

Councilor Mataronas noted that the Finance Director continues to collect back taxes and sending notices of delinquent taxes out twice yearly.

Motion made by Councilor Iriarte-Moore, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To place on file the following Department Head Reports for November 2022:

1. Fire Department
2. Town Clerk
3. Police Department
4. Finance Director
5. Tax Assessor
6. Town Administrator

Motion made by Councilor McHugh, receiving a second by Councilor Iriarte-Moore, voting in favor (Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen) Councilor Golembeske abstained from voting: To approve a proposal to amend Chapter 15 of the LC Town Code and adopt the following:

To amend in both Chapter 15-2.1 - Exemption for Veteran and Chapter 15-4.1 – Exemption for person visually impaired by replacing “an exemption of $18,000 on real property owned” with “a reduction of $250 of real property taxes owed”. This section shall take effect as of the assessment date of December 31, 2022.

And to additionally amend Chapter 15 to replace “Board of Assessors” with “Tax Assessor” in every instance used in the Chapter to update the current structure of the Department. This section shall take effect upon passage.

The Council received a recommendation from the Town Administrator to hire Dean Simmons as the Town’s Building Official/Zoning Officer.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor McHugh, voting in favor (Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen) Councilor Golembeske abstained from voting: To authorize the Town Administrator to make an offer of employment and negotiate a contract with Dean Simmons to serve as the Building Official/Zoning Official for the Town of Little Compton.

Councilors Iriarte-Moore and McHugh asked if an exit interview was held with the former Building Official. The Town Administrator noted that he did have an exit interview and the primary reasons for leaving was distance and travelling time for the commute.

Lavinia Gadsden addressed the Council of her concerns with recycling. She would like to see more recycling, including potential options to gather Styrofoam and a vendor to receive the product. She did acknowledge that RI Resource Recovery has stated they will not take Styrofoam directly from municipalities at this time. She also asked
for a container to be placed at the Transfer Station itself for collecting batteries. Currently a drop box for batteries is located at the Town Hall. The Town Clerk stated that they were aware of the need, but currently did not have the correct type of container to serve for this purpose.

Motion made by Councilor Mushen, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To refer to the Planning Board a recent amendment to Chapter 21-27-6.2 of RI General Laws entitled “Cottage food manufacture” for the boards review and recommendations on how this may effect local zoning.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To approve of the following list of assignments as liaisons to boards and commissions:

Councilor Golembeske - Have care of Wilbour Woods
Liaison to the Planning Board
Member to the Tree Committee

Councilor Iriarte-Moore - Liaison to the Zoning Board of Review
Member to the Housing Trust

Councilor Mataronas - Liaison to the Harbor Commission

Councilor McHugh - Liaison to the Recreation Committee
Liaison to the Conservation Commission
Liaison to the LC Agricultural Conservancy Trust

Councilor Mushen - Member to the Pension Committee

Town Administrator - Have care of the Town Hall
Have care of the Transfer Station

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To re-appoint Sidney Wordell as Town Sergeant, Susan Sisson as Director of Social Services and Wayne Barker Montgomery as Appraiser of Damage Done by Dogs for the ensuing two years.

Councilor Iriarte-Moore would like to investigate the town participating in the RI Infrastructure Bank Community Septic System Loan Program and consider establishing a local Onsite Wastewater Management Plan. He notes that other municipalities participate ranging from strong regulations to less invasive regulations, but hopes to develop something that works for Little Compton’s residents. Sydney Usatine of RI Infrastructure Bank is willing to come discuss the town’s options.

Councilor Mataronas would like to see Alison Ring, Planning Consultant used to assist. Larry Anderson expressed his hope for the Council to move forward with both programs. After a brief discussion the following was voted:

Motion made by Councilor McHugh, receiving a second by Councilor Mushen, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To ask Councilor Iriarte-Moore to reach out to Sydney Usatine of RI Infrastructure Bank inviting her to a future council meeting to review the Community Septic System Loan Program.

Motion made by Councilor Iriarte-Moore, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To refer to the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission a directive to return to the Council a recommendation of approach to create an
Onsite Wastewater Management Plan for the Town of Little Compton; and to encourage the use of the Town Planner Alison Ring, Consultant used by the Town in the past.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To direct the Town Administrator to execute a Solid Waste and Recycling Services Agreement between the Town of Little Compton and RI Resource Recovery Corporation upon receipt of a final draft for execution from RIRRC.

Discussion of a request from RI Dept. of Transportation to execute a Construction and Maintenance Agreement. Said agreement is to allow the town to work with the State to construct curbing and sidewalks on the Commons (north side) on town owned property. Councilor McHugh inquired as to the process noting he has not seen any engineering on the project. He was informed that the project is a State RIDOT project that the town is being allowed to work in tandem for our local needs of repair and upgrade to sidewalks on the north side of the Commons. The Administrator noted that the engineering is only at the 30% mark and no engineering plans have been shared to date.

Discussion continued: Leslie Fox, 14 Commons expressed concern over the condition of the south side of the Commons and hoped the town could ensure drainage and erosion problems could be corrected during this project. Some comment was made that the state intended to use Cape Cod curbing on the south side. The Town will convey our residents’ concerns of pedestrian safety to both RIDOT and the Senator DiPalma.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor McHugh, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To authorize the Town Administrator to engage in a Construction and Maintenance Agreement between the Town of Little Compton and RI Dept. of Transportation acknowledging a cost to the Town of $70,000 of funds which will be taken from American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Iriarte-Moore, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To accept a report from Sakonnet Associates on non-conforming issues found in the Public Safety Complex. Many tasks have already been undertaken and the Council will be kept apprised of the progress of remediation.

At 8:55 PM the Town Council sitting as the Board of License Commissioners voted the following:

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To grant a Class F one day Retail Beverage License to the LC Community Center for both December 16th and December 18th for use during its Holiday concert events.

Motion made by Councilor Mushen, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To accept with regret the resignation of Edmund Maiato from the LC Agricultural Conservancy Trust and to post said vacancy for receipt of letters of interest.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To place on file a letter confirming a Fire Board hearing scheduled for February 21, 2023 to hear a request from the Town of Little Compton for a variance of the installation of a sprinkler system in the Town Hall during restoration work.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To approve a request received from the LC Village Improvement Society to use Veterans Field on Saturday, May 6, 2023 for the 2nd Annual Sakonnet Plant Fair and on Saturday, August 5, 2023 for the 78th Annual Chicken BBQ.
Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): To place in the Council FY24 Budget preparation file a request received from the LC Village Improvement Society for the Council to submit a stroke in the amount of $10,000 for repair and maintenance of the Brownell House.

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

1. Copies of electronic communications sent to the town from Frank Haggarty regarding articles and comments on the Mayflower Wind project proposed offshore on Cape Cod

Motion made by Councilor Iriarte-Moore, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Golembeske, Iriarte-Moore, Mataronas, McHugh, Mushen): That the bills be allowed and ordered paid as follows: $258,220.82

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<th>Description</th>
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Building Enclosure Science - Public Safety Complex $840.00
Donald McNaughton - Conservation Commission $1,328.10
Denise M. Cosgrove - Assessor $627.58
IAAO - Assessor $240.00
Matthew Ladd - Public Safety Complex $827.11
Southcoast Cleaning - Public Safety Complex $600.00
Southcoast Cleaning - Town Hall $475.00
Stay At Home In LC - appropriation $5,450.00
Richard S Humphrey - Town Solicitor $4,480.00
Richard S Humphrey - legal services $960.00
Richard S Humphrey - legal services $4,377.00
Its About Thyme Landscape - civic rec fields $2,862.00
Western Environmental - town hall restoration $2,400.75
Sullivan Tire - Police Dept. $1,927.44
Rob's Auto Care Inc. - Police Dept. $696.50
WBMason - Police Dept. $18.54
State of Rhode Island - Police Dept. $120.00
AT&T Mobility - Police Dept. $33.73
Paychex of NY LLC - Finance Director $835.24
Atlantic Elevator South Co Inc - town hall $370.00
Caseys Oil & Propane - fuel various buildings $1,545.56
United Construction - Highway $284.52
Lynch Corp. - Highway $542.66
Eastern Salt Co Inc. - Highway $2,635.00
Wilbur's General Store - DPW $23.09
Wilbur's General Store - Town Hall $31.65
Humphrey's - DPW $116.94
ICC - Building Official $145.00
Verizon - DPW - Highway $114.60
West Parts & Supplies - DPW $35.42
Valcourt Heating Inc. - town hall $632.00
Home Depot - Town Hall renovations $46.76
Rob's Auto Care Inc. - Highway $2,180.70
Sakonnet Plumbing - town hall $3,963.07
Don's Marine - Harbor Management Funds $502.10
Petro - Diesel $811.16
WBMason - Town Hall - Finance - Fire $138.59
WBMason - Town Council $43.94
The Damon Company - Town Hall restoration project $99,293.71
Able Engineering Inc. - MRP grant town way project $6,475.00
Able Engineering Inc. - MRP grant town way project $4,512.50
Wilkie Excavating Inc. - MRP grant So. Shore Beach $79,136.00
Tax-Exempt Leasing Corp. - Highway $3,887.32

Being no further business before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Carol A. Wordell, CMC, Town Clerk
Carol Wordell

From: Don McNaughton <mcnaughton.don@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 11, 2022 6:20 PM
To: Carol Wordell
Subject: LC ACT

Carol,

I would like to be considered for appointment to the Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust.

Please let me know if you need further information.

Best regards,

Don McNaughton
401-230-7221

Sent from my iPhone
December 15, 2022

Dear Little Compton Town Council,

I am interested in filling the vacancy on the Board of Trustees of the Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust. As an active member of the community, I care deeply about the future of Little Compton and preserving its rural character. My husband Jake and I have been property owners since 1998 and our current home in Adamsville has acreage under a conservation easement with the Trust. Together we own and manage a successful residential construction business that employs and contracts with numerous local tradespeople. Both of our children attended the Wilbur McMahon School.

I am in my thirteenth year serving as Treasurer of the Spindle Rock Club, a boating and coastal stewardship organization in Westport Harbor. I’ve served in governance and lay leadership at the United Congregational Church of Little Compton, including terms on the Board of Trustees and the Board of Deacons. I currently sit on its Finance Committee and am Chair of the Outreach Committee. I previously served eight years on the Board of Directors of Little Compton Education Foundation, whose work at that time included fundraising and support for the Dundery Brook Trail boardwalk, built in partnership with the Rhode Island chapter of The Nature Conservancy.

At a time when Little Compton is facing challenges on multiple fronts: from an aggressive real estate market to a declining school population to the rising sea level, it is incumbent on our leaders to think creatively about how to address them. I believe building bridges between people, boards, and committees is the best first step. In fact, the written report recently summarized and presented to the Town Council by HousingWorks RI, recommended that the LCACT and the Housing Trust work together “in creatively thinking about how they may mutually support each other’s work.” This echoes a suggestion outlined in our 2018 Comprehensive Plan; that our Housing Trust, Planning Board and LCACT “explore cooperative acquisitions that meet the dual goals.” It is in this collaborative spirit of strategic partnership that I offer my candidacy.

Land stewardship, protection, and preservation are at the heart of the LCACT’s mission and are commitments I share. Supporting that mission and the continued good work of the LCACT, while also strengthening our community, is my goal. I’m confident that my board experience, business management expertise, and strong interpersonal and communication skills make me a candidate uniquely suited for the position and that I will bring a diverse perspective to the Board at this critical time. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Victoria Talbot
24 Big Drum Road
Little Compton, RI 02837

(401) 226-2774 / lctalbots@gmail.com
Attorney  Law Firm

1 Richard S. Humphrey
3852 Main Road
Tiverton, RI 02878

2 William C. Dimitri, Esq.
Amy E. Veri, Esq.
Andrew R. Dimitri, Esq.
462 Broadway
Providence, RI 02909

3 Gidley, Sarli & Marusak LLP
Per Vaage, Esq.
Stephen J. Sypole, Esq.
James P. Marusak, Esq.

4 Brennan, Recupero, Cascione, Scungio & McAllister, LLP
362 Broadway
Providence, RI 02909
Jon M. Anderson, Esq.

5 Conley Law Associates
123 Dyer St, Suite 2B
Providence, RI 02903
William J. Conley, Jr., Esq. plus firm lawyers

6 Lewis Brisbois
Michael J. Marcello, Partner
Todd Romano, Partner

7 Anthony DeSisto Law Associates LLC
450 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Suite 103
East Providence, RI 02914
Anthony DeSisto, Esq.
Benjamin Ferreira, Esq.
Stephen J. Antonucci, Esq.
Mark Hartmann, Esq.
TOWN OF LITTLE COMPTON
P.O. BOX 226
LITTLE COMPTON R.I. 02837
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
TOWN PROJECTS

I. Statement of Purpose/Background
The town of Little Compton Rhode Island ("Town") invites proposals from solar energy providers (Proposers) for grid-connected solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays on suitable portions of the roofs of the Wilbur-McMahon school (28 Commons St, Little Compton RI), the Public Safety Complex (60 Simmons Rd, Little Compton RI), and the Town Office (40 Commons St, Little Compton RI). The Town is seeking a generating system with Grid interconnection and all necessary ancillary equipment and services for the system, to be designed and installed by the proposers.

Little Compton is a rural small community in southern Rhode Island bounded on the east by the Westport River, south by the Atlantic Ocean, and west by the Sakonnet River. The town has a total area of 20.9 square miles.

II. Submittal of proposals
Proposals must be received no later than 4 o’clock on January 31, 2023, to the office of the Town Clerk, 40 Commons, P.O. Box 226, Little Compton RI 02837.

All Proposals should be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked “Solar Panel Installation” on the exterior of the envelope. A total of five (5) copies should be included, the original and four additional copies.

All questions pertaining to these specifications should be addressed to:

Tony Teixeira, Town Administrator
P.O. Box 226, 20 Commons
Little Compton R.I.
Telephone (401) 635-8373
Email: (tteixeira@littlecomptonri.org); Fax (401-635-8373)
The successful proposer will have the right of first refusal to provide a PV system on any subsequent buildings constructed and owned by the Town during the 5 years following the date of agreement between the Proposer and the Town.

The Town may, at its sole discretion, choose to enter into negotiations with a proposer. This decision is expected to be made by April 1, 2023. The signing of a contract between the town and a proposer is expected to occur before July 1, 2023.

By participating in this RFP, proposers acknowledge that the Town has no obligation to proceed with this solicitation or the associated projects and may stop the process at any time prior to signing a contract. All costs and business risks associated with responding to this RFP are the sole responsibility of the Proposer. The town assumes no liability for any costs incurred in the preparation or negotiation of a proposal in response to this RFP.

III. Proposer Obligations and Proposal Contents
The proposer must propose to design, procure, install, and commission the PV energy systems specified below. The proposer may also propose to maintain the systems for a period of five years or more following installation in a separate section of their proposal.

The proposer is solely responsible for obtaining and maintaining all permits, licenses, professional standards, regulatory and legal requirements necessary to lawfully construct and operate the facility. This includes leading all negotiations on behalf of the Town with the power company necessary to interconnect and operate the facility. The town will participate in and cooperate with these negotiations and will provide proposers with the information necessary to lead these negotiations.

The successful proposer is also responsible for applying for and building into its cost estimate all available state and federal financial supports and rebates. The Town will fully cooperate in applying for any form of governmental financial support with the successful proposer.
System Specification
The PV systems on each structure shall utilize all available rooftop area that (a) complies with all safety and fire code requirements; and (b) is cost effective considering the expected cost of installation and projected insolation. The estimated ranges of electricity generation are: School (100-250 mWh/yr), Safety Complex (60-80 mWh/yr), and Town Office (30-40 mWh/yr). Proposers shall indicate the size of the systems they propose and the basis of their calculations.

The systems shall provide alternating electric current in a form that meets all technical requirements set by PPL Rhode Island for a period of at least 25 years. The system will be deemed complete at the sole discretion of the Town following an acceptance test after construction that demonstrates the system is properly operating. The Town reserves the right to hire, at its own expense, a technical expert to examine the system and be present for all acceptance tests.

Proposers may propose systems for all three buildings or one or two buildings. The Town strongly prefers working with a single proposer on all three structures under a single contract, but other alternatives may be proposed.

Own vs. Other Options
The proposer must submit one proposal in which ownership of each system transfers to the Town, and the Town pays for 100% ownership of the system upon a successful acceptance test. If the proposer wishes, they may submit an additional financial proposal (such as a lease) that enables the Town to install the systems, utilize the solar energy from these systems, and reduce its electric costs.

Electricity Tariffs and Rates
Each of the three buildings currently receives its electricity supply from Rhode Island Energy and its distribution services from PPL Rhode Island. In addition, the Town is entitled to net metering credits under an agreement with the city of Warren RI. The Town will make available to proposers upon request (1) copies of a recent consecutive series of electricity bills for a period of one year; and (2) copies of the agreement with Warren. It is the responsibility of the proposer to determine and include in its proposal the electricity rates and distribution tariffs under which it will take service following the commissioning of the systems and to ensure that the Town meets all requirements for those tariffs.
Required submission information. Each proposer must submit:

1. The technical specifications of each system proposed and a nonbinding list of system components.
2. A financial proposal showing all sources of sales revenue, rebates, and other forms of financial support, the gross capital cost of the system, and the net impact of each installed system on the Town’s total cost of purchasing electricity. This proposal should extend through the anticipated life of the system.
3. A list of all required permits and licenses necessary to build and operate the system.
4. A proposed pro-forma contract for construction of the system.
5. A non-binding schedule for constructing and commissioning the project based on an anticipated contract signing date of July 1, 2023.
6. Contact information for three customers for whom the Proposer has built similar-sized systems.
7. Information allowing the town to verify the financial condition of the proposer. Alternatively, the proposer may offer a completion bond to the town.
8. If the proposer proposes to maintain the system after construction, the proposer must supply (a) the financial terms of the proposed maintenance; (b) a copy of the proposed maintenance agreement; and (c) contact information for three references for owners of a system the proposer now maintains.

IV. Insurance requirements
The Town of Little Compton requires all consultants to carry professional liability insurance for errors and omissions for one million dollars ($1,000,000.) and the Town shall be named as an additional insured. Proof of such insurance will be required before signing a contract. A bond will be required by the firm performing the work.

Questions on this solicitation may be directed to Tony Teixeira, Town Administrator. (email: tteixeira@littlecomptonri.org or Phone: 401-635-8373).
Please place on the Town Council agenda.

Little Compton Town Council
Robert Mushen
President

As chairman of the Little Compton Budget Committee,
Per the Little Compton Home Rule Charter section 502 B2, I request on behalf of the Budget Committee
a recommendation from the Town Council for the salary of the Town Clerk for FY 2023-2024.
Our next meeting is January 17, 2023. We would like to discuss and vote on the Town Clerk’s salary at
our meeting. We must advise the Town Clerk of our recommendation by February 1, 2023.

Thank you,
George Crowell
AMENDMENT ONE
TO AGREEMENT
BY AND BETWEEN
THE TOWN OF LITTLE COMPTON
AND
LITTLE COMPTON MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION/NEARI
JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2024

The parties have agreed to the following additional section to be added to Article 11 (Sick Leave):

Section 11. Maternity/Parental Leave

a. Maternity leave may be taken due to pregnancy/delivery of a child. The employee must present a statement from their physician as to when, for health reasons arising from pregnancy, the employee should cease work. (The Town retains the right to obtain a second physician’s opinion, the cost of which shall be borne by the Town. In the event of disagreement between the two physicians, a third neutral physician will be selected by the member and the Town.) On the date of work cessation, the employee will be placed on maternity leave. The employee may use their accrued leave, including sick, vacation, compensatory and personal during the maternity leave.

b. Parental leave may be granted to an employee for adoption of a child or the birth of a child for which they assume parental rights by using accrued sick, vacation, compensatory and personal leave for the birth or care of such child.

c. Family Medical Leave Act – Employees and the Town have additional entitlements as provided by the Federal and State laws. For more information on FMLA, see www.dol.gov/whd/fmla. The Employee’s Guide to FMLA can be accessed at www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/employeeguide.pdf

This amendment is invoked only for the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) ending 30 June 2024. Its provisions shall be reviewed and approved by both parties before inclusion in any subsequent CBA. Nothing herein shall diminish the rights of either party with respect to all the other terms and conditions of said CBA.

________________________________________________________________________________________
Sean Martin
Union President
Date

________________________________________________________________________________________
Robert Mushen
Town Council President
Date

Copy: Town Administrator
Town Clerk
AMENDMENT ONE
TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT (CBA) BY AND BETWEEN
THE TOWN OF LITTLE COMPTON
AND
LOCAL 3957, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, AFL-CIO
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2024

As prescribed in Article V (Working Hours) Section 1.0 (Hours) of the subject CBA, the parties have agreed to the following shift schedule for assigned personnel in excess of the eight personnel on twenty-four hour shifts. This wording shall be added to Section 1.0 of the CBA:

An employee assigned to the Day Shift shall work three (3) consecutive days of twelve (12) hours each (7:00 AM to 7:00 PM) followed by three (3) consecutive days off. The following table illustrates the schedule:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THU</th>
<th>FRI</th>
<th>SAT</th>
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<td>Week 2</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This amendment is invoked only for the CBA ending 30 June 2024. Its provisions shall be reviewed and approved by both parties before inclusion in any subsequent CBA.

Nothing herein shall diminish the rights of either party with respect to all the other terms and conditions of said collective bargaining agreement. Any disputes as to the interpretation and/or enforcement of this amendment shall be resolved using Article X (Grievances) of the CBA.

_________________________  _______________________
Randall Watt, Local 3957 President          Robert Musken, Town Council President

_________________________  _______________________
Date                          Date

Copies: Town Administrator, Fire Chief, Town Clerk
Pursuant to Chapter 46-23 of the State of Rhode Island General Laws, as amended, the Coastal Resources Management Council ("CRMC") proposes to promulgate and take public comment on the following proposed rulemaking of the Coastal Resources Management Plan: **Ocean State Adaptation and Resilience Fund (650-RICR-30-05-01)**. Comments will not be taken on any other section of the Coastal Resources Management Plan during this notice period. In accordance with the procedures of the RI Administrative Procedures Act (R.I.G.L. § 42-35) and the Rules and Regulations of the Coastal Resources Management Council, notice is hereby given regarding the intent of the CRMC to hold a public hearing, accept public comment, and afford interested persons reasonable opportunity to submit data, views or arguments orally or in writing during the 30-day comment period and the public hearing.

The 30-day public comment period will open on **December 19, 2022** and close **January 18, 2023**. The **public hearing** will be held at **6:00pm** on **January 10, 2023** in Conference Room A of the Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI. The room is accessible to the disabled and persons requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Council at 401-783-3370 or RI 711 at least three (3) business days in advance of the hearing date so that such assistance can be provided at no cost to the person requesting.

**Summary of Proposed Rulemaking 650-RICR-30-05-01:**

The purpose of the proposed regulations is to establish the Ocean State Adaptation and Resilience Fund ("OSCAR") which will provide funding for adaptation and resilience projects on public lands. Grants from OSCAR will help to advance projects that protect or enhance coastal or riverine habitats to address climate change impacts. Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank (the "Bank"), Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (the "Council"), and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (the "Department") are jointly promulgating these regulations. The following projects

The Bank, Council and Department will govern the provision of financial assistance from the OSCAR Fund to applicants. The FY 2023 State Budget provides $4 million in funding for the OSCAR Fund and will be provided as matching grants to eligible entities.

The Council has complied with the requirements of R.I. General Laws §§ 42-35.1-3 and 42-35.0-4 and has filed copies of the proposed regulations with the Governor’s Office and the Office of
Regulatory Reform of the Department of Administration’s Office of Management and Budget. The Council has determined that the proposed regulations do not duplicate any other state regulations and will not have any adverse effect on small businesses.

All interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed rulemaking, the Ocean State Adaptation and Resilience Fund (650-RICR-30-05-01), by January 18, 2023. All such comments should be addressed to Jeffrey M. Willis, Executive Director, Oliver Stedman Government Center, 4808 Tower Hill Road, Wakefield, RI. The proposed regulations are available on the CRMC website – www.crmc.ri.gov.

Signed this 19th of December, 2022.

Jeffrey M. Willis, Executive Director
Coastal Resources Management Council

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**Proposed Jointly Promulgated Regulation**

650-RICR-30-05-01

**TITLE 650 – Coastal Resources Management Council**

**CHAPTER 30– Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fund**

**SUBCHAPTER 05 – Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fund**

Part 01 – OCEAN STATE CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE FUND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1.0 **Jointly Promulgated Regulation**

A. Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank, Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management jointly promulgate 830-RICR-10-35-01, “Rules and Regulations for Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fund”.

B. This Part hereby adopts and references 830-RICR-10-35-01.

**Proposed Regulation as Jointly Promulgated by the RI Infrastructure Bank**

830-RICR-10-35-01

**TITLE 830 – INFRASTRUCTURE BANK**

**CHAPTER 10 – PROGRAMS**

**SUBCHAPTER 35 – Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fund**
Part 01 – OCEAN STATE CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE FUND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1.0 Jointly Promulgated Regulation

Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank, Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management jointly promulgate 830-RICR-10-35-01, “Rules and Regulations for Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fund”.

1.1 Purpose and Scope

A. The following Policies and Procedures of Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank (the "Bank"), Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (the “Council”), and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (the “Department”) have been established to govern the provision of financial assistance from the Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fund ("OSCAR") to applicants for adaptation and resilience projects on public lands. Grants from OSCAR will help to advance projects on public land and protect or enhance coastal or riverine habitats to address climate change impacts.

1.2 Authority

These rules and regulations are promulgated pursuant to the authority provided by R.I. Gen. Laws §46-12.2-4 and §46-23.3-7.

1.3 Definitions

A. Except as otherwise defined herein, the words and phrases used within this Part shall have the same meaning as the words and phrases in R.I. Gen Laws § 46-23.3-2, as amended.

B. For the purposes of this Part, the following terms are defined as follows:

1. "Approved Project" means an eligible adaptation and resilience project as defined in R.I. Gen. Laws §46-23.3-2(1) and approved by the Department and the Council pursuant to R.I. General Laws §46-23.3-6(a).

2. "Applicant" means any entity which owns or controls public land as defined by R.I. General Laws §46-23.3-2(8) which files an application for an OSCAR grant.

3. “Successful Applicant” means an Applicant for an Approved Project that is awarded an OSCAR grant.

1.4 Financial Assistance

A. These Policies and Procedures govern the provision of financial assistance available to Applicants for adaptation and resilience projects. Financial assistance shall be in the form of grants in amounts as determined by the Council and the Department to be distributed by the Bank.

B. Requests for financial assistance shall be submitted in writing by the Chief Executive Officer or other authorized officer of the Applicant to the Council and the Department in accordance with the open solicitation process pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §46-23.3-6.
1.5 Permitted Projects and Eligible Costs

A. Permitted Project Categories

1. The following categories of projects will be considered, either alone or in combination, and include but are not limited to projects on public land that protect or enhance coastal or riverine habitats to address climate change impacts. These include, but are not limited to:

   a. Projects that reduce the vulnerability of low-lying infrastructure on public land through measures that include removal and relocation of infrastructure.

   b. Restoration of river and stream floodplains, including regrading of banks.

   c. Revegetation.

   d. Acquisition of that area of land necessary to maintain and preserve public access.

   e. Redesigning, resizing, and replacing culverts and bridge spans at existing wetland crossings.

   f. Additional projects deemed to be eligible under R.I. Gen. Laws §46-23.3-5.

2. The following categories of projects that are not eligible are:

   a. Projects mitigating any current, planned, or future projects that degrade, fill, or otherwise destroy coastal, estuarine, or riverine habitats.

   b. Projects fulfilling any liability for restoration required by any local, state, or federal agency pursuant to an environmental or public health enforcement action.

   c. Projects elevating, repairing, or replacing infrastructure, or constructing new infrastructure, in its existing location that is experiencing climate change impacts, except as otherwise provided in R.I. Gen. Laws §46-23.3-5.

   d. Projects constructing new, or repairing existing shoreline protection structures; provided, however, that existing shoreline protection structures on public parks may be repaired.

   e. Constructing roads or bridges.

B. Project Costs

1. The following types of costs are eligible to be paid for from financial assistance provided from OSCAR pursuant to this Part:
a. Planning, design, environmental, historic preservation, engineering, or other professional consulting services.

b. Legal and other professional services directly related to the project and project development.

c. Plantings, reforestation, landscaping.

d. Construction.

e. Materials.

f. Monitoring, oversight, and inspection services.

g. Personnel costs directly related to the performance of the project.

h. Community outreach and engagement.

2. Types of costs that are ineligible to receive monies from OSCAR include:

a. Administrative costs including clerical support, monthly utility expenses, the purchase of office equipment, personnel costs associated with fund raising for the nongovernmental entity, etc.

b. State or federal lobbying costs.

c. Response costs for emergency response actions caused or exacerbated solely by the applicant or their agents or assigns.

d. Any fines, damages, assessments, settlements or other monies paid in connection with any litigation or administrative proceeding with any local, state or federal regulatory agencies.

1.6 Grant Application & Review

A. The grant application shall be in a form acceptable to the Council and the Department as prescribed in any open solicitation period which shall occur at least annually.

B. The Council and the Department shall review and approve all grant applications after consultation with the Technical Advisory Committee established in R.I. Gen. Laws §46-23.3-3.

C. Applications shall be reviewed based upon a minimum project readiness standard; overall spending targets by project type; preferences for projects that align with the state's prevailing economic development plan; the criteria established in R.I. Gen. Laws §46-23.3-4(d); and other criteria as identified by the Council and Department during the open solicitation period.

D. Following recommendation by the Technical Advisory Committee and approval by the Council and Department, the Council and Department shall notify the Bank of the Approved Project(s) from the open solicitation period and the Bank shall, subject to the funds available within OSCAR, award funding to the Successful Applicants.
1.7 Grant Reporting Requirements

A. Following an award, Successful Applicants shall provide information to the Bank, Council, and Department regarding the Approved Project that satisfies the reporting requirements of R.I. Gen. Laws §46-23.3-6, or as otherwise requested by the Bank, Council, and/or Department.

B. Successful Applicants shall provide the Bank, Council, and/or Department with other information or reports as and when the Bank may reasonably require.

1.8 Grant Agreements

There will be a Grant Agreement for each award of approved financial assistance outlining the terms and conditions of the grant, as applicable.

1.9 Compliance with Federal, State and Local Law

The Applicant must comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

1.10 Modifications

Where deemed appropriate by the Bank, Council, and/or Department, waiver or variation of any provisions herein may be made or additional requirements may be added.

1.11 Severability

If any provision of this Part or the application thereof is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Part shall not be affected thereby. The invalidity of any section or sections or parts of any section or sections shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Part.
Subject: Massachusetts' Commonwealth Wind & Mayflower Wind

In the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, a Quiet Reckoning Over Offshore Wind | Opinion

JONATHAN LESSER, PRESIDENT, CONTINENTAL ECONOMICS
ON 12/9/22 AT 6:00 AM EST
https://www.newsweek.com/northeast-mid-atlantic-quiet-reckoning-over-offshore-wind-opinion-1765449

Crippling European electricity prices, soaring Northeastern heating bills, looming diesel-fuel shortages, and OPEC+ drama have captured headlines for months. More quietly, offshore-wind energy developers are discovering their projects' economic infeasibility, undermining states' offshore-wind goal of generating 40,000 MW by 2040. The Biden administration must recognize this is a pipe dream, or it will cost Americans billions trying to salvage an industry doomed to fail.

October brought the first sign of troubles, as Massachusetts' Commonwealth Wind project claimed it was no longer economically viable under the terms of the power purchase agreement (PPA) negotiated with the state's Department of Public Utilities. The developers asked the state to "pause" finalizing the agreements with the state's electric utilities, a request seconded by the developers of the Mayflower Wind project, to be built nearby. Soon thereafter, a New Jersey utility told investors it was rethinking its Ocean Wind project, to be built off that state's coast.

All three project developers originally negotiated prices far above wholesale market prices. All three qualified for a production tax credit and additional offshore-wind state tax credits. All three will qualify for a new 30 percent offshore wind investment tax credit which was not available when they made their initial bids.

Yet this federal and state largesse has still failed to keep the projects afloat.

NEWSWEEK NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP >

After Massachusetts declined to renegotiate the Commonwealth Wind agreement, the developers walked back their initial claim about insufficient reimbursement, saying, in effect, "never mind."
Whether pressured by the utility or state politicians, Commonwealth Wind quietly backed away from the uproar its filing created. However, despite the utility's "no renegotiation" assertion, the project will almost certainly receive additional financing, either through a new PPA or cash subsidies. The result will be even higher electric rates and taxes.

Alas, no amount of public funding will be able to save offshore wind's promises of reliable and low-cost green energy, millions of high-paying U.S. jobs, and an economic renaissance for states that embrace the industry.

As Commonwealth Wind admitted, construction costs are increasing rapidly. Not only have raw material costs soared—the costs of cement, steel, etc.—but so have financing costs. Last year, even before interest rates increased, Dominion Energy's projected cost for its Coastal Virginia offshore-wind project was $10 billion, exceeding the original $8 billion estimate. With the interest rate hike, Dominion's ratepayers can expect a much higher final bill, if the project is ever completed.

Most European offshore-wind projects were financed with historically low interest rates. Those days are over. The Federal Reserve intends to keep raising interest rates until it tames inflation. For a construction project like Commonwealth Wind's, which will likely cost more than $6 billion, interest-rate increases alone will add several hundred million dollars to its costs each year, even after the 30 percent investment-tax credit.

Still another issue that will cripple Atlantic-coast offshore-wind projects, but which is rarely discussed, is insurance. Although Commonwealth Wind and most of the other proposed projects will be owned by European companies, they will be structured as limited-liability companies whose only assets are the turbines themselves. If the turbines fail, whether due to mechanical failures frequently seen in European offshore-wind turbines or the eastern seaboard's powerful hurricanes, lenders will be handed the keys to a worthless clunker.

READ MORE

- The COP27 Loss and Damage Fund is Way Too Little, Way Too Late
- Climate Policies Not Based on Market Principles Will Fail

To eliminate that risk—or even the everyday risks of maritime wear and tear—lenders will demand that offshore projects be fully insured. But that cost, as well as the willingness of insurance companies to underwrite against catastrophic failures or everyday wear and tear, is unknown.

If private lenders and insurers insist on charging exorbitant premiums or simply refuse to insure the projects, then what? Financial realities will not torpedo the green vision of offshore wind's boosters. We can expect states or the federal government to step in as guarantors, putting ratepayers and taxpayers on the hook for even more of these projects' costs.

And for what? Even if all 40,000 MW of offshore wind power is developed and even if it replaced electricity generated solely from coal, the resulting "savings" in CO2 emissions would amount to less than half a percent of current world CO2 emissions, and less than half the average annual increase in world emissions.

But don't expect American policymakers or world leaders to accept that reality, which was conspicuously ignored at the recent COP27 summit. With China—which now accounts for one-third of world CO2 emissions—planning hundreds of new coal plants, U.S. offshore wind is yet another energy boondoggle enriching its proponents at everyone else's expense.

Jonathan Lesser is an adjunct fellow at the Manhattan Institute and the president of Continental Economics.

The views expressed in this article are the writer's own.
Carol Wordell

From: fnhaggerty@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 6:20 PM
To: dcook@tiverton.ri.gov; jmccgaw@eastbaymediagroup.com; ehartley@eastbaymediagroup.com; kguiar@portsmouthri.com; luifusa@portsmouthri.com; dabott@portsmouthri.com; khamilton@portsmouthri.com; lkatzman@portsmouthri.com; akelly@portsmouthri.com; jryan@portsmouthri.com
Cc: dng@providencejournal.com; kgregg@providencejournal.com; afarzan@providencejournal.com; rrainer@portsmouthri.com; lhitchen@portsmouthri.gov; geames@portsmouthri.com; llesinski@portsmouthri.com; Town Council; Carol Wordell; wrichmond@newportri.com; ldamon@newportri.com; zwolfang@gannett.com; sflynn@newportri.com; DdeMedeiros@tiverton.ri.gov; mburk@tiverton.ri.gov; dcook@tiverton.ri.gov; jpedwards@tiverton.ri.gov; djanick@tiverton.ri.gov
Subject: Oh-oh Mayflower Wind Asks Rhode Island For Continuance Show Cause Hearing RIEFCB

Mayflower Wind asks for continuance of show-cause hearing Rhode Island

Developer needs more time to prepare testimony and materials

Mayflower Wind map shows what route the cables for its proposed wind turbine project would traverse Portsmouth.

Posted Tuesday, December 13, 2022 11:31 am

Mayflower Wind Energy LLC, which is proposing to develop transmission facilities that would run up the Sakonnet River, cross Portsmouth and reenter Mt. Hope Bay, has asked for a continuance of a show-cause hearing before the R.I. Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) that had been scheduled for Monday, Dec. 19.

In a Dec. 8 letter to the EFSB, Mayflower attorneys Christian F. Capizzo and Robert K. Taylor stated that “despite diligent efforts to date, Mayflower and its witness(es) need additional time to prepare testimony and materials to respond to the board’s Nov. 10, 2022 show-cause order.”

Mayflower requested the hearing “be rescheduled to a date to be determined after consultation between Mayflower and counsel for the board.”

On May 31 of this year, Mayflower filed an application with the EFSB to construct Rhode Island-jurisdictional transmission facilities necessary to connect its offshore wind generation facility to the onshore regional transmission system.

Mayflower wants to construct transmission facilities in Rhode Island that run up the Sakonnet River, cross Portsmouth and reenter Mt. Hope Bay, before making final landfill in Somerset.
The EFSB convened a preliminary hearing on Mayflower’s application on Aug. 18. During an Oct. 4 meeting, the board determined the issues to be considered in its evaluation of Mayflower’s application and designated various agencies to render advisory opinions to the board to aid its evaluation of the application.

The EFSB was in the process of finalizing its preliminary order and initiating its evaluation of the application when its chairman, Ron Gerwatowski, learned that Mayflower had recently requested the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (MADPU) suspend its contract approval proceeding for the project (whose Rhode Island transmission facilities are currently pending before the Board in this docket), citing concerns over the economic and financial viability of the project.

On Nov. 10, after learning about Mayflower Wind’s suspension request to the MADPU and its concerns, Gerwatowski ordered Mayflower to show cause why the board should not stay its proceedings regarding the Rhode Island-jurisdictional transmission facilities until 1) MADPU approves the contract; and 2) until Mayflower can demonstrate the economic and financial viability of its proposed project.

Mayflower Wind’s application is on file and available for public review here.
Carol Wordell

From: fnhaggerty@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 2:48 PM
to: dcook@tiverton.ri.gov; jmcgaw@eastbaymediagroup.com;
ehartley@eastbaymediagroup.com; kaguir@portsmouthri.com;
lujifusa@portsmouthri.com; dabbott@portsmouthri.com; khamilton@portsmouthri.com;
lkatzman@portsmouthri.com; akelly@portsmouthri.com; jryan@portsmouthri.com
Cc: dng@providencejournal.com; kgregg@providencejournal.com;
afarzan@providencejournal.com; rrainer@portsmouthri.com;
lhitchen@portsmouthri.gov; geames@portsmouthri.com; llesinski@portsmouthri.com;
-town council; Carol Wordell; wrichmond@newportri.com; ldamon@newportri.com;
zwolfang@gannett.com; sflynn@newportri.com; DdeMedeiros@tiverton.ri.gov;
mburk@tiverton.ri.gov; dcook@tiverton.ri.gov; jpedwards@tiverton.ri.gov;
djanick@tiverton.ri.gov

Subject: Mayflower Wind -Show Cause Hearing Dec 19, 2022 Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board

I2/12/2022

Mayflower Wind Show Cause Hearing -Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board December 19, 2022


STATE OF RHODE ISLAND ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD
IN RE: MAYFLOWER WIND ENERGY LLC’S APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT MAJOR ENERGY FACILITIES IN PORTSMOUTH, RHODE ISLAND – DOCKET NO. SB-2022-02

NOTICE OF SHOW CAUSE HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapters 42-98 and 42-35 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island as amended, in particular, sections 42-98-7 and 42-98-9, and sections 1.8(a) - (d) and 1.9 of its Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Energy Facility Siting Board (“Board”) will conduct a show cause hearing on Monday, December 19, 2022 at 1:30 PM, in Hearing Room A of the Public Utilities Commission office building, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. The Board will not accept oral public comment at the show cause hearing.

On May 31, 2022, Mayflower Wind Energy LLC (“Mayflower Wind”) filed an application with the Board to construct Rhode Island-jurisdictional transmission facilities necessary to connect its offshore wind generation facility to the onshore regional transmission system. Mayflower Wind proposes to construct transmission facilities in Rhode Island that run up the Sakonnet River, cross Portsmouth and reenter Mt. Hope Bay, before making final landfall in Massachusetts. Mayflower Wind’s application is on file and available for public review at the Board office (located in the Public Utilities Commission office building at 89 Jefferson Boulevard in Warwick, Rhode Island) and online at: https://ripuc.ri.gov/Docket-SB-2022-02.

On August 18, 2022, the Board convened a Preliminary Hearing on Mayflower Wind’s application. Then, at an Open Meeting on October 4, 2022 the Board determined the issues to be considered in its evaluation of Mayflower Wind’s application and designated agencies to render advisory opinions to the Board to aid its evaluation of the application. The Board was in the process of finalizing its Preliminary Order and initiating its evaluation of the application when the Chairman of the Board learned that Mayflower Wind had recently requested the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (MA DPU) suspend its contract approval proceeding for the Mayflower Wind project (whose Rhode Island transmission facilities are currently pending before the Board in this docket), citing concerns over the economic and financial viability of the project.

On November 10, 2022, after learning about Mayflower Wind’s suspension request to the MA DPU and its concerns, the Board Chairman issued Order No. 160 ordering Mayflower Wind to show cause why the Board should not stay its proceedings regarding the Rhode Island-jurisdictional transmission facilities until the MA
DPU approves the contract and until Mayflower Wind can demonstrate the economic and financial viability of its proposed project. Mayflower Wind will respond to the Board's show cause order at the December 19, 2022 hearing.

The Public Utilities Commission office building is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Board Coordinator at least 72 hours in advance of the hearing. The hearing will be streamed live to the public and archived via the internet at: https://video.ibm.com/channel/WqQyXw296dg.

Emma Rodvien Coordinator, Energy Facility Siting Board 401-780-2173 December 5, 2022
Boston Globe

Citing cost increases, Avangrid asks to back out of offshore wind contracts for project off
Martha’s Vineyard

The move could delay one of the state’s largest offshore wind farms.

Jon Chesto Globe Staff, Updated December 16, 2022, 6:36 p.m.


The state’s nascent offshore wind industry suffered a big setback on Friday when Avangrid told state regulators it wants to end its contracts with three major utilities to build a massive wind farm south of Martha’s Vineyard.

The move, made in a filing with the state Department of Public Utilities, was not unexpected: Avangrid had been trying to renegotiate contracts for its 1,200-megawatt Commonwealth Wind project to no avail, arguing that the original terms became untenable because of unforeseen supply chain costs and disruptions, in part caused by the war in Ukraine, as well as rapidly rising interest rates.
In September, chief executive Pedro Azagra said Avangrid would postpone construction of Commonwealth Wind, which could eventually provide enough power for up to 750,000 homes, by pushing its completion date out to 2028, and would need to rewrite the contracts because of a sharp increase in commodity costs. With Friday’s move, Avangrid has given up on those renegotiation efforts.

Connecticut-based Avangrid said it intends to enter the state’s next round of bidding for wind-farm contracts in the spring, to keep Commonwealth Wind alive. But there’s no guarantee Avangrid will win amid competition with up to three rival developers, each with its own offshore lease areas.

This move just adds to the pressure on policy makers. Offshore wind power is considered crucial for Massachusetts to meet its ambitious goal of cutting greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030 from 1990 levels. Representatives for the Baker administration and Attorney General and Governor-elect Maura Healey expressed disappointment with Avangrid’s decision.

“It’s a setback but it’s not a fatal one,” said state Senator Michael Barrett, co-chair of the Legislature’s energy committee. “All these contracts could be rebid and the power could come in before 2030, or just around 2030, so we’re operating within the same rough time frame. This is not a moment for despair but it is a deep disappointment and it’s complicated as heck.”

Construction has begun on the state’s first offshore wind farm, Avangrid’s 800-megawatt Vineyard Wind joint venture, with completion expected in 2024. A third wind farm under contract, Mayflower Wind, isn’t expected to come online until 2028.
Avangrid senior vice president Kim Harriman maintains Commonwealth Wind can still be finished in 2028 if it wins new contracts in the next round. She accused the utilities of refusing to engage with Avangrid to address its cost issues.
December 8, 2022

Reference: Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC
Natural Gas Pipeline Maintenance Project

Dear Landowner:

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC ("Algonquin")\(^1\) is an interstate natural gas pipeline transmission company that maintains and operates interstate pipelines extending from New Jersey through the states of New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. Our interstate pipeline network includes an existing six-inch diameter pipeline that is partially located in Portsmouth and Little Compton, Rhode Island that interconnects with Rhode Island Energy, the local gas distribution company. Our existing pipeline is the sole source of natural gas for homes and businesses on Aquidneck Island. This pipeline was originally installed in 1954.

Recently, Algonquin determined that it needs to conduct a pipeline maintenance project in Portsmouth and Little Compton that would install a new twelve-inch diameter replacement natural gas pipeline and appurtenant facilities primarily within the same easement as the existing six-inch diameter pipeline. The attached map provides information on the approximate location of the proposed work that will take place between our existing meter and regulating station on Old Mill Lane in Portsmouth and the eastern shore of the Sakonnet River in Little Compton (the “Project”). After the replacement pipeline is installed and operational, Algonquin intends to abandon in place its existing six-inch pipeline by filling it with grout.

To help us refine the scope of the Project, company representatives are beginning to collect and evaluate information necessary to determine the design of the Project. Our intent is to proceed in a way that has the least overall impact on our neighbors and the environment, while balancing constructability considerations for the installation of the replacement pipeline and appurtenant facilities. You are receiving this letter because your property is near the study corridor that is being reviewed to finalize the design of the Project. You may see our representatives in the field undertaking civil, environmental, cultural or geotechnical surveys as we evaluate the route for the installation of the replacement pipeline. These survey activities will

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be performed in a minimal amount of time with the goal of little to no inconvenience to you and your neighbors.

It is also our intent to communicate with you early and often about our Project in order to foster a constructive relationship throughout the Project lifecycle. If you have any questions or would like to discuss or obtain additional information concerning the Project please call our landowner hotline toll-free at 877-379-0338.

Very truly yours,

Nancy A. Kist
Senior Advisor, Lands & ROW
U.S. Projects