

Board of Selectmen Meeting Notice AGENDA



TOWN CLERK BOURNE

O

<u>Date</u> Tuesday January 23, 2018 <u>Time</u> 7:00 P.M.

Location
Bourne High School Library/
Media Center
75 Waterhouse Road
Bourne

Note this meeting is being televised and recorded. If anyone in the audience is recording or video-taping, they need to acknowledge such at this time.

All items within the meeting agenda are subject to deliberation and vote(s) by the Board of Selectmen.

7:00 P.M. Call public session to order in Open Session

- 1. Moment of Silence for our Troops and our public safety personnel
- 2. Salute to our Flag
- 3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
- 4. Approval of Minutes: 02.28.2017; 06.06.2017; 06.13.2017
- 5. Correspondence
- 6. Selectmen's Business
 - a. MMA sub-committee report update
- 7. Selectmen's Reports
 - a. Events attended past week
 - b. Events anticipated to attend current week
 - c. Mass. Municipal Assoc. Annual meeting recap.
- 8. Town Administrator Report
 - a. Redraft of the Town Administrator's Pedestrian and Bicycle Path Committee
 - b. Assistant Town Administrator Update
 - c. Priority Based Budget schedule
 - d. Community Building Update
 - e. IRS Audit
 - f. Sagamore beach way stairs
- 9. Future Agenda
 - a. Massachusetts Maritime Academy to give formal update to the Board of Selectmen meeting and to answer questions February
 - b. Stop and Shop Rotary and Clay Pond Road update
 - c. Board of Selectmen Goals as required
 - d. Rules of Procedure 02.06.2018
 - e. Cable TV Contract opt out and renewal preliminary discussion
- 11. Adjourn



Selectmen's Correspondence January 23, 2018

- A. Invitation to the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen to attend the Graduation of the 2018 Chief Fire Officer Program
- B. Cape Light Compact activity for month of November 2017
- C. Division of Marine Fisheries: Status closed to the taking of all shellfish except for the consumption of the adductor muscle of Bay and Sea Scallops only. Effective January 4, 2018 at 6:00 PM
- D. Division of Marine Fisheries: Status Open to the taking of shellfish. Effective sunrise on January 6, 2018
- E. Letter from Mass Highway regarding Updated Project Review Committee [PRC] Approval letter
- F. Letter from George Sala regarding Pilgrim Pines
- G. Letter from Gary Maloney Jr regarding Filing and Posting Policy of Meeting Notices
- H. Letter from Laura Richards regarding more Bluff damage





The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
The Department of Fire Services and
The Massachusetts Fire Training Council,
in conjunction with the
University of Massachusetts, Boston

Request the honor of your presence at

Graduation of the 2018 Chief Fire Officer Program

Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Massachusetts Firefighting Academy One State Road, Stow, Massachusetts



Cape Light Compact JPE 261 Whites Path, Unit 4, South Yarmouth, MA 02664 Energy Efficiency 1.800.797.6699 | Power Supply 1.800.381.9192

Fax: 774.330.3018 | capelightcompact.org

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JAN 1 8 2018

TOWN OF BOURNE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

January 16, 2018

Mr. Thomas Guerino Town Administrator 24 Perry Avenue Buzzards Bay, MA 02532

Dear Mr. Guerino,

Attached for your information and dissemination to your Board of Selectmen/Town Council is the Cape Light Compact's monthly Energy Efficiency Report. The Report reflects the program activity for all of Cape Cod & Martha's Vineyard and breaks out the detail on a town-by-town basis.

Below is a summary of the activity in your town for the month of November, 2017. To view each of your monthly reports, please visit our website at www.capelightcompact.org/reports.

- 253 residents and/or businesses in Bourne participated in the program.
- 115712 in incentive dollars were distributed to the 253 participants.
- 365501 kWh was saved through implementation of these energy efficiency measures.

If you have any questions on the attached report, please contact me at (508) 375-6636.

Sincerely,

Margaret T. Downey

Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Robert Schofield

Energy Efficiency Program Activity by Town

1/10/18 3:34 Page 1 of 1

Town Name: BOURNE Program Period: 2017

Current Dates: 1/1/2017

Cumulative Dates: 1/1/2017

11/1/2017 - 11/30/2017 : 1/1/2017 - 11/30/2017

C&I % of Total **C&I Upstream Lighting** C&I Multifamily - Municipal **C&I Multifamily Retrofit C&I Existing Building Retrofit - Municipal C&I Existing Building Retrofit - MEDIUM** C&I New Buildings & Major Renovations -**C&I New Buildings & Major Renovations Residential Home Energy Services C&I Small Business** C&I Existing Building Retrofit - LARGE C&I Upstream HVAC C&I Upstream Food Services C&I Initial Purchase & End of Useful Life **Residential Lighting** Residential Heating & Cooling Equipment Residential Behavior/Feedback Program Residential Home Energy Services - RCS **Residential Multi-Family Retrofit** Residential New Construction (Low-**Residential New Construction Program Initiative** LI % of Total Low-Income Multi-Family Retrofit Low-Income Single Family Retrofit Residential HEAT Loan **Residential Consumer Products** Income) les % of Total les Subtotal Savings Annual kWh 365,501.36 314,256.00 48,950.56 241,645.40 31,215.44 9,735.60 59,276.70 13,974.72 2,294.80 13.39% 85.98% 3,760.40 3,598.30 1,141.80 1,153.00 0.63% 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 Expenditures Actual **Current Period** \$115,712.32 \$21,952.85 \$91,596.75 \$18,082.85 \$2,162.72 \$15,744.90 \$12,595.00 \$54,865.13 \$1,250.22 \$6,104.50 \$3,305.00 \$1,720.00 \$1,037.00 18.97% 79.16% \$442.72 \$565.0C 1.87% \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 **Participants** 94.07% 3.56% 2.37% 238.00 6.00 9.00 253 87 11 17 54 65 0 Savings Annual kWh 3,027,067.26 2,045,511.63 1,352,430.50 880,542.83 101,012.80 246,693.15 477,161.20 103,141.43 167,025.59 96,448.00 93,787.72 27,069.60 27,020.33 64,155.26 92,544.68 52,227.30 48,785.50 14,454.00 67.57% 78,845.40 82,984.60 29.09% 2,293.00 3.34% 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 Expenditures Actua \$774,273.37 \$480,552.72 \$154,584.35 \$165,431.52 \$75,131.35 \$123,154.86 \$469,943.86 \$13,553.00 \$23,351.65 \$31,954.10 \$15,755.85 \$66,030.00 \$22,901.34 \$52,230.01 \$39,921.80 \$13,832.07 \$54,418.00 \$57,790.00 \$1,935.00 \$7,557.25 \$9,080.38 \$6,132.40 36.13% 58.22% 5.65% \$400.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 **Cumulative Period Participants** 96.63% 1.16% 2.22% 6,996 6,760 5,762 155 110 206 376 183 106 45 4 21 49 40 38 0 4 2 6 0 0 Budget \$2,086,985.11 \$1,188,746.17 \$604,414.07 \$293,824.87 \$1,053,907.01 \$281,590.01 \$322,824.07 \$134,839.16 \$293,824.87 56.96% 28.96% 14.08% \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 Actual % of Budget 54.90% 44.59% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 17.78% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 42.86% 0.00% 7.23% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00%

^{*}Costs include those costs that has been recorded through this period and are not necessarily representative of all activity through this month **All information presented is preliminary and subject to change.

David E. Pierce, Ph.D.

Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400 Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617)626-1520 fax (617)626-1509 RECEIVED

JAN 1 0 2018

TOWN OF BOURNE

Charles D. Baker Governor

BOARD OF SELECTMEN Karyn E. Polito

Lieutenant Governor

Motthew A. Reston

Matthew A. Beaton Secretary

Ronald Amidon

Commissioner
Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

January 5, 2018

Honorable Coastal Mayors and Select Boards of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 130, section 74A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Division of Marine Fisheries has closed the below defined shellfish areas of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a precaution due to the potential effects of the coastal storm of January 4, 2018.

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, sections 74A, **effective at 6:00 PM on January 4, 2018**, the below-defined areas have been placed in a "CLOSED TO SHELLFISHING" status to the taking of all shellfish. Digging, harvesting or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest or collect shellfish and the possession of shellfish from the below-defined areas is prohibited.

Under authority of 322 CMR 7.01 (7) all permits issued there under are hereby conditioned to prohibit the taking, selling or possession of shellfish as stated above from the below-defined areas. After the storm, holders of aquaculture licenses under the authority of Chapter 130, Section 57, MGL, may do necessary maintenance/retrieval of their equipment after notifying and with the consent of the local shellfish constable. No shellfish maybe harvested during the closure or removed from the site for culling.

STATUS: CLOSED TO THE TAKING OF ALL SHELLFISH AS DEFINED BELOW Except for the consumption of the adductor muscle of Bay and Sea Scallops Only

"The waters, flats and all tributaries of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from the Salisbury-New Hampshire State Line south to the Rhode Island – Massachusetts State Line out to the State Boundary Line. This includes N1-N28, GBH1-GBH6, MB1-MB14, CCB1-CCB51, OC1-OC10, SC1-SC64, NS1-4, NT1-NT14, V1-V35, E1-E14, MHB1- MHB5 and BB1-BB58,

The above-described areas shall remain closed until notification has been received from the Division that the areas have been placed into an open status.

Sincerely,

David E. Pierce, Director cc: J. McGinn, B. Perrin, P. Moran, DELE

D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, J. Kennedy, T. Sheilds, DMF

R. Amidon, M. King, DFG

J. Hobill, S. King, DEP

FDA

DPH
Shellfish Constables of the cities and towns listed above

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David E. Pierce, Ph.D.

Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400 Boston, Massachusetts 02114 (617)626-1520 fax (617)626-1509

BOARD OF SELEC

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Governor Karvn E. Polito Lieutenant Governor

Commissioner

Matthew A. Beaton Secretary Ronald Amidon Mary-Lee King Deputy Commissioner

January 5, 2018

Honorable Select Boards of the following towns/cities: Swansea, Somerset, Fall River, Freetown Dighton, Berkley, Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Marion, Wareham, Bourne, Falmouth and Gosnold

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 130, section 74A of the Massachusetts General Laws, MGL, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that shellfish areas in the above listed towns/cities (designated shellfish growing areas BB 1-58 and E 1-14) closed on January 4, 2018 due to a coastal storm, now meet the National Shellfish Sanitation Program guidelines for an "OPEN" status.

Therefore under authority of MGL, Chapter 130, Sections 74A and 322 CMR 7.01 (7) the below-defined areas will revert to their former status prior to the closure of January 4, 2018 effective at sunrise on Saturday January 6, 2018.

Those areas previously classified as "APPROVED" and in the "OPEN" status prior to the January 4, 2018 shellfish closure will revert to their previous status on January 6, 2018 and open to the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption subject to local rules and regulations under authority of MGL Chapter 130, section 52.

Similarly, those areas previously classified as "CONDITIONALLY APPROVED" and in the "OPEN" status prior to the January 4, 2018 shellfish closure will revert to their previous status on January 6, 2018 subject to the previous status conditions. Areas classified as "PROHIBITED" and "RESTRICTED" shall remain closed to the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption.

STATUS: OPEN TO THE TAKING OF SHELLFISH

"The waters, flats and all tributaries of Massachusetts within the following DSGA's BB 1 - BB58 and E 1 - E14 in the towns and cities of Swansea, Somerset, Fall River, Freetown Dighton, Berkley, Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Marion, Wareham, Bourne, Falmouth and Gosnold."

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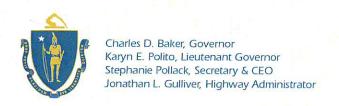
FOARD OF SELECTMEN

Sincerely,

David Sierce

David E. Pierce, Director

cc: J. McGinn, B. Perrin, P. Moran, OLE
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, T. Sheilds, DMF
R. Amidon, M. King, DFG
J. Hobill, S. King, DEP
FDA,
DPH
Shellfish Constables of the above listed towns.



Massachusetts Department of Transportation Galare Noors **Highway Division**

January 12, 2018

Dear Sir or Madam.

Updated Project Review Committee (PRC) Approval Letter Re:

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide information regarding the new MassDOT Highway Division project intake tool and the updated Project Review Committee (PRC) Approval letter.

The Highway Division's streamlined project initiation process uses a new web-based application designed to help both state and municipal proponents map and initiate new projects. This tool will provide time savings to project proponents by reducing the need for rework while also reducing the risk of unanticipated permitting. Throughout the fall of 2017 MassDOT provided workshops through Baystate Roads demonstrating the new software. Workshop participants had the opportunity to create a test project. The new project intake tool is being used as the primary interface for all project creation.

Effective after the December 14, 2017 PRC meeting, an updated PRC letter will be sent out to municipalities with approved projects. Highlights of the letter include:

- If within two years of the date of the letter the municipality has not accomplished the following three milestones, the project will be deactivated unless the project is resubmitted to the PRC for continued project eligibility:
 - 1. Received MassDOT approval of the project's Scope/Workhours;
 - 2. Secured a signed contract with your design consultant for the entire design process; and
 - 3. Identified design funding
- Resubmission to the PRC may also be required if there is a significant increase in cost or change in scope over the life of the project.
- Detailed cost estimates will be required during the second week of January every year during project development in order to assist MassDOT with annual TIP development
- For projects requiring Right-of-Way (ROW), the preparation of ROW plans are required at every stage of design submission based on an instrument survey that meets 250 CMR 6.01 and 6.02. Recordable plans and instrument will be required.
- The letter will include a signature page, requiring a signature from a municipal official, to be returned to the District Highway Director in order for the project to advance.

This updated PRC letter is being implemented in conjunction with our new Project Intake tool called, Map It. Information about the PRC, as well as a sample PRC approval letter, can be found at the Highway Division's website at:

http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/highway/Departments/ProjectManagement/ProjectReviewCommittee.aspx

I hope this updated letter clearly identifies roles, responsibilities and expectations that are mutually beneficial, with the ultimate goal being the successful advertising of municipal projects. I look forward to our continued partnership as we work collectively to deliver future projects. If you have any questions, please contact the Chief Engineer at 857-368-9290 or your District Highway Director.

C. Leavene

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E.

Chief Engineer



TOWN OF BOURNE Department of Public Works



35 Ernest Valeri Road Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts 02532

PHONE: 508-759-0600 ext. 3 • FAX: 508-759-0617

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 11, 2018

To: Thomas Guerino, Town Administrator

From: George M. Sala, Director of Public Works

em5

RE: Pilgrim Pines

Dear Mr. Guerino:

Upon inspection of Pilgrim Pines it has been determined that the top course of bituminous concrete and the sidewalks have been completed to the specifications. In the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Housing Appeals Docket No. 2014-009 between the Town of Bourne and Pilgrim Pines under the section of **SURETY LOT FOR ROAD WORK** there were the following conditions that needed to be completed.

- Roads
- Sidewalks
- Driveways

I had sent pictures dated December 20, 2017 to Town Planner Coreen Moore of the unfinished driveways and the bituminous concrete that needs to be repaired in front of 6 Cordwood Circle.

If you have any questions regarding these matters, please contact me.





January 15, 2018

TO:

Town Administrator, Town of Bourne

CC:

Town of Bourne Board of Selectmen

Subject: Filing and Posting Policy of Meeting Notices

Mr Guerino,

I was encouraged that a copy of the Town Clerk's policy on the Posting of Meeting Notices was located and included in the Selectmen's correspondence packet for the meeting on January 9, 2018. Having the policy read publicly and briefly discussed during a televised meeting was a good first step in leadership recognizing the issue and ensuring widest dissemination of the policy information and current procedures. However, during the resulting limited discussion between yourself and the Selectmen I noticed an omission of important dates and incorrect references to specific complaint(s).

The Town Clerks letter detailing current policy for posting policy meeting notices is not new. The email header shows that this policy was widely disseminated and was in effect as of December 14, 2016. The policy was developed following successful public challenges to the Open Meeting Law filled against the Board of Selectmen in 2016. Since that date, notices of additional OML violations for incorrectly posted meetings have been filed. One that I'm aware of was successfully navigated by the Town Counsel and staff at unknown dollar cost for legal fees as well as the expense of staff's time and effort. A second similar violation occurred for which a full resolution, legal costs, and staff time is still currently ongoing. Personally, I find it telling that the policy letter was only discovered and acknowledged by staff after a formal public records request on December 15, 2017. Initially, the records request for current policy was closed with no release of pertinent information or acknowledgement of a Town policy existing. Only the state guidelines for public meeting posting requirements were located and transmitted in an attempt to close the records request. It was not until a second, more persistent and personal questioning / prodding was done of the TA staff and Town Clerk's office that the public records request was reopened by the Town and an official policy letter located. (Town of Bourne public records request #17-48).

During the select boards / TA discussion of current policy mention was made of individual departments or boards posting the meeting information or updates themselves directly to the web based calendar. Until the web based posting can support all requirements for time and date stamps in accordance with public posting law, Town policy makes no allowance for departmental or board involvement in the official posting or updating of notices other than delivering the meeting notice to the Town Clerk in a timely manner. Deviations from official policy open the door for potential violations and go against already approved posting methodology agreed to between the Massachusetts Attorney General and the Town of Bourne

based upon previous violation resolutions. The most recent OML case filed on November 20, 2017 and which then resulted in the Public Records Request to locate current policy, was for an incorrectly posted INITIAL public meeting notice for The Board of Health. So no, this is not strictly a meeting update posting issue. The Attorney General's office granting the Town an extension to reply to the complaint, Town Counsel agreeing the complaint was valid, remedial training of department staff requiring attendance of an Open Meeting Law Seminar out of town, as well as the promise going forward of the commitment of the Board of Health ensuring future compliance show that the alleged violation is likely valid and that Town policy is still not being followed a full year after the policy was implemented and transmitted to Town offices. A retransmission of the email policy to all concerned and a signed acknowledgement on file for receipt of that policy letter would be a good second step in ensuring future compliance and accountability efforts.

Respectively submitted,

Gary O. Maloney Jr.

Buzzards Bay, MA

Johnson, Barry

From:

Johnson, Barry

Sent:

Wednesday, December 14, 2016 12:26 PM

To:

All Selectmen; Guerino, Thomas; All Department Heads; All Remote Dept Heads; Butler, Jamie; Carr, Lois; Chapman, Wendy; Chisser, Jennifer; Dastous, Anne; Donoghue, Edward; Elrick, Richard; Fernandes, Mary; Freeman, Michelle; Girouard, Karen; Goddard, Philip; Gomes, Cheryl; Griffin, Kimberly; Guarino, Terri; Gutterson, Ann; Haines, Samuel; Judge, Debbie; LaMarche, Steven; Lomeland, Hans; Lydon, Timothy; M Coelho; Mintz, Asa; Noyes, Charlie; Ranney, Diane; Rebello, Mary; Sullivan, Tracy; Sundman, Nancy; Mary

Jane Mastrangelo

Cc:

Robert Troy

Subject:

FILING AND POSTING POLICY OF MEETING NOTICES

Attachments:

OML complaint.docx

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY!!!

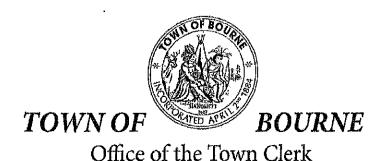
FILING AND POSTING POLICY OF MEETING NOTICES

Everyone:

Due to the filing of an Open Meeting Law Complaint....the attached policy of filing and posting of all meeting notices will be implemented immediately until further notice.

Any comments or questions....please direct them to our office.

Thank You. Barry Johnson, Clerk



Corrective action as a result an OML complaint.

Currently the town's website does not record the date and time that an amended meeting is posted on the site.

Therefore, effective immediately and until further notice, all original and amended meeting notices, will be posted on the website by the Town Clerk's Office with the date and time filed in the Town Clerk's office.

In order for our department to post the notices in a timely fashion, all notices must be received in our office on or before 3:00 P.M. prior to the 48 hours excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. If the notice is not received by 3:00 PM prior to the 48 hours, it will not be considered timely and therefore will not be posted.

Amended meeting notices must be filed in our office as soon as possible. Our office would still require a reasonable amount of time to upload the notices to the website.

The Town of Bourne website is currently being revised so that all notices, including amended meeting notices, will reflect the date and time posted to the website. As soon as the modifications are completed the Individual boards will be able to post the agendas on the website.

Again until further notice, all meeting notices must go through the Town Clerk's office for posting to the website.

Meeting Notices may be hand-delivered, faxed or emailed as follows:

Fax number - (508) 759-7980

Email to all contacts in the Clerk's Office:

bjohnson@townofbourne.com

wchapman@townofbourne.com

mfernandes@townofbourne.com

24 Perry Avenue Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts 02532 Phone 508-759-0600 x505

Request #17-48

☑ CLOSED

As of January 15, 2018, 9:11am

Detaii	S
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Request a copy of the most currently approved/signed Town wide policy letter / procedures covering the Process for Requesting/Posting of public meetings.

Received

December 15, 2017 via web

Departments

Clerk, Administration

Documents

MX-M264N_20171221_115420.pdf

Staff

Point of Contact

Nancy Sundman

Timeline

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Public

December 29, 2017, 2:05pm

Request Closed

Public

We released all of the requested documents.

December 29, 2017, 2:05pm

Public

Document(s) Released

MX-M264N_20171221_115420.pdf

December 21, 2017, 12:36pm

Request Reopened

Public

December 21, 2017, 11:49am

Request Closed

Public

We released all of the requested documents.

December 20, 2017, 2:37pm

Public

Department Assignment

Added: Clerk.

December 15, 2017, 9:50am

Department Assignment

Administration

December 15, 2017, 9:32am

Request Opened

Request received via web

December 15, 2017, 9:32am

Public

Public

Guerino, Thomas



From:

Laura Richards < laurarichards 2559@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, January 11, 2018 1:25 PM

To:

Pickard, Donald; Meier, Peter; Slade, George; Blanton, Michael; JMacleod-

Froman@townofbourne.com; Guerino, Thomas

Cc:

Laura Richards

Subject:

More Bluff Damage

Dear Board of Selectman,

As I sat in my historic family home on Indian Trail during the major storm last week, I was frightened, anxious, and extremely saddened. This house has seen a lot of storms through the years, but as everyone living on or near Cape Cod knows, we have seen more than our share of dangerous storms in the last few years. This was a big one.

We had sustained winds of 60 mph all day, and quite often, up to 70-75 mph gusts. This together with 2 inches of driving rain and slush was the worst kind of storm for the upper bluff. The astronomically high tides pounded away at the base of the bluff.

I walked down there after the storm to survey the damage and there is a lot more "carving out" across the whole bluff including the bottom.

I was saddened during the storm because I feel like our Town has abandoned us and has ignored a problem on town land for over five years, that we presented a very viable solution for. We tried ourselves for years to revegetate the bluff, but these repeated storms prevent the landscape to take hold because there is nothing at the base of the hill to stabilize and prevent sliding of the landscape. Our homes are being undermined more and more with every storm.

We cannot believe how we have been let down by our Town officials who could have given their approval over 4 years ago. We received overwhelming approval at Town Meeting to allow us to protect our properties. Our proposal was to be fully funded by the homeowners. By contrast, Sagamore Beach homeowners got an emergency permit to protect their homes and it has worked beautifully.

As you can see from the pictures below, the revetments that Sagamore Beach residents were allowed to build withstood the last few storms beautifully, the landscape above was able to take hold and fill in, and NOTHING negative has happen to the beach in front of their homes. It is as wide and beautiful as it ever has been.

We are surprised also by the quick response by our Town officials to commit significant taxpayer funds to support the Sagamore Highlands Stair project. Obviously, we all enjoy the stairs and would love to have them repaired, but that project seems to be driven by a group of vocal neighbors who ironically opposed our project. It seems odd that Town officials would be willing to spend significant public monies on one area of the Strand, but not be willing to accept private funding on the same property.

I beg of you to reconsider your vote to allow us to protect our homes. The State has, as you know researched in great detail the science, engineering and environmental impact of this project, and confirmed its viability. The State is hesitate to interfere with land ownership issues, which appears to us and many other Bourne Residents as an unnecessary and unfair administrative issue.

An alternative would be to gift the land back to each individual homeowner. Rebuild the beach steps if you want public access, but the bluff in front of the homes has absolutely no value to the town, only responsibility. It would make sense to release your responsibility to each individual homeowner.

The revetments down on Sagamore Beach make a very beautiful and effective natural protection to that strip of beach. The Strand has become an ugly eye sore as well as a disaster waiting to happen. Please ,please consider gifting it back to each homeowner and we will be responsible to protect our homes and the town beach. The Town of Bourne will be able to have a beautiful public beach for years to come.

I am sure each of you had your own concerns during this last storm. You might have been concerned about losing power, bursting pipes, leaking, flooding and ice and snow damage. I would hope the Board of Selectman would be compassionate enough to consider our extreme concerns during each and every storm.

There are many Bourne residents and taxpayers that are baffled by the discrimination that Indian Trail has seen from their own Town officials. Please can we make 2018 a year when the homeowners on Indian Trail will see a resolution?

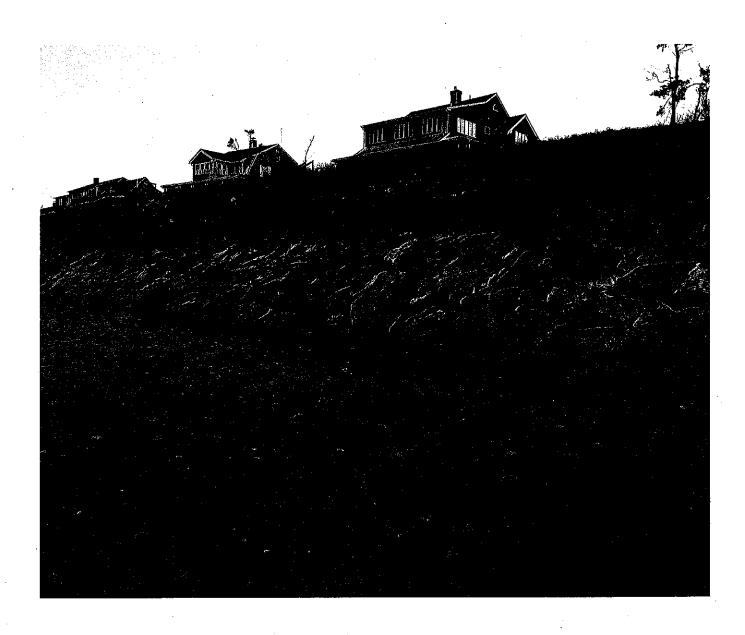
Thank you

Laura Richards 12 Indian Trail











Sent from my iPhone