



Public Hearing

Adoption of Annual Town-wide Policy Goals for FY 2013

The Provincetown Board of Selectmen held a Public Hearing on **Monday, August 13, 2012 at 6 p.m.** in the Judge Welsh Room, 260 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA, and then and there voted to adopt the following Town-wide policy goals for Fiscal Year 2013:

FY2013 Town Wide Policy Goals

1) Fiscal Management

The Town Manager, the Finance Director, the Town Treasurer, the Principal Assessor, the Town Collector along with all employees involved in fiscal responsibility and management of their departments continue to contribute significantly in taking strides to comply with the Massachusetts Department of Revenue recommendations noted in their report to the Board of Selectmen in April 2008. Efforts to further improve all financial processes remain a priority while maintaining strong communication and accountability. Many recommendations have been cleaned up and more will be forthcoming. Timely reporting requirements have been met for the first time in many years. The Department of Revenue notified the Town of removal from its “watch list” in the latter part of 2011 which remains a major accomplishment.

A five-year fiscal policy plan and a five-year capital improvement plan are essential tools needed for future forecasting and planning. The importance of these financial planning tools will enable the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee, the Town Manager and staff to communicate the financial needs of the Town throughout the budget process in the fall and winter months.

Continue regular meetings with the Finance Committee to create a clear and concise planning strategy for budget preparation as well as for the future financial projections of the Town. Concentration and continual attention to identifying key sources of additional revenue are paramount to providing a sound financial future. These include urging state government leaders to equitably distribute

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revenues received from future local receipt options in order to maximize return to the Town and the inclusion of additional pay stations for the benefit of maximizing parking revenues received during the seasonal months of the year.

Continue recognizing the importance of the stabilization fund while building reserves for the future financial health of the Town. Adherence to the formally adopted policies to build reserves in the range of three-to-five percent of the operating budget.

Maintain the process of closing outdated articles holding any remaining cash balances for purposes of efficiency.

2) Town Facilities Action Plan/Police Station Relocation

The successful completion, on time and under budget, of the two year restoration and rehabilitation project of Town Hall will remain an important reminder to all citizens of Provincetown that maintaining historic buildings is paramount to providing much needed services to all who live here and all who visit here in addition to maximizing town employee productivity.

The Town wide building assessment provides a clear focus to maximize use of other town-owned buildings, including the public schools. Continuing with the strategic plan approved by voters to vacate and sell the Grace Gouveia Building and the Community Center will provide additional resources for maintenance of other buildings and a capital investment to provide for the design and construction of a new police station/highway maintenance facility.

Plan for the sale of the Community Center and the Grace Gouveia Building by incorporating a strategy for the best use of these buildings.

Finalizing design documents and awarding a competitive bid for the replacement of the heating system at the newly renamed Veteran's Memorial Community Center will continue the plan of providing improved office space and community space for the Recreation Department, the Council on Aging and temporary space for the Department of Public Works.

Working with the Building Committee appointees to finalize location for a new Police Station and continuing with the design process for this vital facility is of utmost importance.

3) Paving of Commercial Street

Continue with the reconstruction project to finalize completion of paving on Commercial Street. With the water main project having been successfully completed the work to pave a significant portion of the downtown area of the Town's main artery can be completed in the fall of 2012. Continue to pursue solutions and other funding sources for additional repaving efforts while considering a town-wide repaving plan for all publicly traveled streets in Provincetown.

4) Affordable Housing

Continue over site of the Town's project at 90 Shank Painter Road while supporting The Community Builders in their efforts to complete construction of Province Landing. Ensuring that construction of the 50 rental apartments is completed with due diligence and timeliness has been successful. Occupying the units will continue throughout the remainder of 2012.

Revisit the Housing Needs Assessment utilizing data from the application process for both 90 and 83 Shank Painter Road projects along with any other relevant data. Evaluate the ongoing need for community housing and what future strategies should be implemented including strategies to confront issues surrounding workforce housing, specifically the lack of summer rentals.

5) Water Management Plan

Water supply: secure a reliable, sustainable new water supply through the construction of the well field at North Union Field that will serve as the redundant water supply to the Town's existing well fields as mandated by DEP. Have North Union Field online and operating before the end of June 2013. This will eliminate reliance on the Town's need to use the National Seashore's wells at the North Truro Air Force Base to meet the Town's seasonal water demands. Achieving this goal satisfies a long-standing (over 10-year) policy goal of the Selectmen.

Water quality: improve water quality by initiating the construction of a water treatment plant at the Knowles Crossing well field. This plant will remove iron and manganese from the raw water, which has progressively impaired water quality over the last several years.

Reducing unaccounted-for water: continue with the leak detection and removal program that reduces water lost in the system (unaccounted-for water) with a goal of achieving 10% or less unaccounted-for water.

6) Wastewater

Finalize implementation of the Phase 3a and 3b collection system expansion of the sewer system by utilizing the USDA Rural Development grant of \$9 million supplemented by \$8.7 million in new betterments. Finalize the approved plant expansion to 750,000 gallons per day as permitted by DEP.

Undertake facilities planning that recognizes there is a finite capacity and incorporate policy decisions that address future connections and extensions as well as the need to reserve system capacity for Economic Development Permits, the potential for important public service uses as in Maushope housing, Outer Cape Health, affordable housing and gallons to be allocated under Growth Management.

7) Storm Drain Repairs/Storm Water Run-Off/Harbor and Beach Management Plan

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The harbor side drainage assessment was completed in 2003 reflecting that the town has 25 outfall pipes that directly discharge into the harbor. Six of these outfalls have been replaced and reconstructed with an additional four slated to be repaired in the fall 2012. Special consideration should be paid to identifying solutions or alternatives to the West Ryder Street Outfall pipe. Continue the pursuit of grants and other funding mechanisms in order to continue the process of completing this important drain rehabilitation project each year.

Address all areas relating to storm water run-off by supporting studies to effectuate healthy environmental habitats for animals and vegetation.

Continue efforts to create a comprehensive beach management plan and address beach nourishment with the Harbor Committee and the Conservation Commission.

8) Solid Waste and Renewable Energy

Continue to support and encourage the Recycling and Renewable Energy Committee in their pursuit for sources of alternative energy and grant funding while meeting with this group more frequently. To determine which town buildings are suitable for solar or wind generators as a long-term energy savings goal.

Work with state leaders, regional groups and the Cape Cod National Seashore in the siting and acquisition of alternative energy sources in the form of wind turbine or a land-based solar facility.

Continue to promote solid waste production and management solutions to develop a program to reduce costs and achieve a practical approach to the transportation of waste from the Town's facility.

9) Economic Development and Tourism

The Board of Selectman officially recognize that tourism is the town's primary economic engine and will work in conjunction with the VSB to improve and enhance the infrastructure needed to support this economy. Included in this effort will be continuing support of any legislative efforts to augment the tourism fund by way of extending room tax to short term rentals. Continue to work on initiatives and incentives that keep businesses in town in addition to attracting new businesses, including accommodations, dining and retail establishments.

Work with the Department of Community Development to create a more effective and efficient environment for regulatory transactions between businesses and the town.

Continue to pursue a Town-wide Bicycle Master Plan to make Provincetown a bicycle-friendly destination through a public awareness and safety campaign and the implementation of bicycle improvements and amenities throughout Town.

Continue to work with the Cape Cod Commission traffic engineers to review the completed traffic study analysis on Shank Painter Road, a highly congested two lane road impacted by business, commercial/retail property, existing residential

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properties and projected increased traffic from build-out of a 50 unit affordable rental community. Investigate solutions and options for varying traffic patterns or traffic control devices at the intersection of Shank Painter Road and Route 6 as well as the intersection of Shank Painter Road and Bradford Street.

Focus on completion of construction for Cape-wide Internet access (Open Cape).

Develop a plan to promote programs in Provincetown that support the many diverse maritime events & activities of the Cape Cod Maritime Days schedule held in May and June 2013. Explore adding additional floats to accommodate larger ships.

Foster and support initiatives that encourage a year round economy and promote ecotourism as an alternative venue for visitors.

10) Cape Cod National Seashore

Work and support efforts of CCNS to improve highway access, directional signage and other vehicular traffic related issues affecting citizens and visitors to Provincetown. Support and respect the efforts of the Dune Shack dwellers of the Peaked Hill Bars Historic District to validate their plea for recognition as a traditional, historic and cultural community.

Continue to work in partnership with the CCNS to develop and expand bicycle lanes, trails and connections between the Seashore and Town.

Enhance the partnership with the CCNS concerning matters of mutual interest. Encourage the CCNS to utilize local workers for upcoming projects.

11) Initiate an update the Local Comprehensive Plan (LCP)

The LCP is an essential master-planning document that serves as a planning tool and guideline for formulating goals, policies and objectives for the Town over the next twenty years. It is a long-range plan created at the local level to ensure the decisions we make are consistent with the community's vision of its future. The plan not only provides information about our Town, its history, resources and needs, but also serves the purpose of being a snapshot of where we are now. The existing LCP process, which began in 1996, was built on previous Master Plan and Community Vision Surveys, and was ultimately approved by Town Meeting in 2000. Much has changed in Provincetown since the initial studies including a new wastewater system, creation of a redundant water source, reconstruction of the town pier and other essential components to update the Town's infrastructure.

A newly updated LCP is paramount to the success of future development programs, plans and goals for the Town. Work on this important document should begin in 2012 through the assistance from the hiring of a Town Planner to implement this process.

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12) Town Meeting Participation

Encourage more voter turnout at Town Meeting and work with PTV to stream live broadcasts of Town Meeting for those citizens who can not attend.

*Austin Knight
Chairman, Board of Selectmen*

Posted Town Hall, www.provincetown-ma.gov: August 14, 2012
Provincetown Banner: August 23, 2012