

TOWN OF FALMOUTH
SELECT BOARD
59 Town Hall Square, Falmouth, MA 02540
AGENDA
Wednesday, March 9, 2022 – 5:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

In accordance with the Governor’s Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G. L. c. 30A, § 20, relating to the 2020 novel Coronavirus outbreak emergency, the Wednesday, March 9, 2022 public meeting of the Falmouth Select Board shall be physically closed to the public to avoid group congregation.

Alternative public access to this meeting shall be provided in the following manner:

1. *The meeting will be televised via Falmouth Community Television.*
2. *Real-time public comment can be addressed to the Select Board utilizing the Zoom virtual meeting software for remote access. This application will allow users to view the meeting, send a comment or question to the Chair either via the Chat function, or use the “Raise Hand” button to ask the Chair to appear on the video to make a comment. Submitted text comments will be read into the record at the appropriate points in the meeting.*
 - a. *Zoom Login instructions:*
 - i. *Instructions and the meeting link for this specific meeting can be found at the following web address: <http://www.falmouthma.gov/BOS>.*
 - ii. *Please plan on 10-15 minutes of preparation time to log in though it may be less if you have previously used Zoom on the device you will use to access this meeting.*
3. *Additionally public comments may be sent in advance of the meeting to selectboard@falmouthma.gov at least 5 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting. Documents and audio or video files may also be submitted via email. Submitted email comments and documents will be made a part of the meeting record and may be read into the record, summarized or displayed during the meeting at the discretion of the chair.*
4. *Applicants, their representatives and individuals with enforcement matters before the Board may appear remotely and are not required to be physically present. Applicants, their representatives and individuals with enforcement matters before the Board may contact the Town Manager/Select Board’s Office to arrange an alternative means of real time participation if unable to use the Zoom virtual meeting software. Documentary exhibits and/or visual presentations should be submitted in advance of the meeting to the Town Manager’s Office at townmanager@falmouthma.gov so they may be displayed for remote public access viewing.*

AGENDA

The Select Board may discuss and vote appropriate action on any item listed on this Agenda unless a different disposition is noted.

5:00 p.m. OPEN SESSION

5:00 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Sec. 21(a)(6) – Discuss value of real property easements for Martha’s Vineyard cable requested by NStar Electric dba Eversource

5:05 p.m. OPEN SESSION

1. Vote recommendation on Article 22 – Authorize NStar Electric dba Eversource easements
2. Adjourn

Douglas C. Brown, Chair
Select Board

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to grant certain easements to NStar Electric Company dba Eversource Energy in connection with its proposed additional underground power supply cables to Martha's Vineyard on, in, over, under and across the following town property:

- A. The Town owned portion of the Shining Sea Bikeway from Simpson's Lane to Locust Street, including the Locust Street parking lot;
- B. The Mill Road parking lot, a portion of Surf Drive and a portion of Surf Drive beach;
- C. The Shore Street/Surf Drive parking lot, a portion of Surf Drive and a portion of the Shore Street/Surf Drive beach; and

further to authorize the Select Board to assent to the grant of a similar easement by Mass DOT in the state owned portion of the Shining Sea Bikeway from Ter Heun Drive to Simpson's Lane; said easements to be for the purpose of the installation and maintenance of underground power supply cables for reliability for Martha's Vineyard and Falmouth upon such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems reasonable and proper.

Or do or take any other action on the matter. On request of the Select Board.

DRAFT ONLY RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote Article 22 as printed

DRAFT ONLY EXPLANATION: Eversource has advised that a new undersea electric cable is needed to provide reliable electric power supply to Martha's Vineyard. This article provides easements to Eversource authorizing installation of underground electric cables on the Town-owned parcels identified above. The proposed electric cable is 23-kilovolt ("kV") which Eversource states is the same as the distribution lines installed on utility poles throughout residential streets in Falmouth and the region. After a dialog with Town representatives, Eversource selected a route to install this underground cable approximately 2.7 miles.

Cable Route Description: The cable will connect from Eversource's substation located at Stephens Lane extending to and along Jones Road, Ter Heun Drive, onto the Shining Sea Bikeway, exiting the Shining Sea Bikeway onto Mill Road, and continuing to a Town beach parking lot on Mill Road, where land cables and lines will terminate and transition into a submarine cable that will exit the Town beach shoreline into Vineyard Sound. Another set of cables, duct bank system and lines will extend from Mill Road down Surf Drive utilizing some existing duct bank and terminate as land cables at the Town owned beach parking lot at the Town's Surf Drive parking lot where the land cable will transition to submarine cable and exit the Town beach front shoreline into Vineyard Sound.

The Select Board has signed an agreement with Eversource that provides for mitigation of construction impacts including: traffic control, noise, dust, and limits on the time of year, and time of day, that construction is permitted. In exchange for the perpetual use of Town property, Eversource has agreed to provide \$800,000 to pay for: Surf Drive sidewalk and drainage improvements, widening a section of the Shining Sea Bikeway, paving of the Depot Avenue parking lot, and other improvements in the area to be determined by the Select Board. Eversource has also committed to relocating 18 utility poles from within the sidewalk on Palmer Avenue.