

The Roads Takings Meeting with the Board of Selectmen

The Nantucket Board of Selectmen held an information give and take on August 31 on the long simmering subject of the Town taking for upgrade and maintenance the Boulevarde, a portion of Lovers Lane, Okorwaw and Monohansett. It was agreed by residents and the BOS that these roads, though privately held, are essentially public thoroughfares, used by commercial, municipal and private entities alike. The Board stated that the Town taking of the roads, for repair and maintenance, will come about at some point, but first the funding for such action, estimated to be over \$1,000,000, must be found. These costs include not only the legal fees incurred in the takings either through permanent easements or eminent domain of the property owners' interest in the roads to the center line, but survey work, brush cutting, grinding of existing surfaces and new asphalt paving must be funded. Libby Gibson, Town Manager, stated more than once that the Town does not have the money, and has no concrete idea where it will come from. Most people at the meeting, who owned property along the roads, did indicate, when asked, an interest in giving easements to the Town which would be a cost savings.

No decisions were made at this meeting as it was purely for information gathering. The BOS plan to hold additional meetings on this issue, so stay tuned.