



TOWN & COUNTY OF NANTUCKET
SELECT BOARD
POLICY FOR SEWER FEE WAIVER REQUESTS
Adopted: 07/20/2016; Revised 10/24/2018, 12/03/2020, 11/02/2022

I. Policy.

The Select Board, acting as the Nantucket Sewer Commission pursuant to Chapter 396 of the Acts of 2008, and in accordance with Chapter 38, Article III, section 38-3B of the Code of the Town of Nantucket, has the authority to waive any town fee or charge, upon a determination that the public interest so requires.

The Select Board hereby determines that it is in the public interest to encourage the production of affordable housing, including workforce housing units for the Island's working population. The Board hereby further determines that is in the public interest to encourage the production of housing units that qualify on the Town's Subsidized Housing Inventory, particularly where they contribute to a period of Safe Harbor relative to the Commonwealth's Chapter 40B law. Therefore, the Select Board will consider, on a case-by-case basis, waivers of one or both of the Town's fees relating to the connection of dwelling units that are located in an existing Sewer District as established under Chapter 396 of the Acts of 2008.

II. Sewer Connection and Sewer Capacity Fee Waivers.

The Select Board may, at its discretion, waive the sewer connection fee or the Sewer Capacity Fee upon the request of a property owner, developer, or public entity seeking to connect one or more dwelling units to the Town's sewer system if such unit or units are bound by a permanent affordable housing deed restriction in a form acceptable to the Town and enforceable by the Town, and provided that the dwelling unit or units are part of a project where a minimum of 25% of the units are eligible for inclusion on the Town's Subsidized Housing Inventory ("SHI") as maintained by DHCD or any successor agency and provided that the developer and/or unit owner shall cooperate fully with the Town in obtaining SHI status for the eligible unit or units by timely providing all required documentation and notifying the Town Manager when a building permit issues and when an occupancy permit issues.

In the case where less than all of the units in the project are income-restricted, the Select Board may waive up to 100% of both sewer fees where the unit is restricted at 80% AMI or less, up to 75% of both fees where the unit is restricted between 81% and 100% AMI, and up to 50% of both fees where the unit is restricted between 101% AMI and 150% AMI. In the case where all of the units in a project are income-restricted, 100% of both sewer fees may be waived as long as a minimum of 25% of the total number of units are SHI-eligible. In exercising its discretion, in applying the policy, the Select Board may consider the total value of Town subsidies for the

project, including closing cost assistance, direct grants, land contribution by the Town, other fee waivers, and market rate sales in the project.

In the case of dwelling units that are subject to a permanent affordable housing covenant meeting the requirements of Chapter 301 of the Acts of 2002, and Chapter 100 of the Code of Nantucket, or are subject to a permanent deed restriction serving households at 175% AMI or less that is satisfactory to the Town, the Select Board may, in its discretion, waive all or a portion of the sewer connection fee.

In addition to those waivers which the Select Board may grant for income-restricted dwelling units, during the period in which the Town is under its 10% requirement relative to the Commonwealth's Chapter 40B law, the Select Board may also determine that it is in the public interest to consider reductions only, on a case-by-case basis, to one or both of the Town's fees required as a condition of the connection of unrestricted, so-called 'market-rate', dwelling units within a Workforce Rental Community, as such is defined and described in Section 139-2 and Section 139-8(D)(2) of the Town of Nantucket Zoning Bylaw, that are located in an existing Sewer District as established under Chapter 396 of the Acts of 2008, to encourage the further development of mixed-income rental housing communities and private investment in the creation, upgrade, extension, replacement, and repair of private and public sewer infrastructure serving the Town of Nantucket and its citizens and landowners.

Accordingly, it is the Nantucket Sewer Commission's policy that the Select Board may, at its discretion, reduce the Sewer Connection Fee or the Sewer Capacity Fee, or both, upon the request of a property owner, developer, or public entity (i.e., the 'applicant') seeking to connect one or more unrestricted rental dwelling units to the Town's sewer system if:

- (1) The applicant's project or development has or will provide for the funding and / or physical construction of specific sewer system improvements which are deemed a benefit or improvement to nearby or abutting public and private landowners, in addition to the applicant's project or development; and
- (2) The applicant's project or development has or will provides for the funding and / or physical construction of approved* mitigation measures or capital improvements to the Town of Nantucket's municipal sewer system (or components thereof) including, for example, upgrades to one or more municipal sewer pumping station[s], upgrades to the diameter, capacity, or operating performance of municipal sewer mains, manholes, or other infrastructure); and
- (3) The cumulative cost of the sewer improvements and / or mitigation measures contemplated in subparagraphs (1) and (2) above incurred or reasonably estimated to be incurred by the applicant meets or exceeds a sum equal to fifty (50%) percent of the total amount** of sewer service connection fees and sewer capacity utilization fees that would be due and payable for all unrestricted units which the applicant is seeking connection if no waiver or reduction were to be granted pursuant to the Select Board's Policy for Sewer Fee Waiver Requests; and

- (4) All of the rental dwelling units within the applicant's project or development are eligible for certification to the Town of Nantucket Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI), as such is established and maintained by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

Provided that in the opinion of the Select Board the applicant's project or development is in the public interest and meets the foregoing criteria then the Select Board may, in its discretion, reduce (A) the per-unit Sewer Service Connection Fee to an amount not less than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars per unrestricted / market rate dwelling unit, or such other amount as determined by the Select Board; and (B) the per-unit Sewer Capacity Fee to an amount not less than Seven Hundred (\$725.00) Dollars per bedroom (within each unrestricted / market rate dwelling unit), or such other amount as determined by the Select Board.