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Latest News : Aquinnah completes town meeting, rejects energy DCPC

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Friday 11:45 am

More than enough Aquinnah voters turned out Thursday night, and that allowed the town on its fourth attempt to complete its annual town meeting.

A total of 65 voters, 16 percent of the 396 registered voters in town, attended, according to the town clerk.

In long awaited action, voters rejected proposed regulations for a town-wide energy District of Critical Planning Concern (DCPC) by a vote of 23-17. A two-thirds vote was needed for approval.

The vote ends a development moratorium that was put in place by the Martha's Vineyard Commission, when it approved the regulations at a meeting on May 8.

The regulations presented to voters focused on wind turbines and included requirements for a professional energy audit before a building or special permit could be issued, a particular flashpoint in the lengthy debate that surrounded the DCPC article Thursday night.

Voters also rejected a request to reduce the number needed for a quorum from 10 percent to five percent of the electorate. A rental property registration bylaw was tabled indefinitely.

Voters approved all other articles on the warrant. The meeting ended at 10:40 pm

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