

ISLESBORO SELECT BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 29, 2020
TOWN OFFICE VIA ZOOM



Members on Zoom: Lauren Bruce, Chair Gabriel Pendleton, Archibald Gillies, Phil Seymour and Shey Conover.

Others: Town Manager Janet Anderson

On call: Maggy Willcox, Roger Heinen, Bruce Claflin, Laura Graf, Dorie Henning, Hannah Wayda, Vicki Doudera, Michael Hutcherson and Sarah Runnion-Bareford

First time full zoom meeting.

Call to order: Chair Gabe Pendleton called the meeting to order at 5:33pm with a roll call: Present Arch Gillies, Shey Conover, Lauren Bruce, and Phil Seymour.

MOTION by A. Gillies, seconded by S. Conover, to approve the Minutes of the October 15, 2020 meeting as presented.

VOTE: Arch – Aye Lauren – Aye Phil – Aye Shey – Aye Gabe- Aye

UPDATES:

- **COVID-19**

Dorie Henning, FNP, gave a brief update of the events of last week. The Health Center was notified directly from community members with information regarding possible exposures to positive persons on the mainland. Information came in on Monday and we were able to arrange for those persons to be tested on Tuesday. On Wednesday we were notified by another community member about a possible contact that involved the School. We went into action and contacted as many possible contacts and arranged for testing. About 30 people were involved. With this second incident there were possible links to the Town Office, Health Center, Transfer Station, Island Market, School, and Boardman Cottage. We acted promptly and professionally and the staff rose to the occasion. This made us realize we need backup staff to keep the testing program running especially with the real possibility of one person being exposed.

We realized we need to overcome the barriers of communicating with the School with regards to issues of public health and known Covid exposures. I received a letter from Head of School Chuck Hamm, and he had consulted with Superintendent Chris Downing and School Nurse Ellen McDonald that communicating with the Health Center would breach confidentiality. We are working towards resolving this. For many years Owen Howell, PA-C, has been the Schools Health Advisor and had a signed contract up until July 1, 2020. In this roll, which is required, he signs the orders for over the counter medications and the Epi pens. We've carried out flu vaccinations and conduct school sports physicals.

Operations at the Health Center have moved back closer to where we were last spring. With the evidence of community spread in the midcoast area and the number of cases with the Brooks church outbreak, and now the Woodland Nursing Home in Rockland we're working to minimize face-to-face contact and use telehealth and short parking lot visits.

We need to continually educate the public with all the basics and to be cautious and not let your guard down. I want to get information out about the open enrollment through the Affordable Care Act that starts Dec. 1-15. We're looking forward to getting some rapid Covid tests that the state has received from the federal government.

Dorie has made contact with Megan Kelley, R.N. of the Maine CDC. She's familiar with the islands and familiar with what's going on in the midcoast and will be a great resource for us.

Roger Heinen added that from the Crisis Team standpoint we have started meeting weekly again as developments are moving quite rapidly, our posture has changed. And it's reflected in our communications about what people should do to protect themselves, their families and neighbors. We have Jane Wherren, the Island Health Liaison, willing to help some of the island businesses and organizations get what they need in place so that they can remain open during the winter with people inside.

A discussion ensued on communications between the School and the Health Center on legal issues surrounding sharing student or teacher health information. Possible permission slips to be sent home?

Janet will forward all emails regarding this to the Select Board. We will ask for a legal opinion to resolve this.

Pre-School:

Laura Graf and Bruce Clafin told the Board that the Pre-School depends on the Town's yearly subsidy which covers approximately 50% of their budget. They have \$940,000 in the bank and if all pledges come in they should achieve their \$1,000,000 goal by the end of this year. They said that the town is much better off having a preschool here and really appreciates all you do for the community and the kids that attend.

Ferry:

Gabe said the next MSFS Advisory Board Meeting will be Nov. 10. At that meeting they will discuss the projected budget short fall.

Upcoming Meetings:

- ✓ General Election Tuesday Nov. 3rd 8am-8pm
- ✓ CRISIS Committee: Wednesday, November 4 at 2pm offered on Free Conference Call **1-515-604-9045** with Access code: **295456#**
- ✓ Planning Board November 9th, 2020 at 5pm via Zoom.

Town Manager Report:

10/26/20 scanned items:

- Agenda 10/29/20
- Minutes of 10/15/20
- Maine Community Foundation IHC Endowment Fund Statement 9/30/20
- **Phil wants a clarification of the fees charged my MCF and are they in line with other similar organizations. Janet will contact.**
- Notes of 10/2/20 Public Safety on Islesboro (PSI) meeting.

10/28/20 scanned balance of packet:

- Warrant #9 and recap.
- DRAFT "Fire Equipment Fabrication Contract" with Dingee Machine Company for new fire truck. Murt will come up with a picture.

- **Gabe commented on the contract and asked that the attorney's fee mentioned in #3 under "Failure to Pay" be removed. Janet will contact.**
- Janet mentioned Cindy Gorham had stayed open until 5pm Wednesday evening for voting and Janet will stay until 7pm Friday.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Warrant #9 FY21

Motion by A. Gillies and seconded by L. Bruce to approve Warrant #9-FY21 in the amount of \$340,948.48.

VOTE: Arch – Aye Lauren – Aye Phil – Aye Shey – Aye Gabe- Aye

Select Board comments:

Shey: She is very appreciative of the Town Office staff for extending absentee voting hours and it's great to see people taking advantage of that.

Phil: **Health Center Endowment Fund Phil wants a clarification of the fees charged by MCF and are they in line with other similar organizations. He feels that managers for over \$7,000 and the Administration fee over \$6,000 is very high and wonders if we're making enough interest to cover. Janet will contact.**

Gabe: Questions a point of procedure in terms of having to come in and sign the warrant (with the Zoom meeting process) and how many/a majority of 5 in attendance is 3 signatures. They will stop by the office on Friday.

Comment from Representative Vicki Doudera at the last minute. She's grateful she can now participate in meetings via Zoom.

MOTION by A. Gillies and seconded by L. Bruce to adjourn at 6:32pm.

VOTE: Arch – Aye Lauren – Aye Phil – Aye Shey – Aye Gabe- Aye

Janet Anderson