

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting via Zoom
Thursday, March 18, 2021 @ 5:30 PM

MINUTES

Members Present via Zoom:

Chair Gabe Pendleton, Arch Gillies, Shey Conover, Phil Seymour, Lauren Bruce

Others Present via Zoom:

Town Manager Janet Anderson, Fred Porter, Jennifer West, Ken Smith, Linda Gillies, Michael Kerr, Robert McNeil, Roger Heinen, Andrew Anderson, Maggy Willcox, Steve Miller, Ginny Drew, John Kauer, Christine Robb, Michael Hutcherson

Call to Order: Chair Pendleton called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM and a quorum was established.

**MOTION BY P. Seymour, seconded by L. Bruce, to approve the minutes of 03/04/2021.
Roll Call: Motion passed 5 yes, 0 no.**

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

MOTION BY A. Gillies, seconded by L. Bruce to go out of order to discuss Town Dirt Roads. Roll Call: Motion passed 5 yes, 0 no.

There was a brief discussion at the Budget Workshop tonight about the condition of Town Dirt Roads with an idea about needing to put a significant amount of money behind both paving as well as fixing some of the dirt roads on the island. This is a real area of concern. Gabe opened up to the floor for comments.

Roger Heinen stated that in 20+ years of using the Bluff Road, this was the worst it has ever been. The dirt roads in town are not properly crowned. Even if they were and were maintained there needs to be adequate drainage. He feels that, as there is more traffic on the town roads, the time has come for the town to set aside some money to rebuild the road beds of the dirt roads. Steve Miller agrees with Roger, the time has come to raise the standards of the town's dirt roads. He recalls there being studies in the past about improving the standard of the roads and maintaining them in the past. It may require a road engineer to outline an actual work plan. Ginny Drew and Robert McNeil agreed that the road is in worse shape than it usually is and needs some work done. Fred Porter reports that there was a road survey done in 2009 or 2010 and at that time it was recommended to put together a 10-year plan. The plan was for specific work to be done every year and that no further work would be needed unless there was damage.

John Kauer stated that his project on his property has probably contributed to the deterioration of the road and is willing to be involved with a committee and or planning for repair.

MOTION BY G. Pendleton seconded by P. Seymour to look into having a road survey done and to look into funding for dirt road improvements and if we should move forward immediately or set aside money in next year's budget. Roll Call: Motion passed 5 yes, 0 no.

MOTION BY A. Gillies seconded by S. Conover to go back into order. Roll Call: Motion passed 5 yes, 0 no.

COVID UPDATE

Lauren gave a brief update: On March 15th there were 200 people vaccinated. The next clinic is scheduled for April 12th. The Crisis team has gone into hibernation; they will not have regular meetings and will not be putting out as much information. They are on standby and are ready to be activated if the health center sees the need. In the meantime the COVID website will be kept up-to-date.

FERRY UPDATE

Gabe reports that the Ferry Advisory Board met last week; Gabe and John King attended. The legislature and the DOT are undertaking a full review of the Maine State Ferry Service Funding model. Dennis Damon has been appointed to be the Ferry Service Advisory Board's representative during this process. DOT officials agreed to notify all advisory board members and towns of any meetings ahead of time. Everybody on the advisory board expressed concern about where this was heading in terms of the effect on rates for the ferry service and funding for the ferry service.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Planning Board: March 22, 2021

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Scanned Items:

- Agenda
- Minutes 3/4/21
- 3/11/21 email from Ben Smith/Quicksilver
- Notice of Availability of Nomination Papers 3/26/21
- 2/19/21 Letter from Judith Hutchinson, Auditor from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.
- 3/15/21 Lauren's "Summary of Needs for the Municipal Office Building and New Facilities above the Narrows".
- Warrant #19 and recap
- Final "Islesboro Looking Ahead" revised version.

Due to business being down Ben Smith is not in a position to sign a contract which obliges them to another year of service to the town. Janet feels that we are okay without a contract as Ben and

Fred have had good communication. Fred agrees that Ben always lets him know when he will be out of town and another captain will be on standby. Janet will talk with Ben and see what his thoughts are.

We will post the notice of availability of nomination papers in public March 26th.

There is a letter from Judith Hutchison, the auditor for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. This year they performed a desk audit on our motor vehicle process. The last audit was 5-6 years ago. The only disparity was a couple of University of Maine plates that were not accounted for. According to our records we never received those plates, they have never been issued, so that got resolved; kudos to Tina for her role in this position.

There is only one outstanding Islesboro Municipal Broadband bill. We may end up shutting off that one person; we have made contact with them. Gabe would like evaluate at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Reaffirming revised 2021 “Islesboro Looking Ahead.”

MOTION BY L. Bruce seconded by S. Conover to reaffirm the 2021 “Islesboro Looking Ahead.” Roll Call: Motion passed 5 yes, 0 no.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Municipal Building Facilities Project. There needs to be improvement to the spaces in the municipal building; the Health Center, Public Safety, and Fire Department spaces in particular. Also, there has been an ongoing discussion for quite some time about the need to establish a facility for emergency equipment above the narrows. The Board feels that there needs to be some kind of “facilitator” to pull information together so the next steps can be identified. Lauren said she would be willing to take it on with Phil’s help; he agreed.

APPROVE WARRANT: FY21 - #19

MOTION BY A. Gillies, seconded by L. Bruce to approve Warrant #19 for FY21 in the amount of \$271,977.56 Roll Call: 5 yes, 0 no.

INDIVIDUAL SELECT BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Phil would like to recognize that this is Arch’s last Select Board meeting. He will attend next week’s Budget Workshop.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:18 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Tina Pendleton
Administrative Assistant**