

Town of Islesboro
SELECT BOARD
Regular Meeting
April 18, 2018 @ 6:15 PM
Town Office Meeting Room

MINUTES

Members Present: Chair Archibald Gillies, Gabriel Pendleton, Sandra Oliver, Hanna Kerr
Excused: Jay Zlotkowski

Others Present: Janet Anderson - Town Manager
John Hossack
Ken Smith
Rachel Smith
Annmarie Mouw
Bill Schoppe
Odesser Schoppe
Phil Seymour
Audrey Berry
Phil Berry
Elana Kehoe
Doug Welldon
Nick Porter
Rick Rogers
Terry Sanderson
Andrew Anderson
Karen Betts
Michael Boardman
Karen Grindle
Paul Grindle
David Mahan
William Boardman
Lisa Satchfield
Nakomis Nelson
Kizzi Nelson
Vicki Conover
Joan Lillie
Natasha Nelson
Tom Stevens
Melissa Jagger

Paul Hatch
Jack Schlottman
Eva Schlottman
Josh Linscott
Maggy Willcox
Linda Wentworth
Jim Mitchell
Michael McFarland
Jennifer McFarland
Steve Pendleton
Jennel Pendleton
Alex Wilbur
Helen Barrett
William Warren
Ryan Gorham
Terry Cowan
Michael Boucher
Laura Read
Josh Read
William Tilden
Craig Olson
William Spont
Anne Spont
Madeline Bruno
Christina Noyes
Chloe Joule

Chair Gillies called the meeting to order at 6:17 PM, and a quorum was established.

MOTION BY H. Kerr, seconded by G. Pendleton to approve the minutes of April 4, 2018 as written. Motion passed 4-0.

MOTION by S. Oliver, seconded by H. Kerr, to approve the minutes of April 11, 2018 as written. Motion passed 4-0.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. Planning Board Meeting on April 23, 2018 has been cancelled - no new business
2. Annual Town Meeting April 28, 2018
3. Floodplain Workshop April 30, 2018 at 3:00 PM. James Francomano will meet with Janet Anderson prior to discuss rising sea levels.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS:

Broadband Update: Please refer to the attached IMB Update of April 18, 2018. Roger Heinen nor Page Clason were in attendance to update the Select Board in person.

Ferry Rate Increase: The Maine DOT released the new rates yesterday which show a substantial increase to ferry rates for Islesboro vehicles and passengers. Vehicles will go from \$13.75 to \$30.00 and passengers from \$5.50 to \$11.00, as well as increases in child fares, truck fares, bike fares and reservations.

Arch Gillies told the audience that the Select Board will take any and all steps to resist and change the decision by the DOT and will work on this issue continuously until there is a more favorable outcome. He invited comments and suggestions from everyone in the room and a summary public comment follows:

Ken Smith: Rate structure devastating for all aspects of living on Islesboro. "Outlandish" 118% increase for vehicles. "Absolutely ridiculous". Suggests Town seek legal counsel. Arch Gillies said that they had already spoken with lawyers today.

William Boardman: Asked what are the legal alternatives. Gabe Pendleton answered that there are a range of things that can be done including filing for a preliminary injunction, investigating an appeals process as this was not part of the rate structure proposal that was presented. He said there are legislative alternatives as well and they will be talking to legislators. He said there was a "fundamental unfairness" to this.

Alex Wilbur: Former resident of Peaks Island, wonders if the Town can show DOT how the fares work in the Casco Bay Ferry Line. Doesn't understand how they could just "simplify" or make the system "simple" by doing this.

Doug Welldon: Punitive against Islesboro. Perhaps change the funding to have others pay a little more.

Steve Pendleton: He is a public sector worker. Advises the Town needs a lobbyist or legal firm in Augusta to help the Town with this. Need to quickly evaluate legal firms with strong lobby experience.

- Michael Boucher: Described the hardship to families already who live on the island, shortage of housing, etc. and to add this to it will not be good. If families can't move here, there will be no community.
- Michael McFarland: Wanted to know if there is perhaps legislation that prevents price gouging and if that would pertain to this situation.
- Craig Olson: Advised on how to approach the Governor and who would be most effective to speak on the town's behalf. He advised coming at it in a public safety aspect. Take soft approach. Said he would listen to J.Zlotkowski or Fred Porter. Use the the words "not equitable" rather than "not fair".
- Nakomis Nelson: State mandates that a certain percentage of revenue is made from the ferry. Will water taxi cut into their profit?
- Terry Cowan: "What will be considered a reasonable rate increase? Arch Gillies noted Terry makes a good point, need to think about this.
- Alex Wilbur: Casco Bay Ferry Lines had a summer rate and winter rate and people would stockpile up each year before the summer rate went into effect.
- David Mahan: Even if off island contractors are "gaming the system", Islesboro still makes more revenue.
- Michael Boucher: Town should consider purchasing land on the mainland for parking.
- William Tilden: While a Selectmen in the 80's and 90's, they looked into a town owned ferry and a bridge and at that time it wasn't cost effective, but feels the town should look into this again.
- Nakomis Nelson: Look into renting parking lot at Chez Michel's if they do not open again this year.
- Lisa Satchfield: Frustrated that people don't understand it can take all day just to get to one appointment on the mainland. She feels Paul Hatch and Phil Berry were professional at the hearing when describing their feelings about the rate proposals. Fears that Islands may start arguing with each other. Note that Islesboro is different in that it is a commuter island.

- Paul Hatch: Shared projected increase in cost of doing business with the proposed rates as an increase of \$33,000 per year.
- Craig Olson: Re transfer station, cost of bags could double, more money to get stuff hauled off island.
- Phil Berry: Questioned whether truck drivers have to pay for driver and truck? There was no confirmative answer on this.
- William Boardman: Advised that the Select Board go with Steve Pendleton's advice of finding a lobbying firm.
- Elana Kehoe: A friend of hers who is a single mom, who commutes off island to school, wanted Elana to share with the Select Board that she would have to move off island if these rates go into effect.
- Nakomis Nelson: Two news crews coming out tomorrow on the 10:00 and 11:00 boats. He encourages everyone to come.
- Josh Read: Small business are going to be hurt.
- Alex Wilbur: Asked if Magnet Students have to pay to go on the ferry. Hanna Kerr said that they do not have to pay, nor do Islesboro students.
- Melissa Jagger: Offered those people who need something picked up or who might need a ride to the mainland who can't afford it a ride in their boats if they are going that way. Also feels that a "catch phrase" or a hash tag might be something to consider.
Phil Berry: "Island Lives Matter".
Melissa Jagger: Island Lives Matter might not be appropriate.
- Craig Olson: Advises to keep comments "civil". Better to approach it without the anger.
- Steve Pendleton: Recommends that before the news people come that a few bullet points be decided.
Arch Gillies said that if interviewed, be spontaneous
- John Hossack: Wants to know how the public can stay informed. It was agreed that Constant Contact would be the best communication method and people can sign up if they are

not already on Constant Contact.

Arch Gillies: Summarized that the Select Board will be looking at all ways to remedy this situation and will keep the public informed.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT - APRIL 28, 2018

MOTION BY Gabe Pendleton, seconded by Hanna Kerr, to approve and sign the April 28, 2018 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Motion passed 4-0.

WARRANT #21 - FY 18

MOTION BY H. Kerr, seconded by S. Oliver, to approve Warrant FY 21-18 in the amount of \$ 272,206.12. Motion passed 4-0.

Town Payroll	\$ 41,6980.94 (Not included in bottom total)
Town Payables	\$110,031.20
Health Center	\$ 16,826.99
Dark Harbor Wastewater	\$ 27.50
Islesboro Municipal Broadband	\$ 27,360.07
School Payroll	\$ 68,882.74
School Warrant	\$ 49,077.62
Town Total	\$272,206.12

CHAIR COMMENTS:

Arch Gillies: Ferry Service Rate increase will be the Select Board's number one priority. At the May 2nd meeting he would like to review other projects and goals of the Select Board.

Sandy Oliver: With ferry rate hike, she wishes the island had a farm with fresh vegetables and fresh milk, as well as perhaps a Credit Union, Hair Salon and Dental Hygienist.

Hanna Kerr: Expressed concern over the ferry rate increase and said “We need to figure this out, I won’t have a job if there are no kids”.

OTHER COMMENTS:

Odesser Schoppe suggested that the Islesboro Health Center offer children immunizations as a way to help young families.

**MOTION BY S. Oliver, seconded by G. Pendleton, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 4-0.
Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy L. Pike
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen