

**Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
April 29, 2020 @ 5 PM
Town Office Meeting Room
MINUTES**

Members Present in person:

Arch Gillies

Members Present via Dial-in/Teleconference:

Gabe Pendleton, Phil Seymour, Shey Conover, Lauren Bruce

Others Present in person:

Janet Anderson - Town Manager, Linda Wentworth, FNP-C

Others Present via Dial-in/Teleconference:

Sarah Runnion-Bareford, Vicki Conover, Earl MacKenzie, Sandra Oliver,
Tracy Wuori, Vern Ziegler, Toby Gilbert, Julie Wurtz, Maggy Willcox,
Roger Heinen, Ramey Caulkins, Marina Rust, Fred Porter

Call to Order: Chair Arch Gillies called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and a quorum was established.

MOTION BY Arch Gillies to approve the minutes of April 15, 2020 as written. Phil Seymour seconded the motion. Roll Call - Motion passed 5-0.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

The Planning Board Meetings for May 2020 have been cancelled.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS:

Arcadia Alliance Passenger Ferry Proposal to DOT presented by Earl MacKenzie and Roger Heinen

Earl Mackenzie and Roger Heinen presented an overview of this proposal to the Select Board. They are requesting the Select Board review the proposal and write a letter of support for it to the Maine DOT.

The project is essentially the establishment of a rapid commuter ferry service from Islesboro to the City of Belfast, passengers only - no vehicles. Benefits of such a ferry would be that stores and services would be within walking distance once in Belfast, people both from the mainland and the island could work full time, and if the ferry were to be electric there would also be environmental benefits. Roger Heinen clarified that this is not a town proposal and that it would not affect taxes. Gabe Pendleton, as well as the other Select Board members are supportive of investigating alternatives to the Maine State Ferry Service as they are all in agreement that ferry ticket prices will continue to rise. It is uncertain whether this ferry would leave from Grindle Point, Seal Cove, or other.

MOTION BY Gabe Pendleton, seconded by Phil Seymour, to support the Arcadia Alliance Passenger Ferry Proposal and will sign a letter in support and send it to the Maine DOT. Roll Call - Motion passed 5-0.

ISLESBORO Public Health Update on COVID-19:

Linda Wentworth, FNP-C updated the Select Board on the most current COVID-19 statistics for the State of Maine, noting that Islesboro has no cases currently, 9 people have been tested and all were negative. She explained that there are two new outbreaks in Maine - a food plant in Portland and the Hope House in Bangor. She said Islesboro is well prepared if the virus comes and the Crisis Team continues to meet weekly

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

Scanned Items:

1. Select Board Agenda 4/29/2020
2. Minutes of the 4/15/20 Select Board Meeting
3. Ferry Update Package/ Earl Mackenzie & Roger Heinen
4. Copy of Letter to Trustees of the Clarence and Anne Dillon Dunwalke Trust from William Boardman
5. First Quarter Maine Community Foundation - Islesboro Health Center Endowment Fund \$1,146,997.44.
6. Request from Josh Leach regarding purchasing old town sander.
7. Grindle Point Request for Proposals
8. Lauren Bruce and Jennifer West: Draft of "Islesboro Works!"

Items Discussed:

- Janet Anderson said that for now the Select Board meetings will continue to be call-In format, at least until June as there can be no more than 10 people present in the room.
- Regarding Town Meeting, both Janet and Arch Gillies have been working on finding a way to hold the Annual Town Meeting as it currently cannot be held due to the fact that no more than 50 people would be able to gather. If there is not a way to hold the Town Meeting before the beginning of the next fiscal year, the Town would run on the existing budget. Arch is currently in discussion with the Governor's office about this situation, hoping to perhaps work out a solution. He will keep the Select Board informed. Gabe Pendleton pointed out that there is enough money in the undesignated fund balance to go forward if there is no Town Meeting, and they could flat line the budget.
- Josh Leach is interested in purchasing the old sander and Janet Anderson would like direction from the Select Board if she should allow the sale of the sander. The Select Board discussed and decided it should go out to bid.
- Pen Bay Glass will be installing a barrier in the front office area of the Town Office and a barrier at the library. Janet would like to get this done before re-opening the Town Office and library to the public. Cindy Gorham and Tina Pendleton are currently taking turns with one working in the AM and the other in the PM. Janet said that this arrangement has been working well so far.
- Janet Anderson said that she is going to talk with Mark Higgins of the MSFS regarding passengers walking on and off the ferry without wearing a mask, and is going to encourage him to enforce this.

OLD BUSINESS:

Open "Request for Proposal" for Mobile Lunch Wagon at Grindle Point

Karen Cilley, Sand Castle Grill, was the only proposal submitted for consideration.

The idea of the take-out sparked opening questions regarding whether this would have a negative impact of having people stay in their cars while waiting for the ferry. Shey Conover said that she would not want to see Islesboro being more restrictive than the state mandate noting that mainland take-outs are currently open. Arch encouraged

D R A Fred Porter to visit the ferry landing as much as possible and enforce mask wearing and social distancing if necessary. Janet Anderson said that she would provide signage once the take-out is open.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss Letter from Select Board to all residents that urges wages and payment to all workers throughout the summer and pandemic.

Arch Gillies and Janet Anderson will make a report to the Crisis Team tomorrow regarding concerns of seasonal fall off of visitors with resultant fall off of wages. The Select Board would like to urge all residents to maintain pay to workers regardless if they come to the island or not. The Crisis Team will help to formulate letter.

Town Budget: Additional sum for Town organized clean-up projects

Arch Gillies said that assuming there will be fall off of wages, he feels it is appropriate for local government to step in and look at projects that need to be done such as clean up of blow downs, culvert repair, etc, and hire qualified towns people to do the work. He feels the government should be proactive at this time. He would propose budgeting money for these type of projects, not to exceed \$450,000.

The Select Board questioned who would spearhead these projects, and that there would need to be supervisors involved. Janet Anderson said that she has to consider liability insurance and eligibility of workers for unemployment.

It was decided to table this discussion until next meeting and Board members were encouraged to write down their questions and comments.

Town Budget: Plans for Public Safety Office and Health Center Expansion

Janet Anderson said she has no information on this topic at this time, but said she is interested in purchasing a modular for the Public Safety Department and is looking at one that may be coming up for at the Camden Middle School.

WARRANT #22 - FY 20

MOTION BY Phil Seymour, seconded by Shey Conover, to approve Warrant #22-FY 20 in the amount of \$327,756.05. Roll Call - Motion passed 5-0.

SELECT BOARD COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

MOTION by P. Seymour, seconded by L. Bruce , to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call - Motion passed 5-0. Time of adjournment: 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Pike
Secretary to the Islesboro Select Board