

**Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
August 21, 2019
Town Office Meeting Room**

MINUTES

Members Present: Arch Gillies, Phil Seymour, Gabe Pendleton, Lauren Bruce and Shey Conover

Others Present: Town Manager - Janet Anderson, Elizabeth Hayden, Maggy Willcox, Laura Toran, Bruce Claflin, Karen Claflin, Roger Heinen, William Boardman, Dick DeGrasse, Tom Tutor

Call to Order: Arch Gillies called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM and a quorum was established.

MOTION BY S. CONOVER, seconded by G. Pendleton, to approve the minutes of August 7, 2019 as written. Motion passed 5-0.

MOTION BY P. Seymour, seconded by L. Bruce, to take the agenda out of order. Motion passed 5-0.

PRE-SCHOOL UPDATE

Laura Graf - Pre-school Chair, and Bruce Claflin - Pre-School Secretary, updated the Select Board on the progress of the Pre-School, funding goals, and staffing, as well as an overview of its benefits to the community. The total annual operating cost is approximately \$120,000 with \$100,000 of that going towards staffing. \$65,000 is given by the Town annually. Mr. Claflin outlined what needs to happen long term regarding funding to help sustain the Pre-School. He said that tuition has to be affordable, that grants are not easily attainable, annual fund raising is helpful but falls far short of what is needed, and that the Preschool does not want to ask the town for any more funding. The endowment fund, therefore, is what they are going to focus on with a goal of \$1,000,000. Mr. Claflin said that as of today the fund has \$825,000 and that there is an individual that is offering a \$50,000 matching grant. He said that next summer he is going to open the pledges to EVERYONE and hopes to attain the \$1,000,000 goal which will provide \$40,000 a year towards their annual budget.

Arch Gillies said the Town will continue to include the Pre-School in its budget and they will put this topic on the agenda for the Winter Information Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation by Roger Heinen on Economic Development Corporation

For Details please refer to the proposal attached.

Roger wants feedback from the Select Board on their proposal to create a quasi-municipal corporation for the purpose of fostering economic development. With the creation of the Town Centers Ordinance comes the realization that money is needed to perhaps develop essential services in these areas as well as elsewhere. Tom Tutor said that the corporation can serve as a last resort lender for a local business. He said that they are looking for a list of what the Select Board considers essential services. Tom also said that the Select Board would appoint the Board Directors for this Economic Development Corporation, but reinforced the fact that the corporation would raise its own capital and no funds for projects, etc, would come out of the town's budget.

It was decided that Tom Tutor and Roger Heinen would come back to the Select Board in a month and discuss further in a special working session. A list of essential services will be presented and discussed which will help foster and direct the corporation's mission. Following more work sessions and discussions with the Select Board will be the hope of having a Special Town Meeting sometime this Fall.

MOTION BY G. Pendleton, seconded by L. Bruce, to support the development of a Quasi-Municipal Corporation as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

MOTION BY G. Pendleton, seconded by P. Seymour, to return to the original order of the agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

MOTION by S. Conover, seconded by L. Bruce, to accept the notes of the 8/12/19 Workshop on Preparing for MDOT 8/19/19 Public Hearing.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS/PETITIONS:

Bill Boardman is asking the Select Board's approval to waive the requirements for competitive bidding for the preparation groundwork at the Anne Dillon House. He does not want to include this in their bid package as they feel this way they can get the project started sooner. Janet said that she believes this qualifies for a waiver as per the Town's Purchasing Policy §394-4, D (7).

MOTION BY G. Pendleton to waive this requirement as allowed per the Town's Purchasing Policy. P. Seymour seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Draft **Ferry Rate Update**

Arch Gillies said the MDOT Hearing on 8/19/19 "went as well as it could have". He thanked all the speakers for doing a good job. He hopes that some of the "around the edges items" such as parking lot improvements, medical reservations, and senior rate tickets might be attained. He feels the proposed rate structure probably will not change. He said that the MSFS Advisory Board engagement is being welcomed by the Commissioner.

Dick DeGrasse said that he is still not pleased with the lack of financial data from the Dept of Transportation. He said "we cannot allow the ferry service to propose a budget without any accounting details - we need a profit/loss report".

Gabe Pendleton said the next legal hearing is scheduled for September 27, 2019, but he feels there is no reason to move forward with legal proceedings unless "they go off in left field" and propose a totally different rate structure.

Everyone agreed that research and discussion should continue on alternatives for transportation to the mainland.

Note: Phil Seymour excused himself and at this point left the meeting as he had another obligation.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. IMB Committee meeting August 22, 2019 at 2 PM
2. Summer Information Meeting August 22, 2019, 5 to 6 PM in the Town Office
3. Planning Board Meeting September 9, 2019.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

The following items were distributed, and/or discussed and reviewed.

1. Scanned items to Select Board:
 - 8/19/19 Agenda
 - Minutes of the 8/7/19 Select Board Regular Meeting
 - Minutes of the 8/12/19 SB Workshop on MDOT Public Hearing
2. AUCO Committee Meeting minutes 7/31/19
3. Anne Dillon House Project Update:

The Planning Board at its 8/19/19 meeting accepted the Town's application as complete, reviewed the Criteria of Approval, and will do the Findings of Fact at their 9/9/19 meeting. Bid packages will be available on 8/26/19 and will be due back by 9/16/19. There will be a Special Select Board meeting on 9/25/19 at 4:30 PM to award the work to the selected bidder.

D R A F T Town Centers Sidewalk Project: On 8/15/19 the MDOT grant was submitted and projects awarded will be announced in January 2020.

5. Stephen Phillips, resident at 577 Ferry Road, met with Janet Anderson, Gabe Pendleton and David Pendleton to look at his concerns with the roadside parking and his ability to safely egress out of his driveway. It was decided to eliminate 2 parking spaces north of his driveway by blocking the area with stones, and he will trim back trees/bushes on this property to improve the sight distance. He would like the town to consider parking on the easterly side of the road only. The group also looked at property of Mr Phillips which abuts town land for a possible additional parking area. The group will study this piece of land to see if it might be suitable for parking.

NEW BUSINESS

PowerPoint on Information from the Nature Conservancy in Maine regarding rising sea levels at Gindle Point and the Narrows. This information was made available to the Select Board in paper form. There was no discussion.

WARRANT #4 - FY 20

MOTION BY S. Conover, seconded by G. Pendleton to approve Warrant #4- FY20 in the amount of \$235,809.83. Motion passed 4-0.

APPOINTMENTS

MOTION BY S. Conover, seconded by G. Pendleton, to approve the appointment of Darren Nadeau as Reserve Law Enforcement Officer. Motion passed 4-0.

SELECT BOARD COMMENTS:

Arch Gillies wanted to again thank all those who helped in preparing for the MDOT Hearing.

MOTION BY L. Bruce, seconded BY S. Conover, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Pike
Secretary to the Islesboro Board of Selectmen