

Islesboro Island News

September/October 2022

\$5.00



It's a GO!

A Special Town Meeting was held on September 22nd to decide the fate of the proposed construction of a new health center, renovation of the Town municipal building, and construction of an Upland public safety garage.

Despite the threat of Covid that is still rampaging around the Island, 120 of Islesboro's 605 registered voters turned out. Seated widely spaced in the Kinnicut Center with mandatory masking in place, the occasion was nonetheless a reminder of what Town meetings used to be - a welcome chance to socialize while doing one's civic duty.

Deputy Town Clerk Sharon McCorison checked in voters; Kathy Kerr, Craig Olson and Donna Seymour served as vote counters, and Carrie Reed and David Dyer managed the voting tables in the back. Constable Fred Porter secured the ballot box. At 6:10, Town Clerk Tina Pendleton brought the meeting to order with a sharp bang of the gavel and the din of voices quieted down. Tom Tutor was elected as moderator and read the single warrant article which authorized the issuance of up to \$1,750,000 in general obligations bonds with a total estimated debt service, including 4% interest, over 20 years, of \$2,690,655. Part of the article authorized the Select Board to accept gifts towards the project which is being funded 50% by private contributions.

After three well-attended public information sessions, only one question was asked and answered- yes, the roof will be metal. Three members of the public spoke: Julie Reidy thought 5,184 square feet was an "awful lot of building" and noted that there are other projects coming up which will further burden taxpayers. She stated that there has been a lot of rapid "progress" of recently that has not always been beneficial in some areas. She was worried about the strain of increased taxes on young working families. Moderator Tutor noted that the

increase in taxes would be \$40/yr. for every \$100,000 of assessed property value. If your property is assessed at \$300,000, the estimated median house price on Islesboro currently, your taxes would increase by \$120/yr. The new 2022-23 mill rate is \$18.00/\$1000 of assessed value.

Janis Petzel spoke in favor of the project, noting that while she appreciated Julie's position, and had previously been inclined that way herself, recent health crises in her family changed her mind. The level of care at the Islesboro Health Center significantly decreased the number of trips to the mainland for necessary care, saving both money and stress. She said that while the building looks big it is not too big for the amount and level of the medical services the IHC provides.

Holly Fields, who has also experienced serious health issues recently, stated she was appalled at seeing patients being treated in the parking lot because there was not enough room inside, appalled that the lab work is being done in the same room in which people prepare food, and noted that there are currently no public restrooms. The IHC is... "bursting at the seams", she said. "...and there is not enough room for the services we need to be accommodated".

The project was approved by a (written) vote of 88 to 32.

It's a GO.. continued on page 4



Front view: New Islesboro Health Center

The tides they are a-changin'

Although Bob Dylan in one of his signature songs in 1964 was not referring to sea level rise when he wrote the following lyrics, they now seem to apply to the rising global sea levels and the waters around the Grindle Point Light Station.

The times they are a-changin'

Come gather 'round people
Wherever you roam
And admit that the waters
Around you have grown
And accept it that soon
You'll be drenched to the bone
If your time to you is worth savin'
And you better start swimmin'
Or you'll sink like a stone
For the times they are a-changin'

The Grindle Point Light Station committee has been busy. Our Island Fellow, Liv is becoming a pharologist, working on cataloging the Sailor's Memorial Museum's artifacts and witnessing sea level rise. The light tower is being painted and the museum artifacts have been appraised for their value. However, the most important and scariest recent development was a surveyor's analysis of the height of the light station buildings relative to the Highest Astronomical Tide (H.A.T.) line, the measure from where base sea level rise is measured. (www.maine.gov/dacf/mgs/hazards/highest_tide_line/).

The surveyor determined that the floor of the light tower is 1 foot above HAT (blue in photo), the Keeper's house 4.5 feet above HAT, the Boat house 3.5 feet above HAT and the Oil House 8.0 above HAT.

Why worry? According to the Maine Climate Council Report from 2020, we should be ready for a 3 foot rise in sea level by 2050 (yellow) and 8 feet by 2100 (red). (<https://climatecouncil.maine.gov/sea-level-rise-maine-accelerating-problem#:~:text=The%20futu>).

Where is the water coming from? According to the book *Moving to Higher Ground* by John Englander the water is rising because we are producing excessive carbon dioxide

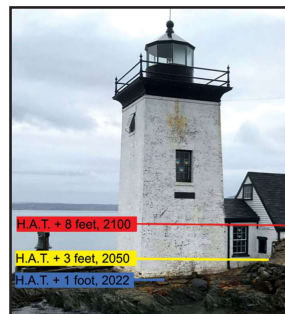
and methane which is warming the planet, expanding the oceans and warming the Arctic Ocean. Of greater potential impact on sea level rise is the melting of the Greenland and Antarctic Ice sheets, which is happening at an alarming rate. (<https://johnenglander.net/wp/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/John-Englander-SLR-graphics-FEB-2021.pdf>).

What can we do? We are awaiting an engineering report that may provide options to keep the light station from flooding. Stay tuned. Our committee is in the process of illustrating the threat levels of sea level rise to the light station similar to those along the waterfront in Belfast

What can you do? "Accept it that soon" the waters will rise. Investigating the position of your property relative to HAT (from the Maine.gov website above and at NOAA <https://coast.noaa.gov/slr/#/layer/slr>) and explore the changes in vital signs of environmental factors leading to rising sea level at NASA (<https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs>). We encourage you to plant trees to absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide. Or grow seaweed. Reduce methane production from livestock by eating less meat. Get fossil fuels out of your life.

As Bob Dylan says "He who gets hurt will be he who has stalled." Please support the further restoration of the light station and mitigation of sea level rise by donating today at grindlight.com

Submitted by the
Light Committee



Welldon tree

Inside

Around the Town	20
Bulletin Board	2
Church News	35
Cooks /Betty Boucher	28
Crossword/John Rex-Waller	30 & 36
Ferry News/John King	5
Island Mind/Janis Petzel	31
IMB Update/Roger Heinen	9
Journal Island Garden/Sandy Oliver	29
Land of the Free/Eva Murray	31
Letters	11
News and Notes	6
Newsmakers	18
Real Estate	37,38,39,40
Remembrances	32,33,34,35
School News	24
Tech Talk/Page Clason	9
Trust Topics/Chloe Joule	29
Also featuring:	
Elizabeth Elliott	33
Larry Hobart	30
Alexander Howell	36
GPLSRC/Dave Petzel	1
Nakomis Nelson	17
Submissions from: Melissa Burns, Dominic DePatsy, Lesley Glotzl, Lindsey Govoni, Katie Heckel, Dorie Henning, Kate Legere, Toby Martin, Carol Pierson, Katie Wuori, Tracey Wuori- Kraskiewicz, Vern Ziegler	
Photography by: Melissa Burns, Dev Devereux, Lesley Glotzl, Chloe Joule, Kate Legere, Amanda O'Bannon, Carol Pierson, Donna Seymour, Katie Wuori	

Second class postage paid at
Islesboro, ME, and at other locations.
USPS Permit #010334.

It's a GO... continued from page 1

The new health center will include a reception/waiting room, two public bathrooms, a pharmacy (currently located in a closet), three exam rooms and a separate phlebotomy room (currently a separate trailer), and a critical care room connected to a loading dock for emergency patients. There will be a room for dental and/or physical/occupational therapy and another for psychiatric therapy (both of which now take place at the Community Center). There will be plenty of storage. Four staff offices, a staff breakroom, and a small studio apartment for staff who live off island are planned.

The area in the municipal building currently used for the health center will be renovated to include space for evidence storage for the Police Department as well as a separate interview room.

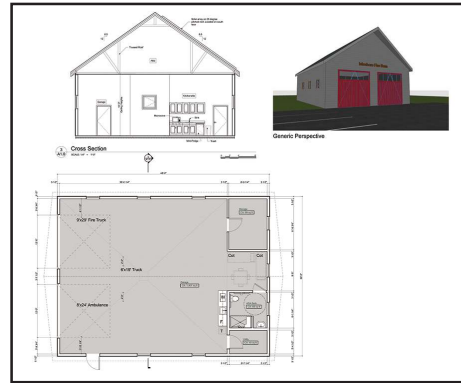
The Upland Public Safety garage will be 1,728-square-foot and located on Town property adjacent to M/M Services on Meadow Pond Road, just south of the Transfer Station. Construction is hoped to begin this Fall. The new Islesboro Health Center building construction will begin in the spring of 2023. The remodeling of the municipal building is expected after completion of the IHC.

The campaign to raise the \$1,750,000 in private funds for the Municipal Building Project has been put together. The effort is chaired by Islesboro resident Linda Gillies; members of the campaign committee are Bruce Claflin, Marny Heinen, John Kauer, Pam Larson, Maxine Nelson, Mark Umbach, Virginia Valentine, and Bill Warren.

The campaign plans to solicit all prospective donors to the Municipal Building Project before year-end. Requests to individual donors are underway, and there will be a general mailing to all Islesboro residents later in the fall. Pledges may be paid over two years, in 2022 and 2023. The campaign hopes that everyone will help to reach the \$1,750,000 goal by making a contribution.



New Islesboro Health Center floor plan



Upland Public Safety Garage

the Island Market

SPECIALTY PIZZAS

	Small (12") Large (16")	\$13.99 \$22.99
Supreme		
Pepperoni, sausage, peppers, black olives, mushrooms, onions		
Meat lover's		
Pepperoni, sausage, ham, bacon, ground beef		
Spicy Italian		
Pepperoni, salami, capicola ham, peppers, black olives, onions, banana peppers		
Cheeseburger		
Thousand Island, ground beef, tomatoes, pickles, red onion		
BBQ chicken		
BBQ sauce, Cheddar, chicken, bacon, red onion		
Buffalo chicken		
Buffalo sauce, chicken, red onion, gorgonzola		
Chicken Bacon Ranch		
Ranch, chicken, bacon, tomato, red onion		
Hawai'i Five-O		
Pineapple, ham, bacon, red onion, banana peppers		
Margherita		
Tomatoes, fresh mozzarella, fresh basil, Parmesan		
Veggie Extravaganza		
Spinach, mushrooms, tomatoes, black olives, red onions		
Spicy Veggie		
Tomatoes, onions, black olives, peppers, banana peppers		
Greek		
Kalamata olives, spinach, tomatoes, feta, red onion		
Rhoda Special		
Pesto, spinach, mushrooms, black olives, feta		
Tania Special		
Pesto, tomatoes, ricotta, artichoke hearts, spinach		
White & green		
Arugula, ricotta, fresh mozzarella, Parmesan, olive oil and garlic		
Fun Guy		
Crimini mushrooms, fresh mozzarella, Parmesan, gorgonzola		

BUILD YOUR OWN

	Small (12") \$9.99	Large (16") \$14.99
Three cheese (mozzarella, provolone, Romano)		
Additional toppings		
Choose your sauce		
Marinara		
Alfredo		
Pesto		
BBQ		
Ranch		
Buffalo		
Olive oil & garlic		
Choose your meats		
Pepperoni		
Sausage		
Bacon		
Ham		
Salami		
Ground beef		
Chicken		
Choose your cheese		
Three-cheese blend		
Fresh mozzarella		
Ricotta		
Parmesan		
Feta		
Goat cheese		
Gorgonzola		
Vegan Chao (add \$2)		
Choose your vegetables		
Tomatoes, mushrooms, red onions, black olives, kalamata olives, rainbow peppers, roasted red peppers, banana peppers, pepperoncini, jalapenos, spinach, arugula, artichoke hearts, sun-dried tomatoes, garlic, pineapple, pickles		
Choose how it's baked		
Take and bake		
(Finish in your oven, 12" only)		
Golden brown		
(Crisp with a light oven char)		
Extra crispy		
(Deep brown with a crunch)		

734-6672
islesborofood.com/islandmarket
7:30 – 5:30 Mon – Thu, 7:30 – 7:00 Fri & Sat