

## Islesboro Sea Level Rise Committee Meeting Minutes

11 am 2/13/2026 @ Town Office & Via Zoom

1. Call to Order. Establish Quorum. In attendance: Peter Willcox, Peter Rothschild, Donna Leone, Chloe Joule, Sue Stafford, Nancy Alexander, Shey Conover, Janet Anderson, Shri Verrill.
2. Approved draft minutes from [1/8/26 meeting](#). Motioned to approve by: Peter R., Seconded by Peter W., Unanimous approval.
3. Narrows Project Update
  - a. Funding Status & Timeline:
    - i. walked through flow chart from 1/8/26 to discuss new information related to funding, and [updated presentation](#) on how to align on advancing short-term and long-term designs.. Our congressionally designed spending (CDS) request was likely not funded – still no response. The energy committee is hoping to apply for the next round of Community Action Grants, so we will defer to them this round. Maine Coastal Program Deadline March 6<sup>th</sup> – we won't be competitive because largely environmental restoration focus. Not enough habitat restoration to be competitive with our project as designed. The next significant upcoming funding opportunity is the Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund
    - ii. Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund (MIAF) – due in May and can apply for up to \$3M. 5% match is required, can be cash or in-kind. Recommend applying for short-term option construction funding (middle & south narrows), and to include a request to fund the rest of the engineering phase for the long-term option from 61 – 100%. We hope by the end of March we will have concept plan, design for middle & south narrows (south narrows may take longer). It is feasible that we know that grant funding is available by summer if we receive MIAF.
    - iii. Discussed uncertainty of CDS FY26 request, and the potential for other potential future FEMA BRIC funding. All uncertain, but something to continue to track and be ready to apply when/if available.
  - b. Goal is for the short term design to be designed, permitted, ready to build end of December of 2026. Current estimate is \$400 - \$500k for design &

construction of short-term fix for middle (\$200k) and south narrows (\$250k).

- c. Shri sent a [memo to the committee about the long-term design permitting](#) process based on a recent meeting with the advisory committee. 90% of permitting can happen with 60% of the design. But we will need additional calculations from GZA. We hope that can be completed under the 60% design contract, but Shri is reaching out to GZA to understand what is possible.
  - d. The project team (Janet, Shri & Shey) developed recommendations that Shri presented. Recommendation: Pause the GZA 60-100% design because we can keep work on permitting forward in the immediate with the 60% design. Apply for MIAF funds for construction for short-term fix, and apply for funds to complete the 60 – 100% final engineering. This allows us to wait to approve the rest of the long term design engineering work so that we don't spend the current capital reserves on the engineering design. Hoping that MIAF will allow us to construct short-term fix & preserve capital reserves for long-term construction match rather than spend all on engineering. General committee approval for moving forward with this recommendation.
    - i. [DRAFT GZA proposed scope of work for 60 – 100% design](#).
  - e. Other questions: How will the long-term design impact CMP wiring (need to engage CMP), and how would future designs impact ability to barge in large objects (houses) over the revetment which was recently done with IAP housing.
4. FY27 Town Budget Request.
    - a. In FY25 \$20k requested. FY26 \$30k requested. Currently have \$182,616 in the capital reserve account. Discussion & approval to request \$30k in FY27 to continue to build reserve for long-term construction.
  5. Other Business. None.
  6. Set Next Meeting Date. March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 pm. (Ended up being canceled)
  7. Adjourn