

SELECT BOARD MEETING

Town Office Meeting Room

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024

6PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96374295063>

Meeting ID: 963 7429 5063

Passcode: 942416

1.	Call to Order:	Establish Quorum:
2.	Accept Minutes of the February 14, 2024 Regular Meeting.	
3.	Visitor's Comments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ferry Service Update – MSFS Public Hearing March 12, 2204</i> • Sea Level Rise Update • Update on Municipal Building Project
4.	Upcoming Meetings and Subcommittee Reports: Planning Board: March 13, 2024	
5.	Town Manager Report:	6. Correspondence:
6.	<u>Old Business:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2024 Islesboro Looking Ahead. 2. 3. 	
7.	<u>New Business:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RFP for Legal Services. 2. 	
8.	<u>Other Business:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 	
9.	Approve Warrant: FY24 #18	
10.	Appointments:	
11.	Chair Comments:	Individual Selectmen's Comments:
12.		
13.	Adjourn	

W: AGENDA 2 28 2024

MEMBERS:

CHAIR Shey Conover
2026

Lauren Bruce
2025

V A C A N T
2025

Melissa Burns
2026

Peter Anderson
2024

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, February 14, 2024 @ 6:00 PM



DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present:

Chair Shey Conover, Vice Chair Lauren Bruce, Melissa Burns, and Peter Anderson

Others Present:

Town Manager Janet Anderson, Bill Thomas, Terry Sanderson, Rachel Rolerson-Smith, Ken Smith, Paul (Babe) Hatch

Via Zoom: Fred Porter, Maggy Willcox, Jim Mitchell

Call to Order: Chair Shey Conover called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and a quorum was established.

MOTION BY L. Bruce, seconded by P. Anderson, to approve the minutes of January 31, 2024 Regular Meeting, as written. Discussion about adding the notes from Executive Session. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

VISITOR COMMENTS/PETITIONS.

Babe Hatch addressed the Board and presented a repair bill for his damaged mirror. He stated his mirror on his plow truck broke when Mark was sanding Cemetery Road. With the wing up, it hit a tree that had been cut flush with the road instead of back a few feet, and the wing hit the mirror. He asked why workers cut the trees flush with the driving lane, and why they push brush into the ditches. It's hard to get back onto the road to take care of it properly.

East Shore Drive: Loranus Cove needs to be addressed. J. Anderson said she's already spoken with Bill Lane about it. Babe stated that Charlotte's Cove is also washed out.

Babe asked about Lucas Tree Service and why they don't snip leaning trees when they're out here. He said he also asked the Town crew if they can take care of leaning trees, and they said it's not their job. J. Anderson replied that Lucas is only here for CMP. She has spoken with several homeowners about their leaning trees. Trees on private property are homeowners' responsibility.

Babe asked about the Narrows. Once the frost comes out, it's going to start to rut. He asked if we're going to pave this year. J. Anderson stated that we will pave if we have money in the budget, after July 1st. Babe believes we need to spend money on our roads, and put other projects (such as the Municipal Building Project) on hold. If there's a fire station up-island, he would like a salt & sand shed down-island.

S. Conover replied that the Board has talked for the past couple months about identifying the places that need attention, and developing a road maintenance plan. Ditching and other projects will save us money long-term. The recent storms have highlighted the

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need for additional money to put aside for repairs. We should build up the funds so that we don't use the paving fund in order to take care of emergencies that arise. The point is well taken. We will be entering the budgeting process next month, and we will think hard about what we need to set aside so that we're prepared. We are aiming to be as fiscally responsible as possible.

L. Bruce stated she appreciated Babe bringing concerns to the Board. We recognize that we need to do long-term planning. Hearing from someone who helps the Town with the roads really brings it home.

Babe stressed that the beaches need to be taken care of before they get worse, and before we need a permit. He expressed frustration about the lack of action on the roads in recent years.

Bill Thomas suggested organizing a volunteer crew with homeowners for overhanging trees.

S. Conover suggested partnering with Lucas when they come out for CMP, and maybe a homeowner education campaign.

P. Anderson stated that this is the second time in a couple months that someone has brought the issue of downed trees encroaching onto the roadway. Can we mobilize Jordy and Don more? J. Anderson stated that the Public Works folks should speak to that. Other things come up. S. Conover requested that the feedback from the community gets passed on to the crew, and that it's a priority. Understanding how it fits within the list of other things is helpful for us in order to be able to respond to concerns.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by L. Bruce, to take the agenda out of order. No discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Lighthouse Museum Committee.

- Ken Smith reported on what the Lighthouse Museum Committee has been working on, to make sure they are on the same wavelength with the Select Board.
- We just wrote a grant for fixing the lantern room. We are then going to work on another grant to fix inside the tower. It's a grant through the King Foundation. Last year we were told that because we didn't have a local response with donations, they didn't want to be the lead source. We will resubmit this year. We want to continue to get grants, and we're working with other lighthouse organizations to help with some of the grants.
- Not everything can be done with grants. The foundations of the boathouse and the north wall of the Keeper's House recently got fixed up. We were lucky to have someone to make that large donation.

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- We want to increase the amount of donations. By doing that, we want to increase the amount of time the museum is open, to 5 days/week.
- We're getting a lot of hits on our website. If we can increase participation, we can double the amount of time someone is there to greet visitors.
- We're looking at getting a webcam for upstairs in the lighthouse. We have a couple organizations working with us, trying to do it for as little money as possible.
- Most of what we want to do requires the Lighthouse Committee to step up, but we need to have the Select Board support.
- The Town paid for the CAP Report that looked at the collection, which is about 300 items. The building and collection were assessed. They had a series of recommendations, one of which was to raise the building up. The cost would be prohibitive. We are very involved in taking care of the collection.
- Sea Level Rise: everyone is concerned. The two January storms were significant for the Lighthouse. The surge is what did the damage during the January 10th storm.
- We would like to continue with restorations as best we can, and at the same time, maintain the lighthouse. We want to put heavy-duty shutters on the outside of the windows to protect them and the collection.
- L. Bruce stated this is a great example of forward thinking. She asked about how the shutters will work. Bill Thomas answered that they will protect the lower windows from water-driven damage, the upper windows would be protected from wind-blown objects. During the recent storm, one of the windows broke, which allowed a surge of water to come in, bringing in a lot of mud. Had that window been protected by a shutter, it wouldn't have broken.
- The long-term goal is for visitors to go to the museum, down the tunnel, up through the tower, and into the lantern room.
- Bill is working on restoring some of the windows. Any protection we can afford them from wind or water damage, gives us more time before we need to replace them.
- We are working with historian Jim Leslie to restore the lantern room and tower. He is presently doing Vinalhaven's Browns Head Light, and then Eagle Island. We will meet with us next week to see when he can fit us in. We could possibly allow people into the tower and lantern room next year.
- J. Anderson asked about lead paint in the tower. Rachel answered that the first report said there's lead on the stairs. Bill stated that they will resolve it.
- S. Conover stated it seems like the committee has been re-energized in the past couple of years. Thanks for all the hard work and efforts to get grants.
- Terry Sanderson and other members have been doing a lot of publicity. One part of the grant involves the school. We will work with students in history and science concepts. The principal is very supportive.

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FERRY SERVICE UPDATE

S. Conover reported that she spoke with John King last week. He met with Bill Pulver on a variety of ferry related items. John remains vigilant and focused on making sure there's good communication with DOT, and helping to facilitate the need to begin conversations with the town regarding Sea Level Rise on Ferry Road.

SEA LEVEL RISE

S. Conover reported that the Committee will meet next Wednesday the 21st. We are waiting for information to come back from GZA Engineering for the Narrows.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING PROJECT

L. Bruce reported that we should be getting the Guaranteed Maximum Price around March 6th. If it comes in at or under the estimate, we're good to go. If not, the MBPC will make a recommendation to the Select Board. If we have to do a Warrant, we will come back to the Town to approve it, and that will be likely at the April 10th Town Informational Meeting, which would then be a Special Town Meeting for a vote.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Town Committee Chairs meeting: February 15th
- Sea Level Rise Committee: February 21st,
- Planning Board: February 26th, 5:00pm.
- IESC: February 27th, 5:00 pm.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Packet included Agenda for 2/14/24 and Minutes of 1/31/24 Regular Meeting.
- Committee Minutes/Correspondence:
 - Minutes of 1/18/24 Harbor Committee meeting
 - Minutes of 1/25/24 Lighthouse Museum Committee meeting
 - 2/7/24 letter from Sally Daggett of Jensen Baird regarding resignation as Town Attorney as of 6/30/24. Mark Bower will continue as counsel for the Broadband. We will need to advertise. Do we need a workshop to go over RFPs? S. Conover stated it would be helpful to have a summary of what we contact the firm for regularly.
 - Bar Harbor Wealth Management Capital Reserves period ending 1/31/24.
 - 2/7/24 letter to Town Committee Chairs inviting to meeting 2/15/24.
 - 2/9/24 email from Mark McCue, DOT Highway Program, regarding Light Capital Paving Project for Ferry Road, Mill Creek Road, and West Bay Road.
 - Copy of Notice of Presidential Primary Election March 5th, 2024. Town Office will be closed this day.

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- Notice of 2/15/24 Select Board Workshop: Committee Chairs
- Warrant #17
- Manager Report
 - J. Anderson reported that as of 2/12/24, East Shore Drive has been reopened. Farley & Sons will be back in the spring to loam and seed disturbed lawn areas and replace Lars Nelson's culvert.
 - J. Anderson has sent thank-you notes to the Boardman Family and the Maple Grove Cemetery Committee for use of their private roads during East Shore Drive stabilization.
 - We will need to grade and fill some areas.
 - 2/12/24 Dirt Roads were posted.
 - Revised Budget Calendar: March 13th cancelled due to Shey, Lauren, and Janet being away. Push out to April 3rd.
 - Discussion about signing a Warrant with only two members present. Janet will ask the attorney.
 - Superintendent Dominic DePatsy reached out to meet with Janet to go over the Superintendent's budget. She recommended the School Board meet with the Select Board.

CORRESPONDENCE

Discussed in Town Manager's Report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. None.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. None.

APPROVE WARRANTS: FY24 #17

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by L. Bruce, to approve Warrant FY24 #17. No discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

APPOINTMENTS:

None.

CHAIR COMMENTS

S. Conover: No comments.

VICE-CHAIR COMMENTS

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L. Bruce: No comments.

INDIVIDUAL SELECT BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

P. Anderson: No comments.

M. Burns: Go Eagles! Boys have playoffs, Saturday at 1:00, Girls Monday the 19th at 10:30. Logan Burns is the sole rep for State Indoor Track & Field. He runs and jumps on the 19th.

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by M. Burns, to Adjourn Meeting at 7:03 PM. No Discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Reed
Secretary

STATE OF MAINE
COUNTY OF WALDO
COURT OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RECEIVED
FEB 22 2024

District

- 1 Betty I. Johnson (207) 323-3767
- 2 William D. Shorey (207) 548-6114
- 3 Amy R. Fowler (207) 322-4556



BY: _____
Phone (207) 338-3282
Fax (207) 338-6788
E-mail: countyclerk@waldocountyme.gov

Barbara L. Arseneau
County Clerk

39-B Spring Street
Belfast, ME 04915

Owen R. Smith
Treasurer

FY24: \$850,867

↑ *80,231.26

February 15, 2024

WALDO, SS.

To the Selectmen or Assessors of the Municipality of **Islesboro**, in the County of Waldo, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS the Waldo County Budget Committee, in their last session, resolved that the sum of **\$931,098.26** should be raised on the municipalities within the County, according to the directions of the law for defraying the usual necessary charges of the County for the year ensuing and whereas the County Commissioners of said County of Waldo, on the **Fifteenth (15th) day of February A.D., 2024**, ordered that the Clerk of the County Commissioners in said County should forthwith send out warrants for assessing the Municipalities' proportions thereof, and for paying the same:

And whereas, upon a due apportionment of said sum, your municipality's proportion thereof is found to be **Nine hundred thirty-one thousand ninety-eight and 26/100 dollars (\$931,098.26)**.

You are, therefore, hereby required in the name of the State of Maine, to assess the said sum last mentioned, upon the inhabitants of said Municipality, agreeable to the Laws of said State, and cause the same in like manner to be collected and paid to the **Treasurer** of said Municipality, to be paid by same to **County of Waldo**, the same **on or before the first day of October next**. Interest shall accrue on all the unpaid balance of the County Tax that is then due, at the rate allowed by **Title 36, Section 892-A**, beginning on the **60th day next, which is November 30, 2024**.

Hereof Fail Not, and make due return to County Treasurer, at 39B Spring Street, Belfast, Maine, 04915, of the names of the person or persons to whom your list of assessments shall be committed, as soon as may be thereafter.

Dated at Belfast, the **Fifteenth (15th) day of February A.D., 2024** by order of the County Commissioners.

Barbara L. Arseneau

Barbara L. Arseneau, Waldo County Clerk



Rural Energy Prize & Community Energy Coordinator

February 2024 Activities Report for the Islesboro Select Board



islesboroenergy.org

Coordinator: Kizzi Barton, kizzi@islesboroenergy.org

Team: Islesboro Energy Committee members collaborate with the Coordinator:

- Core team of Cressica Brazier & Bill Thomas work with Kizzi on daily basis
- Myra Sinnott, Harriet Bering, Monica Mullins, and Holly Fields are collaborating and advising on energy program design and outreach

Prize Goals (from May 2023 Prize Plan/Application)

1. **Community solar/VPP/microgrid feasibility study**, MOU for 10+ solar hosts
2. **Island-wide home energy upgrade strategy** & MOU for support for 10+ homes

Projects, meetings, and outreach activities (Jan 26-Feb 23)

Outreach & meetings

- ★ Public presentation & video on website: Rural Energy Prize Progress & Plans (Feb 13 @ 5pm) (Kizzi)
- ★ Public event @ Library: Home weatherization w/Colin McCullough (Feb 6)
- ★ Received first financial support for weatherization & solar projects, from Islesboro-affiliated foundation
- National advisor meetings for policy analysis (Cadmus) & solar siting (Ongoing)
- See Energy Hub Facebook page, website, and town mailer for updates

Prize Goal 1: solar/VPP (virtual power plant)/microgrid study

- Solar site evaluation and financial modeling (ongoing)
- Preparing draft Microgrid Feasibility Study RFP (ongoing)
- ★ Outreach and discussions with likely community solar hosts (ongoing)
- ★ Planning small-scale solar array designs with Islesboro community members

Prize Goal 2: energy efficiency & home energy plans

- Completed first Home Energy Assessment Week with Colin McCullough, Independent Energy Auditor (Feb 3-8)
- ★ Preparing and sending out audit & consult reports to participants
- ★ Scheduling second Home Energy Assessment Week (Mar 30-Apr 4)
- ★ Planning DIY Home Weatherization Training Workshop with Colin McCullough
- Started process for planning WindowDressers Community Build
- Home energy upgrade plans: data collection started (Kizzi, Cressica)

Upcoming activities

- Office Hours, listening sessions, and community group meetings for Goals 1 & 2
- Organizing Weatherization Parties (PG #2)
- Home energy survey data collection continues (PG #2)
- Grant proposals: EPA Community Change grant (ASAP), DOE Energy Improvements in Rural & Remote Areas (ERA) (Concept papers for 4/24 & 7/24)
- Prize Round 2 deadline: July 2024

17

Potential solar hosts
(+1 since January)

20

Home assessments completed
(+18 since January)

36

Home assessments requested
(+3 since January)

23

Home upgrade surveys
(+15 since January)
(18 plans; Goal: 200)

66

resident contacts
(+10 since January)

\$100k Budget Status
(4.5 months remaining)
All values are approximate.

\$37,500

Remaining for Energy Coordinator activities
(Total budget: \$50,000)

\$11,500

Remaining for partner services & outreach facilitators
(Total budget: \$15,000)

\$7,500

Remaining for outreach materials and events
(Total budget: \$10,000)

\$25,000

Reserved for solar/VPP feasibility study
(Total budget: \$25,000)

Janet Anderson

From: Bryant, Mary <Mary.Bryant@maine.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 3:50 PM
To: 'manager@townofislesboro.com'
Subject: Maine State Ferry Service - Public Hearing Notice
Attachments: MSFS Public Hearing - Notice to Town of Islesboro.pdf

Importance: High

Good Afternoon:

Attached please find an important notice regarding a Public Hearing scheduled for March 12, 2024. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Best Regards,

Mary Bryant

Equal Employment Opportunity Program Specialist
Civil Rights Office
Legal Services Division
Maine Department of Transportation
16 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0016

Work Cell: 207-446-2453
Office: 207-624-3056
Fax: 207-624-3090
E-mail: mary.bryant@maine.gov





Janet Mills
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
16 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0016



Bruce A. Van Note
COMMISSIONER

February 22, 2024

Via USPS First Class Mail and Email

Town of Islesboro
Attn: Janet Anderson, Town Manager
P.O. Box 76
Islesboro, ME 04848

manager@townofislesboro.com

RE: Rulemaking Relating to Proposed Tolls for all Routes Served by the Maine State Ferry Service

Dear Town Manager:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A. § 8053(2), I am enclosing a Notice of Public Hearing for Rulemaking Relating to Proposed Tolls for All Routes Served by the Maine State Ferry Service. The notice includes the text of the proposed rule. Please feel free to contact me with any views or comments.

Sincerely,

Anne Paré
Chief Counsel

Enclosures

**MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR RULEMAKING RELATING TO PROPOSED TOLLS FOR ALL ROUTES SERVED
BY THE MAINE STATE FERRY SERVICE**

The Maine Department of Transportation will conduct a public hearing to receive comments relating to changes to some of the tolls for all routes served by the Maine State Ferry Service. The proposed Rule 602 would change some of the tolls, as they are currently set out in Schedule A.

The proposed rule would implement 23 M.R.S.A. Sections 52 and 4404.

A public hearing on the proposed Rule will be held at the following time and place:

March 12, 2024, at 12:00 Noon at the Samoset Resort
220 Warrenton Street, Rockport, Maine 04856, and live stream, at:
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/108b1ecc7d64416cb72e066626bc4d5d>

The public is invited to attend this hearing to present views and comments.

For a printed version of the proposed rule, or to submit written views and comments, contact:

Anne Paré, Esq.
Legal Division, Maine Department of Transportation
16 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0016
Telephone (207) 624-3020, TTY Users dial Maine Relay 711
anne.m.pare@maine.gov or at:
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/108b1ecc7d64416cb72e066626bc4d5d>

Written submissions must be received by March 22, 2024.

The text of the proposed rule is attached to this notice. A copy of the proposed rule may be viewed online at: <https://www.maine.gov/mdot/rulemaking/>.

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Maine Department of Transportation will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate disabled persons wishing to attend the hearing.

17 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

229 OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Chapter 602: RULES RELATING TO MAINE STATE FERRY SERVICE TOLLS

Section 1: SUMMARY

This rule establishes tolls for the use of Maine State Ferry Service (MSFS) lines.

Section 2: ESTABLISHMENT OF TOLLS

Tolls for the use of Maine State Ferry Service lines are set forth in Schedule A.

Section 3: DEFINITIONS

As used in Schedule A:

- A) "Adult" means a person 18 years or older.
- B) "Bicycle" means a bicycle as defined in 29-A M.R.S. §101(9).
- C) "Child" means a person who is less than 6 years old.
- D) "Minor" means a person who is at least 6 years old but who is less than 18 years old.
- E) "Motorcycle" means a motorcycle, a motorized scooter, a moped, or a motorized bicycle or tricycle (all as defined in 29-A M.R.S. §101).
- F) "Truck" means a motor vehicle with either more than 4 tires or an overall length (including cargo) of more than 20 feet.
- G) "Vehicle" means a motor vehicle with 4 tires or less with an overall length (including cargo) of 20 feet or less, excluding Motorcycles. "Vehicle" includes automobiles, station wagons, vans, mini-vans, pickup trucks, golf carts, fork lifts, riding lawn mowers, small garden tractors, and all-terrain vehicles.

Section 4: COMMUTER TICKETS

Five commuter tickets may be purchased for the price of 4 regular tickets. Commuter tickets are non-transferable, may be used for no more than one round trip per day, and expire if not used within 7 days after the first of the 5 commuter tickets is used.

Schedule A

Islesboro		
	October 1 to May 31	June 1 to September 30
Adult Round Trip	\$8.00 <u>\$9.00</u>	\$13.00 <u>\$15.00</u>
Minor Round Trip (Ages 6-17)	\$4.00 <u>\$4.50</u>	\$9.00 <u>\$10.50</u>
Child (Ages 0-5)	Free	Free
Vehicle Round Trip *	\$22.00 <u>\$26.00</u>	\$29.50 <u>\$37.50</u>
Motorcycle Round Trip *	\$17.50 <u>\$20.50</u>	\$23.75 <u>\$29.25</u>
Truck Per Foot (one way) **	\$4.00	\$4.50
Truck Per Foot Round Trip **	\$4.00 <u>\$5.00</u>	\$4.50 <u>\$6.00</u>
Adult Bicycle Round Trip ***	\$13.00 <u>\$15.00</u>	\$18.00 <u>\$21.00</u>
Minor Bicycle Round Trip ***	\$9.00 <u>\$10.50</u>	\$14.00 <u>\$16.50</u>

Swans Island, Frenchboro, North Haven, Vinalhaven		
	October 1 to May 31	June 1 to September 30
Adult Round Trip	\$12.50 <u>\$14.00</u>	\$17.50 <u>\$20.25</u>
Minor Round Trip (Ages 6-17)	\$6.25 <u>\$7.00</u>	\$11.25 <u>\$13.25</u>
Child (Ages 0-5)	Free	Free
Vehicle Round Trip *	\$31.00 <u>\$36.50</u>	\$38.50 <u>\$48.50</u>
Motorcycle Round Trip *	\$24.25 <u>\$28.25</u>	\$30.50 <u>\$37.50</u>
Truck Per Foot (one way) **	\$4.25	\$4.75
Truck Per Foot Round Trip **	\$4.25 <u>\$5.25</u>	\$4.75 <u>\$6.25</u>
Adult Bicycle Round Trip ***	\$17.50 <u>\$20.00</u>	\$22.50 <u>\$26.25</u>
Minor Bicycle Round Trip ***	\$11.25 <u>\$13.00</u>	\$16.25 <u>\$19.25</u>

Matinicus	
	Year-Round Rates
Adult Round Trip	\$25.00
Minor Round Trip (Ages 6-17)	\$12.50
Child (Ages 0-5)	Free
Vehicle Round Trip * with reservation	\$90.00 -\$108.00
Motorcycle Round Trip *	\$50.00 -\$60.00
Truck Per Foot (one-way) **	\$5.75
Truck Per Foot Round Trip **	\$7.00 -\$8.75
Adult Bicycle Round Trip ***	\$30.00 -\$31.00
Minor Bicycle Round Trip ***	\$17.50 -\$18.50

* Includes driver (but not accompanying passengers).

** Does not include driver or accompanying passengers.

*** Includes rider.

Islesboro Select Board
Committee Chair Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room
Thursday, February 15, 2024 @ 4:30 PM

Members Present:

Shey Conover, Melissa Burns, Ken Smith, Cindy Gorham, Mike Nelson, John Rex-Waller, Craig Olson, Linda Gilles, Laura Read, Myra Sinnott, Colleen Dove, Christine Robb, Lauren Janney

Call to Order: Select Boar Chair Shey Conover called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

Shey welcomed everyone and gave a brief background on the intention of the meeting. Former Select Board Member Arch Gilles started holding roundtable discussions with committee chairs several years ago, but these meetings haven't happened since before the pandemic. The Select Board thought it would be a good time to restart this tradition. Budget season is coming up, and it will be good to have an overview of what the committees are working on and planning. The Select Board is also planning to develop a Committee Guidance Document with a Code of Conduct, for the benefit of all committees.

Cemetery Committee – Cindy Gorham, Chair

The Committee takes care of Bayview & Sprague, the two Town-owned cemeteries. Other cemeteries are on private lands. Recent projects: tree work, cleanup and removal of downed trees, and fence work. Gravestone maintenance at Bayview. There's a 100-year-old oak tree at Bayview; we recently had some work done on that for about \$3,000. Carole Nichter, former Chair, is leaving, and we've been keeping equipment at her house. We are now getting a storage shed for equipment. That could cross over into next year's budget. We are obligated to properly maintain veteran sites. Some of those are in the 30 private burial grounds spread over the island. Maine law states we need to keep those clean (remove blowdowns, dirt on stones). We hire professionals to remove trees; it gets expensive. Mowing accident at Bay View: \$500 to repair stone. We're down a couple members, and need support from Town Office staff for selling lots. A new section at Bayview has been plotted off. Private burial grounds are on many properties. We had a close call with one property where the septic system might have been too close. The CEO needs to be aware of where these are before issuing permits.

ALP Library Trustees – Laura Read, Interim Chair

Laura just finished 9 months serving as the Interim Chair. The new Chair is Brooke Hua, who has an extensive background in library systems. We just finished 18 months of going over the Employee & Trustee Handbook, all the policies and procedures. The Select Board approved it recently. It was outdated, and the plan is to read it annually so we don't get 10-20 years behind again. We recently started a long-term project to become certified as a sustainable library. There's a long list of points that need to be accomplished. The only other library in Maine that has achieved certification is the Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick. The Board is fresh—it's a new, young board with a lot of energy.

D.H.W.W.T.F. Committee – Craig Olson, Chair

Officially in the Ordinance, this is the Pollution Control Committee. We have the smallest municipal sewer system in the state. There are 34 people on the system, built in 1904. We recently did a large survey, completed last year. It had never been surveyed or mapped before. We didn't know where many pipes were. We have now mapped the system and came up with a

Islesboro Select Board
Committee Chair Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room
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plan for long-term maintenance and repair of the system, which has been failing in certain areas for years. The price tag for that is over \$3M for the entire system. The engineering firm, Oliver Associates, is still engaged with us in looking for funding sources and applying for funds. We want to protect the single-source aquifer. We are going forward in the next year with replacing meters on wells, most of which were purchased used over 20 years ago.

Energy Committee – Myra Sinnott, Chair

We have 9 members who are all busy with projects. Our purpose is to support efficient energy use in all the municipal buildings. Among many projects, we recently installed a heat pump in the meeting room, and insulation in the library. We are supporting the library in their sustainable library effort. We're trying to finish the heat pumps in the municipal building so we can get a rebate from Efficiency Maine, and we're working with the Municipal Building Project on the new buildings. We're getting some fire suppression equipment for the EV charger. Planning lighting updates in library, along with an electrical upgrade and heat pump. For the Energy Prize, Kizzi Barton is working with us doing home assessments and home energy plans. We're looking to do an island-wide solar & storage setup. The goal is to apply for a \$200,000 prize in July, to take us to the next level, to help us qualify for other grants. We're updating the fire station, and working with ICC.

Harbor Committee – Ken Smith, Chair

We've been dealing with aquaculture farms: yearly LPAs and longer-term leases. Currently Islesboro has 27 approved farms with more applications in the works. Aquafarming is regulated by the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR), not the Town, a source of conflict in many towns. We are trying to find the best way to address this industry and protect our limited resources. We've been trying to meet needs of fishermen and boaters in maintaining facilities at Grindle Point and Seal Harbor. Thinking about how best to prepare for and respond to climate changes. Bringing data on anchorages up-to-date: owners' info, coordinates & types of moorings, using DMR mapping software. We're also enforcing Town Ordinances regarding facilities.

Health Center Advisory Board – Christine Robb, Chair

In the past year, we've completely updated our basic Rules of Order. Working with the architect and Health Center personnel in designing new building so it will work for providers and patients. It's undergone multiple revisions. Our next project: there was a big upswing in Lyme cases last summer, mostly in visitors and summer people. We're going to try to raise awareness with signage, and do better outreach. We will need money for signs.

Housing Committee – Mike Nelson, Chair

Our focus has been on workforce housing. We're putting together a resource guide for those looking for housing. We're also working with the Midcoast Council of Governments (MCOG), who have recently received money to start an investigation on housing through the midcoast. There's a deficit throughout the state. They are putting together a working group, and we will be involved. The Planning Board has been working on LD 2003, which addresses Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). As part of that, we are studying a third Town Center District at Durkee's

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Store. We are also looking at creating a Housing Trust, which might be able to generate building, focused on workforce housing, which is in dire need.

Islesboro Municipal Broadband – John Rex-Waller, Chair

IMB continues to serve the island well. There are 713 subscribers, who seem to be happy with service. Response times on service calls have improved. IMB meets quarterly. As Roger Heinen is no longer a resident, he had to step off the committee. We need to find a replacement for Roger, and that's in the works. Our contract with GWI has expired, and we are in the process of renegotiating a contract. We had the option of putting out an RFI for a new provider, but decided to work with GWI first. There have been some billing and service issues. Our deadline is the Town Meeting. For the budget cycle, not much changes, but we'd like to make the billing simpler for the Town Office. The current contract is 5 years, we'd like to extend it to 7-10 years.

Municipal Building Project Committee – Linda Gilles, Member

It looks as if construction will start the first week of April. There have been lots of refinements.

Lighthouse Museum Committee – Ken Smith, Chair

Ken gave a detailed report to the Select Board last night. They have done a tremendous amount of work with repairs, and have many projects for maintenance and repairs. We didn't lose anything in the storms. We stabilized the foundations, and that made a big difference. We're planning to write applications for grants, we're seeking donations, and restoring the tower and lantern room.

Pesticide Safety on Islesboro Committee – Linda Gilles, Chair

Copies of the Committee's booklet are available for free at the Town Office. The committee also manages a website with info on synthetic pesticides: pesticidesafetyonislesboro.com. We have made inroads. We're aiming at people who use Roundup. The Golf Course is not using synthetic pesticides anymore.

Recreation Committee – Lauren Janney, Chair

The biggest effort is focused on Adventure Camp this summer. We are planning on needing to hire a new roster: camp director, counselor, lead counselor. It's an opportunity to take it to the next level. We're anticipating needing to pay the new roster more. This will be the second year of hosting Adventure Camp through the ICC. This will be the third year for the Swim program, and there are 27 kids currently involved. We have fall and spring sessions at the Waldo County YMCA for pre-K kids, and Spring lessons for K-3 kids. They offer a bus from Lincolnville at no charge. The YMCA has some staffing challenges. We're trying to make it more sustainable. We may do lessons at Big Tree Beach in the summer. We are looking for a new Recreation Director; Rob McHugh is stepping down at the end of June. We are also looking for other new members. Maddie Dodge Field court area needs to be resurfaced, and other facilities need maintenance. Shey Conover suggested the Town make a donation to the YMCA as a thank-you.

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School Board – Colleen Dove, Member

Our focus has been on the Superintendent search. We've had great candidates, four have interviewed, and we're doing final interviews this week. Hopefully by the end of break we will make a decision. We are planning a budget workshop this Wednesday. We are budgeting for the pointing on the building. The roof has been completed on the main building; the gym roof will need to be done in the near future. 30 years ago, the school was the worse facility in Maine, and it is now one of the best. The playground is halfway done, and the rest is coming this spring. The staircase needs to be done; we're discussing whether to apply for grants or use facilities funds. The floors also need to be redone.

Sea Level Rise Committee – Shey Conover, Chair

The committee is primarily focused on the Narrows because it is Town-owned and one of the most vulnerable areas. We received two different grants, one that allowed us to hire a project manager, and another to help pay for an engineering study. GZA Engineering just started last month. By the end of April, they will have an alternatives analysis for us with three different adaptations to consider. By Town Meeting, we should have an adaptation chosen to move forward with the next level of planning. We are also expanding work to the ferry terminal, which is complex. The road is owned by state, and the parking lot and lighthouse are owned by the Town. We are having conversations with DOT to figure out how to partner and collaborate. Other vulnerable areas on the island; culvert work needs to be done, among other things.

Select Board – Shey Conover, Chair

In response to Ken's question about the availability of a grant-writer, Shey answered that we don't have one. Last year, we put money in the budget to try to hire a grant-writer for the Town, and advertised, but didn't get a lot of interest. There have been people who have volunteered with some committees. In some cases, we've paid them per diem for their services. The Sea Level Rise Committee had a consultant who wrote a grant, which paid for her to write more grants. We found that the project management and financial reporting after the fact may be a challenge. We're looking for someone with broad experience in planning, grant-writing, and project management. The Board is open to collaborating with committees on this.

We enjoy hearing from the committees, and having your work brought to us to support as much as possible. We've been hearing about storm damage and road repair. The East Shore Drive project wiped out the repair fund. For next year's budget, we need to rebuild maintenance and repair funds. East Shore Drive is open. Farley will finish details and reseed in spring.

Discussion about grant-writing strategies, a possible Town grant-writer, and collaboration amongst committees for grants.

We will try to meet twice a year going forward.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:39