

SELECT BOARD MEETING

Town Office Meeting Room

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 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 January 17, 2024 Regular Meeting.	
3.	Visitor's Comments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ferry Service Update</i> • Sea Level Rise Update • Update on Municipal Building Project
4.	Upcoming Meetings and Subcommittee Reports: Planning Board: February 5, 2024	
5.	Town Manager Report:	6. Correspondence:
6.	<u>Old Business:</u> 1. Set Winter Info Date 2.	
7.	<u>New Business:</u> 1. 2.	
8.	<u>Other Business:</u> 1.	
9.	Approve Warrant: FY24 #16	
10.	Appointments: Housing: Cate Blackford	
11.	Chair Comments:	Individual Selectmen's Comments:
12.	EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion to enter executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(F) and 25 MRSA § 2006 to consider concealed weapon permit applications 2024-#1 and 2024-#2.	
13.	Adjourn	

W: AGENDA 1 31 2024

MEMBERS:

CHAIR Shey Conover
2026

Lauren Bruce
2025

V A C A N T
2025

Melissa Burns
2026

Peter Anderson
2024

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DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Town Manager Janet Anderson, Jennifer West, Isabel Jackson, John King, Murt Durkee

Via Zoom: Josh Leach, Fred Porter, Philo Hutcheson, Amy Mulnix, Antony Merck, P. Steffen

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

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by P. Anderson, to approve the minutes of January 3, 2024 Regular Meeting, as written. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

VISITOR COMMENTS/PETITIONS.

None.

FERRY SERVICE UPDATE

John King reported on the status of the MCS. The reduction gears need to be replaced. It's been hauled for a Coast Guard hull inspection anyway, so they will do the repairs at the same time. It will be offline for 8-12 weeks. Bill Geary has stated he has no plans to change the ferry schedule, which is currently the summer schedule Monday – Friday.

John stated he has been on the Emergency Transportation Committee to explore ambulance options, but it's not going anywhere, so he feels the committee should be disbanded. However, Fred Porter has been in touch with John regarding another organization that is exploring water ambulances, with a broad scope in Penobscot Bay.

Regarding the Tariff, it is still in process and hasn't been submitted for approval. There is still an opportunity to comment. We have a recent request from Bill Geary about some provisions. Item #11 is about Priority Transportation. Emergency vehicles will have priority. Postal Service vehicles are listed, and they will be keeping them as priority so people can get their medications. John will clarify with Bill Geary. John thought the Board might want to discuss island-specific information for priority status. He recommends leaving it be. S. Conover stated she feels it's been working as is, and we should keep it simple. J. Anderson stated she feels the Health Center providers should also have priority status. S. Conover read from page 11, Municipal Priority, "Each municipality is authorized to arrange priority transportation in support of town projects..." The Health Center providers should be covered with that provision, but it's

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worth clarifying how it's working. J. Anderson will check with Dorie and Dr. Kramer about how it's been working so far. S. Conover stated that if it hasn't been an issue, we can make sure they get a reservation through the Municipal Priority provision. John stated he will clarify with Bill Geary.

John will attend the Advisory Board meeting next week via Zoom.

SEA LEVEL RISE

S. Conover thanked the Emergency Response folks, who did a tremendous amount of work and coordination over the past week and a half with the storms. It was a real community effort. It provided real life examples of why we are focused on the Narrows.

GZA Engineering is coming tomorrow for a kickoff meeting. They will head to the Narrows and take measurements onsite, then meet with the committee. The goal is for them to get a sense of the community, understand our risk tolerance, and hear a summary of all the community outreach we've done over the past 9 months. They will then do some modeling of three alternatives they will propose to us as potential infrastructure changes. We should have those alternatives by the end of April or beginning of May.

As a committee, we have been focused on the Narrows, but Fred and Carrie are collecting photos and videos from the storm damage. About 18 months ago, we met with representatives from the MDOT about the Ferry Road concerns, and at that point they were doing their own studies. Now is a good time to reach out to them with photos and re-engage. In addition to doing small-group community meetings on the Narrows project, Liv Lenfestey, our Island Fellow, is pulling together a list of resources with the Island Institute to help landowners who have experienced damages from the storm.

Murt Durkee added that these storms have opened our eyes to other areas that will be affected. The end of Billy Shore drive flooded and took quite a bit of pounding. West Bay Road near Dale Hatch's place got close to flooding. Sprague's Beach was full of water but it never crested over the road because it was on the lee side of the island. We still have concerns about parts of East Shore Drive. S. Conover replied that Shri Verrill is helping us identify funding sources to address those other vulnerable areas. We need to put some money into our road maintenance plan this coming budget season.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING PROJECT

L. Bruce reported that the bidding and the Guaranteed Maximum Price process is happening between January 19 and February 19. We should have a GMP by Feb. 26. The preconstruction permitting, shop drawings, and site mobilization should be happening in early March, and construction should begin March 21.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Harbor Committee: January 18th, 6:30pm
- Housing Committee: January 23rd, 5:00pm.

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- Planning Board: January 22nd, 5:00pm, cancelled.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Packet included Agenda for 1/17/24 and Minutes of 1/3/24 Regular Meeting.
- Committee Minutes/Correspondence:
 - Harbor Committee minutes of 10/19/23
 - Energy Committee minutes of 12/12/23
 - Lighthouse Committee minutes of 11/30/23
 - Lighthouse Committee minutes of 12/28/23
 - 1/15/24 email from John King/Fred Porter/Rick Petrie re: Boat Ambulance Meeting.
 - Re: Museum
 - 1/8/24, Ken Smith sent a letter to CMP regarding Pole #39 at Grindle Point, which is connected to the Museum. He asked CMP to address this issue.
 - 1/16/24, Ken sent an update on storm damage at the Light Station. James Nelson and Phil Berry were able to secure the boat house after the 1/10/24 storm moved it six inches.
 - The Museum Committee worked tirelessly at cleaning up flooding in the tower.
- Old Business
 - Pine Tree Waste, Inc. Renewal Agreement – fuel usage chart included from Patrick Neal, Casella 1/4/24
- New Business
 - MSFS Tariff #9.1
 - Planning Board: Jennifer West will hand out a 1-page info sheet
- Warrant #15
- Manager Report
 - Roads: The Narrows took the biggest hit of the 1/10/24 storm, ripping up asphalt and spewing rocks across the road. Peter Coombs was able to clear it off and Phil Berry brought down stones from the Up-Island PS Garage site to fortify the low sea wall. Thank goodness the 1/13/24 storm was milder.
 - Ferry Road was flooded along the guardrails and adjoining wetlands.
 - Docks were blown around and PYY secured all. PYY is adding 3-ton moorings to floats.
 - Big Tree docks were fine.
 - Billy Shore Road lost three poles, and several trees down. The shoreline near the stone wall is eroding. J. Anderson spoke with Hans Brigham, who is having engineer Tom Fowler look at that area. Perhaps stones from Up-Island can be used.

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- Charlotte's Cove Road took a beating. Photo included.
- The Farley repair of East Shore Drive looks great. There is further erosion north of that area. She has asked them to send her a quote for that. They were planning to take their equipment off island on Friday, but if they can do this work while the equipment is still here, that would save us some money. S. Conover added that if Farley can't do it, we should put it out to bid. It would be important to remind them that we awarded them the contract because they could get the work done in a timeframe that has now been exceeded, and we have been patient and appreciate their prioritizing this so they can get it done.
- Thanks to all who helped during the cleanup: Fred Porter, Don Johnson, Murt Durkee, Jordy Watson, Charlie Cilley, Josh & Janice Leach, Phil Berry, Peter Coombs, John Apelquist, Nick Day, and Bill Tilden. Josh added Dylan & Monica Mullins, and Blake Zlotkowski.
- Josh stated he has a delivery to make to Impy's house on Tuesday, and asked if East Shore Drive will be passable by then. J. Anderson stated she will ask Farley tomorrow.

CORRESPONDENCE

Discussed in Town Manager's Report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Pine Tree Waste, Inc. Renewal Agreement
 - Patrick Neal sent a follow-up with fuel chart and flat-rate options.
 - We're going to save a couple thousand dollars going with the higher flat rate based on his fuel cost predictions.
 - S. Conover stated she is convinced we should go with the flat rate rather than the variable fuel surcharge. M. Burns agreed, and added that the flat rate provides a tangible cost for budgeting.
 - It's a three-year contract.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by L. Bruce, to have Janet Anderson enter into a contract with Pine Tree Waste with a flat rate. No further discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Maine State Ferry Service Tariff #9.1.
 - Discussed in Ferry Service Update

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2. Planning Board Proposed Ordinance Changes

- Jennifer West and Isabel Jackson from the Planning Board explained the Planning Board's proposed ordinance changes based on the State's housing legislation, LD 2003, which is mandating increased housing density.
- Every town is required to have Designated Growth Areas, and Islesboro has that as the two Town Centers. For affordable housing, Growth Areas can have a minimum of 8,000 square feet per unit, or 2.5 times the base density otherwise allowed. Affordable housing uses a guide of 120% of Area Median Income (AMI). They have a question out to the attorney because the State legislation states it needs to be 80%, and Maine Housing Authority uses 120%.
- All housing still needs to meet setback and water system requirements.
- The new rules will allow an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) for every primary dwelling unit.
- Our current ordinance requires that the homeowner must reside in the primary residence in order to have an ADU, but they are proposing to eliminate that requirement. This is unmandated.
- They are proposing to require that the ADU must be rented out for a minimum of 60 days in hopes of encouraging workforce housing.
- ADUs need to be at least 190 square feet and no more than 800 square feet. Tiny houses are smaller than that, but they can't be considered an ADU.
- The Planning Board is also updating and adding definitions for clarity.
- M. Burns asked if there are copies of what the current ordinance says and what it is being revised to. J. West stated that it is out to the attorney, and when it comes back, it can be shared with the Select Board.
- The Groundwater Committee suggested some changes. The Planning Board is proposing an Ordinance for Geothermal systems, as well as for swimming pools and fire-suppression cisterns. This will require a permit for new builds.
- The Planning Board would also like to expand the Town Center boundaries to follow property lines instead of the shoreland protection zones. The IAP would like to add lot 9A to the Post Office Town Center.
- The Housing Committee will be proposing a new Town Center around Durkee's Store.
- Discussion about the process. The Planning Board will look at what the attorney has done, then bring it back to the Select Board. It will need to go to Public Hearing, and then a vote at Town Meeting. It needs to be done by July 1st, when LD 2003 will go into effect.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. None.

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APPROVE WARRANTS: FY24 #15

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by L. Bruce, to approve Warrant FY24 #15. No discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

APPOINTMENTS:

Lighthouse Museum Committee, Edward Bacon.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by P. Anderson, to appoint Edward Bacon to the Lighthouse Museum Committee. No discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

CHAIR COMMENTS

S. Conover: A big thank you to all the Emergency Responders and volunteers who have put in so much time over the past couple of weeks.

VICE-CHAIR COMMENTS

L. Bruce: Hope the weather stays nice for a while.

INDIVIDUAL SELECT BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

P. Anderson: No comment.

M. Burns: Thank you to everyone who helped shore up the lighthouse. Basketball is going well. Check social media for dates, games, and fun stuff. Go Eagles!

MOTION BY S. Conover, seconded by M. Burns, to Adjourn Meeting at 7:04 PM. No Discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Reed
Secretary



Rural Energy Prize & Community Energy Coordinator January 2024 Activities Report for the Islesboro Select Board

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 (Dec 15-Jan 25)

Outreach & meetings

- National Prize in-person training, January 23-24 @ NREL Colorado (Kizzi)
- National advisor meetings for network development/support (Lundy) & communications (UACI) (Ongoing)
- Meetings with 2 Islesboro community groups
- Energy Hub Facebook page & website, Feb. town mailer, Feb. Island News article

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

- Solar site evaluation (ongoing)
- Solar financial modeling
- Preparing draft Microgrid Feasibility Study RFP

Prize Goal 2: energy efficiency & home energy plans

- Scheduled the Home Energy Assessment Week with Colin McCullough, Energy Advisor, All Around HP
- Meeting with WindowDressers coordinators
- Home energy upgrade plans: survey design and piloting (Kizzi, Cressica)

Upcoming activities

- Home Energy Assessment Week (Feb 3-8)
- Public event @ Library: Home weatherization w/Colin McCullough (Feb 6)
- Public presentation: Rural Energy Prize Progress w/Kizzi (Feb 13 @ 5pm)
- Office Hours, listening sessions, and community group meetings for Goals 1 & 2
- Home energy survey data collection (PG #2)
- WindowDressers community build feasibility evaluation (Feb) (PG#2)
- Grant proposals: DOE Energy Improvements in Remote and Rural Areas (ERA) (Concept papers for Apr '24 and July '24)
- Prize Round 2 deadline: July 2024

16

Potential solar hosts
(+2 since December)

2

Home audits completed

33

Home audits requested
(18 planned for Feb)
(+10 since December)

8

Home upgrade surveys
(+8 since December)
(2 plans; Goal: 200)

56

resident contacts
(+10 since December)

**\$100k Budget Status
(6 months remaining)**

All values are approximate.

\$42,000

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

\$11,500

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

\$8,000

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

\$25,000

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

TOIF - Islesboro Health Center Endowment Fund Statement of Activity Period: 01/01/2024 to 01/26/2024	Fund Established: 8/7/2012 Fund Type: Agency Spending Type: Invested/Inc & Prncpl-SPECIAL Questions? Contact: fundstatement@mainecf.org	TO11
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*** Fund Statement does not include updated investment information for the current quarter. ***

RECEIVED

JAN 26 2024

BY: _____

Fund Activity	1st Quarter	Calendar YTD	Other information included in Ending Balance
Beginning Balance	\$1,578,737.56	\$1,578,737.56	<i>(will not total ending balance)</i>
Contributions	\$0.00	\$0.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount Available For Distribution \$69,440.00 Includes 2024 Grant Budget
Fundraising Revenues	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other Revenues and Grant Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact Investing Balance N/A <i>(not available for grantmaking)</i>
Total Receipts	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Interest & Dividends	\$0.00	\$0.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Gift Value \$1,208,146.97 <i>(not applicable for Income & Principal spending type)</i>
Realized Gains (Losses)	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	\$0.00	\$0.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Gift Value \$1,208,146.97 <i>(not applicable for Income & Principal spending type)</i>
Investment Cost*	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total Investment Activity	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Grants & Scholarships	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Special Program Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Mainecf Administrative Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Interfund Transfers - In(Out)	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ending Balance on 01/26/2024:	\$1,578,737.56	\$1,578,737.56	

YTD Details of Contributions	YTD Details of Grants
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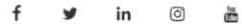
Scheduled Grants		
01/31/24	Town of Islesboro	(\$69,000.00)
Total Scheduled Grants		(\$69,000.00)

*Investment cost is estimated using available information. To learn more, please go to www.mainecf.org/financials.
For a line-by-line explanation of the fund statement, please go to www.mainecf.org/financials to find the fund statement narrative.

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2024
Islesboro Looking Ahead

Islesboro Looking Ahead is a statement, prepared by the Select Board about the Town of Islesboro, first adopted by the Select Board on January 3, 2012, and it is intended to be used as a general plan for the Town as well as a catalyst for discussion of Islesboro's future by Town committees, private organizations, businesses, and individuals.

The recommendations in **Islesboro Looking Ahead** have been formulated from three related perspectives: **reflecting on the past, considering current priorities, and planning for the future**. Copies are available at the Town Office, the Alice Pendleton Library, and the Islesboro Central School. They are also posted on the Town's website.

Islesboro Looking Ahead draws on research first gathered in the years 2007-2011 by a Town Comprehensive Plan Committee in preparation for a State-mandated Comprehensive Plan. That work was up-dated in the years 2015-2018 by the Islesboro Select Board with the assistance of a working committee. A final document was reviewed and approved by the State of Maine and was adopted by the Townspeople at a Special Town Meeting called for that purpose on August 16, 2018.

Building on the History of Islesboro (reflecting on the past)

Throughout the island's long and changing history, Islesboro has established a strong base upon which to plan for the future.

- 1) Over many years the people who live on Islesboro – both year-round and seasonal - have cooperated to foster careful community growth and mutual support for neighbors. Town government, school, privately funded institutions, businesses and individuals have worked together to establish traditions of progress and caring.

The future of Islesboro will be built on continued cooperation and goodwill, its residents, both year-round and seasonal, with conscious fostering of the dignity and worth of all.

- 2) For over three hundred years, Islesboro has responded and adapted to changes on the mainland and in the world. In the 1930's, for instance, the advent of a regular ferry service for cars and commuters changed Islesboro irrevocably. In recent decades, new technologies have brought changed circumstances and possibilities for Islesboro residents, families, local businesses, and civic activities.

In the spring of 2018, the State of Maine suddenly imposed an 118% increase in key ferry rates, which challenged all aspects of life on the island. The Town of Islesboro protested publicly and legally challenged the increases, eventually prevailing and negotiating modest reductions in the rates.

The town's future prosperity will, in part, depend on thoughtfully managing new connections through and beyond Penobscot Bay.

3) Islesboro's traditions of progress and caring have been greatly strengthened in the past twenty-five years. Public and private institutions, businesses and individuals who volunteer their time, energies and resources have responded creatively to economic, technological, and social changes on the island. The list of initiatives that have contributed positively to island life is long. Here are some, and there are many others that could be listed:

- A renovated and improved Islesboro Central School - maintaining a unique K-12 school experience and it's connection to the year-round viability and future of the island community.
- Big Tree Beach
- The Boardman Cottage
- A bigger and better Islesboro Sporting Club
- A new Community Center
- Preservation of a number of sensitive land and shore areas
- Sixteen new affordable houses
- Improvements to the Historical Society, the Library, the Up-Island Church, the Lighthouse, and the Sewing Circle
- Physical improvements to the three active churches
- Re-built ferry and public dock facilities
- Up-graded water and sewerage systems
- Expanded health services
- Establishment of Health Center Endowment Fund
- Public Safety and Emergency Services enhanced
- Transfer Station renovations
- Establishment of municipally-owned 1000 mega-bit Broadband service
- Building and staffing of a year-round Islesboro Preschool for children from three months old to age 5
- Significant expansions of boatyards and markets
- New small businesses such as a café and bakery, farmer's markets, physical therapy and others.
- The founding of Islesboro Economic Sustainability Corporation by a Town Meeting on November 20, 2019 – A non-profit, tax-exempt organization to strengthen and enhance Islesboro's ability to grow and become more self-sufficient.

Sustainable growth requires fiscal responsibility in the present and sound investments for the future. This means:

- 1) good management of present resources;*
- 2) careful planning and prudent budgeting; and*
- 3) well-constructed initiatives that will add jobs, commerce, and maintain a fiscally-sound tax base to ensure long-term affordability for residents.*

Islesboro must also continue a close monitoring of the Waldo County annual budget, to which the Town makes a substantial tax contribution, and pay attention to regional and state issues that will affect the Town.

Protecting and Updating What Islesboro Has Now (considering current priorities)

The people of Islesboro should give priority to four primary assets that are central to life on the island – its natural resources, our residents, organizations that provide key services, and the functioning of Town Government.

- Islesboro is an island – just 14 square miles – and over the past twenty years or more great attention has been paid to respecting and protecting our shorelines and beaches, the sea around us and the land itself, especially wetlands and other sensitive areas. The purity of our drinking water, coming as it does from a sole source aquifer, is of particular concern. Islesboro residents love the beauty and character of our island and believe that new man-made developments must continue to respect those fragile aspects of our surroundings. Islesboro must also monitor and be alert to changes in the nation and the world, and be prepared for the effects of such things as climate change and events good or bad beyond our control.

Islesboro’s townspeople and their government should continue to safeguard the natural benefits and resources of Islesboro, 700 Acre Island, the fifteen smaller islands within the Town’s jurisdiction, and the waters of the Penobscot Bay.

Town officials, private organizations, and residents must be concerned with and plan for rising sea levels and increasingly severe storms, which will threaten shore-lines and vulnerable areas such as the Narrows and Grindle Point. The Town of Islesboro in 2015 received a federal grant to study the effects of a rising sea-level on Grindle Point and the Narrows. A “Resiliency Planning Committee” made a preliminary report in May 2017. The Sea Level Rise Committee is actively working with the community, surrounding towns, the state.

Proposed developments in Penobscot Bay – particularly in the channels leading to Searsport Harbor and Sears Island should be continually monitored to protect the natural environment and to safeguard fishing and recreational economies.

- Islesboro is a multi-faceted community with a good mix of summer and year-round residents that includes retirees and working people. In order to remain a well-rounded community, Islesboro wishes to be attractive to all who live, work and visit here. A priority is to retain young residents and to add new working families to the community. To this end, the community recognizes the importance in investing in high quality local education and affordable health care through the Islesboro Health Center.

Individuals, families, and organizations on Islesboro should continue the island tradition of welcoming and helping each other and, as appropriate, should make special efforts, including reviewing housing and commercial innovations, to attract new business, social and cultural amenities to the island.

Islesboro offers nearly a full range of services and opportunities to its residents through local organizations both public and private. Looking ahead, all of these organizations will

require ongoing program adjustments and physical maintenance in order to keep pace with the island's needs and expectations.

The Town's list of capital improvements and maintenance projects necessary for the good functioning of Islesboro's public infrastructure includes:

- The island's roads
- Harbor Facilities at Grindle Point and Seal Harbor and greater influence on and involvement with facilities in Lincolnville by the ferry landing.
- Health Center
- Emergency, Communication, and Safety Services
- Alice L. Pendleton Library
- Town Beach, Pendleton Point
- Maddy Dodge field improvement
- Public rights of way to water
- Town-supported Broadband Internet on Islesboro
- Monitor the spread of and protect residents from contagious and non-contagious disease (tick-borne, flu, zika and others)
- Reduction of fire hazards through clearing of blow-downs
- Repair and good maintenance of Town and private graveyards
- Expansion of the use of renewable energy in public and private facilities
- Waste water treatment
- Support the new town ad hoc Safe Roads Committee to increase the safety, fitness and economic vitality of our community by initiating a plan to make our roads safer through community education and road safety modifications.
- Support the Energy Committee developing and carrying out a comprehensive long-range energy plan in the best interests of Islesboro, its citizens and the environment, and take a leadership role in encouraging and promoting public and private energy practices among Islesboro's individuals and organizations for town wide economies and benefits.

There is always room for improvement in the functioning of any Town Government. Priorities for Islesboro include:

- Continuing up-dating and additions to the Town's website, including new census information as it becomes available. In addition, research prepared for the newly-approved Comprehensive Plan on employment patterns, housing stock and population should be updated periodically.
- Systematic review of Islesboro's "Capital Improvement and Maintenance Plan," adopted by the Town in 2010 by the Select Board and at the annual Town Meeting.
- Improved communications between the Town and residents through a variety of media, print, and electronic means including Town of Islesboro Facebook, Constant Contact and Twitter, especially during weather emergencies.
- Increased opportunities for professional development of Town employees.
- Planning for a long-term shift to a "paperless" government, including medical records where appropriate to facilitate telemedicine.

- Town support for recruiting, training, and effective management of Fire Department and Ambulance Service personnel.
- Regular review of the Town committee system by the Select Board to ensure that individual committees are functioning well and that there is good communication between the committees, the Select Board, and the Town Manager.
- Consideration of changes to current Town procedures for election to the Select Board and to the School Board to enable the Townspeople to have a greater knowledge of the interests and capabilities of candidates.

The Select Board, working in cooperation with the Town committees, should review the Town's procedures and practices and should make adjustments as appropriate.

Considering New Activities for the Future (planning for the future)

The following have emerged as priorities to be considered by the Town, the non-profit sector, the business community and individuals:

1) Maintain and add jobs to the Islesboro economy while paying close attention to the enterprises and activities that currently underpin the economic life of the community

- Availability of up-to-date information on Town statistics, existing enterprises, and plans for the future.
- Skilled personnel for island businesses through training island residents and recruiting working families from the mainland. Build housing for employees of island business.

2) Develop specific public and private initiatives that would improve both the island economy and community life.

- Continuing support of trained staff for the year-round Pre-School and Daycare Program, to encourage young families to stay on Islesboro and others to come to the island.
- Encourage local food production, on-island agriculture, and the development of aquaculture.
- Strengthen access to health care and social services including addiction treatment.
- Consider the addition of locally controlled financial institution such as a credit union to serve local businesses, families and individuals

3) Continue to encourage the development of two areas that are natural centers for commercial and social activities on Islesboro. A Special Town Meeting on February 15, 2018 approved a new ordinance to further this important goal.

- The Post Office Center. This general location has the most traffic (car and foot) and the most year-round visits of any spot on the island. The area includes the Post Office, the Island Market, Linscott's Auto II Garage, Vinal Energy and the Second Baptist Church. Nearby are the Town Office, the Fire Department and

Public Safety office, the Health Center, Boardman Cottage, and the Community Center. The Ruthie James community is within walking distance.

This area presents an opportunity for imaginative and thoughtful planning that could improve traffic and pedestrian safety and parking conditions, and encourage new businesses and housing activity.

- Dark Harbor Village. Historically, there have been both seasonal and year-round shops and offices in this down-island center. At present there are two office buildings, a rare book business, and five seasonal shops - a soda fountain/newspaper/gift shop, an antique shop, art gallery and two shops selling housewares and clothing.

Importantly, a large section of the Dark Harbor village has a public septic system that has unused capacity, allowing for the possibility of small lot-size development and/or multi-household dwellings.

4) *Immediate attention to Long-term challenges*

- Housing. Attention to policies that would encourage the up-keep and construction of houses for island residents and for employees of local businesses is a priority. Create Ordinances to address LD 2003.
- Our Single Aquifer. All development proposals that may increase density must consider the protection of Islesboro's water supply, including the possibilities of increasing lot-size on lands in known re-charge areas.
- Rising Sea Levels at the Narrows and Grindle Point. Scientific projections indicate strongly that Islesboro must complete engineering studies and prepare remedial construction plans to maintain access at these critical areas of the island.
- Connections to the Mainland. The recent dispute with the Maine Department of Transportation over ferry fare rates, was concluded in the Fall of 2019, but a wholistic review of the MSFS is currently underway and likely to impact transportation to and from Islesboro.

New activities for the future will require careful review of existing Town of Islesboro ordinances, policies, and practices. Possible changes and additions that are intended to encourage sustainable growth in the future will be presented for open discussion to the Islesboro community in a variety of ways - and when fully reviewed -will be ultimately submitted to Town meeting for decision.

Comments and Ideas are Welcome

Islesboro Looking Ahead proposes that Islesboro's future will be built on its past traditions, and that the island's first priority is to maintain and update the very considerable resources that the island has now. The statement also proposes that by paying attention to economic, technological,

and social changes, Islesboro will be able to consider appropriate new activities that can benefit the community and its residents.

The Select Board and the Town Manager are circulating **Islesboro Looking Ahead** and will welcome the comments and ideas of Islesboro residents – both through individual conversations, at regular meetings, and at winter, summer, annual, and special Town Forums and meetings.

Islesboro Looking Ahead will be up-dated annually by the Select Board based on those individual and group discussions.

Select Board
Town of Islesboro
January 3, 2012

Amended and Re-affirmed
January 2, 2013
January 15, 2014
January 29, 2015
January 13, 2016
January 25, 2017
February 7, 2018
January 9, 2019
February 5, 2020
March 18, 2021
March 3, 2022
May 10, 2023