

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, June 18, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

APPROVED

7/3/24

MINUTES

Members Present:

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

Members Present via Zoom:

Stephen Pendleton

Others Present:

Town Manager Janet Anderson, John King

Others Present via Zoom:

Jennifer West and Maggy Willcox

Call to Order: Chair Shey Conover called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM, and a quorum was established. She welcomed Steve to the Select Board. We're happy to have you in our ranks!

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by L. Bruce, to approve the minutes of June 5, 2024 Regular Meeting, as written. No discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no. S. Pendleton abstained.

VISITOR COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

FERRY SERVICE UPDATE

John King reported that he sent the response he got from Bill Geary regarding the design of the new ferry. The email that Bill forwarded from Gilbert & Associates left John with some questions. Concept C is the one they are pushing. Bill Pulver and Bill Geary were meeting with Gilbert today, so hopefully we'll have some answers soon. If they go with Concept C, we don't know what the width of the outside lanes will be. It says the average outer car lane width is 9'6" wall-to-wall, and they're eliminating the rails. He emailed Bill Pulver with questions. What does average mean? Are there anticipated pinch-and-choke points? Piping, hatches, etc.? It would be helpful for the Select Board to know exactly what the unobstructed width of both lanes will be. The current plan also has no seating on the deck level, and there is an elevator. If the elevator doesn't work, and there is no place for a disabled person to sit, John understands that the boat can't run. John asked Bill Pulver to clarify this issue.

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S. Pendleton suggested that John could bring to their attention that the car sizes in 1987 were much smaller than they are today. John stated that this point has been discussed on numerous occasions.

John expects correspondence from Bill Pulver, and will forward that to the Board.

S. Conover asked if anyone is planning to attend the meeting that the ferry crew is having this Thursday at the ICC. John will be in Portland. M. Burns will attend.

SEA LEVEL RISE

S. Conover stated that the next SLRC meeting is tomorrow, via Zoom only. After having a week to digest the information that was presented by GZA, the goal is to understand the questions and feedback, and come up input as GZA finalizes their report. A couple of community outreach events: July 2nd at 5:00 at the Town Office, and July 9th at 4:00 for the neighbors of the Narrows. Shri will be here in person for a walk around the Narrows with the site plans. The GZA presentation went well. It was well attended. They presented a tremendous amount of information. The presentation and slide show links are available on the Town website.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING PROJECT

L. Bruce reported that the equipment is here, and they've started site preparation.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Planning Board: July 1st, 5:00pm.
- Housing Committee: June 20th, 5:00pm.
- Lighthouse Committee: June 27th, 4:00pm
- SLR Committee: July 2nd, 5:00pm., and July 9th, 4:00pm.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Packet included Agenda for 6/18/24 and Minutes of 6/5/24 Select Board Meeting.
- Town Meeting was held on June 15th 9am – 5:30pm. School budget did not pass. School needs to go back and reconsider the budget. Another special Town Meeting will be held by middle of August.
 - S. Pendleton suggested having a “Lessons Learned” discussion. There’s lots of feedback. For example, we should require our attorney to be at the entire meeting. How do we recap what went well and what were the pain points? People want to know we’ve taken note of the issues and are doing something to address those things.
 - J. Anderson stated that she, Tina, Page, and Brian had a quick meeting on Monday, and discussed some changes. The Board could also get together and have a discussion.

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- S. Pendleton stated there was a lot of animosity after the meeting. It's our responsibility to look at what we did well and what we didn't, how we want to change that moving forward, and coordinate that with the School Board.
- L. Bruce stated she would like to be a part of that group discussion. She recently learned about another procedure where the School Board presents their budget in a public meeting prior to it coming as a part of the Town budget. It would be good to have discussions about options.
- S. Conover added it's a great idea to debrief about what worked and what didn't, and how to plan going forward. It would be nice to have everyone in person, with a synopsis from discussions with the Town staff, and ask the School Board to do something similar. We should come up with a plan early in the year, before the budget processes start. It's not a bad idea to have a joint Board meeting.
- P. Anderson suggested setting the deadline for the School budget a week earlier. M. Burns added that we have strong guidelines.
- S. Pendleton suggested we get a list of all the objections, valid or not. Come up with how we address each objection. We can use the Island News to communicate what we heard and the steps we are going to take. We need to diffuse the negative aspects by addressing them early on.
- S. Conover requested putting this discussion on the next agenda. We can come up with a list of objections and goals.
- S. Pendleton asked about the best way to gather information, and if Facebook a good platform for soliciting feedback. C. Reed stated that Facebook has a way to create a poll that would help contain feedback. There's also Survey Monkey, or other ways to create surveys. S. Pendleton will speak with Janet about the best method and format.
- M. Burns suggested waiting until the school has their new superintendent before we coordinate with them.
- L. Bruce stated we can start the beginning steps to organize.
- Committee Minutes:
 - IMB seeking committee member to fill vacancy. Next meeting June 27th at 3:30pm.
 - Minutes of 5/14 Energy Committee meeting.
- Correspondence
 - Waldo County Budget Committee Official Ballot
 - There is someone from Lincolnville who is on the ballot. If someone from this board would like to be on the ballot, we can write them in. They want it back by July 2nd.
 - S. Conover explained to Steve that we haven't had a representative for a couple of years and asked if he is interested. Steve declined for this round.

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- Agenda for June 25th Midcoast Council of Governments (MCOG) looking for an Islesboro member.
 - They might like two people. They had suggested Michael Nelson because he participates with them from the Housing Committee. They are also hoping for someone from the SB or Town administration.
 - The General Assembly will be June 27th at Rockland City Hall from 11-2:30.
 - M. Burns may be interested. She volunteered to speak with Mike and go to the General Assembly on the 27th.
- Next School Board meeting: June 25th at 5:30pm.
- S&P Global Ratings affirmed its “AA” long term rating on Islesboro’s general obligation (GO) debt outstanding/outlook is stable.
 - Every other year we have a call with them. A couple weeks ago they affirmed our “AA” rating.
 - S. Pendleton asked about the range of rating. J. Anderson stated that we are on the high end.
- Tomorrow the Energy Committee has Solar Logix beginning the VRF (Variable Refrigerant Flow) system-wide heat pump installation. The one in the apartment will be relocated to the Transfer Station.
- Met with Kristin Collins and Stephen Langsdorf, Monday, June 17th at 11am.
- Warrant #26

CORRESPONDENCE

Midcoast Council of Governments (MCOG) looking for Islesboro Representation for the General Assembly on 6/27/24.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on new Legal Services.
 - S. Conover recommended to take this issue out of order and enter into Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by M. Burns, to take this issue in Executive Session at end of meeting. No discussion. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Annual Elections of Chair and Vice Chair.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by L. Bruce, to nominate Shey Conover as Chair. No discussion. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by S. Conover, to nominate Lauren Bruce as Vice Chair. No discussion. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no.

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2. Annual Policy on Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for Employee Wages.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by S. Conover, to nominate P. Anderson and L. Bruce to sign Warrants for Employee Wages. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

3. Request to Allow Employees to use Personal Time Off for July 5th and Close for a Long Weekend.

- J. Anderson explained that the office will be closed, and employees can use vacation or personal time.
- M. Burns asked what is prohibiting the Town from giving the employees the day as a holiday, without deducting PTO. This is unusual circumstance, and the Select Board would like to show our appreciation for their hard work.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by L. Bruce, to allow Town Employees to take July 5th as a Holiday. Discussion: concern that this doesn't set a precedent; it's a one-time bonus appreciation holiday, and that employees who can't take it that day can take it on another day. Motion passed, 4 yes, 1 no (S. Pendleton).

OTHER BUSINESS

1. None.

APPROVE WARRANT: FY24 #26

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by M. Burns, to approve Warrant FY24 #26. No discussion. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no.

APPOINTMENTS:

None.

MOTION BY S. Conover, seconded by M. Burns, to enter into executive session pursuant to MRSA §405(6)(A) to discuss legal services, at 7:04pm. No discussion. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no.

Regular Meeting reconvened at 7:22pm

MOTION BY L. Bruce, seconded by M. Burns, to enter nominate Kristin Collins, Esq. of Preti Flaherty to be the attorney for the Town of Islesboro. No discussion. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no.

CHAIR COMMENTS

S. Conover: No comments.

VICE-CHAIR COMMENTS

L. Bruce: No comments.

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INDIVIDUAL SELECT BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

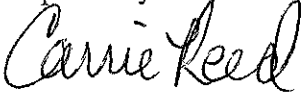
P. Anderson: Proud of everyone for making it through that meeting.

M. Burns: Welcome, Steve!

S. Pendleton: Have a great evening.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by P. Anderson, to Adjourn Meeting at 7:26 PM. No Discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie Reed
Secretary