

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, January 14, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

APPROVED
1/27/26

MINUTES

Members Present:

Chair Shey Conover, Peter Rothschild, Stephen Pendleton, Vice Chair Peter Anderson (5:32), Melissa Burns (5:32)

Others Present:

Town Manager Janet Anderson

Others Present via Zoom:

Elizabeth Hayden, Daniel Tutor, Jordy Watson, Daniel Frohling

Call to Order: Chair Shey Conover called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM, and a quorum was established.

Minutes of December 31, 2025, Regular Meeting.

MOTION BY P. Rothschild, seconded by S. Pendleton, to approve the minutes of December 31, 2025 Regular Meeting, as written. No discussion. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

VISITOR COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

FERRY SERVICE UPDATE

S. Conover stated she sent a thank-you letter to the MDOT representatives who came to Islesboro for the ferry design presentation on December 16th.

SEA LEVEL RISE UPDATE

S. Conover stated she had no update.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING PROJECT: UP-ISLAND PUBLIC SAFETY GARAGE, & PUBLIC SAFETY RENOVATION UPDATE

Up-Island Public Safety Garage: S. Pendleton reported that Murt asked about a schedule for completion. They are estimating it to be completed in July.

P. Anderson asked about the plumbing issue at the library. J. Anderson stated that something was plugged in the septic. They had to dig a hole, and they replaced the pump. P. Anderson added that this ties in with the discussions about the role of Facilities

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Manager. The position for the Health Center ended, and we were supposed to return to this topic and figure out the scope of the position for the future. The library issue highlights that we should consider that role to be more than just the Health Center.

J. Anderson stated that the position held by Tom Michaud ended December 31st, but she had originally looked for it to go through June 30th. Until Tom hears from the board that he is to continue, he begs off of it.

P. Anderson stated that he thinks we should figure out what we're doing with the Facilities Manager position. S. Conover added that as we enter budget season, it would be helpful to have a review from Tom of what we learned, and what we still need, so we can have a thoughtful discussion about what the staffing should be like to meet the needs of all the facilities.

S. Pendleton requested this be added to the next agenda. M. Burns suggested Tom and Jordy be invited to the discussion.

Jordy Watson explained the library backflow issue and the steps taken to address it. Jordy contacted several people. JT Zlotkowski determined that the pump was frozen, and that's what tripped the breaker. He replaced the pump, which had not been active for some time, so the pipe was jammed. Jordy and Tom had to dig a hole to get to the cover.

Public Safety Renovation: Carrie Reed reported that Laura & Michael Giardino came to the Public Safety facilities to re-measure. They will create alternative floor plans for the next phases of the renovation.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Planning Board: January 26th, 5:00pm.
- Select Board Zoom with Auditor re: FY24 Audit: January 28th, 1:30pm.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Packet included Agenda for 1/14/26 and Minutes of 12/31/25 Select Board Regular Meeting.
- Committee Minutes
 - 11/6/25 Housing Committee minutes
 - 12/18/25 draft Harbor Committee minutes
- Correspondence
 - 1/7/26 email from Philo Hutcherson re: replacing Betty Johnson's seat on the Waldo County Commissioners.
 - 1/13/26 letter from Barbara Arseneau, Waldo County Clerk, on the passing of District 1 Commissioner Betty Johnson. Gov. Mills will appoint a replacement.

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- 1/12/26 letter that they sent to Nathaniel Benoit and William Geary following the December 16th DOT presentation on the new ferry proposal under consideration.
- Handouts:
 - Bar Harbor Wealth Management 12/31/25 sub-accounting report.
- Manager:
 - Phone call 1/13/26 from Waldo County Commissioner Kevin Kelley. He and Sheriff Jason Trundy are planning to come to the island to visit with the Select Board and anyone else.
 - M. Burns asked about the purpose of the visit. J. Anderson replied that they want to talk about Waldo County and the budget. The budget vote was postponed.
 - S. Conover stated it would be helpful to get a sense of anything in particular they would like to talk about, so we can be prepared. Given the amount of money we pay to Waldo County every year, it doesn't hurt to have a conversation to understand each other's concerns more. If that can translate to more services from Waldo County, all the better. She proposed the 23rd or the 30th at 2:00, or on the 28th in the morning.
 - M. Burns added that if they want to talk about the budget, it would be beneficial to have Brian Bohanon in the meeting. It may be a good idea to have Fred Porter at the meeting, too, as he is knowledgeable about law enforcement agreements.
 - S. Pendleton suggested putting together a list of talking points.
 - Billy Shore Drive stabilization project is complete except for spring landscaping.
- Warrant #15

CORRESPONDENCE

Covered in Town Manager report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. None

NEW BUSINESS

1. None

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Public Safety Discussion.
 - P. Anderson stated that it's an interesting coincidence that we have contact from the Waldo County Sheriff right now. He asked J. Anderson about the

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current situation with Public Safety, both Law Enforcement & EMS. A lot of people have been asking questions as to an official statement from the Town. We're a week past when we were told Fred was back on duty, but it appears he is not.

- J. Anderson replied that she overspoke at that point. Things didn't go as she had planned. He should be back in another week or so, but she's waiting to hear back from someone. She can't discuss it, as it's a personnel issue. She added that no one from the community has asked her about it. She said people can call her.
- P. Anderson stated that he's content with what we have for law enforcement here. While he wouldn't want to expand it, he recognizes the value of having a system in place that we can call on. He's wondering about the plan going forward, and a timeline.
- J. Anderson replied that she can't put a specific timeframe on it. For now, if there's a problem, people need to call 911 for an emergency or Waldo County Dispatch at 338-2040 if it's not an emergency. This is on the phone greeting. Jeanne Porter has been in charge of the Ambulance Service, so there hasn't been a lapse.
- P. Anderson requested that the Select Board be kept in the loop.
- S. Conover stated that it's nice to have Waldo County support, and it will be good to have a conversation with them to express our appreciation.
- M. Burns asked what the statement from the board will be, for when we are asked about Fred. J. Anderson said to have people call her, and she will answer. Fred is on Administrative Leave.
- S. Conover stated that it's important to be clear. We obviously can't have all the information, but it's helpful if we can be provided with an updated status as soon as possible so that we feel prepared to answer in whatever way we can, recognizing that as members of the Select Board, people will reach out to us.

APPROVE WARRANT: FY26 #15

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by S. Pendleton, to approve Warrant FY26 #15. No discussion. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

APPOINTMENTS:

Ad Hoc "Subsidizing Peak Season Ferry Tickets" Committee.

MOTION BY S. Pendleton, seconded by P. Anderson, to appoint John King, Gabe Pendleton, Dave Dyer, Peter Willcox, and Brian Bohanon to the Ad Hoc Subsidizing Peak Season Ferry Tickets Committee. No discussion. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

CHAIR COMMENTS

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S. Conover: No comments.

VICE-CHAIR COMMENTS

P. Anderson: No comments.

INDIVIDUAL SELECT BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

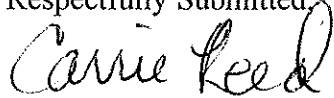
P. Rothschild: No comments.

M. Burns: No comments.

S. Pendleton: No comments.

Motion by P. Rothschild, seconded by M. Burns, to adjourn meeting at 5:59 PM. No discussion. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted



Carrie Reed
Secretary

