

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, February 28, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

APPROVED
3/13/24

MINUTES

Members Present:

Chair Shey Conover, Melissa Burns, and Peter Anderson

Members Present via Zoom: Vice Chair Lauren Bruce

Others Present:

Town Manager Janet Anderson, Mike Clayton

Via Zoom: John King and Maggy Willcox

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

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by M. Burns, to approve the minutes of February 14, 2024 Regular Meeting, as written. No discussion. Roll call. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

VISITOR COMMENTS/PETITIONS.

None.

FERRY SERVICE UPDATE

John King reported that there will be a hearing at the Samoset Resort on Tuesday, March 12th, and written comments must be received by March 22nd. The tariff deals with the pricing; they've pushed a lot of the increase into the peak season. John would encourage people to make comments about the things that aren't in the tariff, such as an island resident rate, a senior discount, and a more friendly commuter rate. John will do a written submission. He encourages people to go to the meeting.

S. Conover asked John if it would be appropriate to bring up the unfunded pension liability, and whether that should be in the operating expense figures. John replied that it wouldn't be inappropriate, but doesn't think it will carry much weight. It's approaching \$1M/year, which is substantial, but he hasn't made any headway. L. Bruce agreed that it would be good to bring it up.

Maggy Willcox thanked P. Anderson for bringing common sense to social media posts on the subject.

John King recommended that the Select Board submit something in writing as a board. He is available to help with that if needed. S. Conover will compose a draft.

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M. Burns stated that many people might have less objection to tariff increases if they were going to fair wages for the crews instead of to the unfunded retirement liability. She suggested that we encourage supporting the crew and fair pay for them.

S. Conover stated she will get a draft to the Board by next week.

No one from the Board is available to go in person. We should publish the Select Board statement and encourage others to go to the hearing.

SEA LEVEL RISE

S. Conover reported that the Committee met Wednesday the 21st to talk about how to broaden our planning efforts and outreach strategies with the State to encourage them to work with us on the Ferry Road and Grindle Point. We are waiting for information to come back from GZA Engineering for the Narrows.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING PROJECT

L. Bruce reported that the Committee is hoping to get the Guaranteed Maximum Price between March 4th and March 8th. They will then bring their recommendation to the Select Board on March 27th. Looking to the possibility of bringing a Warrant to the Town on April 10th. She is willing to help put together the agenda for the April 10th Town (Info) meeting. S. Conover stated she will have a draft by March 27th.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Lighthouse Committee: February 29th, 3:00pm.
- Budget workshop: March 6th.
- Municipal Building Project: March 8th, 5:00pm
- Planning Board: March 11th, 5:00pm.
- Energy Committee: March 12th, 5:15pm

The Committee Chair meeting took place on February 15th. It was well received, and we'll plan to do it again in six months.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Packet included Agenda for 2/28/24 and Minutes of 2/14/24 Regular Meeting.
- Committee Minutes/Correspondence:
 - Minutes of 12/18/23 Economic Sustainability Committee meeting
 - Minutes of 12/28/23 Municipal Building Project Committee meeting
 - Minutes of the 2/8/24 Lighthouse Museum Committee meeting
 - Minutes from the 2/15/24 Committee Chair Meeting with Select Board.
 - 2/22/24 received 2024 Waldo County tax \$931,098.26, up \$80,231.26 from last year, which was \$850,867.

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- 2/26/24 Notice from Maine Municipal Association/Risk Pool regarding Paul Hatch, Jr. mirror damage, which is not covered by our insurance. Estimate: \$929.07.
 - 2/22/24 MSFS Public Hearing Notice re: “Rulemaking Relating to Proposed Tolls for all Routes Served by the Maine State Ferry Service.” Public Hearing at the Samoset March 12th at noon.
 - February update from the Rural Energy Prize & Community Energy Coordinator
 - “Islesboro Looking Ahead” 2024 document
 - Draft RFP for Legal Services
- Warrant #18
 - Manager Report
 - J. Anderson reported that on 2/22/24, she asked James Nelson to look at the Library foundation, as it has been leaking. He will determine where water is getting in. He will have to excavate the front and three sides to expose and coat the foundation.
 - 2/22/24 Ed Bacon sent a photo of the pulpit at Grindle Point. It has sustained damage from the January storm. Janet contacted Avery Tatro about this repair.
 - Roadside cleanup.
 - Jordy, Don, Jeff, and Charlie have cleared brush from Main Rd, by Dunn Ln, by the Narrows, Bonnett Farm, Art Govoni’s corner on Pendleton Point Rd, Tarratine Tennis Court Rd, and near Bayard Gilbert’s.
 - We have spoken again with homeowners and Islesboro Island Trust north of Durkee’s regarding clearing chunks of wood. Someone is lined up to do it. Earl MacKenzie will clean up wood from the ditch at Brigham’s property.
 - Harry Brigham will take care of the leaning tree on Brigham’s property near Bill Tilden’s.
 - Janet gave Trevor Dakers a list of places to cut brush back. He will look at that and get back to us about the price and what is involved.

S. Conover asked about the Waldo County budget and if we can ask them for an explanation of the big increase so we can understand it. J. Anderson will get more information.

Paul Hatch, Jr. (Babe) mirror bill: P. Anderson stated it would be a show of good faith to pay it.

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by S. Conover, to approve the Town paying for Paul Hatch, Jr.’s mirror damage. No further discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

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S. Conover suggested that when we renew the plowing contract, we put in a provision so that we have more clarity around future possible incidents.

CORRESPONDENCE

Discussed in Town Manager's Report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. 2024 Islesboro Looking Ahead
 - No updates. Table for next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Draft RFP for Legal Services.
 - J. Anderson had pulled five example RFPs from other towns: Farmington, Cape Elizabeth, Monmouth, Bath, and Lincolnville. Three of those five were of the same template. S. Conover used 95% of that template to create this draft.
 - Discussion about changes. Strike the item about Assessment Review Board.
 - Delivering records to successor: we should ask Sally.
 - Three years for contract. J. Anderson okay with electronic submission.
 - Sally will be done on March 22nd, we should have responses by then and take action on the 27th.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by P. Anderson, to approve the RFP, as amended. No further discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. None.

APPROVE WARRANTS: FY24 #18

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by P. Anderson, to approve Warrant FY24 #18. No discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

APPOINTMENTS:

None.

CHAIR COMMENTS

S. Conover: No comments.

VICE-CHAIR COMMENTS

L. Bruce: It's going to be cold tomorrow.

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INDIVIDUAL SELECT BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

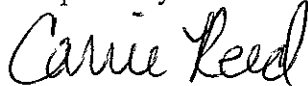
P. Anderson: Thanks to the crew for the tree work, and thanks to Janet for organizing it.

M. Burns: Basketball season is over. In sports, one student is going to the New England's this Saturday. Sports banquet has been moved to March 7th.

No Budget workshop on March 13th.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by P. Anderson, to Adjourn Meeting at 6:40 PM. No Discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie Reed
Secretary

