

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, April 22, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

APPROVED
5/6/26

MINUTES

Members Present:

Chair Shey Conover, Vice Chair Peter Anderson, Melissa Burns, Peter Rothschild, Stephen Pendleton (Zoom, 5:33)

Others Present:

Town Manager Janet Anderson, Murt Durkee, Daniel Frohling

Others Present via Zoom:

Josh Leach, Bob Achorn, Jeanne Porter

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

**Minutes of April 8, 2026, Regular Meeting.
Minutes of April 15, 2026, Special Meeting.**

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by P. Rothschild, to approve the minutes of April 8, 2026 Regular Meeting and the minutes of April 15, 2026, Special Meeting, as written. No discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

VISITOR COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

FERRY SERVICE UPDATE

None.

SEA LEVEL RISE UPDATE

S. Conover reported that the Committee has approved spending \$40,000 - \$50,000 of Capital Reserve funds to advance the 60% to 100% design. We are signing a contract to get to 100% engineer design. If we can get to 90% design before the FEMA BRIC grant application is due, we'd be eligible for significantly more points to make us more competitive. We're spending some portion of Capital Reserves in the hopes that we can get construction funds. There will be a construction crew coming on May 4th and 5th to do some core borings to assess stability. We should send out a Constant Contact notice alerting people that there will be trucks there.

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

Public Safety Renovation: S. Pendleton reported that the group met last week. Ron has been working there this week removing the kitchen cabinetry and Murt's old office, and has found some structural issues due to water damage in the floor.

Murt added that the crew has demoed the kitchen area and his old office. There is some moisture damage under where his office was located, as there was a meat cooler there for many years, and condensation rotted some of the floor boards. It doesn't seem to be major. The electricians are removing old wiring, and plumbers have removed some piping, bathroom and kitchen fixtures, and baseboard heaters. Seacoast Security is coming next week to isolate the alarms and strobes. They'll return later after everything is reframed. Murt doesn't think the sprinkler system will be affected.

Up-Island Public Safety Garage: No update.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Planning Board: April 27th, 5:00pm has been cancelled.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Packet included Agenda for 4/22/26, Minutes of 4/8/26 Select Board Regular Meeting and Minutes of 4/15/26 Special Meeting.
- Committee Minutes
 - 3/5/26 Housing Committee minutes
 - 3/10/26 Energy Committee minutes
 - 4/9/25 draft Sea Level Rise Committee minutes
- Old Business
 - FY27 Budget
 - 5/16/26 Annual Town Meeting Warrant
- New Business
 - Roadside Mowing Bids
- Correspondence
 - 4/16/26 email from Dorie Weir's impending resignation. No date set, but by 6/30/26, when her contract runs out.
 - S. Conover asked if we will do exit interviews for Dorie and Beth to capture what's going on for those departures.
 - J. Anderson replied that Chris and the Advisory Board Chair Christine Robb are aware. It's basically burnout.
- Handouts:
 - None.
- Manager:

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- Tina asks the Board to reconsider mailing out the monthly newsletter (this would save approximately \$1,800/year). She posts the information on the website and sends it out via Constant Contact.
 - Not mailing the Annual Town Reports would save \$250. This will also be on the website. Many towns don't mail them anymore and have them available for people to pick up.
 - Tomorrow we'll ship the warrant to the printer. We expect the reports to be ready in about three weeks.
 - S. Conover would like to see the Town Reports continue to go out in the mail, but is comfortable having the monthly newsletters available for pick-up and on the website.
 - Other Board members agreed.
 - J. Anderson suggested we stop mailing the newsletter after June 30th, to allow time to alert people to the change.
 - M. Burns stated there are some folks on the island who aren't as mobile or tech-savvy. Could we have an opt-in list for mail?
 - S. Pendleton suggested an announcement regarding the decision to stop mailing, and why, with a note on how to opt in.
- Warrant #22

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Covered in Town Manager's report

OLD BUSINESS

1. Approve FY27 Budget

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by P. Rothschild, to approve the FY27 Budget as discussed last week. No further discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

2. Approve Annual Town Meeting Warrant
 - Murt Durkee suggested a correction on the signature page. Lauren Bruce is listed, but it should be Peter Rothschild. Janet corrected and reprinted.
 - S. Pendleton requested that the Town notify the public about the change in the order of Town Meeting proceedings.
 - S. Conover suggested the notice be in the May newsletter and other platforms, and that it state when people can expect to get the Town Report, highlighting that we've changed the order so that elections are at the end, in order to encourage full participation in all warrant articles.
 - J. Anderson replied that Tina is also planning to put a little note on the front page of the Town Report.
 - S. Pendleton stated that the more we communicate beforehand, the better. We don't want to have a long discussion about it at Town Meeting.

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- P. Rothschild asked if there has been any feedback from the Ferry Ticket Committee about the Select Board not supporting their proposal.
- S. Conover stated that Peter Willcox asked about it, and she explained why it wasn't a part of the budget we are putting forward.
- Someone from the committee will likely make a statement at Town Meeting.
- S. Conover added that she will try to come up with some talking points ahead of our next meeting.
- S. Pendleton agreed that we need to come up with a statement to convey that we did our due diligence, and this proposal was outside of what we could approve.
- C. Reed pointed out that Article 46 is lacking a recommendation from the Select Board. J. Anderson replied that she can add a line to it.

MOTION BY P. Rothschild, seconded by M. Burns, to approve the Annual Town Meeting Warrant with the amendment. No further discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Open Bids for "2026 Roadside Mowing"
 - Received one bid: Bob Achorn, for mowing once per year, the sides of the Town and State roads... beginning May 1, 2026 and ending Sept. 30, 2027. Airport mowing would be separate, by the hours. \$9,100 for the two-year contract for roadsides only. (\$4,550/year)
 - S. Pendleton asked about the previous contract. It was \$4,500.
 - P. Anderson asked for clarification on the airport mowing. J. Anderson replied that it's the same as what they've done in the past.
 - P. Rothschild asked about the hourly rate.
 - Bob Achorn stated that his rate is \$80/hour this year. It was \$75 last year. He raised it due to increased prices on fuel and parts. It takes approximately 15 hours to mow the airport, depending on weather.
 - J. Anderson clarified that she pays this out of General Maintenance for the Airport. It's a different line than the roadside mowing.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by P. Rothschild, to approve the bid by Bob Achorn. No further discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. None.

APPROVE WARRANT: FY26 #22

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by P. Rothschild, to approve Warrant FY26 #22. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

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APPOINTMENTS:

1. Groundwater Committee: Maddy Bruno

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by M. Burns, to appoint Maddy Bruno to the Groundwater Committee. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

CHAIR COMMENTS

S. Conover: No comments.

VICE-CHAIR COMMENTS

P. Anderson: No comments.

INDIVIDUAL SELECT BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

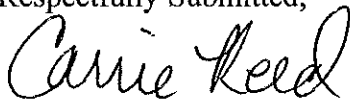
S. Pendleton: No comments.

M. Burns: No comments.

P. Rothschild: No comments.

Entered into Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) to Discuss a Personnel Issue with the Town Manager on Errors in Budgeting at 6:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie Reed
Secretary

