

5/8/24

MINUTES

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Jennifer West, John Rex-Waller, Tracey Wuori, Josh Leach, Janice Leach

Via Zoom: Robert Kochan, Richard Cavanaugh

Call to Order: Chair Shey Conover called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM, and a quorum was established.

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by M. Burns, to approve the minutes of April 10, 2024 Regular Meeting, as written. No discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

VISITOR COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None

FERRY SERVICE UPDATE

No update from John King.

SEA LEVEL RISE

S. Conover reported that Project Manager Shri Verrill has been talking with GZA Engineering to give feedback to inform what they provide for a final proposal for the Narrows. In their preliminary conversation, they predominantly recommended raising the road 2 feet for sea level rise, plus making major increases to the sea walls to address storm surge. They had a variety of different options, including having larger stones, or mesh to contain the stones. We are hopeful that towards the end of May we will have a more comprehensive set of options to weigh cost, benefit, longevity, etc. Shri is also working with a potential funder on some nature-based solutions, such as reef balls, that will help decrease wave action on the east side. We are in the beginning phases of developing relationships in the hopes of bringing the funder to the table.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Planning Board: May 6th, 5:00pm.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Packet included Agenda for 4/24/24 and Minutes of 4/10/24 Regular Meeting.
- Committee Minutes/Correspondence:

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- Email (sent to SB) 4/10/24 from Frank Start re: IMB Committee appointment.
 - This email was received just before the last meeting and members wanted time to give it the attention it deserved.
 - S. Conover stated that a couple days before the December IMB Committee meeting, Roger reached out to Janet and Shey to let them know he had been talking with someone who had expressed interest in joining the committee. Although this interest wasn't indicated in writing, Janet was aware of someone else being interested in the position.
 - S. Conover stated there have been a couple of instances of lack of clarity that we've heard from committees in looking for direction in how to bring forward names of potential committee members, what to do if there is a conflict with the committee, etc.
 - A guidance document has been put to the back burner, and she would like to commit to this group to bring that forward soon. Hopefully it will alleviate some of the concerns that Frank raised.
 - One of the things that S. Conover would like make clear in that document is that whenever possible, have a recommendation from the committee for any appointment. She doesn't feel that the Select Board should unilaterally appoint people to a vacant seat without committee discussion, because of the dynamic that creates.
 - Not having someone appointed does not preclude participation, as all meetings are public.
 - S. Conover understands Frank's disappointment in not being appointed, but feels we don't need additional action beyond developing the document to tighten up committee procedures and best practices.
 - M. Burns stated she is not certain that all committees have their own bylaws. Frank presented documentation that indicates the IMB has their own bylaws. How will the proposed guidelines affect the existing policies? S. Conover replied that we would not draft anything that would create conflict. Bylaws would trump the Best Practices document.
 - M. Burns stated that she was unaware that it was in the rules that in the event of vacancy, the Select Board shall appoint a member to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. Is that something we need to address, since we failed on that?
 - P. Anderson stated that he agrees with S. Conover. We can't just appoint someone without the support of the committee in question. However, not only are we at fault for not appointing

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someone, we didn't deal with it expeditiously. S. Conover replied that this is a point well taken; the best we can do is acknowledge the mistake in length of time and make sure that we're reviewing the policies so that it doesn't happen again.

- M. Burns stated this particular policy may be out of date as it was written just when the committee was starting up.
 - L. Bruce stated that her understanding is that committees will recommend to the Select Board a member they would like to add, and then once the Select Board receives a recommendation, the Select Board shall appoint expeditiously. This is common practice in her experience with several committees. There seems to be a step missing from the wording of that policy.
 - M. Burns stated that perhaps we should have reached out to the IMB committee in this situation.
 - M. Burns suggested that we recommend to all committees that they update any bylaws or policies in this regard.
 - S. Conover stated she will summarize this discussion and put it in an email to Frank as a formal response from the Board.
 - P. Anderson asked if there is a way to address the impression that there were backroom dealings happening. As he had trouble finding out who was being considered, Pete could see where that impression came from. M. Burns added that perhaps communication needs to be improved.
 - John Rex Waller clarified the process of the IMB Committee. He had received multiple letters from Frank, which he forwarded to the other members. John had learned that Barry also wanted to be on, so John requested that Barry send relevant information, which John then distributed to the rest of the committee. In a public meeting, they had Frank and Barry there, and both had the opportunity to speak about what they wanted to do. Pete was there. There was good discussion about conflicts of interest, and the fact that Frank is out there looking at all sorts of things, and if he wasn't on the committee, would we lose those eyes out there. Then the committee went into executive session, where they decided on Barry. In the IMB Ordinance there's a lot of detailed stuff about setting it up. That is out of date, and should be updated.
- Email (sent to SB) 4/10/24 from Julie Reidy re: Municipal Building Project
 - Copy of email Janet sent to Dark Harbor Wastewater Committee informing them of both pumps failing at the plant. New ones on order – 30 days.

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- Maine Community Foundation Health Center Endowment Fund report for 2024 first quarter.
 - As a landowner (town property at the end of Adin Moody Rd) in the newly proposed Up-Island Town Center, we received notification of the project.
 - Email 4/23/24 from Planning Board member Isabel Jackson re: Land Use Ordinance Amendments and new Up-Island Town Center. This will go on the May 8th Agenda.
 - 2024 Draft of “Islesboro Looking Ahead” as amended by S. Conover.
 - No changes recommended by the Select Board members.
 - To be voted on at next SB meeting.
- Warrant #22

CORRESPONDENCE

Discussed in Town Manager’s Report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Open bids on Roadside Mowing.
 - The Town received one bid, from Robert Achorn, for \$9,000 for a two-year contract, May 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.
 - Josh Leach stated he didn’t submit a bid because he didn’t get his insurance policy in time. He wanted to come and see what one would bid, for next time.

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by L. Bruce, to accept the bid from Robert Achorn. No further discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. None.

APPROVE WARRANT: FY24 #22

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by P. Anderson, to approve Warrant FY24 #22. No discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

APPOINTMENTS:

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None.

CHAIR COMMENTS

S. Conover: A lot of appreciation for Lauren and the MBPC for all the work over the past few years. Keep your heads held high.

VICE-CHAIR COMMENTS

L. Bruce: Thank you for your comments. My appreciation to all the other members of the MBPC that worked so hard. Onward and upward.

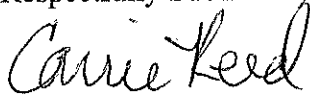
INDIVIDUAL SELECT BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

P. Anderson: Looking forward to seeing everyone at tonight's meeting.

M. Burns: Onward and upward!

MOTION BY M. Burns, seconded by L. Bruce, to Adjourn Meeting at 5:31 PM. No Discussion. Motion passed, 4 yes, 0 no.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie Reed
Secretary

