

MINUTES

Members Present:

Chair Shey Conover and Peter Anderson

Via Zoom: Vice Chair Lauren Bruce

Members Absent: Melissa Burns

Others Present:

Town Manager Janet Anderson, Cressica Brazier, Kizzi Barton, Frank Start, Paul (Babe) Hatch, Bill Thomas

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 L. Bruce, to approve the minutes of May 8, 2024 Regular Meeting, as written. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no.

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by L. Bruce, to approve the minutes of May 14, 2024 Special Meeting, as written. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no.

VISITOR COMMENTS/PETITIONS

Babe Hatch stated the loader on his trailer snagged some wires, and asked if there's a way to get the telephone companies to lift them. The wires are low and sagging in some places on the island. He stated he called Fred. This happened on County Road, near the Burns' house. J. Anderson replied that we can locate them and Page Clason will help identify the telephone and internet lines. The minimum height is 15'.

Frank Start asked about the draft minutes of the May 14th Special Meeting, regarding Article 56, the GWI agreement. Is that agreement available anywhere to view? Did the IMB meet and recommend that it be accepted? J. Anderson answered that the agreement is not ready yet, but the article gives the Select Board the option to not put it out to bid. S. Conover added that the Article allows us to approve a contract with GWI once it is ready to review. The IMB Committee is working on it, and they anticipate that there will be an agreement. John Rex-Waller will talk about this at Town Meeting. This Article will be a placeholder to allow the Select Board to accept the agreement, and waives the requirement to go out to bid. Frank asked if this also waives the right of a Public Hearing for the townspeople to talk about it. Will there will be an opportunity for public input? S. Conover will get information and make sure that question gets to John so he can be prepared to speak about it at Town Meeting. Pete Anderson offered to get in touch with John.

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, May 22, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by L. Bruce, to take the agenda out of order. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Energy Committee Proposal for Technical Assistance Program.
 - Cressica Brazier stated the Energy Committee and Energy Coordinator are here to ask permission to move forward with applying for the Technical Assistance Program, which will allow us to have funding to continue the work that was started with the Energy Prize, as well as hopefully work with other groups on more integrated planning. For example, we would like to work with the Sea Level Rise Committee, as well as workforce planning and housing planning, that all relate to our energy issues on the island.
 - We would work in phases, and have deliverables over the next three years. NREL would be working side-by-side with us over those three years, with in-depth technical assistance, as opposed to the ETIPP project, which was a feasibility study for solar and microgrids on the island.
 - This would allow us to do more community engagement, and more development with implementation partners, as well as with island organizations.
 - We've been meeting with CMP and a microgrid developer, as well as with NREL to identify some of the upcoming challenges for grid resilience on the island, such as increasing outages and potential electricity supply cost increases, that we might be able to mitigate with clean-energy storage, but we need to do further grid capacity planning in order to be able to have enough space for clean energy on our limited grid along with our limited underwater cable connection. Another challenge is load-growth due to electrification and EVs, which will create more of a burden on our grid. We are already at zero allowable load-growth on our cable. If we're able to do a non-wires alternative, which is to develop additional energy sources on the island, as well as storage, we might be able to avoid the need for an additional underground cable.
 - We'd also be able to coordinate any other kind of microgrid development with the impacts of sea-level rise, up-island, as well as at the Town Center. We've started to do this with the Prize, but we're learning that we need to do a lot more to understand how those microgrids need to be situated and connected to each other in order to serve the population centers as well as the whole island.
 - There is also the question of where the new hybrid ferry might be allowed to charge overnight. We might be able to come up with alternative options through this program, in order to make it easier for us to have more access to the ferry in the future.

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, May 22, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

- We need to study the workforce, housing needs to support that workforce, and how we can improve the housing that we have so it doesn't become a further energy burden.
- Bill added that the more we learn, the more we realize we have to learn. It gets more complicated as we learn. This is an opportunity to get expert advice for a long period of time to help us develop a complex plan in cooperation with other people on the island.
- We would like a letter of support from the Select Board; we can draft a letter.
- Janet Anderson asked if this is going to cost anything. Cressica answered that it will cost volunteer time. They are also spreading out the funding from the Energy Prize so that Kizzi can move forward into the next year while we wait for this highly competitive funding to come through. At that point we will be able to start to augment the funding. We will not ask for any funding from the Town for this capacity building project. We get to include overhead costs in the grant, so we can contribute back to the Town if we get the funding.
- L. Bruce asked if there are any other things that the Select Board can do to support this project. Cressica said they would like to speak with each Select Board member individually and also provide the plan for deliverables, and find out what each member is interested in incorporating.
- Bill added that we need general support. We have to bring this to the community. We are unique in that our effort grew from a committee without the Town's understanding of the need. Every other community represented at the ETIPP conference recognized the need and created a spearhead group. The biggest help would be to come to an understanding of the program and help us explain this program to the community.
- Kizzi added that we want to be extremely transparent. We want everyone to know about this project, and that it's good for the whole community.
- S. Conover stated she would be happy to sign a letter of support.
- J. Anderson asked about an NDA (non-disclosure agreement). Cressica replied that in order to work with the microgrid developer, to flush out this proposal, they would like us to sign an NDA. It helps them make sure that we're treating their confidential info with respect, but it is still subject to Maine's Freedom of Access laws. J. Anderson stated the Town's attorney has made some adjustments to the NDA, and the company has agreed to the changes. We're just waiting for one more round of adjustments.

MOTION BY L. Bruce, seconded by P. Anderson, to enthusiastically support the proposal for the Technical Assistance Program and sign the Letter of Support when it is available. No further discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no.

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by L. Bruce, to enter into Public Hearing for the Victualer Renewals. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no.

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, May 22, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

Public Hearing for Victualer Renewals:

- Dark Harbor Shop
- Island Market
- Sand Castle Grille
- Island Made Treats
- Islesboro Community Center
- Big Island Grille
- Tarratine Golf & Yacht Clubs

J. Anderson stated the applicants have information that we will be receiving soon. We don't generally release the permits that we sign tonight. They're all under contingency of other permits received. We will hold onto those that aren't complete until they have all the necessary permits. Durkee's store didn't have his application ready for tonight. We may see that in two weeks.

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by L. Bruce, to exit Public Hearing. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no.

MOTION BY L. Bruce, seconded by P. Anderson, to approve the slate of requests for Victualer Licenses. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no.

FERRY SERVICE UPDATE

No updates from John King. J. Anderson reported that she received an email from Bill Geary in response to her inquiry about new parking at Lincolnville Beach. They are looking at temporary measures, and the full parking solution won't be ready until next year. A study is being conducted now on the best use of the land and will be proposed to use this fall. Construction will begin in the spring of next year. Demo of the current building will happen in late June, and the DOT is working on getting the area ready for temporary parking for this summer season.

Frank Start reported that he believes Lincolnville has extended their moratorium on building in that area.

S. Conover suggested scheduling a joint meeting with the Lincolnville Select Board in the fall, so that we understand each other's concerns and interests in the project.

SEA LEVEL RISE

S. Conover reported that the next committee meeting will be on June 4th, followed by a meeting on June 12th in the evening with GZA Engineering, where they are going to present their alternative options for the Narrows. We'd like to have room for as many members of the public to attend as possible. We've set aside over two hours to hear a presentation from them and have time for questions. Location to be determined. More info coming soon.

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, May 22, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

MUNICIPAL BUILDING PROJECT

L. Bruce reported that the well for the new Health Center building will be drilled this week, and construction will begin in June. For the Up-Island Public Safety Garage, the committee is in the process of selecting a metal building company and establishing a cost for purchase, and we're also exploring a construction company for the sitework and slab, and to construct the building. We will have more info as we go along.

J. Anderson reported that two people from LedgeWood came out today. They are making a plan for moving the container and leveling off that area.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Planning Board: June 3rd, 5:00pm.
- Energy Committee: June 11th, 5:15pm.
- Annual Town Meeting: June 15th, 9:00am.

P. Anderson reported that the Harbor Committee met on Monday to address the two vacancies.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Packet included Agenda for 5/22/24 and Minutes of 5/8/24 and 5/14/24 Select Board Meetings.
- Committee Minutes/Correspondence:
 - April 25th minutes from Lighthouse Committee.
 - May 6th funding request from Lake Stewards of Maine in the amount of \$500.
 - S. Conover asked if we have any connection with this group or if they do anything out here. J. Anderson stated she'd never heard of them.
 - S. Conover stated it's worth letting them know we've already taken all requests, and we usually need to receive requests before March 1st, ahead of the budget process. We'd also like to understand how Islesboro can be more involved in the program.
 - L. Bruce added that it has the potential to be an interesting program that our students might want to be involved in. We can let them know that we'd like to know more.
 - May 9th Caucus Budget Year 2025 Waldo County Budget Committee Invitation.
 - If anyone is interested in being on that committee, there's one 3-year term open for nominations. Gabe Pendleton was the last person from here who was on the budget committee.
 - No current members are interested in participating.

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, May 22, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

- May 15th email from William Geary regarding update on new parking spaces in Lincolnville.
- May 15th email from Mac Smith, Stockton Springs Town Manager, regarding letter we sent requesting Stockton Springs to adopt affirmation regarding the placement of offshore wind manufacturing at Mack Point.
 - They considered our request but declined to undertake letters of support.
- May 16th Bar Harbor Wealth Management Capital Reserves ending 4/30/24, plus a 5-year comparison.
- May 17th, Fred Porter and Janet Anderson interviewed (via Zoom) Alaina Brenenstuhl of Dynamic Consulting in Dover-Foxcroft.
 - We feel she is capable of taking on our Hazard Mitigation Planning. She planned for the Piscataquis County Hazard Mitigation Plan in 2023, which received approval from FEMA, and all the towns in the county adopted it.
 - This is through the BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities) Grant.
 - We will make sure she connects with the Sea Level Rise Committee.
 - Meeting 3:00 Tuesday, May 14.
- May 21st email from Kristi Moses, our assigned Program Delivery Manager for FEMA and the storms of January 9-13, 2024. She will help us navigate the FEMA Grants process for reimbursement of our eligible damages.
- May update from the Rural Energy Prize
- Energy Committee proposal for Technical Assistance Program (Cressica)
- Legal Services: Date set for meeting with Patrick Lyons, Esq., Thursday, May 30th at 2pm.
- Paving: Estimate today, will find out a date for the Narrows and Ruthie James Road. J. Anderson will check with Rick Rogers at IAP about when they are moving the new houses in.
- Warrant #24

CORRESPONDENCE

No other correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS

1. None.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. None.

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, May 22, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

APPROVE WARRANT: FY24 #24

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by L. Bruce, to approve Warrant FY24 #24. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no.

APPOINTMENTS:

Harbor Committee: George Evans and Gregory Janney.

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by L. Bruce, to appoint George Evans and Gregory Janney to the Harbor Committee. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no.

CHAIR COMMENTS

S. Conover: No comments.

VICE-CHAIR COMMENTS

L. Bruce: No comments.

INDIVIDUAL SELECT BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

P. Anderson: Please come out and support the Junior Class Auction on June 1st.

M. Burns: Absent, no comments.

MOTION BY P. Anderson, seconded by L. Bruce, to Adjourn Meeting at 6:45 PM. No Discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 3 yes, 0 no.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie Reed
Secretary

