

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

MINUTES

Members Present:

Vice Chair Peter Anderson, Stephen Pendleton, Holly Fields, Dylan Purington, Chair
Peter Rothschild (Zoom)

Others Present:

Town Manager Janet Anderson, Craig Olson, Julie Reidy, Murt Durkee

Others Present via Zoom:

Amy Mulnix, Daniel Frohling, Kate Misenheimer, Ryan Cataudella

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

Minutes of June 3, 2026, Regular Meeting.

MOTION BY H. Fields, seconded by S. Pendleton, to approve the minutes of June 3, 2026 Regular Meeting, as written. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

VISITOR COMMENTS/PETITIONS

Julie Reidy stated she is still concerned about the purchase of an excavator as opposed to a multi-function tractor. She submitted a letter to the Board and read from it. She believes that a tractor is a better purchase and listed her reasons.

H. Fields asked about the cost for additional tractor attachments. Julie replied that the Town needs to look at its needs regarding equipment and then do the pricing.

J. Anderson stated that she and Dave Dyer have been in touch with Union Equipment, and Dave has spoken with Babe Hatch and Peter Coombs. She would like to address this when Jordy Watson gets back from vacation.

S. Pendleton reiterated that the purpose of this is to address the single issue of the overhanging trees, which was the biggest critical comment that we got for years.

D. Purington asked at what point to we approach property owners about trees overhanging the road. Is it on the property owner to take care of this?

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

J. Anderson replied that the Town owns the Right-of-Way, and we're supposed to keep the road cleared back. She hopes to have Dave at the next meeting, and to discuss this with Jordy and Tom. They have plans to use the excavator for multiple things, including at the transfer station.

P. Anderson stated that he's not an expert, but it seems we can accomplish what we need to and more with a tractor. If we're going to spend this kind of money, he doesn't know why we'd limit ourselves to a piece of equipment that is intended for one task.

Amy Mulnix via chat stated that Fred Porter can help identify places that need trimming so that emergency vehicles can get through.

FERRY SERVICE UPDATE

No update.

SEA LEVEL RISE UPDATE

No update.

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

Public Safety Renovation: S. Pendleton displayed some photos of the progress of the renovation. Work is moving forward. Kitchen equipment has been delivered. Work has begun on the Emergency Operations Center.

Up-Island Public Safety Garage: S. Pendleton reported that the drywall is up and mudding has occurred. We're working on trying to get better communication for the ETA on finalizing the work. The contract is through September.

Murt Durkee added that work at the Up-Island Public Safety Garage is slow. The contract goes from September 2025 to September 2026. There doesn't seem to be a penalty in the contract if he goes past September. He would like to encourage the contractor to keep on it.

S. Pendleton stated that communications with the contractor went out last week on this.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Harbor Committee: June 18th, 5:30pm.
- IMB Committee with GWI: June 23rd, 10:00am.
- Planning Board: June 29th, 5:00pm.

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Packet included Agenda for 6/17/26 and Minutes of 6/3/26 Select Board Regular Meeting.
- Committee Minutes
 - 3/10/26 IMB Committee minutes
- Correspondence
 - 6/5/26 from Waldo County Commissioners an invitation to the Waldo County Budget Committee nomination for Caucus for 2027 on July 2, 2026, 6pm, at the Waldo County Probate Courtroom. Sign up by 6/29.
 - 6/10 email from Breanne Pinkham Bebb, new County Commissioner, is interested in meeting with the Select Board along with Sheriff Jason Trundy to hear ideas and concerns regarding county government. She would like to meet in July or August.
 - 6/11 James Kossuth, Northport Administrator, is asking the Select Board to vote for him to continue on the Maine Municipal Association's Legislative Policy Committee.
 - He has been on the committee since 2022.
 - We can vote for two candidates out of three.
 - S. Pendleton requested that this be tabled to allow time to look at the candidates.
 - 6/12 update from Chief Murt Durkee about Acre Island equipment. The fire truck, trailer pump, and portable pump are all back in service. Murt and Josh Linscott made two trips there to service this equipment.
 - Murt is going to ask Dark Harbor Boatyard to run the truck once a month.
 - We need to get a new/used snowplow truck for them. It's in the current budget.
 - 6/16 notice that the Town has been awarded a Safety Grant in the amount of \$1,793.78, by the Maine Municipal Workers Comp Fund to purchase safety equipment for the Fire Department.
 - Murt stated that the equipment includes PDFs, traffic cones, and a garage floor stop bump for the Up-Island station.
 - S. Pendleton referred to the recent Public Safety Multi-Agency training exercise and stated that it would be good to see reports for things like this. Everyone would like to hear a short recap.
- Handouts:
 - Fireworks: Friday, July 3, rain date July 6. July 4: parade 11am, BBQ 2-4.
 - For next meeting, look over ex-officio roles.
- Manager:

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

- Update on ferry ticket sales (started 6/15/26): We spent \$24,850.
Sold: Vehicle, \$7,200 (240). Adult \$1,394 (136). Child \$85 (17).
- Excavator: discuss when Jordy returns from vacation.
- Warrant #26

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Covered in Town Manager Report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review Data Supporting the Reason for Select Board Action, from 6/3/26.
 - S. Pendleton stated that he had wanted to present the data for discussion. There was good dialogue for this at the last meeting, and that Kate Misenheimer had made a good point about the young, single people on the island. It's not all about the children. We need to engage young adults.
 - P. Rothschild stated that the ICS Principal candidate withdrew. This is an important issue. We need an update from the School Board.
 - Daniel Frohling stated that he attended the recent School Board meeting and learned the candidate accepted a job elsewhere, as her first choice. The Board wants to prioritize getting the right person. Someone raised the idea of combining the superintendent and principal roles. Zach Conover wasn't positive about the idea.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Set Date & Location for Summer Information Meeting.
 - The Sea Level Rise committee proposed Thursday, July 30th, 5:30, at GH Kinnicutt Center. Kate Legere said the GHK Center is available.
2. Ballot for Election to Maine Municipal Association's Legislative Policy Committee.
 - Tabled for July 1st meeting.
3. Pollution Control Committee to Address Applying for Two Grants for the Dark Harbor Sewer Improvements:
 - a. Senator King's Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) Application, Federal Funding, \$1.8 million;
 - b. FFY 2026 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Proposed Project Funding, State Funding, \$3.8 million (Load of \$2.8 million with \$1 million forgivable grant).

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

- Craig Olson, Chair of the Pollution Control Committee, stated that the committee has oversight of the Dark Harbor Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- Islesboro's sewer system was installed in 1904 because there was no way to treat sewage in that area with the high amount of clay, and the small lots. The sand filtration system was added in 1989. The tanks get pumped on a regular basis. Jordy takes a sample every month.
- This is the smallest municipal system in Maine, and it's completely supported by the 34 users on the system. Last year it cost \$24,778 to run the system. Everybody pays a base fee of \$450, and has a meter for usage. The users do not pay for infrastructure costs, because it's municipal.
- There are issues with the 122-year-old system. There's a lot of exterior water coming in through the groundwater. October and March have the highest flow, due to rain and melting snow.
- We had a study done in 2022 that maps the entire system. That cost about \$95,000, which we paid for two years ago. This was to gear up for federal infrastructure money. The estimate to replace the system is \$3.1 million. We submit a grant application every year, and it's usually turned down because of our high tax base.
- This year, Senator King moved our funding request forward via the CDS Grant. We asked for \$3.81 million; he has forwarded \$1.8 million in the budget process, leaving \$2.81 million.
- The Maine DEP has decided that they would like to fund us for a project where they would underwrite a low-interest bond for \$2.81 million and then grant us \$1 million (forgivable grant). We wouldn't have to use it until September 2027, but we have to let them know by July 10th whether or not we want to stay in the mix.
- Our committee is asking the Select Board to approve sending the letter to the state, saying we want to remain in this budget process.
- S. Pendleton suggested re-engaging with the lobbyist, Genevieve McDonald, who worked with us on the ferry issue. She could push this internally.
- We can turn down the funding at a later date if we choose. The bond would go to the voters for approval.

MOTION BY H. Field, seconded by S. Pendleton to approve the letter and accept the proposal. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Third Ferry Line & Parking

- P. Anderson stated that Jesse Young at the ferry terminal is concerned about ongoing confusion between the third ferry line and parking along the guardrail.

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

His hope is to better delineate the two areas, and maybe shift the center line outward so there is a clear staging lane.

- H. Fields stated that the lanes of traffic have to be 10-feet wide. When the stated came and did the painting last year, they didn't have white paint, so they couldn't paint the line for parking along the guardrail.
- P. Anderson asked about the Town vs. State responsibility for the road. H. Fields replied that the state is responsible for Ferry Rd, West Bay Rd, and Mill Creek Rd. However, the town has been striping this area without issue.
- P. Rothschild stated he discussed this area with DOT, and there is a plan for paving and striping further along Ferry Rd that is DOT approved. He suggests folding this into the same project. There is going to be continuing conflict between the parking along the guardrail and the third lane. Widening is not feasible. He will reach out to Jesse.
- J. Anderson suggested that the Town stripe the parking spaces and a line for Line 3, so that people can see the difference.
- S. Pendleton suggested adding a couple of X marks where the third lane starts and where parking ends. H. Fields added that a stencil of the number 3 every few feet in the staging lane would also help.

2. Litter Problem – lawn signs

- P. Anderson stated that the island has a litter problem, notably with signs from contractors, advertising their businesses. They are left too long, and he is concerned that these lawn signs end up in culverts.
- Maine has laws banning billboards, and laws dictating when political signs need to be removed. He would like the Board to consider adding an ordinance to address contractor signs.
- J. Anderson stated we can ask homeowners to remove them.

3. Deer Population

- H. Fields stated a citizen reached out to her regarding the number of deer on the island. The population seems to be increasing. The person was asking about the possibility of culling the herd with organized hunting or some other way to keep the population down. She asked that we revisit it.
- J. Anderson explained that culling was voted down at a Town Meeting. We tried to have a special hunt, which didn't amount to much.
- P. Anderson asked if there is a local specialist we could call on to be part of this conversation.
- P. Rothschild stated that Linda Gillies was on the Deer Reduction Committee. The outcome of the study was that if you didn't buy the whole reduction program, you weren't addressing the problem. It was a contentious issue.

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

- H. Fields stated that Pennsylvania and New Jersey have deer ticks with birth control.
- D. Purington asked if the concerned person indicated by what metric they're gauging the deer increase. H. Fields stated the metric is based on droppings.
- J. Anderson suggested asking someone from the Deer Reduction Committee.
- Amy Mulnix suggested that this might be an issue that Public Safety is interested in. She encouraged the Board to talk with Chris Bates-Withers at the Health Center about the risk of health issues.
- P. Rothschild stated that the Health Center made a compelling presentation at the Town Meeting in which the deer reduction program was voted down.
- P. Anderson suggested we get in touch with others from old committees. It wouldn't hurt to revisit it with new ideas.
- Amy Mulnix added it would also be useful to understand the impact on deer population. There's some suggestion that the deer population is under stress, and so the health of the deer is at risk. Having healthy deer matters.
- D. Purington asked about indicators that the deer are unhealthy. Amy replied that there's concern about disease because they seem to be undernourished. Consulting an expert would be helpful.

APPROVE WARRANT: FY26 #26

MOTION BY P. Rothschild, seconded by H. Fields, to approve Warrant FY26 #26. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

APPOINTMENTS:

1. Pollution Control Committee: Andrew King

MOTION BY H. Fields, seconded by D. Purington to appoint Andrew King to the Pollution Control Committee. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

CHAIR COMMENTS

P. Rothschild: No comments.

VICE-CHAIR COMMENTS

P. Anderson: No comments.

INDIVIDUAL SELECT BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Islesboro Select Board
Regular Meeting
Town Office Meeting Room & via Zoom
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

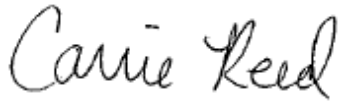
S. Pendleton: I welcome back the burger place.

H. Fields: I too welcome the burger place back.

D. Purington: No comments.

MOTION BY H. Fields, seconded by D. Purington to adjourn meeting at 6:57 PM. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed, 5 yes, 0 no. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie Reed
Secretary