

Minutes of Meeting
July 28, 2022
Board of Selectmen
Town of Long Island

Attending: Joseph Donovan, Chair; Selectmen: John Burke, John Wallace; Brian Dudley, Town Administrator; Amy Tierney, Town Clerk; and Steve Hart. Viewing Remotely: Karen Rich; Leah Doughty; Dennis McCann; Doug McCown; Camille Wolfertz; Rennie Donovan; Dianne Watts; Mark Greene; Will Tierney; Elizabeth Marchak; Melanie Nash; Kim Peaslee; and Matt Byers.

Selectmen previously reviewed the weekly Town Warrants.

The board reviewed the minutes of the previous meetings.

- It was Moved (Burke), Seconded (Wallace) and Voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 21, 2022. (Motion passed 3-0).

Selectmen reviewed communications received. There were communications regarding:

- 1) School vandalism;
- 2) Eelgrass survey at Mariners Wharf;
- 3) An abandoned car at the cemetery (Note: owner has been contacted and town will take action soon;
- 4) Apple Tree Lot Ownership;
- 5) Custom Floats update on re-sale of aluminum ramp;

- 6) Revisions to the annual Municipal Valuation Return (MVR);
- 7) Portable Toilets;
- 8) Boats anchoring too close to South Beach and need for more warning buoys;

Brian briefed the board on the following:

- 1) There is a public safety discussion at 5:30;
- 2) Revised public notices re: parking and Mariners Wharf posted;
- 3) New signs for Mariners floats ordered;
- 4) New sign posts for additional No Parking signs at South Beach turn around ordered;
- 5) Awaiting final data reports form inclusion in annual Municipal Recycling report;
- 6) Still waiting for appointment of new MDOT SHIP grant manager so as to file an amended grant application for Mariners wave screen project;
- 7) Brian working with GEI Consultants on finalizing engagement contract for the Ponce's Landing design/engineering project;
- 8) Kamco notified of need to repair security doors at Community Center;
- 9) Ponces replacement of three pilings still on track for week of August 15th;
- 10) Senator Cathy Breen meeting with Select Board on October 13th;
- 11) Contacted current Buildings & Wharves Manager re: position changes and advertising the new job opening.
- 12) Brian will order Caution signs for Ponce's Landing.

From the CEO Office: The CEO received a new building permit from Peter Evans; and another property owner is ready to start construction and has requested to place a camper on site during that process.

From the Clerk/Tax Collector: Contacted the Maine Revenue Services bureau to discuss the changes needed in the annual Municipal Valuation Report (MVR).

Chairman Donovan then gave some updates to Casco Bay Lines. There are still some signage and traffic issues being worked out; due to staffing shortages caused by Covid and the loss of summer time help, reductions in the morning sailing schedule may have to be made.

The board started its public safety meeting. Dennis McCann, the Island Health Officer, briefed everyone as to his research into the potential for harmful effects from the burning of the whale carcass which had been treated with regular and hydrated lime. He noted that based on his conversations with State Health and Environmental officials, it is unlikely from such a short exposure that there would be any long term damage to an individual's health. Pre-existing pulmonary conditions could, however, exacerbate the impact. He noted that two people are still dealing with respiratory issues.

Karen Rich summarized the process and the time table for the whale carcass burning. A total of 500 pounds of regular lime and 400 pounds of hydrated lime were applied to the carcass in the weeks prior to the burning. This was based on information and advice they received from

Maine Marine Mammals. She also apologized for the problems that the burning had caused.

One resident noted that she is still experiencing pulmonary symptoms and expressed her opinion that the property owners did not seem too concerned for the potential damage the burning had caused.

Dennis McCann thanked Karen Rich for the information she had supplied noting that it is not easy to dispose of a whale carcass. He suggested that the Coast Guard might be a resource for future incidents. He also wondered if any carcass covered in lime could truly burn.

Will Tierney said that he had spoken with Marie Harmon, the Selectboard Chair, in June. He noted then that the issue needed to be reviewed some more. If needed, perhaps the Long Island Fire & Rescue Department (LIF&R) could use the whale carcass burning as a training exercise. The property owner's eventual burn permit request never came to the Fire Chief. It was received and approved by an authorized member of LIF&R.

Chief Tierney also noted that the property owners have a seasonal burning permit and that all neighbors need to better communicate with one another. He also noted that the current burn permits state what can and can't be burned.

Kim Peaslee stated that her mother was afflicted by the smoke and asked about the Maine Marine Mammals recommendations.

Karen Rich stated that she never meant to be disrespectful or come across as uncaring for neighbors.

Mark Greene felt that burning the carcass was appropriate and unfortunately the wind ended up blowing in the wrong direction.

Chair Donovan thanked Karen Rich for her information, timeline of the process and for her apology. He noted that the town will work with LIF&R to improve upon the policy and process for future incidents. He also noted that LIF&R needs more volunteers to serve as Ambulance Drivers, EMT's and Rescue Boat Captains. Chief Tierney noted that there are two additional members of LIF&R this year as well as a new EMT volunteer, but they are seasonal residents.

LIF&R has received a request to burn a shed which will be considered for the fall. Chief Tierney also noted the need to put the Harbormaster boat in the water for emergency transit needs.

One person is helping with sorting the waste oil that is collected at the fire station. He noted that all islanders dropping off waste oil must do so in sealed containers, not open buckets.

He also reported some street lights that are out. Brian asked if he could get the pole numbers so they can be replaced even before the pending

conversion to LED lights. Selectman Wallace asked the Chief if there needs to be new street lights installed at the dry hydrants.

Doug McCown noted the number of vehicles down front that are accumulating multiple parking violations. This issue will be discussed further.

Brian noted that the town house on Beach Avenue is fully operational. A kitchen table was donated. Still looking for a volunteer to watch over the house

Steve Hart is still working on teleconferencing solutions for the Planning Board meetings. A GPCOG and town council, Phil Saucier, will serve on a forum on August 15, 2022 at 5:30 PM discussing the impact of the new state law on accessory dwelling units. Compliance with the new law is scheduled for July 01, 2023.

Current Long Island ordinances limit accessory dwelling units to those for “blood relatives” only. This will have to be expanded under the new law.

Beth Marchak followed up on her e-mail regarding the Congressionally Directed Spending grant application for Mariners Wharf clarifying process and current standing.

Selectman Wallace noted that there are solar wireless security camera options available.

Selectman Burke noted that the island volunteers list is completed.

Chair Donovan received a late meeting comment on the whale carcass burning issue noting that the carcass was a nuisance to the property owners and the town. There was also an inquiry as to permitted uses of the leased public works garage.

The next meeting of the board is Thursday, August 04, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Brian L. Dudley, Town Administrator