

Minutes of Meeting
September 29, 2022
Board of Selectmen
Town of Long Island

Attending: Joseph Donovan, Chair; Selectmen: John Burke, John Wallace; Brian Dudley, Town Administrator; Jim Wilber; and Ed McAleney. Viewing Remotely: Mark Greene; Ed Rea; Ruth Clement; Melanie Nash; Doug McCown; Dennis McCann; Steve Hart; Camille Wolfertz; and Rose Barter.

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 September 22, 2022. (Motion passed 3-0).

Selectmen reviewed communications received. There were communications from or regarding:

- 1) Jim Wilber asked that revenues received from the collection of returnable bottles and cans be dedicated to the Long Island Fire & Rescue Department.
- 2) Janice Avignon stated that the Comprehensive Plan has been received and is being processed by the state.

- 3) The street light in the Johnson Hill subdivision. Three people support its replacement and two others suggested an adjustment or screen be added.
- 4) Ed Rea with an updated town schedule.
- 5) There was a communication regarding taking junk cars off the island on October the 10th. Collection of the vehicles will be on October 8th and 9th. Interested parties should contact Dicky Clarke directly.
- 6) Wes Wolfertz sent in background information on the tree planting project at the Transfer Station and the new cemetery.
- 7) The Island Veterinary Service is interested in making monthly visits to the island. They would need a building to use.
- 8) The town receives periodic notices from the state and the Federal governments on various matters such as aquaculture leases, etc.

Brian briefed the board on the following:

- 1) Auction of Lot #431: Town's lawyer has approved Purchase & Sale document; Fielding many requests for information; Auction opened on September 25th and closes on October the 11th; Current bid at \$10,000; Reserve not yet met. Continued questions on access.
- 2) Tree Canopy Project: Met with Wes Wolfertz to review history of the grant. January 2021 Board Chair Donovan sent an e-mail re: availability of state/Federal funding opportunity and possible use of cemetery fund for town match. Total estimated project cost in March of 2021 was \$15,540. Pricing has now yielded a higher project cost. Sources that have been discussed include the cemetery fund as well as the town meeting approved improvements to the Transfer Station.

3) Mariners Wharf: The Federal budget, which contains the \$477,000 earmark for the Mariners Wharf wavescreen project has not been passed yet. Congress will likely authorize a continuing resolution of the current budget as happened last year as well. May not have an approved budget until March of 2023.

Reached out to Steve Johnson to bring in the Ponce's and the Mariner's (east side) floats between October 15th and the 31st.

Two quotes received for minor repairs to Mariners Wharf per the recommendations of GEI Consultants. They include the new gangway track replacement destroyed during the January Nor'Easter. Awaiting a quote from Custom Floats.

- 4) Ponce's Landing: GEI Consultants now planning their marine survey of the structure on either October the 4th or the 5th.
- 5) The Waterfront Committee public announcement was sent out asking for volunteers to serve.
- 6) Cemetery Committee: Meredith Sweet has now expressed interest in serving.
- 7) Dicky Clark doing an abandoned/junk vehicle removal on October the 10th. Vehicles will be collected October 8th and 9th. Will also take old batteries from Transfer Station.
- 8) Reached out to the MacVanes to continue discussion on lots.
- 9) Received feedback on the Johnson Hill subdivision street light. Three were supportive of Barton's replacement at their expense. Two suggested adjusting or screening of the new LED lamp.
- 10) Four people have responded to requests for feedback on various vacant positions: Nancy Jordan, Maxine Harmon, Beth Marchak and Mark Greene.

- 11) Required Public Hearing on adopting the 2022-2023 general assistance maximum allowances set for October the 6th at 5:30 PM.
- 12) Correspondence from auditors regarding the accounting for ARPA funds received. Ed Rea, Lisa and Brian will meet to discuss.
- 13) Chris Papkee reached out again regarding the need for improvements of the ramp at Boston Sand & Gravel.
- 14) Community Center: holes allowing pigeons access through the eaves.

From the CEO Office:

1. Jim received the draft Notice of Violation from legal counsel regarding the unauthorized sheds on Floyd Street.
2. Jim hasn't heard from plumber for the 20 Eastern Avenue building permit and was going to reach out this week
3. Jim has a question regarding a deck building permit regarding the structural details
4. Jim had concerns with another shed application and is expecting a new plan to be submitted.

From the Town Clerk/Tax Collector:

1. There are several discharge permits to be signed.

2. Sarah Teague's family dropped off the DHHS Authorization for Burial or Cremated Remains form that needs to be completed.
3. There is still \$31,052 in outstanding property taxes representing 44 parcels.

From the Wellness Center:

1. NorthernLight is holding a vaccine clinic today from 3-6. Doing vaccinations at school from 2-2:45. There are already 124 people signed up representing 213 vaccines. The USM nurses are helping.
2. USM nurses will be coming out October 13th
3. Amy talked to Revision Energy yesterday. They are putting together a proposal to run 95% of the Town buildings. There are two attractive ways to make this happen - 1) there is a 30% rebate for Towns and additional 10% for putting panels on a transfer station. The other is a finance option where investors pick up the cost of the project and give us the opportunity to purchase the equipment in year 6 at 65 cents on the dollar.

There was a discussion on the continued problems with parking down front and the few people that have accumulated dozens of parking violations. Doug McCown emailed some discussion points including: the addition of a second parking lot for long term parking; additional parking enforcement personnel; a limit on the number of vehicles per household; increasing the penalties for long term violations.

Selectman Wallace thinks we need to come up with a new strategy for parking compliance. He suggested the possibility of an open community forum to vet the issue more thoroughly.

Selectman Burke agreed that more enforcement is needed and all vehicles need to be registered. Brian will talk with the Sheriff's Department about more enforcement of vehicle registration.

There is a proliferation of golf carts now parking down front even though the summer season has passed.

Chairman Donovan noted that parking has always been an issue and seems to be getting worse. People are not appreciative of the ability to park on the waterfront for free. He suggested hiring a towing service to remove the vehicles from the island and invoice the last known registered owner.

Ed Rea wondered if Lorinda could be helpful in serving as a taxi service for those willing to leave their vehicles at home when they leave the island.

It was noted that there was opposition to the creation of a second parking area in the vacant lot above town hall during the 2017 annual town meeting. Selectman Burke felt it was time to bring back the second parking lot idea.

It was also noted that there are opportunities to lease parking spaces from private property owners on the island. Brian will reach out to the Woods to gauge their capacity for additional lessees.

Mark Greene noted that Great Cranberry Island runs a shuttle service with a volunteer driver and funding from a local restaurant.

The board discussed the open job vacancies. Brian noted that four people have supplied feedback on the position descriptions. The board will review them.

The board began a discussion on commercial users at the Transfer Station. The volume of household waste and cardboard from island commercial establishments is increasing. The town's curbside collection recently picked up 16 bags from one commercial establishment. One suggestion is the possible addition of a monthly or annual usage fee for commercial establishments.

The board then reviewed the history and current status of the tree canopy project. This initially started with the idea of planting trees in and around the pickleball courts, but there was a change in scope to the Transfer Station and the new cemetery on Cushing Street.

The successful state grant awarded in April of 2021 called for a total of \$15,540. Due to increasing costs and some initial bids received for site preparation, the expected cost has risen to a new estimate of \$25,000+. Funding for the project includes a \$7,440 grant from the State. The

town's share is likely to come from the approved Transfer Station and Cemetery Improvements projects.

It was noted that the clearing of the Transfer Station side was necessary to remove old trees that were in danger of falling. This was included in the initial grant application. The new trees planned for the site are dwarf spruce trees that might be planted on a raised berm. These spruce trees are deer resistant. These trees grow to about 12 feet in height and would remain under the power line. The result of this clearing/site preparation activities, however, is the visualization of what can be done in terms of expanding the Transfer Station to promote more efficient use of the space and to foster increased user and worker safety when on the site.

The tree planting will also serve as a visual natural barrier of the Transfer Station for the surrounding properties.

Chairman Donovan asked for any public comment on the tree canopy project. There was none.

He suggested that the town needs to receive estimates soon for the stump grinding, new trees and their planting soon so the expenses can be planned for. In the interim, there is \$20,000 approved for Transfer station improvements as well as a balance of \$7,700 in the cemetery improvement fund. Ed McAleney noted that he has some snow fence that he can place along the Fowler Road side until the project is completed.

It was Moved (Burke), Seconded (Wallace) and Voted to authorize the Treasurer to negotiate a loan for \$20,000 from Gorham Savings Bank for these improvements. (Motion passed 3-0)

Mark updated the property revaluation project. He and Melanie Nash, the Island Institute Fellow, have begun site visits to collect and record data and improvements.

There were no other public comments. The meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.

The next meeting of the board is Thursday, October 06, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Brian L. Dudley, Town Administrator