Minutes of Meeting
May 25, 2023
Board of Selectmen
Town of Long Island

Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM.

Attending: Joseph Donovan, Chair; Selectmen John Burke and John Wallace; Brian Dudley, Town Administrator; Amy Tierney, Town Clerk; Lisa Kimball, Treasurer. Viewing Remotely: Christian Lamontagne; Steve Hart; Rennie Donovan; Steve Hart; Doug McCown; Ed McAleney; Brad Brown; Catlin Byers; Diane Watts; Matt Byers; Toni & Fulton Wilcox; and Paul Thornton;

Selectmen previously reviewed the weekly Town Warrants.

Old Business:

➢ **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 May 18, 2023 (Motion passed 3-0).

➢ **Review of Communications Received:**

Selectmen reviewed communications since the last meeting. There were communications on: The GPCOG Annual Summit meeting.; The Recreation Department and the Pottery programs.; The July 09, 2023 Swim Run event.; Condolences from The Town of Long Island were sent to the Chebeague Town Administrator for the loss of a family member.; Issues regarding parking tickets.; Preparation for the annual audit.; Town Hall records storage.; and A letter from town counsel regarding litigation by a property owner against the Town.

John Burke noted the continued abuse of the courtesy trash cans on Mariner's Wharf intended for light trash for visitors to and from our island. Many people are disposing of their weekly household trash and other large items in these cans.

John Walllace noted that we need to order a new flag for the Community Center. Brian will call Gorham Flag Center.

- **The Town Administrator updated the Board on the following on-going items:**

Old Business Updates:

1) Mariner's Wharf: Copia contractors finishing up most work tomorrow. They are still waiting on approvals on two change orders from MDOT, one for an extra ladder and another for a replacement whaler. They hope to have their work trailers and two boats transported back to the mainland on Tuesday. They will keep one of their small skiffs on a town mooring until they complete the last two piles next week.

Reached out to MDOT M&O Division regarding intent and status of work on the lower slip.

2) Ponce's Landing: Dan Bannon out until May 30th for follow up meetings. There is $30,500 remaining in the current contract primarily funded with a $50,000 DMR grant. Oversight of repairs including bid specification development is an eligible area for use of the grant.

3) Keeping Warm Grant: Lisa sent copies of the check stubs. A reimbursement check will be here next week.

4) Security Cameras: Curt is looking at the Nest camera system for compatibility with a wireless connection for Town Hall and/or the Mariner's Wharf Warming Hut.

5) Attended a day-long session sponsored by the Maine Local Roads Center in Windham on Gravel Roads. Will incorporate best practices into our RFP for grading and crowning our roads.

New Business Updates:

1) Housing: Workforce Housing Group met today. Genesis Fund representative planning a site visit in early June.

2) Street sweeping completed.

3) LD 1897 not recommended by legislative committee. Long Island was one of four islands submitting written testimony in support. Committee has asked MDOT to further review.

4) Working on 2023 Volunteer insurance renewal package.

5) Sheriff's meeting with Chebegue postponed due to a death.

➢ **Code Enforcement Office Updates:**

The CEO will not be in on Friday, May the 26th.

➢ **Town Clerk/TaxCollector Updates:**

Liens have been filed totaling about $10,000 for properties that have not paid their taxes. More 2023 vehicle registration stickers have been ordered as the Town has already issued the 500 received from the State. There are now over 700 vehicles registered through the Town.

➢ **Wellness Center Updates:**

No updates

Board/Committee/Project Updates:

The Board reviewed the summary of the Parking Committee and solicited public comments on the three primary sections of the report: Mariner' Wharf, the "downtown village" area between the Hardshell Cafe and the Bakehouse, and South Beach. There was discussion on the recommendation to allow inland side parking on Island Avenue

to relieve the congestion at Mariner's Wharf. One public comment noted that it is not a reasonable expectation that people will leave their cars home and seek alternative transportation to Mariner's Wharf.

Another public comment asked the Board about its policy regarding the removal of abandoned vehicles. It was noted that two abandoned vehicles were taken off the island recently. The Board will work on reviewing a policy over the next few months.

It was suggested that the one hour parking limits be increased to two hours on Island Avenue from Garfield Street to Beach Avenue. A question was posed as to whether diagonal parking might accommodate more vehicles.

Underlying the parking problems in this area is the need for passage of emergency vehicles.

One member of the public suggested that the two business owners confer on possible solutions to the congestion. Another comment was that parking on Beach and Garfield should be encouraged and done so on opposite sides for easier access.

At South Beach, the bike rack could be moved to the South side of the road to further discourage parking there even though there are No Parking Signs posted. It was noted that keeping the path cleared for handicapped access is important.

It was also suggested that consideration be given to increasing the amount of the current $20 fines for a parking ticket.

Selectman Donovan asked if limiting parking from the top of the old path to Front Beach to the guardrail approaching the VFW Hall to golf carts only with a two hour limit might be helpful. He also noted that the rules are not new and have existed for a

long time. Public reminder notices are issued twice a year. Another member of the public noted the need to use common sense and also to obey the posted parking limits.

There was a discussion on the role of the Parking Constables. It was clarified that they should simply issue a parking violation and not engage in any conversation with the vehicle's owners.

The overall consensus of the discussion is that parking enforcement is difficult especially with the growing number of vehicles and the need to protect the public's safety.

The Board deferred discussion on the 2023 Swim Run event to a future meeting. There was discussion on the recent VFW Hall expenses for reseeding the lawn. The cost will be split between the VFW Hall maintenance fund and the Selectmen's contingency fund.
There was a brief discussion on file storage and the State mandate for fire proof cabinets. More research is needed.

Steve Hart noted that the Planning Board held a special pre-application meeting to review the requirements for a proposed new dock and floats at the Bakehouse. The next meeting of the Planning Board is in two weeks.

Mark Greene summarized the meeting of the Year Round Housing Committee. Appointments of individual committee members are hoped for by the next Selectboard meeting. Brian has a representative from the Genesis Fund coming for a site visit.

Joe Donovan updated activity at Casco Bay Lines. Activity is still extremely busy. Concrete pouring is scheduled for this week.

Meetings/Hearings:

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

Public Comments:

Ed McAleney noted that the memorial benches will be put out next week and that Fern Avenue still has to be swept. Flags will be hung on Saturday.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM. The next meeting of the board is Thursday, June 01, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Brian L. Dudley, Town Administrator