Minutes of Meeting
September 07, 2023
Board of Selectmen
Town of Long Island
(NOTE: All Selectboard meetings are recorded and available on the town website.)

Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM.

Attending: Joseph Donovan, Chair; Selectmen John Burke. (John Wallace (Absent)); Brian Dudley, Town Administrator, and Amy Tierney, Town Clerk. Viewing Remotely: Camille Wolfertz; Mark Greene; Steve Hart; Rennie Donovan; Toni Wolcox; Fulton Wilcox; Beth Marchak; and Peter Thornton.

Selectmen previously reviewed the weekly Town Warrants.

Old Business

The Selectmen deferred approval of the previous meeting minutes pending the return of Selectman Wallace.

- **Review of Communications Received:**

Selectmen reviewed communications since the last meeting. There were communications on: Deprivation hunting permits; the Sheriff's visit to the island.; The financing for the approved gravel roads grading work.; A notice from DACF regarding expansion of quarantine zones for invasive species.; The availability of cemetery lots at Apple Tree.; One candidate's declination for appointment to the Finance Committee.; A verbal update from John Burke on the Transfer Station Task Force.

Public comments followed the communications received. Mark Greene suggested that the town should check with other islands regarding the handling of golf cart underage drivers and dangerous driving. He also noted that John Lortie might be a good resource for the invasive species. Joe Donovan mentioned that the Sheriff noted that the town's ordinances might need to be amended to specify requirements for all vehicles operating

on the island, including golf carts. The Deputy Sheriffs could then enforce both State law and the town ordinances. Steve Hart inquired about the status of ordinance changes and his willingness to help in any additional review.

➢ **Town Administrator Updates:**

Old Business:

1) Ponce's Landing: On Friday, Brian met with Dan Bannon of GEI Consultants to review their recommended short term repairs to Ponces. GEI amended their draft bid specifications in response to the suggestions received from the Board and the Waterfront Committee. The bid specifications have been sent out to prospective bidders. Waterfront Committee in September.

2) Mariner's Wharf: Need to install the signage prohibiting unauthorized vehicles on the dock during boat loading and unloading passengers. I contacted Custom Floats to tighten the wave screen extension pilings and timbers.

New Business:

1) A reminder that the required public hearing for the adoption of the general assistance maximums is tonight at 5:30 PM.

2) The Sheriff held a "Meet and Greet" this afternoon. I am working on the re-scheduling of a meeting with him and Chebeague Island to explore future public safety options.

3) The gravel roads contract has been executed. Contractor coming down to do a preliminary review next week. We have received the terms for the loan for the work on the gravel roads.

4) The Transfer Station Task Force met.

5) GPCOG has a planned program called Vision Zero which will focus on island communities traffic safety issues. Details next month.

6) Brian reached out to the district office of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife regarding some delay issues in our request for deprivation hunting permits. It has been resolved.

7) Brian is working with EcoMaine on options for the Transfer Station cans and costs.

8) There is an abutter notice for a SSWD permit at 59 Beach Avenue, next to the town's house.

9) Zoombombing is increasing in southern Maine municipal meetings.

10) The Maine Department of Conservation, Agriculture & Forestry has a comment period on expansion of zones for forest protection quarantines to combat the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer, the Hemlock Wooly Adelgid and the European Larch Canker. I have asked for clarification of this expansion if it includes Long Island and, if so, what is the impact.

11) The Treasurer and Brian have completed the annual Government Finance Report for the state.

12) The Gulf of Maine Research Institute is hosting a Living Shorelines workshop and tour. Janice Avignon and Jane Spearman are planning on attending. I have forwarded the information to the Planning Board to see if they have a representative to attend.

13) Housing Update: Completed survey should be available to us early next week. I received the editable version of a draft agreement from Creative Dextrous for architectural services. Fontus is working on scheduling a visit to test the two test wells at the transfer Station and two other abutting properties to the proposed site.

➢ **Code Enforcement Office Updates:**

The CEO will be in on September the 8th.; An abutter notification for a new SSWD permit was received by the town.; A new building permit application for a replacement barn on Fowler Road is under review; An internal plumbing permit for a water filtration system was received.

➢ **Town Clerk/Tax Collector Updates:**

A total of $320,000 in property taxes has been received.; Unregistered vehicle registrations continue to decrease.The State preliminary valuation data for 2024 have been received and distributed.

➢ **Wellness Center Updates:**

A Northern Lights nurse will be here on September the19th; Physician visit on September 12th; Flu only vaccinations on September 28th from 4 PM - 7 PM; Covid boosters and RSV vaccinations still to be scheduled. Amy will discuss the town's beach wheelchair and mats at the upcoming Casco Bay Islands Association (CBIA) meeting on Peaks Island.

The board addressed the frequency of board meetings. For now, meeting every other week will be the schedule. This is subject to change. Three comments were received all supporting the proposed change, one suggesting that the off week would allow Selectmen to work on projects and attend training seminars.

Meetings/Hearings:

The Selectmen held a public hearing on the proposed general assistance maximums for 2023-2024. Brian outlined that these maximums are generated annually by the Maine Municipal Association in cooperation with the Maine Department of Health and Human Services. They are grouped by regions throughout the state and cover such things as housing, food, utilities and personal care expenses.

A notice of the public hearing was posted and detailed materials were available for review at town hall.

Selectman Donovan asked for public comments. None were received.

Some questions from the board followed.

- It was Moved (Burke), Seconded (Donovan) and Voted to approve the 2023-2024 general assistance maximums as developed by the Maine Municipal Association. (Motion passed 2-0.)

The board discussed the pending grant application for a SHIP grant for the wave screen on Mariner's Wharf.

- It was Moved (Burke), Seconded (Donovan) and Voted to authorize the Town Administrator to submit and execute a grant application and agreement with the Maine Department of Transportation's Small Harbor Improvement Program (SHIP) grant. (Motion passed 2-0).

Board/Committee/Project Updates:

Joe Donovan noted that the Casco Bay Lines Fall/Shoulder schedule is in effect. A proposed ticket price increase is before the Public Utility Commission.

Public Comments:

Beth Marchak noted that there is an MMA-sponsored elected officials webinar on November the 28th. She also noted that an insert included in the recent tax bills yielded an additional 30+ enrollments in the town ListServ.

Beth and Rennie Donovan noted that two board meetings a month might provide for better scheduling consistency, i.e., the first and the third Thursday of every month.

The regular public meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM. The next meeting of the board is Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Brian L. Dudley, Town Administrator