Minutes of Meeting
November 20, 2024
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 and Marie Harmon, and Brian Dudley, Town Administrator; Amy Tierney, Town Clerk. In addition there were ten Zoom viewers.

Selectmen previously reviewed the weekly Town Warrants.

Old Business

The Selectmen reviewed the minutes of the last meeting.

- It was Moved (Harmon), Seconded (Burke) and Voted to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of November 06, 2024 (Motion passed 3-0).

Communications

Selectmen reviewed communications since the last meeting. There were communications from/on: Proposed fencing on Stepping Stones Lane.; The upcoming audit presentation.; Johnsons Boatyard working waterfront grant.; A monitor for the Community Center.; Town Hall security cameras and fire alarms.; A waterfront preparedness event at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute,; An update on the deer reduction season noting that 47 deer have now been taken.; and, A wildfire planning grant meeting on Chebeague Island.

The board revisited an earlier request seeking a property tax abatement for Lot #279. The Assessor's Agent has reviewed and approved. The impact is a $247 property tax reduction.

- It was Moved (Burke), Seconded (Harmon) and Voted to approve the property tax abatement for Lot #279. (Motion passed 3-0.)

Town Administrator Updates

1) Housing: The YRHC met on November the 12th. The YRHC continues to investigate different options for workforce housing. Brian and Mark Green are meeting with Maine Housing on November the 21st.
2) Waterfront: The Ponces Landing construction contract has been executed and The Bancroft Contracting Corporation will start the repair work on December the 12th. Brian notified the Bakehouse.

   Brian closed on the loan with Gorham Savings Bank for the repairs on November the 12th.

3) Brian and Janice Avignon have a follow up meeting with GPCOG on the Resilience Fellow on December the 17th. A request for a letter of support for a GPCOG/Island Institute grant application for a Casco Bay vulnerability assessment has been received. Brian can forward one to accompany the application.
4) On November the 13th there was a "Meet & Greet" here at Town Hall from 4 PM until 5 PM with Tonya Arnold, the new School Superintendent.
5) The state grant for repairs at Johnson's Boatyard has been received. Brian executed the required documents on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. The Town must act as the intermediary for the receipt of the funds awarded. Brian forwarded the submitted invoices to MDOT. The state is requiring additional information prior to issuing any reimbursement.
6) The sailing vessel that sank at anchor off Cow Island has been removed by Determination Marine at the owner's expense.
7) Jim Nagle has spoken with the potential candidate for the Code Enforcement Officer position. Brian and Amy will have a second interview with the candidate.
8) The new large screen monitor for the Community Center was damaged when it was delivered. A new one is being ordered. The portable stand is here.

9) The winter parking public notice was sent out and was effective on November the 18th.
10) Brian submitted the letter of support for the Island Institute Resilience Partnership Grant.
11) There is a pending tax lien foreclosure on December the 2nd, State law lays out the process, timetables and redemption options available. The previous owners have 18 months after the date of foreclosure to pay the tax, interest and underlying costs.
12) Lifeflight of Maine has sent out their annual request for support. The budget has $250 in it for this.
13) Maine DMR processing aquaculture lease renewal for Wild Ocean Aquaculture.
14) Tonya has reached out with some budget questions for FY26. Brian and Lisa have responded.
15) FEMA has approved the VFW stair reimbursement claim of $5,200.

Code Enforcement Office Updates

A building permit application has been filed for the installation of a fence on Island Avenue. An SSWD application has been filed. An Atlantic Avenue building permit was issued.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Updates

No Updates.

Wellness Center Updates

The visiting nurse was on the island today. The Monday soup lunch had 60 attendees. The guest speaker discussed Medicare issues. The annual on-line auction starts next week.

Board/Committee/Project Updates

Sue Sesto presented a recommendation from the ad-hoc group looking at alternative sites for a new pickleball court. She highlighted the survey results and noted that the group is recommending a new court be built behind the Marine Building on Wharf Street.

The Selectboard has called for a public hearing on Wednesday, December the 4th to seek additional input.

Mark Greene updated the work of the Year Round Housing Corporation (YRHC). There have been multiple meetings reviewing other potential sites and costs.

Joe Donovan updated activities at Casco Bay Lines (CBL). There is a full board meeting November the 21st. Vehicle rates and a reservation system are still being reviewed. The new charging station for the Battery Steele vessel for Peaks Island has been installed at Gate #5.

Meetings/Hearings

There was a public safety meeting. Will Tierney, Fore Chief, noted that Engine 4 is out of service for repairs. Long term it will need to be replaced.

There will be two eight hour training sessions on December the 7th and the 8th for AVOC and EVOC personnel.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

The meeting adjourned at 6:14 PM. The next regular meeting of the Selectboard is Wednesday, December 04, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted
Brian L. Dudley, Town Administrator