Minutes of Meeting
December 04, 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. Members of the public attending included Lou and Sue Sesto. In addition there were twenty-one (21) 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 20, 2024 (Motion passed 3-0).

Communications

Selectmen reviewed communications since the last meeting. There were communications from/on: Lot access issues.; A wildfire management plan.; Shellfish management.; The Family Medical Leave Act.; Trash ordinance.; and, Harbormaster on-line training.

Town Administrator Updates

1) Housing: Mark Greene and Brian met with Maine Housing on November the 21st to discuss the filed grant application. All projects must be ready to move forward by January the 31st.

The YRHC met again on December the 3rd. The YRHC continues to investigate different options for workforce housing.

2) Waterfront: The Ponces Landing repairs will start the week of December the 9th. A public notice regarding the removal of private gear has been posted/distributed.

   The contractor has asked for clarification on some of the bid specifications.

3) Brian and Janice Avignon have a follow up meeting with GPCOG on the Resilience Fellow on December the 17th.
4) Brian forwarded a letter of support for the Island Institute grant application for a Casco Bay vulnerability assessment.
5) Brian worked with the state accountant on the Johnson's Boatyard working waterfront grant. It appears that all of the required information has now been filed and a payment from the grant should be coming soon.
6) Brian and Amy have a second interview this week with a prospective Code Enforcement Officer to replace Jim Nagle following his retirement.
7) Brian responded to a family member inquiry regarding the pending tax lien foreclosure on December the 2nd. The party was informed that they have an eighteen (18) month redemption period to end the state-mandated foreclosure process. In the interim another family member has paid the tax lien amount. Another tax lien filing process on the same property has started.
8) Brian has signed off on the VFW stair replacement in the FEMA grants portal.
9) The Maine Department of Health & Human Services StrengthenME grant program distributes $3,500 to municipalities filing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) stating that the grant funds will be used for physical, mental and/or social needs within a community. The agenda contains an approval listing for the filing.
10) The Governor has opened a second round of grant funds totaling $2,000,000 for business recovery and resilience. The town might be eligible for a grant to be used for Ponces Landing.
11) Brian and Amy have met with town counsel to discuss an on-going land access issue off Fern Avenue. The issue may be nearing a resolution.

12) Brian is meeting this week with Samantha Hart, the Executive Director of the Governor's new Maine Office of Community Affairs in her Augusta office. Discussion topics will include storm damages, waterfront infrastructure needs and workforce housing.
13) John Lortie is on the agenda tonight to discuss a fire management plan.
14) The town has received its LRAP annual funds in the amount of $11,156.
15) Brian sent an email encouraging the School and the Library to work together on facility improvements to be presented to the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee
16) Brian is meeting with Senator Pierce on Monday, December the 9th.

- It was Moved (Burke), Seconded (Harmon) and Voted to approve the Town Administrator completing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Maine Department of Health & Human Services StrengthenME grant program. (Motion passed 3-0.)

Code Enforcement Office Updates

The CEO is out this week but will be in the following week to approve several expected building permit applications.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Updates

Dog registrations are due soon.

Wellness Center Updates

The visiting nurse was on the island today. The annual on-line auction ends Friday, December the 6th. A total of $11,000 has been raised so far this week. Amy Tierney, the Wellness Center Coordinator, has sent the Wellness Center budget changes to Brian.

- It was Moved (Burke), Seconded (Harmon) and Voted to re-appoint Amy Tierney as the Registrar of Voters. (Motion passed 3-0.)

John Lortie updated the status of a planned grant application for a wildfire management grant between Chebeague and Long Islands. Brian will file the letter of support.

Board/Committee/Project Updates

Mark Greene updated the work of the Year Round Housing Corporation (YRHC).

Joe Donovan updated activities at Casco Bay Lines (CBL). The new Peaks Island boat is expected in the spring of 2025. There is continued discussion with the Metro on the location of the terminal bus stop. The down the bay boat group meets again next week.

Meetings/Hearings

There was a public hearing on the recommendation of the pickleball working group. Lou Sesto ran through a summary of the survey results and some drawings of a pickleball court behind the Marine Building. There was a discussion on the impact on the properties directly above the proposed location as well as the McAleneys property.

Marie Harmon noted that she is not in favor of this Wharf Street location. There was a question as to whether or not this location decision would require a town meeting vote. Brian will speak with town counsel to determine if that is necessary.

- It was Moved (Burke), Seconded (Donovan) and Voted to approve the proposed Wharf Street location directly behind the Marine Building for a pickleball court subject to input from town counsel. (Motion passed 2-1 (Harmon),)

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

The regular portion of the meeting adjourned at 6:12 PM. The next regular meeting of the Selectboard is Wednesday, December 18, 2024.

- It was Moved (Burke), Seconded (Harmon) and Voted to enter into an executive session at 6:13 PM pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 1, Chapter 13, Sub-Chapter 1, Section 4 (6)(c). (Motion passed 3-0.)

- It was Moved (Burke), Seconded (Harmon) and Voted to end the executive session at 6:41 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Brian L. Dudley, Town Administrator