

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
January 24, 2022

Chair Ahrens called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the "Ferry District") to order on January 24, 2022, at 4:00 PM at the Island Community Center and via zoom.

Commissioners Ace Ahrens, Heather Burnham, Tom Cashel, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, Jon Haney, Carol Murphy and Deanna Ross. There were no members of the public present.

Chair Ahrens established that a quorum was present. Everyone in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

**Correspondence/Public Comment** - Commissioner Reid informed management and the BOC that he and Commissioner Cashel received a call from Lili Siegelson inquiring whether there is any viable land available for a squash court. Discussion ensued regarding current tenant spaces, as well as potential new spaces. The BOC welcomes any formal proposal.

### **Minutes**

#### RESOLUTION 2022 – 009

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the following minutes:

- a. September 13, 2021
- b. September 27, 2021
- c. December 20, 2021
- d. January 10, 2022

of the Board of Commissioner meetings.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo

Nays: None

**Finance** - Carol Murphy reviewed year over year and year versus budget financial statements with the BOC. Total cash (rollover to 2022) is \$1,775,000 which includes restricted bond funds. Overall, 2021 revenue surpassed the budget by 12%. Highlights include an increase in rental property of \$21,000. This is attributed to new tenants for 2021. Docks and Terminal expenses were significantly higher due to Port Infrastructure Grant scope work by MJ Bradley, the Port Security project and new UPS trackpad/software update. Marine Engineering was up by \$30,000 due to the Munnatawket noise analysis by JMS Naval Architects.

### **Budget Modification**

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RESOLUTION 2022 – 010

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby amends the **2021** Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

**Decrease Appropriations**

|                   |                                  |              |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| 5SM5710.4.000.350 | Silver Eel Expense: Fuel         | \$ 21,568.32 |
| 5SM5710.4.000.910 | Silver Eel Expense: CC Card/Fees | \$ 763.67    |
| 5SM1420.4.000.000 | Legal Fees                       | \$ 6,897.25  |
| 5SM5710.4.000.300 | Vessel Fuel Oil                  | \$ 15,000.00 |
| 5SM5710.2.000.100 | Ferry Repairs: Munnatawket       | \$ 6,134.76  |
| 5SM5710.4.000.800 | Uniforms                         | \$ 1,648.84  |
| 5SM5710.1.000.300 | Vacation Earnings                | \$ 873.28    |
| 5SM5711.4.000.000 | Office Expense                   | \$ 2,000.00  |
| 5SM5712.4.000.000 | Commissioner Fees                | \$ 150.00    |
|                   |                                  | <hr/>        |
|                   |                                  | \$ 55,036.12 |

**Increase Appropriations**

|                   |                           |              |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 5SM1310.4.000.000 | Accounting/Finance        | \$ 957.12    |
| 5SM5610.2.000.000 | Airport Capital           | \$ 25,000.00 |
| 5SM5710.2.000.200 | Ferry Repairs: Race Point | \$ 7,500.00  |
| 5SM5710.4.000.100 | Utilities-NL              | \$ 500.00    |
| 5SM5710.4.000.200 | Utilities-FI              | \$ 500.00    |
| 5SM5710.4.000.500 | Computer/IT Support       | \$ 10,000.00 |
| 5SM5710.4.000.600 | Janitorial Supplies       | \$ 1,000.00  |

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|                   |                       |              |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 5SM5710.4.000.625 | Terminal Supplies     | \$ 8,000.00  |
| 5SM5710.4.000.700 | UPS (FI)              | \$ 300.00    |
| 5SM1910.4.000.300 | Workers Comp          | \$ 279.00    |
| 5SM5710.4.000.900 | Bank/Credit Card Fees | \$ 1,000.00  |
|                   |                       | <hr/>        |
|                   |                       | \$ 55,036.12 |

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham  
Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**Warrant**

RESOLUTION 2022 - 011

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated January 24, 2022, in the amount of \$53,922.76.

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham  
Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**Management Reports**

**Traffic** - Mr. Haney reviewed December 2021 traffic and Year to Year traffic. December Passengers, Vehicles and Commercial traffic were up 40%, 7% and 44% respectively from December 2020. On time percentage was 98%. Two trips were cancelled due to weather. Year to year 2021 Passengers, Vehicles and Commercial traffic were up 25%, 16% and 10% respectively from 2020. Overall, 2021 was consistent considering COVID.

**Marine Update** - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. Munnatawket remains at Thames Shipyard. Mr. Haney reported that he still wants to stick to an eight week turnaround time; however the issues with the rot repair in the passenger cabin may extend that time. The crew will be able to paint once the yard moves to another item. Discussion ensued regarding the extent of the rot. Mr. Haney reported that this was a problem known in the past. In addition, the placement of the life jacket boxes are close to the cabin and hold moisture. Discussion ensued regarding new storage boxes with seating on top. Cummins visited

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Race Point on Friday, January 21, 2022. There was an issue with the bow thruster which was a known problem similar to a recall; however the Ferry District was not notified until the problem occurred. Repairs were done between trips. There was an issue with heat in the passenger cabin and as a result, the

thermostat and relay were replaced. On further inspection, when the rewiring took place at Thames last year, the thermostat for the bridge was controlling the circulator pump for the passenger cabin and vice versa which was corrected. Mr. Haney reported that he is still aggressively trying to find used power heads for Silver Eel on different social platforms.

**Ferry Park** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Hydro-seed was placed by Race Rock. The Fishers Island Conservancy has agreed to pay for all the plantings on the berm. There remains a pile of sand that will be given to interested parties in exchange for stone and grading services.

**Legal/Award**

RESOLUTION 2022 - 012

Whereas the Fishers Island Ferry District desires to upgrade the electrical service at the Fishers Island Community Theater; and

Whereas a Request for Proposals was issued and advertised in a widely circulated publication; and

Whereas two proposals were received, evaluated, ranked and conform to the published specifications: and

Whereas the proposal from TPI is the low-cost bidder; and

Therefore, it is Resolved that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accepts the bid in the amount of \$ 10,572 from TPI and to authorize management to review and authorize change orders and shipping expenses up to 5%; and

It is further Resolved to authorize management to execute contract and ancillary documents for this project after review by District Counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo

Nays: None

**Public Comment** - Ms. Karla Heath joined the BOC meeting with questions and concerns regarding the new ticketing system and how to make a reservation on the new system. The new ticketing system went into effect on Friday, January 21,2022 and there have been some glitches that have been identified. Discussion ensued. Management will correct the issues that have been identified.

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**357 Whistler Ave – Short-term lease**

RESOLUTION 2022 – 013

WHEREAS, the Fishers Island Ferry District wishes to lease 357 Whistler Avenue for the period June 1, 2022, through September 15, 2022, to the Hay Harbor Club, Inc. and  
WHEREAS, the BOC has determined that the proposal is fair and reasonable and beneficial to the residents of the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Ferry District authorizes management to execute a Lease Agreement with Hay Harbor Club, Inc. for a fully furnished house with a term of June 1, 2022, through September 15, 2022, without a renewal option for the amount of \$22,500 for the term, subject to the approval of District Counsel and the Town Attorney.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo

Nays: None

**Resident ID Status** - Mr. Murphy reported that 55-60% of the new 2022 resident IDs have been picked up.

**HR/Longevity**

RESOLUTION 2022 – 014

WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook grants a 1% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for ten years: and,

It is RESOLVED to note that with effect February 1, 2022, employee 61433's salary be increased by 1% to \$108,040.00.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

Ayes: A. Ahrens, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo

Nays: None

Abstain: H. Burnham

RESOLUTION 2022 – 015

WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook grants a 3% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for five years: and,

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It is RESOLVED to note that with effect February 1, 2022, employee 25986's salary be increased by 3% to \$144,826.00.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2022 – 016

WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook and the CSEA Collective Bargaining Agreement grants a 1% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for ten years: and,

It is RESOLVED to note that with effect February 13, 2022, employee 39096's wage rate be increased by 1% to \$25.85.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo  
Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**Legal/CAM**

RESOLUTION 2022 - 017

It is RESOLVED to rescind resolution 2021 – 182; and

WHEREAS Carol Murphy is eligible to receive Medicare health coverage; and

WHEREAS Ms. Murphy has offered to discontinue coverage under the District's medical plan if the District will pay the full cost of her Medicare Supplement insurances as well as paying the portion of her Medicare Part B premium that exceeds the amount she currently contributes as her share of the premium for District-supplied insurance; and

WHEREAS the District wishes to realize the savings that will result from discontinuing said coverage under the District's medical plan, it is therefore

RESOLVED that, beginning January 1, 2022, the District will monthly reimburse Ms. Murphy her monthly costs for insurance supplementals to Medicare \$272.40 per month for the portion of her Medicare supplemental premiums.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

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*RESOLUTION 2021 - 182*

*It is RESOLVED to rescind resolution 2021 – 175; and*

*WHEREAS Carol Murphy is eligible to receive Medicare health coverage; and*

*WHEREAS Ms. Murphy has offered to discontinue coverage under the District's medical plan if the District will pay the full cost of her Medicare Supplement insurances as well as paying the portion of her Medicare Part B premium that exceeds the amount she currently contributes as her share of the premium for District-supplied insurance; and*

*WHEREAS the District wishes to realize the savings that will result from discontinuing said coverage under the District's medical plan, it is therefore*

*RESOLVED that, beginning January 1, 2022, the District will monthly reimburse Ms. Murphy her monthly costs for insurance supplementals to Medicare \$269.10 per month for the portion of her Medicare supplemental premiums.*

*Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens*

*Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel*

*Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo*

*Nays: None*

**Executive Session**

At 17:43 it was RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo

Nays: None

At 18:16, it was RESOLVED, that the Commission exit from Executive Session and resume Public Session.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner T. Cashel

Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, and J. Reid

Nays: None

**Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 7, 2022, at 4:00 PM at the Island Community Center and via Zoom.**

**Adjournment**

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There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner D. Shillo, seconded by Commissioner J. Reid, the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm.