

Fishers Island Ferry District

*Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
December 7, 2015*

Present were Commissioners Ahrens, Shillo, Rugg, Parker and Bloethe. Also present was Ms. Hansen, RJ Burns, G. Murphy, P. Ford, L. Evans, T. Patterson and Jesse Marshall.

The commissioners appointed Commissioner Rugg as the meeting chairman and a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District was called to order on December 7, 2015 at 4:30 PM by Commissioner Rugg at the Fishers Island Community Center. Commissioner Ahrens led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from the Lighthouse Works regarding leasing at the Annex was noted and Commissioner Ahrens and Mr. Murphy were asked to review it and report back at eh next meeting.

REVIEW OF MEETINGS & MINUTES:

Upon review of the November 9, 2015 meeting minutes it was agreed to approve them.

Moved by: Commissioner Parker

Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Minutes of November 13th were tabled until the next scheduled meeting.

Upon review of the December 4, 2015 meeting minutes it was agreed to approve them.

Moved by: Commissioner Parker

Seconded by: Commissioner Bloethe

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Warrant:

A single warrant vouchers was presented for review and approval. After a brief discussion and there being no further discussion, a resolution was made to pay the outstanding obligation totaling \$73,306.47.

Moved by: Commissioner Parker

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

Ayes: All

Nays: None

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At 5:00 PM a public hearing was opened to discuss the January 1, 2016 non-commercial vehicle rate increase of \$5.00 per vehicle and the commercial reservations cancellation and refund policy.

Moved by: Commissioner Parker
Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens
Ayes: All
Nays: None

After a brief discussion with the public on the proposals the public hearing was adjourned at 5:13 PM.

Moved by: Commissioner Parker
Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens
Ayes: All
Nays: None

Mr. Murphy gave a brief overview on the need to rescind the Hayes plowing contract resolution. The contract would be brought before the board again with the necessary changes.

At the November 13th BOC meeting the below resolution was approved.

Whereas the Ferry District's New London terminal requires annual snow clearing and removal services. Management has solicited more than three quotes from vendors and has selected Hayes Services, LLC based on low pricing, reputation and best value.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ferry District accepts the Hayes Services, LLC quote for the winter season of 2015/2016 in the amount of \$5,800.00 and instructs management to execute the contract.

*Moved by: Commissioner Parker
Seconded by: Commissioner Rugg
Ayes: All
Nays: None*

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ferry District rescinds the Resolution of the FIFD dated 11/13/15 relating to a snow removal contract with Hayes Services, LLC for the winter season of 2015/2016 in the amount of \$5,800.00 in its entirety as the terms of the proposed contract were inconsistent with the original proposal.

Moved by: Commissioner Rugg
Seconded by: Commissioner Parker
Ayes: All
Nays: None

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Mr. Murphy also discussed the need to revise the CSF charter the Race Point propeller repair resolutions.

Whereas the Board of Commissioners at its December 7th meeting wishes to rescind its November 13 resolution due to various inconsistent matters.

“At the November 13, 2015 meeting of the Fishers Island Ferry District Board of Commissioners, the following resolutions were brought by the Board.

WHEREAS, on November 10th, 2015 the starboard engine of the M/V Race Point had to be shut down due to an exhaust valve failure where it was determined that pieces of the exhaust valve dropped into the combustion chamber and damaged cylinder head, piston and liner and then migrated to a cylinder in the other bank damaging its cylinder head, piston and liner with remaining pieces then exited engine through the turbo charger damaging it; and,

WHEREAS, the M/V Race Point was scheduled to make cargo and fuel oil deliveries to Fishers Island the following day, November 11, 2015; and.

WHEREAS, the District’s other vessel, the M/V Munnatawket, is not capable of handling the aforementioned cargo and fuel deliveries; and,

WHEREAS, in order to prevent an emergency shortage of fuel, District management contacted Cross Sound Ferries for a short term charter of a vessel to ensure timely delivery of needed fuel and other cargo to Fishers Island.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ferry District approves of the deviation from the procurement policy given that the M/V Race Point was put out of commission unexpectedly only a day before the scheduled delivery of necessary cargo and fuel; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Ferry District hereby accepts the charter rate quote from Cross Sound Ferries in the amount of \$4,000 and directs that management sign the necessary contracts and payments be made when invoiced.

Moved by: Commissioner Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens

Ayes: All

Nays: None”

It is therefore resolved to rescind the November 13, 2015 resolutions relating to the M/V Race Point operating failure and the Cross Sound Ferries charter.

Moved by: Commissioner Parker

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

Ayes: All

Nays: None

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At the December 7th, 2015 meeting of the Fishers Island Ferry District Board of Commissioners, the following resolutions were brought by the Board.

WHEREAS, on November 10th, 2015 the starboard engine of the M/V Race Point had to be shut down due to an exhaust valve failure where it was determined that pieces of the exhaust valve dropped into the combustion chamber and damaged cylinder head, piston and liner and then migrated to a cylinder in the other bank damaging its cylinder head, piston and liner with remaining pieces then exited engine through the turbo charger damaging it; and,

WHEREAS, the M/V Race Point was scheduled to make cargo and fuel oil deliveries to Fishers Island the following day, November 11, 2015; and.

WHEREAS, the District's other vessel, the M/V Munnatawket, is not capable of handling the aforementioned cargo and fuel deliveries; and,

WHEREAS, in order to prevent an emergency shortage of fuel, District management contacted Cross Sound Ferries for a short term charter of a vessel to ensure timely delivery of needed fuel and other cargo to Fishers Island.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ferry District approves of the deviation from the procurement policy given that the M/V Race Point was put out of commission unexpectedly only a day before the scheduled delivery of necessary cargo and fuel; and it is further

WHEREAS, the cost for a short term charter of a vessel from Cross Sound was \$4,000, and Cross Sound Ferries required that payment for the short term charter be made by Ferry District credit card.

WHEREAS, to prevent an emergency shortage of fuel, District management arranged a short term charter of a vessel from Cross Sound for \$4,000, and paid the cost by Ferry District credit card.

IT is further RESOLVED, that the Ferry District hereby accepts the charter rate quote from Cross Sound Ferries in the amount of \$4,000 and ratifies that management had executed a day charter contract with Cross Sound Ferries and further ratifies that District management made the necessary payment of \$4,000 by Ferry District credit card on November 12, 2015 as required by Cross Sound Ferries.

Moved by: Commissioner Parker
Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens
Ayes: All

WHEREAS, on December 5, 2015 Northeast Diving Services tried every method possible to remove the damaged propeller; applying over 50 tons of hydraulic force, wedges, etc. and they were unsuccessful;

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They chose not to take the next step of applying 100 tons of hydraulic force as damage to the shaft was likely; and,

Whereas, the dry-dock at Thames Shipyard is full into January, 2016; and,

Whereas Fairhaven Shipyard and Newport Shipyard were contacted on Monday, December 7th to determine availability for a quick haul and turn-around; and,

Whereas Newport Shipyard quoted \$10,830.00.

Therefore, it is resolved to accept the quote from Fairhaven Shipyard in the amount of \$6,005.00 as the most favorable quote to haul out the Race Point and replace the damaged propeller with all possible haste.

Moved by: Commissioner Parker

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Mr. Burns discussed the MU yard package and a general discussion ensued.

At the December 7th, 2015 meeting of the Fishers Island Ferry District ("District") Board of Commissioners, the following resolution(s) were brought by the Board.

WHEREAS, the MV Munnatawket must be hauled for biennial US Coast Guard inspection and certain painting and maintenance; and

WHEREAS proper public notices of the RFP were placed in The Day newspaper and posted on other media noting the specifics and contact details for the RFP for Munnatawket's 2016 yard period; and,

WHEREAS, on December 1st the five sealed bids from bidders located in Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts were opened in the New London terminal at a properly called meeting of the District Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Marine Operations Manager and the Marine Operations Supervisor (Marine Operations) reviewed the bids received, noting that one originally interested bidder from New York State declined to bid, one bid from a Rhode Island bidder was incomplete; and,

WHEREAS, Marine Operations has compared the bids in order to assess the value to the District and advised the Board of Commissioners of the terms of the valid bids and their recommendation to accept the bid from Fairhaven Shipyard Co. Inc. ("Fairhaven") in Massachusetts, based on it being deemed the most favorable bid to the District.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the District approves the bid from Fairhaven in the amount of \$115,470 with additional amounts on a time and materials basis not to exceed \$50,000;

And it is further RESOLVED, that Management is directed to execute the yard period contract and any other ancillary documents and to pay all amounts when properly invoiced and approved by Management.

Moved by: Commissioner Parker
Seconded by: Commissioner Bloethe
Ayes: All
Nays: None

Mr. Murphy gave a brief summary on the status of the airport relighting project and the south ramp repair. Both are stalled for procedural issues. It was noted that Alex Williams had made a proposal to manage certain aspects of the airport. Commissioner Ahrens and Mr. Murphy would discuss the proposal with Mr. Williams and report back to the board.

A discussion ensued on the revised commercial reservations refund and reservations policy and the non-commercial vehicle fare increase.

At the December 7th, 2015 meeting of the Fishers Island Ferry District Board of Commissioners, the following resolutions were brought by the Board.

Whereas the non-commercial vehicle rates have not been adjusted since 2011 and an increase in revenues is necessary to cover expected 2016 budget shortfalls, and

Whereas Management has reviewed the market rates for comparable transportation services, and

Whereas, a public hearing was properly noticed and was held on December 7, 2015 at 5:00 pm; and,

Therefore, it is RESOLVED that the non-commercial vehicle rates be increased by \$5.00 for off-peak season and \$5.00 for peak season with effect January 1, 2016.

MOVED by Commissioner Parker
SECONDED by Commissioner Rugg
Ayes: All
Nays: None

Whereas commercial reservations for regularly scheduled trips are made in advance to facilitate operational scheduling and safe loading of our boats; and

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Whereas changes and cancellations of commercial reservations within five days of a scheduled trip are operationally disruptive and costly; and

Whereas commercial reservations are currently refunded 50% the day before travel and 0% on the day of travel; and,

Whereas, a public hearing was properly noticed and was held on December 7, 2015 at 5:00 pm; and,

Whereas it is management's recommendation that for regularly scheduled trips, effective January 1, 2016, commercial reservation payment be collected on the day the reservation is made, and that if a reservation is cancelled two days or less before the date of the reservation no payment will be refunded, and if a reservation is cancelled between five and two days before the date of the reservation, 50% of the payment will be refunded, and that if a reservation is changed between five and two days before the date of the reservation a 10% transfer fee will be charged; and

Whereas commercial reservations include both the vehicle tariff and one adult passenger;

Therefore it is RESOLVED that effective January 1, 2016 payment for commercial reservations for regularly scheduled trips will be collected on the day the travel is reserved; and,

It is further RESOLVED that the revised refund and transfer policy is as follows:

Reservations cancelled two days or less before the date of the reservation, or reservations not cancelled and not used, will not be refunded; reservations cancelled between five and two days before the date of the reservation will be refunded at 50%. A 10% transfer fee will be charged for reservations changed more than two days before the date of the reservation. A 10% cancellation fee will be charged for reservations cancelled five days or more before the date of the reservation.

MOVED by Commissioner Parker

SECONDED by Commissioner Rugg

Ayes: Four

Nays: One

Ms. Hansen and Mr. Murphy gave a brief summary on the NYSHIP health insurance plan. One that is NYS run and does not require annual bidding. In addition the Town also just changed to it. Mr. Marshall spoke on its behalf and advised the Board that the union was willing to work with the ferry District on this plan. Mr. Murphy said that he would present this plan and alternatives in January 2016.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Entering Executive Session:

At 6:15 PM the following resolution was proposed:

The Board of Commissioners, RESOLVED, that the meeting be adjourned into Executive Session for the

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purpose of legal discussions regarding the employment of certain employees and certain legal matters:

Proposed by Commissioner Parker
Seconded by Commissioner Ahrens
AYES: All
NAYS: None

Exiting Executive Session:

At 6:45 PM the following resolutions were proposed:

RESOLVED, that the Commission exit from Executive Session and resume Public Session.

Proposed by Commissioner Rugg
Seconded by Commissioner Parker
AYES: All
NAYS: None

Whereas Mr. Wendland has completed his probationary period as a full time deckhand he is due the \$1.00 hourly rate increase.

Therefore it is resolved that with effect October 16, 2015, William Wendland's pay rate be increased from \$14.64 to \$15.64 per hour.

MOVED by Commissioner Rugg
SECONDED by Commissioner Parker
Ayes: All
Nays: None

It is resolved that with effect December 16, 2015, Mr. Rhamir Mason is hired as a part-time Deckhand (FIFD) at an hourly rate of \$10.77.

MOVED by Commissioner Rugg
SECONDED by Commissioner Parker
Ayes: All
Nays: None

It is resolved that with effect December 1, 2015, Colin Orlinski, Deckhand (FIFD) has voluntarily resigned from the Ferry District.

MOVED by Commissioner Rugg
SECONDED by Commissioner Parker
Ayes: All

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Nays: None

Whereas the CSEA 2015 contract allows for the buy-back of up to five vacation days per year from CSEA members, provided the member has sufficient vacation time to bring forward into the next year eight vacation days.

Whereas Mr. Jonathan Haney was a member of the CSEA in 2015 until his appointment as Marine Operations Supervisor.

Therefore it is resolved that the board approves the vacation buyback from Messrs. Eagan (five days), Espinosa (five days) and Lavin (four days).

Therefore it is further resolved that the board approves the payout for five days of working vacation days for Mr. Haney.

MOVED by Commissioner Rugg

SECONDED by Commissioner Parker

Ayes: All

Nays: None

The next scheduled meetings of the Fishers Island Ferry District Board of Commissioners will be held January 11th at 4:30 to be preceded with a working session at 3:30 at the Fishers Island Community Center.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner Rugg, seconded by Commissioner Parker, and unanimously adopted, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 PM.