

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
February 18, 2020

Chairman Ahrens, at the Fishers Island Community Center, called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (“the Ferry District”) to order on February 18, 2020 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners Heather Burnham, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy and Deanna Ross. RJ Burns was present via phone. Members of the public included Chris Dollar and Bob Evans. Commissioner Bloethe was absent.

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

Correspondence/Public Comment – Mr. Cook reported that two pieces of correspondence were received. A letter was received from Mrs. M. Perringer thanking Mr. Cook for the Freedom of Information request and also questioning how Mr. Murphy tracks one’s presence and feels there are inconsistencies with the list. An email was received from Mr. Bob Evans regarding Ferry Policy with respect to the Parade Grounds. Mr. Evans has requested a response. The BOC acknowledge receipt of the letter and would like time to review and discuss prior to any response or comment.

Minutes

RESOLUTION 2020 - 025

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby proves the minutes of the January 6, 2020 meeting.

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

RESOLUTION 2020 - 026

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby proves the minutes of the January 21, 2020 meeting.

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

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2020 - 027

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated February 18, 2020, in the amount of \$260,682.46.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

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

Nays: None

Management Reports

Marine Update - Mr. Burns updated the BOC. A vibration analysis was performed on Munnatawket after silencers were installed. All alignments and machinery installed were confirmed to have been done correctly at the shipyard; however, the harmonics with a six-cylinder engine and a three bladed propeller set up a vibration issue in the lazarette, which will need to be corrected. Mr. Burns has requested estimates and it is expected that the ferry will be required to go to the shipyard to fix this issue. Estimates are well below \$10,000 and it will take less than a day to correct. The crew continues to perform much needed cosmetic and repair work on the ferry. Mr. Burns and Mr. Haney have been in contact with the grant manager, as well as the architect regarding the re-power of Race Point. Mr. Burns plans to combine some shipyard projects with the re-power and has sent a scope of work list to the architect. Mr. Burns is confident that there will be no vibration issue with the Race Point re-power due to the installation of new propellers with the re-power.

Traffic Update - Mr. Cook reviewed January 2020 traffic. Passenger, Vehicles and Commercial traffic was up 21%, 10% and 31% respectively.

Financials - Mr. Cook and the BOC reviewed January 2020 financials. From 2019, Freight and car/traffic were both up 8% and 42% respectively. Revenue was \$117,000 vs \$82,000 last year.

Theater RFP - Mr. Murphy will send the draft RFP to the TOS Attorney for comment. The goal is to keep the original mission of the theater. Mr. Murphy will bring the updated RFP to the BOC at the next meeting.

Grasslands Management/Conservancy

Resolution 2020 - 028

WHEREAS, the Ferry District manages the airport and parade ground lands and has previously contracted with the Fishers Island Conservancy ("FIC") to maintain trails and develop the grasslands within this area; and

WHEREAS, the Fishers Island Conservancy has again agreed to provide these services in 2020 as an independent contractor, at no cost to the FIFD or the Town of Southold, and

WHEREAS, the FIC has provided a 2020 Grasslands Management Plan to the BOC detailing the services to be provided in 2020; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the FIFD approves the Fishers Island Conservancy 2020 Grasslands Management Plan and authorizes the Fishers Island Conservancy to carry out the Plan upon the provision of a certificate of general liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1 million per occurrence and naming the Town of Southold and the FIFD as additional insureds, subject to the approval of Ferry District Counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner J. Reid

Ayes: H. Burnham, J. Reid and D. Shillo

Nays: None

Abstain: A. Ahrens

Public Hearing

At 17:00, the following resolution was proposed: RESOLVED, that the Commission move into a Public Hearing for the purpose of discussing 2020 Airport rates.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham

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

Nays: None

Mr. Cook disseminated the new proposed airport rates. Mr. Chris Dollar gathered some numbers from surrounding airports in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Long Island including landing fees of private single engine planes and the services provided at each of the surrounding airports. A handout of this information was provided to the BOC. Mr. Dollar feels the rise in rates is excessive and out of proportion compared to surrounding airports. He is cognizant that Elizabeth Field provides no services and does not receive state or local funding. Discussion ensued. The BOC is aware of the problem of capturing and collecting fees and continues to work with management to correct the issue. Mr. Murphy stated that the Ferry District is moving towards a web based pre-pay for landing fees and tie-downs to begin this summer. The Ferry District is also moving forward to repair the lighting issues and has contracted with Baseline King using FAA grant funds for an electrical vault refurbishment and equipment replacement this spring. In addition, efforts are being made to mitigate noise pollution with noise abatement procedures. The BOC and management thanked Mr. Dollar for his continued input, updates and support with regard to airport activities.

At 17:30, the following resolution was proposed:

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

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

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

Nays: None

Management Reports Continued

Airport/Rates

RESOLUTION 2020 – 029

It is RESOLVED that with effect January 1, 2020 the rates for Elizabeth Field Airport are as follows:

Approved 18 Feb 2020	
2020 Airport rates	2020
Single	\$ 20
Twin	\$ 50
Commercial (plane & helicopter)	\$ 100
Commercial twin	\$ 100
Helicopter, non-commercial	\$ 50
Tie-down (per night)	\$ 30
<i>Tie-down does NOT include landing fee</i>	
Tie-down (season)*	\$ 300
Season landing fee*	\$ 300
Exceeding 10 minute idle time**	\$ 500
* non-commercial	
** Per occurrence	

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

357 Whistler Ave – Short-term lease

RESOLUTION 2020 - 030

WHEREAS, the Fishers Island Ferry District (“FD”) wishes to lease 357 Whistler Avenue for the period June 1, 2020 through September 15, 2020 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, 2020 through September 15, 2020 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 D. Shillo
Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens
Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, J. Reid and D. Shillo
Nays: None

Parking in FD Parking Lot - Mr. Murphy reported that in the Ferry District tenant leases, tenants are prohibited from having unregistered or abandoned vehicles on the leased property. Similarly, this should apply to the public parking area. The BOC agrees and has given management the authority to enforce this rule and have owners of unregistered and/or abandoned vehicles remove them.

Free Passage - The BOC has asked Mr. Murphy to draft a letter to be sent to all the Island churches outlining the requirements and expectations for clerical free passage.

Other - Mr. Cook reported that more space will be available in Building 209 for possible rental space and the Museum has inquired about storage. No decision has been made at this time. In addition, Mr. Cook informed the BOC that Blank Rome has sent a bill for \$7,000. Discussion ensued regarding the services that have been provided by the law firm since signing the retainer and past services regarding the amendment of the Enabling Act. Further discussion continued regarding ways in which to get all of the Enabling Act passed in Albany. Mr. Cook will continue to make the necessary calls to officials in government and follow up with Blank Rome.

Further discussion ensued between the BOC and management regarding the handling of perishable freight and medicines that are dropped off in New London on observed Ferry holidays, specifically Monday holidays that are not observed by freight carriers such as UPS or FedEx. Management has agreed to look into the procedure and staffing availability to accommodate these circumstances.

Executive Session

At 18:01, the following resolution was proposed: RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

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

At 18:20, the following resolution was proposed:

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

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham
Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, J. Reid and D. Shillo
Nays: None

HR

RESOLUTION 2020 – 031

It is resolved to rescind Resolution 2020 - 011

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

RESOLUTION 2020 – 011

RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island District authorizes Geb Cook to enter into a Stipulation of Agreement with employee #24473 with effect Jan 22, 2020.

*Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens
Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, J. Reid and D. Shillo
Nays: None*

RESOLUTION 2020 – 032

It is resolved to rescind Resolution 2020 - 021

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

RESOLUTION 2020 – 021

It is resolved to rescind Resolution 2019 - 011.

*Moved by: Commissioner Shillo
Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens
Ayes: A. Ahrens, J. Reid and D. Shillo
Nays: None*

RESOLUTION 2020 – tabled

RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island District authorizes Geb Cook to enter into a Stipulation of Agreement with employee #24473 with effect February 13, 2020.

Moved by: Commissioner

Seconded by: Commissioner
Ayes:
Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2020 – 033

It is resolved to rescind Resolution 2020 - 023

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

2020-023 WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook and the CSEA Collective Bargaining Agreement grants a 3% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for five years; and,

WHEREAS Christopher Newell has met that requirement. now therefore be it

RESOLVED that Mr. Newell's wages be increased from \$28.00 to \$28.84 per hour, effective November 13, 2019.

RESOLUTION 2020 – 034

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

Whereas on January 1, 2020 Mr. Newell's were increased by 2% as part of the CSEA Collective Bargaining Agreement's annual rate increase and did not take into account his five-year longevity; and

WHEREAS Christopher Newell has met that the longevity requirement. now therefore be it

RESOLVED that Mr. Newell's Captain (FIFD) wages be increased from \$28.00 to \$28.84, effective November 13, 2019.

It is further RESOLVED to note that with effect January 1, 2020 Mr. Newell's pay rates for his Captain (FIFD) title be increased by 2% to \$29.42 and management is requested to affect these rates and retro-active payments as soon as possible.

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

HR/Merits

RESOLUTION 2020 – 035

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED to increase their wages and salaries as listed with effect February 27, 2020.

EMPLOYEE NAME		Feb 27, 2020 Rate
Lavin	Robert	\$22.51
Franco	Michael	\$30.50
Espinosa	Nicholas	\$25.43
Ford	Poly	\$24.84
Leese	John	\$13.26
Nelson	Lee	\$13.66
Bentley	Kyle	\$13.66
Allen	Jonathan	\$13.66
Kuscera	Hunter	\$13.26
Spohn	Evan	\$13.26
Ferace	David	\$13.26
Haney	Jonathan	\$76,483.68
Burns	Ronald	\$100,988.93
Murphy	Gordon	\$98,047.25
Morgan	John	\$31.39

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

Next Scheduled Meeting is Monday, March 2, 2020 at 1:00 PM at the Fishers Island Community Center.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner A. Ahrens, seconded by Commissioner H. Burnham, the meeting was adjourned at 6:26 pm.