

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
March 2, 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 March 2, 2020 at 1:00 PM.

Commissioners Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Gordon Murphy and Deanna Ross. Present via phone included Commissioner Bloethe, RJ Burns, Jon Haney and Diane Hansen. Commissioner Burnham was absent. Mr. Cook is on vacation. There were no members of the public present.

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

Correspondence/Public Comment – Mr. Murphy reported that a letter was received from Mrs. M. Perring to Mr. Cook. The BOC acknowledges receipt of the letter to Mr. Cook.

Budget Mods

RESOLUTION 2020 – 036

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby amends the **2019** Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Decrease Appropriations

SM1910.4.000.300	Workers' Compensation	\$1,500
		\$1,500

Increase Appropriations

SM.1910.4.000.100	Insurance Ferry Operation	\$1,500
		\$1,500

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

RESOLUTION 2020 – 037

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby amends the **2020** Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Decrease Budgeted Revenue		
SM.2210.00	Services, Other Governments	\$130,000
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		\$130,000
Increase Budgeted Revenue		
SM.2410.10	Rental of Real Property	\$130,000
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		\$130,000

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

Building 209 Construction

RESOLUTION 2020 – 038

Whereas it was determined that refurbishment of the office space in Building 209 should be accomplished in conjunction with other construction projects now underway; and

Whereas island contractors were asked for quotes for this work and one quote was received; and

Whereas management requested additional work items and specific materials, as the project was underway, causing the job to exceed Fishers Island Ferry District procurement policy limits;

Therefore it is RESOLVED that the Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District waive the Fishers Island Ferry District Procurement Policy limit as it applies to refurbishment of the freight office in Building 209 performed by Geordie Loveday.

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

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2020 - 039

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated March 2, 2020, in the amount of \$43,973.77.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo
 Seconded by: Commissioner Reid
 Ayes: A. Ahrens, J. Reid and D. Shillo

Nays: None

Management Reports

Marine Update - Mr. Burns updated the BOC. The USCG is using both boats to practice boarding while coming alongside the boats. This is necessary in the event of an emergency where the USCG would need to board the vessels. The M/V Race Point re-power is moving along. An electrical engineer will be visiting to evaluate the switchboard capacity on Race Point. On March 16, 17 and 18, 2020, M/V Munatawket will be at Goodison Shipyard for structural modifications. Three days were blocked in the event of weather delays; however, work should only take one day. The New London Fire Department will be visiting sometime this month. The NLFD's confined space rescue team will perform this exercise annually so that the NLFD can become familiar with the boats and crew. Orsted Wind Farm plans to modify New London State Pier in a two-year rehab project. This is where the ferry has their heavy weather mooring. As a result, Mr. Burns and Mr. Haney have been diligent in looking at other locations and piers in the area for heavy weather mooring and they are hopeful that an agreement can be reached in the near future. A brief discussion occurred regarding the recent article posted on the Fishers Island website regarding the possible closure of the USCG Station on Fishers Island. Mr. Burns will look into it and report to the BOC at the next meeting.

IT - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. The District has secured Atlantic Broadband to provide a second internet service to the New London terminal. This will allow for increased Wi-Fi at the terminal and to have everything moved to the cloud. This work should be completed by the end of March. Mr. Murphy reported that Microsoft sunsetted Windows 7 in the first week of January 2020. The District has five PCs with Windows 7. Four PCs will be replaced. Mr. Murphy also reported that updating of the ticketing software is moving ahead.

Airport - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Construction is scheduled to begin the week of March 23, 2020 for the upgrade of the lighting and electrical vault building and systems. Annual burning of surrounding lands has been on hold due to wind.

Contracts

RESOLUTION 2020 – 040

It is RESOLVED to authorize Gordon Murphy to execute a two-year service agreement with TimeClocks Plus not to exceed \$2,500 and a one-year service agreement with Intuit/QuickBooks not to exceed \$6,700.

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

Other - The BOC has agreed to postpone their response to Mr. Evan's email until Mr. Cook returns and all Commissioners are present. The BOC asked Mr. Murphy to write a letter, on behalf of the BOC, to the Fishers Island Utility Company to encourage them to repair the FI Freight manhole that collapsed three years ago.

HR/Merits

RESOLUTION 2020 – 041

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

Therefore It is RESOLVED to increase Diane Hansen’s salary 2% to \$68,276.63 with effect February 27, 2020; and

It is further RESOLVED that with effect March 1, 2020 to increase Ms. Hansen’s pay rate for five years longevity by 3% to \$70,324.54.

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

HR/Merits

RESOLUTION 2020 – 042

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED to increase the wage rate for Chriss Bridgman with effect February 27, 2020 to \$13.81 per hour; and

It is further RESOLVED to increase the pay rate of Patrick Chasse with effect December 31, 2019 to \$13.26 per hour.

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

RESOLUTION 2020 – 043

IT IS RESOLVED to increase the salary for George Cook to \$135,200 with effect February 27, 2020.

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

Min Wage

RESOLUTION 2020 – 044

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED to increase the wage rates to \$13.00 per hour for David Ferace, Hunter Kucsera, John Leese and Evan Spohn with effect December 31, 2019.

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

HR

RESOLUTION 2020 – 045

RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island District authorizes Gordon Murphy to enter into a Stipulation of Agreement and an Affidavit for Judgment by Confession with employee #24473 with effect March 2, 2020.

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

BOC Goals - Discussion ensued regarding Commissioner Shillo's list of BOC goals. The first goal included the capture of airport traffic, the collection of fees and the implementation of an online payment system. The second goal was to turn Silver Eel into a profitable service. Silver Eel 2020 proposed rates and schedule will be added to the agenda of the next BOC meeting. Jon Haney will acquire the spring/summer train schedules if available to assist in scheduling. Mr. Haney reported that some maintenance work must be done prior to launching. The third goal listed was the completion of the dredging of the Silver Eel Cove channel. Mr. Murphy reported that there is forward movement with the County regarding this project. The final goal discussed was with regard to the selling of the Theater. The BOC plans to bring all Commissioner goals to the table and further discuss at the March 30, 2020 BOC meeting.

Executive Session

At 14:01, the following resolution was proposed: RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for discussing personnel matters.

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

At 14:13, the following resolution was proposed:

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

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

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

Public Comment - Mr. Tom Shillo joined the meeting after the executive session to discuss with the BOC if the Ferry District would consider waiving the freight charge of materials for the American Legion's charitable funded deck repair project. The BOC has agreed to waive the freight charges not to exceed \$500.

Next Scheduled Meeting is Monday, March 16, 2020 at 1:45 PM at the New London Terminal.

Adjournment

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 2:21 pm.