

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
April 27, 2020

Chairman Ahrens called a teleconference meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (“the Ferry District”) to order on April 27, 2020 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners Heather Burnham, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, RJ Burns, Jon Haney, Captain Jesse Marshall and Deanna Ross. Finance Committee member included Bob Coleman. There were no members of the public present via teleconference.

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

Correspondence/Public Comment - Mr. Cook reported that he received a request from Greg Cypherd asking to extend the junk car removal for one day. Mr. Cook responded that he did not think so but would confirm with the BOC. The BOC has agreed to not extend the program. There was no public comment.

Minutes

RESOLUTION 2020 – 061

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

March 23, 2020

March 30, 2020

April 24, 2020

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

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

Nays: None

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2020 - 062

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated April 27, 2020, in the amount of \$284,149.51.

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

Airport CARES Act - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Elizabeth Field Airport has been allocated up to \$20,000 of the Airport Grant Program administered by the FAA. This could be used for operating expenses related to the airport.

Airport

CARES Act

RESOLUTION 2020 – 063

Whereas as part of the CARES Act Elizabeth Field Airport has been allocated up to \$20,000 of the Airport Grant Program administered by the FAA; and

Whereas the projects under this grant can follow a streamlined grant-agreement process once the Airport Sponsor executes and submits the grant application /agreement; and

Whereas the Town of Southold as the Airport Sponsor is required to execute and submit the Application for Federal Assistance form SF-424; and

Whereas the Fishers Island Ferry District as Airport Manager and C&S Companies as the airport consultant have reviewed the documentation and recommend that the grant be applied for; and

Therefore it is RESOLVED by the Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District recommend that the Town of Southold execute the Application for Federal Assistance form SF-424 requesting the \$20,000 in CARES Act grant funds for the Elizabeth Field Airport and return the executed document to the Ferry District.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

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

Nays: None

Airport Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program - Mr. Murphy reported that this is a federal requirement for grants. Mr. Murphy is continuing efforts to reach the TOS on how establish a DBE program with the Town. Management has agreed to table at this time until further information is available.

Race Point Re-Power - Mr. Cook reported that a letter to Mr. Scott Russell is ready to be sent requesting a public hearing. A public hearing would be required prior to the issuance of any bond money.

Capital Markets Funding Request of RP Engines

RESOLUTION 2020 – 064

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 699 of the Laws of New York, 1947 and Acts amendatory thereto (herein called the “Enabling Law”), the Board of Commissioners (herein called “Board”) of the Fishers Island Ferry District, in the Town of Southold, Suffolk County, New York (herein

called "District"), in furtherance of the public interest, wishes to submit a written request to the Town Board of the Town of Southold (herein called "Town Board" and "Town," respectively), to call a public hearing for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in the subject matter thereof, being the replacement of four (4) engines and ancillary components (collectively the "Engines") on the Ferry Race Point to meet service needs between New London, Connecticut and Fishers Island (herein referred to collectively as the "Project"). The estimated maximum cost of the Project is \$1,265,000.00, to be financed by the issuance of bonds of the Town of Southold with the expectation that the repayment of the financed amount will be offset by the award of a VW Environmental Mitigation Grant, administered by State of Connecticut, to the District;

Now therefore, be it RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE FISHERS ISLAND FERRY DISTRICT, IN THE TOWN OF SOUTHOLD, IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, NEW YORK, as follows:

1. This Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized to submit to the Town Board a written petition, subscribed by all the Commissioners of the District, requesting the Town Board to call a public hearing for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in the subject matter thereof, being the increase and improvement of the facilities of the District pursuant to Section 202-b of the Town Law, consisting of the acquisition and installation of new Engines for the Ferry Race Point and to provide financing for said increase in the estimated maximum cost \$1,265,000, as here in above referred to in the Recitals hereof; it is hereby determined that the Project at said estimated maximum cost is in the public interest.
2. A copy of this resolution, subscribed by each of the Commissioners of the District, shall be submitted to the Town Board together with the petition herein authorized.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Management Reports

Marine Update - Mr. Burns informed the Board that the M/V Race Point engines would be due for a mandatory total rebuild due to the hours on the engines and the cost of the yard package could exceed \$300,000 if they didn't go the route of the VW grant and total re-power. M/V Silver Eel was put in the water because the yard needed more room. It remains at the marina at no additional charge.

Traffic - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Management is looking at traffic closely. There has been a slight uptick. The noon boat volume remains low. Seasonal traffic may increase with the opening of the Fishers Island Club golf course and as Suffolk County moves into Phase 1 of the governor's re-opening plan. Jesse Marshal informed the BOC that the crew is developing a protocol for social distancing in the cabin by marking off no sitting areas on the benches. With social distancing, the cabin could safely hold 45-50 people. Management will continue to look at the traffic demand and will increase the boat schedules as needed.

Covid Surcharge - Mr. Cook reviewed some scenarios implementing different surcharge amounts and its effect on the bottom line. Discussion ensued. The BOC wants to remain transparent and is preparing a letter to keep residents aware of the Ferry District's current situation and the steps that are being taken and may be taken for the future financial health of the Ferry District. Mr. Murphy reported that tax subsidy is only 18.5% and all other revenue comes from ridership.

Executive Session

At 17:40, the following resolution was proposed: RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

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

At 18:06, the following resolution was proposed:

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

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

HR

RESOLUTION 2020 – 065

WHEREAS, due to financial and budgetary reasons, including a significant change in Ferry District operations resulting from reduced ridership due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Commissioners has determined that it is necessary to reduce the number of employees in the Ferry District; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this determination, certain full-time and part-time positions will have to be abolished.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following positions are abolished, effective at the close of business on April 30, 2020:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Number of Positions</u>
Part-Time Cashier	2
Part-Time Deckhand	14
Part-Time Laborer	2
Part-Time Purser	1

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, due to the abolition of these positions, the employment of the following persons will be terminated effective at the close of business on April 30, 2020:

Name

Jonathan Allen
 Kyle Bentley
 Mark Boehm
 Chriss Bridgman
 Rodney Brown
 Steven Conary
 Karina Curbelo
 David Ferace
 Finbar Foley
 Peter Gilmore
 Walter Greenman
 John "Steve" Gural
 Vince Harring
 Steven Kamm
 John Leese
 Benjamin Newell
 David Viens
 Alexander Williams

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

Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2020 at 4:30 PM via Tele/Videoconference.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner A. Ahrens, seconded by Commissioner D. Shillo, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 pm.

