

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
September 5, 2023

Chair Burnham called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the "Ferry District") to order on September 5, 2023 at 4:00 PM at the Island Community Center and via Zoom.

Commissioners Ace Ahrens, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Dave McCall and Jon Haney. Commissioner Cashel joined the meeting at 4:25pm. There were no members of the public present.

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

**Correspondence/Public Comment** - Mr. McCall reported that no correspondence was received. There was no public comment.

### **Management Reports**

**Boats Update** - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. Vessel planned maintenance will occur between now and when Munnatawket goes to the shipyard. RFPs are out for new generators on the Munnatawket. The Munnatawket ran an emergency fuel run on August 28, 2023 for more diesel fuel for the island generator. Silver Eel will run through September based on weather and ridership.

Mr. Haney reported that he thought the summer scheduled worked out very well with the timing of the boats and that the summer went very well. Mr. Haney and the BOC would like to commend the entire crew for an outstanding job this summer.

Starting September 7, 2023, the schedule will be going down to a one boat schedule. The winter schedule is out and late boats will be added if needed.

### **Warrant**

#### **RESOLUTION 2023 –137**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated September 5, 2023, in the amount of \$57,434.36.

Moved by: Commissioner Reid

Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens

Ayes: Ahrens, Burnham, Reid and Shillo by ZOOM

### **Budget Mod**

#### **RESOLUTION 2023-138**

**09.05.2023**

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District Hereby amends the

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**2023** Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

**Increase Appropriations:**

SM5710.4.000.350	Fuel: Silver Eel	\$ 10,000.00
SM5710.4.000.500	Computer/IT Support	\$ 50,000.00
SM5710.2.000.200	Repairs: Race Point	\$ 5,000.00
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 65,000.00</b>

**Decrease Appropriations:**

SM5709.2.000.200	Repairs: Docks & Terminals	\$ 65,000.00
		\$
		\$
		\$
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 65,000.00</b>

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner Reid  
Ayes: Ahrens, Burnham, Reid and Shillo by ZOOM  
Nays: None

**HR**

**RESOLUTION 2023 - 139**

BE IT RESOLVED that, effective August 29, 2023, Employee 83400 is terminated.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner Reid  
Ayes: Ahrens, Reid, Burnham and Shillo by ZOOM  
Nays: None

**HR Promotion**

**Resolution 2023-140**

Whereas the Fishers Island Ferry District needs full-time Cashier.

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Therefore it is RESOLVED with effect Sept 21, 2023 that employee 82965 be promoted from part-time Cashier (FIFD) to a full-time Cashier at a rate of \$18.00 per hour.

Moved by: Commissioner Reid  
Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Ayes: Ahrens, Burnham, Reid and Shillo by ZOOM  
Nays: None

**EMERGENCY REPAIR**

**RESOLUTION 2023 – 141**

WHEREAS, upon inspection by the Building Department the electrical service at the Annex Building, a Town owned property, was deemed in immediate need of replacement; and

WHEREAS, District Management determined that the repair was beyond the scope of District

WHEREAS the uninterrupted use of the facility by the tenant required that the repair constituted an emergency; and

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2023, Management was able to obtain the services of La Fleche Electric and Sons LLC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District ratifies and approves Management's determination that the required replacement of the Annex Building utility service was an emergency; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners waives the requirements of the procurement policy for competitive bidding to obtain the services of La Fleche and Sons Electric LLC; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Management is authorized and directed to pay the invoices of La Fleche Electric and Sons LLC, the amount not to exceed \$7,000.00.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner Reid  
Ayes: Ahrens, Reid, Burnham and Shillo by ZOOM  
Nays: None

Mr. Cook reported that he will be going back to Lighthouse Works for reimbursement for this work as it is in their lease.

**PVA Conference**

**RESOLUTION 2023 - 142**

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RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby grants permission to District Manager Geb Cook, Marine Operations Manager Jon Haney, or Island Manager David McCall to attend the PVA Conference October 16 – 18, 2023 in Charleston, South Carolina. All expenses for registration and travel, including meals, not to exceed \$3,500.00, will be a legal charge to the 2023 District budget.

Moved by: Commissioner Reid

Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens

Ayes: Ahrens, Burnham, Cashel, Reid and Shillo by ZOOM

Nays: None

**Munnatawket Engine Installation Bid Opening** - Commissioner Ahrens opened the one bid that was received from RA Mitchell in the amount of \$45,875.00. A non-collusion was not included with the bid so it will be tabled as it cannot be approved without a non-collusion.

#### **Other**

**Hay Harbor Request to Rent 357 Whistler Ave in 2024** - Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of Hay Harbor renting in 2024. Mr. McCall reported that he should hear back from the contractors that have expressed interest by September 22, 2023. The BOC has agreed to table this decision until responses are received from the various contractors and they have a better sense of the time frame and cost needed for the renovations.

**Round Island Charter Rate** - Mr. Cook asked the BOC to rethink the charter rates. Mr. Cook feels that the round island rates that are currently being charged are too little and barely cover the cost of operating the boat. Discussion ensued. The BOC will revisit the rate schedule prior to next season.

**Town Employee Ticket Rate** - Mr. Cook reported that prior to Covid, the BOC agreed to offer a town employee, who commutes on the ferry daily, a discounted ticket rate of \$20 per trip. Since the new ticketing system, an error was discovered and the town employee was accidentally being charged a resident rate of \$10 as opposed to \$20. Mr. Cook confronted the employee regarding the error and the employee became disgruntled and started taking other means of transportation daily to the island for work. Mr. Cook reported that last week he received an email from Scott Russell requesting that Mr. Cook and he need to have a talk about the exploitive rates that the ferry is charging TOS employees. Mr. Cook was taken aback by the accusation and the conversation went back and forth several times until Mr. Cook offered to go to Southold to discuss further but never heard back from Mr. Russell. Mr. Cook stated that he

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wanted the BOC to be aware of the situation. Discussion ensued. The BOC feels this is a slippery slope with all the districts involved. Mr. Cook will keep the BOC posted of further developments.

Mr. Cook reported that he has yet to respond to Mr. Chip duPont's comments made at the budget hearing. Discussion ensued regarding the summer schedule, as well as, the new ticketing system. Management and the BOC felt that the summer schedule worked to accommodate travelers, freight, the crew, and the Island in general. The BOC also recognizes the need for possible training sessions for those who find the new ticketing system difficult, especially the older adult population. The BOC has asked Mr. Cook to respond to Mr. duPont.

Mr. Cook reported that Karina Carbelo in accounts receivable has given her two weeks notice of resignation as she is relocating.

The BOC and management sends their best wishes to Secretary Deanna Ross, who is undergoing surgery. Management will send flowers when appropriate.

**Executive Session** - No Executive Session needed at this time.

**Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 18, 2023, at 4:00 PM, at the Community Center and via Zoom.**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner J. Reid, seconded by Commissioner A. Ahrens, the meeting was adjourned at 4:59 pm.