

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
April 15, 2019

Acting Chairman Rugg, 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 April 15, 2019 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners William Bloethe and Heather Burnham were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook and Deanna Ross. Commissioner Ace Ahrens and Gordon Murphy were present via telephone. Commissioner Dianna Shillo was absent. There were no members of the public present.

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

**Correspondence/Public Comment** – Mr. Cook reported that he received a letter from Hayes Waste Removal seeking property to rent. Mr. Cook responded that that no rental property is available at this time. There was no public comment.

**Minutes**

RESOLUTION 2019 - 051

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the minutes of the March 18, 2019 meeting.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham  
Ayes: W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and P. Rugg  
Nays: None

**Budget Modifications**

RESOLUTION 2019 - 052

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

SM 5710.1.000.000	Ferry Operations P.S. (Payroll)	<u>\$8,000</u>
		\$8,000

Increase Appropriations

SM 9050.8.000.000	Unemployment Benefit	<u>\$8,000</u>
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\$8,000

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham  
Seconded by: Commissioner P. Rugg  
Ayes: W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and P. Rugg  
Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2019 - 053

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

Operating Fund

Decrease Appropriations

SM 5710.2.000.100	Ferry Repairs Munnatawket	\$35,000
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		\$35,000

Increase Appropriations

SM.9901.9.000.000	Transfer to Capital	\$35,000
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		\$35,000

Capital Fund

Increase Revenues

H7.5031.00	Transfer from Ferry District	\$35,000
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		\$35,000

Increase Expenditures

H7.5989.2.400.300	Capital Outlay; Munnatawket Engine Repl	\$35,000
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		\$35,000

Moved by: Commissioner P. Rugg  
Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Ayes: W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and P. Rugg  
Nays: None

## **Warrant**

RESOLUTION 2019 - 054

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated April 15, 2019, in the amount of \$43,227.12.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner P. Rugg

Ayes: W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and P. Rugg

Nays: None

## **Management Reports**

**Marine Update** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. M/V Munnatawket returned from the shipyard last Friday, April 12, 2019. The USCG inspection, sea-trial and electronic propulsion control testing was completed at the shipyard on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The crew will be performing some welding and general clean up the week of the 14<sup>th</sup> and Munnatawket will return to service a week later for training. Cummins and Twin Disc will be visiting this week for additional training. Commissioner Rugg asked how the return trip went. Mr. Cook reported that it went well. There was no improvement in speed; however, fuel usage was 34 gallons/hour, which is an improvement from historical usage of 48 gallons/hour. In addition, Mr. Cook noted that the engines themselves are low emission units. The Captains and mechanics are pleased with the new controls.

**Traffic Update** - Passengers and Vehicles were up by 14% and 17% respectively from March 2018. Commercial traffic was down 21%; however, there is a projection of increased commercial traffic in the coming months due to upcoming building projects.

**Property Update** - Commissioner Burnham reported that Walsh Park appears to be honing in on a more manageable water suppression system and the need for outside space may not be as large as initially projected. Walsh Park continues to work towards a May 1, 2019 construction start. More information should be available in the coming weeks after the working group meets again. Commissioner Rugg would like to add language to the draft Property Management Agreement with the TOS that would give Mr. Cook permission to sign routine documentation.

**Dredging Update** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Mr. Cook has been in contact with Keith Nielsen from Docko who is looking for alternative ways to achieve the same dredge results through other means. Management will continue to investigate other options and share with the BOC as more information becomes available.

**Passenger Ferry** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. The Town of Southold offered a short-term loan to bridge the time until bond money is available. Scott Russell and the Town Board agreed to the loan. Mr. Duffy is drafting the resolution and once available, management may call a quick BOC meeting to approve the resolution to speed up the process.

**Theater/Electricity Update** - Mr. Cook informed the BOC that the FD received a credit from the FI Utility Company in the approximate amount of \$14,000, which will be applied to the entire utility bill at the FD. The FD hired BD electrician to calculate the total amps that could be generated and found it was impos-

sible to have a reading so high. The reading/bill was showing 1200 amps going down a 400-amp circuit. The initial \$3,600 penalty fee that was assessed remains to be addressed.

## **Legal**

### **Hangar Agreement - Tabled**

#### **Conservancy**

Resolution 2019 - 055

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

WHEREAS, the Fishers Island Conservancy, Inc. has again agreed to provide these services for the period 2018 through 2023 as an independent contractor, at no cost to the FD or the Town of Southold, and

WHEREAS, the Fishers Island Conservancy, Inc. has provided a 2019 Grasslands Management Plan to the BOC detailing the services to be provided in 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the FD authorizes management to execute the Independent Contractor Agreement for the period 2019 – 2023 with the Fishers Island Conservancy, Inc. and any other ancillary documents subject to the approval of the Town Attorney; and

It is further RESOLVED to approve the Fishers Island Conservancy, Inc.'s 2019 Grasslands Management Plan (the "Plan") and authorizes the Fishers Island Conservancy, Inc. to execute only such plan.

Moved by: Commissioner P. Rugg

Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Ayes: W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and P. Rugg

Nays: None

**Approve Peak Schedule** - On motion made by H. Burnham, seconded by W. Bloethe, the BOC approves the 2019 Peak Schedule.

**Executive Session** - The BOC has agreed that no executive session is required at this time. An executive session will take place at the BOC meeting on April 29, 2019 for appeal hearing response.

## **HR**

Resolution 2019 - 056

WHEREAS The Fishers Island Ferry District requires additional full-time Deckhands;

Therefore, it is RESOLVED to appoint, with effect April 25, 2019, Leonard Ortiz as a full-time Deckhand (FD) at a rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham  
Ayes: W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and P. Rugg  
Nays: None

#### Resolution 2019 - 057

The Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accepts the resignations of Alyssa Hadley and George Marshall with effect April 15, 2019. There are no accrued payments due Ms. Hadley or Mr. Marshall.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Seconded by: Commissioner P. Rugg  
Ayes: W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and P. Rugg  
Nays: None

#### RESOLUTION 2019 - 058

WHEREAS the Christopher Newell's Deckhand title was not included along with his Captain's title for the January 31, 2019 merit raises;

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED to increase Christopher Newell's Deckhand (FD) wage rate from \$18.91 to \$19.48 per hour effective January 31, 2019.

Moved by: Commissioner P. Rugg  
Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Ayes: W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and P. Rugg  
Nays: None

#### Resolution 2019 - 059

WHEREAS The Fishers Island Ferry District requires additional Deckhands;

Therefore, it is RESOLVED to appoint, with effect April 25, 2019, Patrick Chasse as a part-time Deckhand (FD) at a rate of \$12.50 per hour. On May 13, 2019 Mr. Chasse will become a summer seasonal Deckhand (FD). On September 15, 2019, Mr. Chasse will be released from his summer seasonal position and on September 16, 2019, he will be resume as a Deckhand (FD).

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham  
Seconded by: Commissioner P. Rugg  
Ayes: W. Bloethe, H. Burnham and P. Rugg  
Nays: None

#### **Other**

**J. Bergquist** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. At the previous meeting, Commissioner Burnham had requested management to look into how customers are notified when receiving perishables or packages that may be left outside. Management is making changes to the processes. Management will attempt

to update customers contact information including cell phone numbers and emails. Mr. Bergquist gave Mr. Murphy a replacement value of \$218.00. Management will follow up with Mr. Bergquist.

**PT's Optional Health Insurance** - A part-time employee of the FD had inquired about the possibility of the FD considering offering part-time employee's insurance if the employee paid the full rate. Mr. Murphy stated this would be at no cost to the District and could potentially help with part-time employee retention. Management has agreed to explore further and come back to the BOC with a full report.

**Peak Discount for Seniors** - Mr. Murphy would like to clarify the policy that only one discount can be used at a time.

**Grant Writer** - Mr. Cook informed the BOC that management has moved forward with hiring a grant writer to pursue new engines for Race Point. The deadline was missed for 2019 due to an expired SAMS number; however, management will pursue the DAERA grant for 2020.

**USCG Update** - Mr. Burns and Mr. Cook attended a hearing last week regarding the USCG violation of the Security Plan. The violation stated that the Fishers Island Plan was not updated; despite all the years prior where the FD treated both New London and Fishers Island Security Plans as one plan. Mr. Cook feels they made a strong case and will hear back from the USCG in several weeks.

**NY DOT** - Mr. Cook will be attending a meeting at the NY DOT in Hauppauge, New York regarding ferry-boat funds.

**Next Scheduled Meeting – Monday, April 29, 2019 at 1:45 pm at the New London Terminal.**

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner H. Burnham, seconded by Commissioner W. Bloethe, the meeting was adjourned at 5:36 pm.