

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
December 9, 2019

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 December 09, 2019 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners Heather Burnham and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Gordon Murphy and Deanna Ross. Geb Cook was present via phone. Members of the public included Mildred Perring. Commissioners William Bloethe and Peter Rugg were absent.

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

**Correspondence/Public Comment** – Mr. Murphy reported that no correspondence was received. Mrs. Perring presented her case for a resident ID card to the BOC. Commissioner Burnham responded that the purpose of the resident ID card is for those who reside and work on Fishers Island, not just property owners. Primary residency on Fishers Island requires one to reside on Fishers Island a minimum of 270 days/year. The BOC has agreed to discuss the matter prior to making a decision and will inform Mrs. Perring in writing of their decision. Mr. Cook was asked how the informal fare meetings were going. He has had six to date. Mr. Cook reported that the biggest concern that has been voiced is the reservation pricing for residents. Discussion ensued and the BOC has asked management to look into a two-tier reservation rate. In addition, there has been voiced concern regarding a January 1, 2020 start date. Discussion ensued and the BOC has agreed to delay for a start date of March 1, 2020.

**Warrant**

RESOLUTION 2019 - 169

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated December 9, 2019, in the amount of \$62,486.57.

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

**Management Reports**

**Marine Update** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. The MV Race Point was taken out of service for an end of day trip due to a leak in the water jacket from a cracked fitting. A new manifold was ordered and delivered, Rhode Island Engine assisted in the install that evening, and the boat was back in service the following day. The MV Munnatawket remains at the shipyard. RJ Burns visited the shipyard today. Weather has caused some delay in the work; however, they are expecting the boat to come back some-

time next week but there is no confirmed date. Silver Eel is being stored at Ferry Slip Marina for the winter.

### **Rhode Island Engine**

RESOLUTION 2019 – 170

WHEREAS, one of the two engines in the M/V Race Point malfunctioned; and

WHEREAS the failure occurred during the period when the other ferry was unavailable due to its biannual yard period; and

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

WHEREAS the uninterrupted operation of the M/V Race Point required that the repair constituted an emergency situation; and

WHEREAS, on the evening of November 12, 2019, Management was able to obtain the services of Rhode Island Engine Company, Inc.; and

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 repair of the M/V Race Point 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 Rhode Island Engine Company, Inc.; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Management is authorized and directed to pay the invoices of Rhode Island Engine Company, Inc., the amount not to exceed \$8,000.00.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

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

Nays: None

### **Legal**

RESOLUTION 2019 – 171

WHEREAS, M.J. Bradley and Associates, LLC (MJB&A) is a transportation engineering firm providing technical and strategic advisory services to government agencies and environmental groups throughout New York and New England; and

WHEREAS, MJB&A specializes in drafting and administering grant applications and grants for repowering and retrofitting marine vessels; and

WHEREAS, the FIFD through the services of MJB&A was awarded a \$1.2MM CT DEEP VW Diesel Emissions Mitigation Program Round 2 grant for the repowering of the M/V Race Point; and

WHEREAS, the BOC of the FIFD has requested an additional quote from MJB&A for professional services and assistance in the administration of the CT DEEP VW Diesel Emissions Mitigation Program Round 2 grant for the repowering of the M/V Race Point; and

WHEREAS, the BOC of the FIFD has determined that MJB&A's experience and expertise has resulted in an award of similar grants to many of its clients; and

WHEREAS, MJB&A has presented a proposal to the BOC for the provision of professional grant administration services dated December 9, 2019, for a fee of up to \$25,000 based on the MLB&A 2019 pricing schedule; and

WHEREAS, the BOC of the FIFD has determined that it would not be in the best interests of the taxpayers of the FIFD to seek alternative proposals or quotations from other engineering firms who do not possess MJB&A's technical expertise in this field.

Now, therefore be it RESOLVED that the BOC waives the requirement of a second quote in Guideline 8 of the FIFD's Procurement Policy; and be it further

RESOLVED that the BOC of the FIFD hereby accepts the proposal of MJB&A dated December 9, 2019 for professional grant services, their fee not to exceed \$25,000, subject to the approval of District Counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

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

Nays: None

**Fare Update** - Mr. Murphy reported that a public hearing would be held at the next BOC meeting on December 30, 2019 @ 1pm.

**Theater Update** - Mr. Murphy has agreed to present a draft RFP at the next BOC meeting.

**Traffic Update** - Mr. Murphy reviewed November 2019 traffic report. Compared to 2018, passenger and commercial traffic were down 1% and 19% respectively. Vehicles were up 6% compared to 2018.

**Saturday Freight Hours** - Discussion ensued regarding some push back due to freight being closed on Saturdays. The BOC feels that freight should be open for a few hours on Saturdays during the winter months. Management will work out the logistics to allow for this accommodation.

**Finance Update** - The BOC reviewed financials through October 2019. Revenue was down; however, expenses were down as well.

## **2020 BOC Calendar**

RESOLUTION 2019 - 172

Whereas the Board of Commissioners is required to set its annual meeting calendar.

Therefore it is RESOLVED to accept the 2020 BOC calendar and instruct Mr. Murphy to have it sent to the Southold Town Clerk and have it posted on the Ferry District's website.

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

## **HR**

### **RESOLUTION 2019 – 173**

Whereas Mr. Anthony Mirabelli has been a part-time captain since 2005 and management recommends that he be promoted to a full-time captain.

Therefore, it is resolved with effect December 21, 2019 Mr. Mirabelli is promoted to a full-time Captain (FIFD) at his same wage rate of \$30.78 per hour.

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

## **Executive Session**

At 17:29, the following resolution was proposed:

RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

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

At 18:08, 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 and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**Next Scheduled Meeting is Monday, December 30, 2019 @ 1:00 pm with a public hearing for fares 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 D. Shillo, the meeting was adjourned at 6:09 pm.