

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
August 17, 2020

Chairman Ahrens called a teleconference meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the “Ferry District” or the “District”) to order on August 17, 2020 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners Heather Burnham, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, Jon Haney, Deanna Ross and Finance Cmte Chairman Tom Cashel. Commissioner Bloethe was absent. 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 no correspondence was received. There was no public comment.

**Minutes**

RESOLUTION 2020 – 122

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby proves the minutes of the June 22, 2020 and July 20, 2020 meetings.

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

**Budget Modification**

RESOLUTION 2020 – 123

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

Decrease Appropriations		
SM5710.4.000.300	Fuel Oil, Vessels	\$20,000
		<hr/> \$20,000
Increase Appropriations		
SM5710.4.400.100	Other Expense: Marine Engineering	\$20,000
		<hr/> \$20,000

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

## **Warrant**

RESOLUTION 2020 – 124

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated August 17, 2020, in the amount of \$26,627.44.

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

**Finance Update** - Mr. Cashel asked management if they knew the year end projected cash balance based on performance so far and is the District hitting the benchmark of \$350,000 at end of year. Mr. Murphy reported that at this time they are hitting the benchmark but there remains uncertainty with the last fiscal quarter. Discussions ensued regarding the proposed property tax rates. The BOC has agreed that the District needs to be less revenue driven in the future. Chairman Ahrens also reported that the District has exhausted all efforts for Federal or State Aid. Discussion ensued regarding the upcoming Budget Hearing and whether to hold the meeting in person or via teleconference. The BOC has agreed to hold the hearing via teleconference. Mr. Cook reviewed the financial reports from June 2020 which are somewhat inflated due to property taxes being included. Revenues are off by 20% from last year. From January 1, 2020 through July 31, 2020, the bottom line is down \$250,000. July 2020 numbers are very similar. Month to month, passengers remain down 40%, vehicles 20% and commercial 25%.

**Marine Update** - Mr. Cook reported that the FI School will charter MV Silver Eel if weather permits. Chartering will bring in \$15,000 per month. The school will be chartering two boats in the morning and two boats in the evening. MV Race Point will be out of the water from October 15, 2020 through April 2021. When Silver Eel cannot be used due to weather, safety measures will be put in place on the MV Munnatawket to ensure social distancing. Bids for Race Point are expected this Wednesday in hopes of deciding for a vendor by this upcoming Friday. Discussions will be taking place with Cross Sound Ferry regarding use of the North Star if need be. Mr. Murphy reported that there is consideration to adjust the schedule after Labor Day with the possibility of dropping the late boats on Monday and Tuesday and the noon boat on Wednesdays where there are scheduled fuel charters. Monday night BOC meeting times will be adjusted accordingly if the Monday night late boat is eliminated. A special Labor Day boat schedule will be coming out soon.

**Ferry Funds** - Mr. Cook reported that he is pursuing the Ferry Funds. The dolphin project needs to be approved. All the engineering drawings have been completed. Mr. Cook also reported that the District is pushing forward with the dredging project in Silver Eel Cove. Mr. Cook is still awaiting a definitive answer from Suffolk County but was notified that the survey needs updated. Surveyors are scheduled to come out this week.

**Airport** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Whereas the Ferry District is the manager of the Airport, the Town of Southold is the owner/sponsor for the FAA and therefore every document that the FAA requires must go to the Town of Southold. Mr. Murphy has made repeated requests to Town Attorney's Office to dedicate one of their assistant attorneys to be the primary so material can be moved through quicker. Mr. Murphy recently had a teleconference meeting with C&S Engineering, the TOS comptroller and TOS Attorney regarding setting up a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program ("DBE") which is required for all entities who accept grant money over \$325,000. Mr. Murphy plans on going in front of the Town Board and hopes to be put on their agenda soon.

**Election Results** - Management and the BOC would like to congratulate Jim Reid and William Bloethe for their re-election to the BOC. Let the minutes reflect that there was a typographical error that one of the terms was mistakenly listed as a 4-year term as opposed to a 3-year term.

## **HR/DKH**

### **RESOLUTION 2020 – 125**

Therefore, it is RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby acknowledges Diane K. Hansen' the intent to retire from the position of Secretary of the Fishers Island Ferry District, effective September 8, 2020 and authorizes the District Manager to calculate and pay Ms. Hansen for accrued sick time in the amount of \$7,706.65 in accordance with Section 3 of the FIFD Employee Handbook. The Commissioners thank Ms. Hansen for her five and a half years of service to the District.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Burnham

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

Nays: None

**Other** - Mr. Cook reported that Jesse Marshall had brought to Mr. Cook's attention of his dissatisfaction with the new medical plan and it is \$500 single and \$1000 family deductible and for the BOC to consider rescind of the deductible which is not possible. In the past, the District would pick up the first 80% but the new plan has the employee having the responsibility on the front end. An email was sent to all employees regarding the process and no feedback was received.

**Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 21, 2020 at 4:30 PM with a Budget Hearing @ 5:00 PM via Tele/Videoconference.**

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner A. Ahrens, seconded by Commissioner H. Burnham, the meeting was adjourned at 5:46 pm.