

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
March 29, 2021

Chairwoman Heather Burnham called a teleconference meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (“the Ferry District”) to order on March 29, 2021, at 4:00 PM.

Commissioners Ace Ahrens, Tom Cashel, Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, Jon Haney, Deanna Ross, Polly Ford and Nick Espinosa.

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

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

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2021 – 044

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated March 29, 2021, in the amount of \$51,304.90.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

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

Nays: None

Management Reports

MU/RP/Silver Eel Updates - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. The MV Munnatawket had a faulty sensor on the transmission yesterday morning which held the boat up for about 20 minutes until the crew was able to override it. With the electronic engine controls, Mr. Haney will ask Cummins and Twin Disc for the possibility of getting a trouble shooting manual to assist the crew in these situations. Crew members have been doing some painting on the MV Race Point which remains at Thames Shipyard. All machinery is in and now awaiting some extra mounts for the engines that are currently held up in customs. Heat should be operational soon. A flooring company is coming in to make some repairs to crack in the deck. The boat is out of dry dock and expected to be back to the Fishers Island Ferry New London dock April 15, 2021. Mr. Cook reported that he is hoping to get USCG letters of approval in the next 10 days. Once the boat comes back, training will need to take place with the Captains. The Ferry District has been utilizing the North Star to accommodate commercial traffic. MV Silver Eel will undergo its hull inspection with the USCG this Wednesday, March 31. The outboard is said to arrive the week of April 12, 2021. The current engine is being broken down now so when the new one arrives it can be installed immediately. Silver Eel could potentially be running 1-2 weeks after the install. Mr. Cook reported that Silver Eel rates will be confirmed at the next BOC meeting.

Fair Harbor Presentation - Mr. Cook introduced Mr. James Rosso from Fair Harbor ticketing. Currently the Ferry District uses Fair Harbor for Silver Eel ticketing and reservations and would like to get the auto ferries onto the same program. Mr. Rosso has been working with the ticketing and reservation crew in New London and provided a presentation to the BOC and management with the opportunity for questions and dialogue.

Port Security Grant - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. Total Security started prewiring Race Point and waiting for cameras to arrive. Munnatawket and the New London terminal will be next and the Fishers Island terminal last. All work should be completed by May 15, 2021.

Airport Seawall - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. The RFP is almost complete and will go out shortly.

Finance - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. January and February profit and loss financials were reviewed. Mr. Cook reported that the district is doing well and matching previous years.

Draft May Schedule - Mr. Haney reported that 3 additional boats were added each week for the May 2021 schedule. Additional boats added were Tuesday 6:15pm, Friday 8:15pm and Sunday 6:15pm.

J Ski Lease

RESOLUTION 2021 - 045

Whereas the BOC approved the 2021-2023 property leases in resolution 2020-202; and

Whereas Mr. Ski has requested the use of a 60 by 150 foot section of the South Beach parking lot to stage material and equipment for the Bike Path Extension; and

Therefore it is RESOLVED to amend Mr. Ski's lease to include a 60 x 150 foot section of the South Beach parking lot with effect March 1, 2021 for a minimum of six months at \$500 per month.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel

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

Nays: None

Legal – Theater Management

RESOLUTION 2021 - 046

Whereas the Friends of Fishers Island Theater, Inc. wishes to operate the community theater in 2020.

Therefore it is RESOLVED to authorize management to negotiate and enter into a contract with the Friends of Fishers Island Theater, Inc. to operate the community theater for \$1,000.00 from June 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021 subject to review by counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

Life Insurance Renewal

RESOLUTION 2021 - 047

WHEREAS the current contract with ShelterPoint Life Insurance Company for life insurance expires on May 1, 2021, and ShelterPoint Life Insurance Company confirmed that they would hold the rates for another year, and management recommends renewing its contract with ShelterPoint Life Insurance Company based on best value; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the quote from ShelterPoint Life Insurance Company for a one-year contract, directs and authorizes Mr. Gordon Murphy to execute the contract and any ancillary documents, and authorizes management to pay invoices when properly invoiced and approved by management.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

Website Review - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. The new website needs a few more weeks of tweaking and should be up and running soon after that.

UPS/TrackPad

RESOLUTION 2021 - 048

Whereas the Ferry District uses a proprietary database and scanning hardware to track its freight; and

Whereas the original equipment and software requires replacement; and

Whereas UPS Professional Services, Inc. has provided the Ferry District with a software and hardware upgrade to their proprietary system and management was unable to identify a replacement system that is already integrated with the Ferry's system; and

Therefore it is RESOLVED to accept management's recommendation to upgrade to the new UPS TrackPad software and purchase five (5) new handheld scanners with a three-year warranty for a price not to exceed \$15,000; and it is further RESOLVED to authorize Gordon Murphy to execute the Client Agreement and any other ancillary documents related to the upgrade subject to review by District counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

Legal/Internet

RESOLUTION 2021 - 049

WHEREAS in February 2020 the Ferry District approved a second ISP service with Atlantic Broadband with resolution 2020 – 017; and

Whereas due to technical difficulties and the COVID-19 pandemic the contract was unable to be consummated and thus expired; and

Whereas Atlantic Broadband has been able to overcome its technical issues; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby directs and authorizes Mr. Gordon Murphy to execute an agreement and any related ancillary documents with Atlantic Broadband for internet services for 36 months not to exceed \$250 per month subject to review by District counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

Legal/JMS

RESOLUTION 2021 – 050

Whereas the MV Munnatawket continues to exhibit higher than normal operating noise levels sometimes exceeding 90db; and

Whereas JMS Naval Architects has proposed a noise specialist to provide analysis and report with recommended modifications to the engine room; and

Therefore, be it RESOLVED to accept JMS Naval Architects to provide professional services to analyze the MV Munnatawket's engine noise levels at their GSA contract pricing; and

Be it further RESOLVED to authorize Geb Cook to execute the contract and any ancillary documents subject to review by District counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel

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

Nays: None

Theater RFP - Mr. Murphy reported that he would like to put out a Theater RFP at sometime in June with returns due by September 1, 2021.

HR

RESOLUTION 2021 – 051

Whereas certain employees were terminated in 2020 due the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas NY State increased its minimum wage to \$14.00 per hour with effect December 31, 2020; and

Whereas certain employees are being reinstated as needed; and

Whereas the Fishers Island Ferry District has an agreement with the CSEA through December 31, 2021 (“agreement”); and

Whereas Article 8 Section A of the Agreement requires base salaries to increase by 1% with effect on January 1, 2021; and

Therefore, it is RESOLVED to reinstate, with effect April 7th, 2021, Mark Boehm at a rate of \$14.50 and David Ferace at a rate of \$14.14 per hour, both as a part-time Deckhands (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2021 – 052

WHEREAS The Fishers Island Ferry District requires additional Deckhands;

Therefore it is RESOLVED to appoint, with effect April 7th, 2021, Adam Sproul as Part-Time Deckhand (FIFD) at a rate of \$14.00 per hour.

It is further RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 17, 2021, Adam Sproul from part-time to full-time summer seasonal status Deckhand (FIFD). On September 20, 2021, Mr. Sproul will terminate his summer seasonal position and on September 17, 2021, be re-appointed to part-time Deckhand (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

Legal/FedEx Express

RESOLUTION 2021 – 053

Whereas the Ferry District’s contract expires with FedEx Express on May 31, 2021; and

Whereas the District has a special freight tariff for FedEx Express freight and this rate is borne by FedEx Express, not the receiving customer; and

Therefore, be it RESOLVED to authorize Gordon Murphy to execute the three-year contract and any ancillary documents subject to review by District counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 12, 2021, at 4:00 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 5:40 pm.