

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
January 10, 2022

Chair Shillo called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the "Ferry District") to order on January 10, 2022, at 4:00 PM at the Island Community Center and via Zoom.

Commissioners Ace Ahrens and Jim Reid was present. Also in attendance were Gordon Murphy and Deanna Ross. Commissioners Heather Burnham and Tom Cashel, Geb Cook and Jon Haney were present via Zoom. There were no members of the public present.

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

Housekeeping

RESOLUTION 2022 – 001

It is RESOLVED to establish a quarterly rotating a Chairman/Chairwoman of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District until further notice; and

It is further RESOLVED to elect Commissioner Ahrens as chair for the First Quarter of 2022 and H. Burnham chair for the Second Quarter, T. Cashel chair for the Third Quarter and J. Reid chair for the Fourth Quarter this meeting.

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

2022 BOC Goals - The BOC will discuss 2022 BOC Goals at the next meeting. Mr. Murphy has agreed to send out 2021 goals and the BOC will review and bring ideas of desired goals at the next meeting.

Updated BOC Calendar - Mr. Murphy reported that several changes were made. All meeting start times have been changed to 4pm and the New London meeting was canceled as all meetings are available by Zoom. The BOC will revisit the idea of having an in person New London meeting when COVID is under control.

Legal

RESOLUTION 2022 – 002

Whereas Fishers Island has junked vehicles that need to be removed from the island; and

Whereas the Ferry District is offering a temporary vehicle fare abatement of 100% for derelict vehicle transportation from through February 28, 2022, to transport by truck and/or trailer vehicles to its New London, CT terminal for disposal by other parties; and

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Therefore it is RESOLVED with effect January 15, 2022, and through February 28, 2022, to set a temporary price of \$0 per vehicle to move a minimum of one vehicle by truck and/or trailer transportation to New London, CT for disposal.

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

Airport Seawall - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Mattern Construction was awarded the bid and is ready to start. Mr. Cook reported that he is still awaiting final approval from FEMA and FEMA designated a point person last Friday, January 7th and feels the process should move along quickly now. Mr. Cook is asking the BOC if the Ferry District can go ahead and start the project with the expectation that FEMA will come through and approve. If for any reason FEMA didn't approve the Ferry District would be on the hook for \$125,000. Discussion ensued. The BOC has agreed to move forward with the project.

Letter to TOS Town Board on desire to acquire USCG Station - Commissioner Ahrens has reported that he will email the point person spearheading the USCG disposition of properties to get the latest information. Mr. Cook reported that he sent a letter to Scott Russell last year but received no response. Discussion ensued and once more information is received the BOC will write a formal letter to the TOS Board expressing their desire to acquire the USCG Station property.

Eel Grass Plan - Mr. Cook updated the BOC regarding the Fishers Island Seagrass Management Coalition. Mr. Cook represents the Fishers Island Ferry District as a stakeholder group. Discussion ensued. The BOC is supportive of the Coalition's efforts but is requesting that language be put in the document that would protect Silver Eel due to the operations of the ferry.

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

Minutes

RESOLUTION 2022 – 003

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the following minutes:

- a. Oct 8
- b. Oct 12
- c. Oct 25
- d. Nov 8
- e. Nov 22
- f. Dec 7
- g. Dec 24

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of the Board of Commissioner meetings.

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens

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

Nays: None

Budget Modification

RESOLUTION 2022 – 004

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby amends the **2021** Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Decrease Appropriations

5SM5610.2.000.000	Airport Capital	270.10
5SM5610.4.000.000	Elizabeth Airport CE	1,751.97
5SM5710.2.000.100	Ferry Repairs: Munnatawket	10,338.80
5SM5710.4.000.800	Ferry Ops: Uniforms	1,648.84
5SM5712.4.000.000	Other Exp: Commissioner Fees	150.00
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		14,159.71

Increase Appropriations

5SM5710.2.000.200	Repairs: Race Point	6,500.00
5SM1910.4.000.300	Workers Comp	279.00
5SM5711.4.000.000	Office Expense	107.68
5SM5710.4.000.900	Ferry Ops: Bank/CC Fees	148.37
5SM5710.4.000.500	Ferry Ops: Computer Ops	2,000.00
5SM5710.4.000.600	Ferry Ops: Janitorial Supplies	424.66
5SM5710.4.000.625	Ferry Ops: Terminal Supplies	4,500.00
5SM5710.4.000.700	Ferry Ops: UPS (FI)	200.00
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		14,159.71

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

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Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, T. Cashel, J. Reid and D. Shillo
Nays: None

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2022 - 005

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated January 10, 2022, in the amount of \$57,129.26.

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

Management Reports

Marine Update - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. Munnatawket was delivered to Thames Shipyard on December 27, 2021. So far they have started on the exhaust system and mufflers. In addition, structural issues have been identified with the rear passenger cabin door. The USCG is scheduled to go to the yard this Wednesday to assess the structural integrity of the boat. A significant amount of rot was found and Mr. Haney is still waiting for more information but is expecting this line item to grow. The haul inspection with the USCG is scheduled for February 15, 2022. Mr. Haney reported that the boat is still on track to return in eight weeks from the drop off date but could be delayed pending on what the USCG finds. Mr. Haney reported that there are a few housekeeping items for Race Point. A technician from Cummins came out and identified the problem with the starting issues. In addition, he identified other deficient items that should have been taken care of prior to the boat being certified by Cummins. As a result, some water and fuel sensors and coolant sensors were installed. The Cummins technician provided Mr. Haney with a comprehensive spare parts list which he has started to order to have on hand. Mr. Haney reported that there is still no estimated shipping date for the Silver Eel powerhead. Supply issues and long delays continue to be a problem with other vendors as well. Discussion ensued. Mr. Haney has agreed to look into availability of other passenger boats similar to Silver Eel.

Dredging Update - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Mr. Jimmy Ski is finishing up the grading. The berm has been graded down to the ordinance building. The Fishers Island Conservancy has offered to help with the purchase and installation of the plantings. There is approximately an extra 600 cubic yards of sand and Mr. Cook is looking at options for its disposal.

Ferry Park Plans - Mr. Cook will be attending the TOS Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 18th to share information about the Ferry Park plans.

Property Update - Mr. Murphy reported that he has been working with Mr. Dave Congdon in reviewing current leases and properties and the open areas. Mr. Murphy would like to reach out to constituents and will have more defined information about the properties at the next BOC meeting.

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Finance/Traffic - Mr. Murphy reported that Finance and Traffic will be reported on the second meeting of the month. Carol Murphy and Jon Haney will give these monthly reports.

Other

Port Development Grant - Mr. Cook reported that the Ferry District was not get awarded the grant that would have been used to replace the New London dolphins. Mr. Haney feels that there are three dolphin clusters that should be a priority. Permits are already in place. The dolphins will need to be addressed and management will make recommendations on how to move forward at the next BOC meeting.

Commuter Vehicle Discount for COVID protection - Due to COVID surges, commuters are requesting a vehicle discount so they can stay in their car. The BOC has agreed to reinstate this program through the end of February and will revisit after that if an extension is warranted.

HR

RESOLUTION 2022 – 006

It is RESOLVED to accept the resignations of Lee Nelson and Amy Ruffin with effect December 31, 2021.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

HR/Intern

RESOLUTION 2022 – 007

Whereas Matthew Fermo, a student at United States Merchant Maritime Academy at Kings Point, has requested to intern without compensation at the Fishers Island Ferry District to advance his scholastic studies in the maritime industry.

Therefore it is RESOLVED that Mr. Fermo be allowed to “ride the ferry” and “shadow the crew” with the Fishers Island Ferry District with effect January 11, 2022.

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

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

Nays: None

HR/Rehire

RESOLUTION 2022 – 008

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WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional part-time Deckhands (FIFD); and

Therefore it is RESOLVED to rehire Kyle Bentley with effect January 3, at a rate of \$15.50 per hour.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

Executive Session

At 17:27, the following resolution was proposed: RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham

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

Nays: None

At 17:57, the following resolution was proposed:

RESOLVED, That the Commission exit from Executive Session and resume Public Session.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner J. Reid

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

Nays: None

(Commissioner Shillo left early in Executive Session)

Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 24, 2022, at 4:00 PM at the Island Community Center and via Teleconference and zoom.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner H. Burnham, seconded by Commissioner T. Cashel, the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 pm.