

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
February 7, 2022

Chair Ahrens called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the "Ferry District") to order on February 7, 2022, at 4:00 PM via Zoom.

Commissioners Ace Ahrens, Heather Burnham, Tom Cashel and Jim Reid were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, David McCall and Deanna Ross. Commissioner Shillo was absent. Members of the public included Chris Finan, Steve Head and Laurie Finan.

Chair Ahrens 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 at this time.

**Budget Modification**

RESOLUTION 2022 – 019

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**

SM .5710.4.000.300	Fuel Oil, Vessels	9,400.00
		<hr/> 9,400.00

**Increase Appropriations**

SM .1980.4.000.000	MTA Payroll Tax	1,000.00
SM .5709.2.000.100	Repairs, Rental Building	5,000.00
SM .5710.4.000.000	Ferry Operations, Other	3,000.00
SM .5710.4.000.100	Utilities - New London	400.00
		<hr/> 9,400.00

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

**Warrant**

RESOLUTION 2022 - 020

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated February 7, 2022, in the amount of \$84,512.55.

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

**Management Reports**

**Race Point** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Race Point will be leaving the New London terminal this evening with all the vehicles left behind due to mechanical failure on Sunday, February 6, 2022. Mechanical failure was attributed to a wiring related item. Twin Disc techs were out to replace a cable on the aft station. This run will be used as a second sea trial and if everything goes well, Race Point will be back in service tomorrow morning, Tuesday February 8, 2022. Currently management plans to run the Caribbean for passengers and Race Point for freight and is hopeful that a regular schedule will resume thereafter. Mr. Cook reported that North Star was out of service and the Caribbean was available. Discussion ensued regarding possible reimbursement to passengers affected by the mechanical failure. Mr. Cook stated that the Town of Southold would require a notice of claim and he would talk to the Town Attorney regarding the matter. The BOC and management agreed that the overall communication of the turning of events was good.

**Traffic** - Mr. Cook reviewed January 2022 Traffic reports. Passengers were up 18%, Vehicles down 7% and Commercial down 5% compared to January 2021. The decrease in vehicle traffic was attributed to more people commuting in cars in 2021 due to COVID. A decrease in revenue was attributed to the drop in the COVID Surcharge.

**Munnatawket** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Progress is being made at Thames Shipyard. Nearly all the steel work is complete. The unanticipated steel work in the passenger cabin will cost approximately \$70,000. Management has suggested to cut some items out in order to defer the unexpected cost; however, the BOC wants all the intended work to be completed. Management is holding the line for a return delivery date to March 15, 2022.

**Silver Eel** - Mr. Cook has no update to report.

**Resident IDs** - Continued discussion ensued regarding proof of residency for resident IDs. The BOC acknowledges that there are a few residents that do not possess New York Drivers License; however, live on Fishers Island full time.

**Public Comment** - Mr. Chris Finan, Mr. Steve Head and Mrs. Laurie Finan joined the meeting asking for an update on the boats and the plan in place. Mr. Cook recapped the issue with Race Point and ensured the public that management is working diligently to resolve the issues that have been plaguing the boat.

**Legal/RP**

RESOLUTION 2022 -021

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WHEREAS the MV Race Point developed an electrical/mechanical malfunction on Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, and repairs were made by Ferry District personnel and;

Whereas the repairs were not sufficient, and the Race Point was taken out-of-service on Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> and;

Whereas it was determined that a specialist firm should be engaged to analyze and repair the engine controls systems; and,

Therefore, it is RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners, hereby declares the inoperable condition of the Race Point an emergency, waives the requirement for competitive bids; and

It is further RESOLVED to engage Sound Mobile Marine LLC (Popeye) for an amount not to exceed \$1,000 to run a special trip on Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup> and to charter a ferry from Cross Sound Ferries (CSF) for use on at least Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at a rate of \$600.00 per hour with a minimum of \$2,400.00 and a total cost not to exceed \$20,000.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

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

Nays: None

**HR/Longevity**

RESOLUTION 2022 – 022

It is resolved to rescind resolution 2022 – 014; and

WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook grants a 1% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for ten years: and,

It is further RESOLVED to note that with effect January 25, 2022, employee 61433's salary be increased by 1% to \$108,008.54.

Moved by: Commissioner Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner Cashel

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

Nays: None

*RESOLUTION 2022 – 014*

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*WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook grants a 1% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for ten years: and,*

It is RESOLVED to note that with effect February 1, 2022, employee 61433's salary be increased by 1% to \$108,040.00.

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

RESOLUTION 2022 – 023

It is resolved to rescind resolution 2022 – 015; and

*WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook grants a 3% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for five years: and,*

It is further RESOLVED to note that with effect February 1, 2022, employee 25986's salary be increased by 3% to \$144,826.24.

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

*RESOLUTION 2022 – 015*

*WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook grants a 3% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for five years: and,*

It is RESOLVED to note that with effect January 25, employee 25986's salary be increased by 3% to \$144,826.00.

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

RESOLUTION 2022 – 024

It is resolved to rescind resolution 2022 – 016; and

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WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook and the CSEA Collective Bargaining Agreement grants a 1% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for ten years: and,

It is further RESOLVED to note that with effect March 19, 2022, employee 39096's wage rate be increased by 1% to \$25.85.

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

*RESOLUTION 2022 – 016*

*WHEREAS the Fishers Island Ferry District policy as described in the Employee Handbook and the CSEA Collective Bargaining Agreement grants a 1% longevity increase to wages when an individual has been employed by the Fishers Island Ferry District for ten years: and,*

It is RESOLVED to note that with effect February 13, 2022, employee 39096's wage rate be increased by 1% to \$25.85.

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

**HR/Rehire**

RESOLUTION 2022 – 025

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional part-time Laborers; and

Therefore, it is RESOLVED to rehire Ian Tirabassi with effect February 7, 2022, at a rate of \$15.50 per hour.

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

RESOLUTION 2022 – 026

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RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby acknowledges the intent to retire of Gordon S. Murphy, Assistant Manager of the Fishers Island Ferry District at the end of business day April 18, 2022.

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

**Other** - The BOC and Management would like to thank Mr. Tom Shillo and the Popeye crew for helping to bring residents back to the island.

**Executive Session**

At 17:05 it was RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining and personnel matters.

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

At 17:38 it was 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

**Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at 4:00 PM at the Island Community Center and via Zoom.**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner H. Burnham, seconded by Commissioner J. Reid, the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 pm.