

SELECT BOARD
CORY R. ALLEY, CHAIRMAN
JOE CONNELL
AMANDA BRACY



TOWN CLERK / TREASURER
DENISE Mc CORMICK

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
TO THE SELECT BOARD
JAMES FORTUNE

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATOR
SHARON MORRELL

Select Board Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2023
Cranberry House

Attendance:

Cory Alley, Chair, Select Board	Karin Whitney
Amanda Bracy, Select Board	Allison Hess (by video)
Joe Connell, Select Board	Carl Brooks
Denise McCormick, Town Clerk	Barbara Meyers
James Fortune, Admin. Asst.	Geoff Wadsworth
Ben Sumner, Deputy Town Clerk	Katelyn Damon (by video)
Sharon Morrell, PSC	David Gibson, College of the Atlantic
Dennis Dever, CEO & LPI (by video)	Bill Dowling
Phil Whitney	

I. Call to Order: 8:47am by Cory Alley.

II. Review/Sign Financial Warrants

Select Board reviews & signs Financial Warrants

Warrant #47	\$ 7,770.34	
Warrant #48	\$ 47,353.34	(school)
Warrant #49	\$ void	
Warrant #50	\$ 8,818.49	
Warrant #51	\$ 8,229.81	
Warrant #52	\$ 127,436.26	
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Total:	\$ 199,608.24	

All warrants were signed by the Select Board.

III. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes: October 3, 2023

Chairman Cory Alley moves, without objection, to approve the October 3, 2023 meeting minutes as written.

IV. New Business

A. Work Plan Updates

James Fortune reports the parking lot plan at 15 Mansell Lane was approved by the Southwest Harbor Planning Board on November 2. Some abutters were concerned about buffer and lighting. James Fortune to follow up on addressing concerns with the engineer. Joe Connell recommends engaging neighbors directly regarding their concerns.

Cory Alley reports the Islesford plow truck should be delivered in the next week.

James Fortune reports that ditching on GCI will commence on November 20. Joe Connell requests notice to review the project when the contractor is ready to commence.

I. Tree Limbing – GCI & LCI (taken out of order)

Cory Alley reports that trimming will be completed in December on Islesford. Amanda Bracy will review GCI for possible tree trimming needs.

A. Work Plan Updates (continued)

Amanda Bracy asks whether current moorings will be adequate for the third float on GCI. Cory Alley reports that current moorings were determined to be adequate by the contractor.

B. Carl Brooks: Growth Management Report

Carl Brooks presents remarks on the Growth Management Report he has prepared on behalf of the Town. He asserts that a Growth Management Plan supersedes a Comprehensive Plan under state law and would help the Town reach a sustainable population of approximately 200 year-round residents. He proposes to accomplish

this primarily through granting a property tax rebate for year-round residents funded by a three percent increase on “transient properties”. He recommends a Growth Management Plan Committee be formed to study the issue and offers to volunteer. General discussion.

K. Building Upgrade Program for GCI (College of the Atlantic) (taken out of order)

David Gibson of COA is attending today to present a US Department of Energy funded program to assist homeowners with energy efficient home improvement projects. General discussion of limits and possibilities. David Gibson requests storage space adequate for staging the project and a letter from the Town notifying residents of the program’s upcoming availability. Select board agrees, without dissent, to provide support for the program.

C. Task Updates

Select Board agrees, without dissent, to table this item as task updates are being covered elsewhere during the meeting.

D. Sutton Island Dredging Plan Update

James Fortune reports he has received no update from the engineer. He will be following up. Consensus of the Board is that the Town Dock also needs improvement and repair. Joe Connell will also contact engineer in effort to move the project forward.

E. Versant: Sutton Island Project Update

Cory Alley reports that the project has been completed, but a contractor has not been secured to repair the paths. Cory Alley tasks James Fortune to secure a contractor willing to undertake the project.

Allison Hess asks about plan for path repairs. Cory Alley advises that Versant is paying for repair of the path, but that the Town is responsible for repairs to the boardwalk. Consensus of the Select Board is to replace 800 feet of the current

boardwalk and add 400 feet of new construction. Additionally, a rough sketch of the location of the work will be available for review before work commences.

F. Land Use/Shoreland Zoning Ord.

Dennis Dever reports he is still awaiting a response from the State. Ben Sumner reports a Public Hearing is scheduled for December.

G. Fireworks Ordinance

Amanda Bracy presents a proposal for amended wording. General discussion. Select Board agrees, without dissent, to review wording for discussion at the December meeting.

H. Porta Potty for LCI

The Cranberry Isles Fisherman's Co-Op has requested that the Town provide a basic bathroom facility at the dock during the winter months. Cory Alley advises that the Town has split the cost with the Co-Op in past years. Cory Alley proposes, without dissent, to contact the Co-op and offer to split the cost of a Porta Potty until the regular public restrooms resume operation next spring.

J. Street Lights

James Fortune reports on streetlights that are out. He advises residents can report streetlight outages directly to Versant, who is responsible for the repairs. General discussion. Consensus of the Board is to task James Fortune to contact Versant about options for dark shade lighting where applicable.

L. 2024 Budget

Denise McCormick advises the Select Board to make decisions on capital projects as the first step in preparing the 2024 budget. Cory Alley recommends repaving be completed on Maple and Hadlock Streets on Islesford. General discussion of Manset Dock and parking lot. The Select Board agrees, without dissent, to consider the following capital projects for 2024: (1) Paving on LCI, (2) Salt Sheds on LCI & GCI, (3) Mansell Parking. The Select Board agrees, without dissent, to

consider funding toward continued progress on the following future capital projects: (1) Sutton Island Town Dock and dredging, (2) Manset Town Dock and dredging.

Consensus of the Board is to determine at the December meeting approximate costs of each project and what can be accomplished within the constraints of the 2024 budget.

V. Other Business

Katelyn Damon reports on a Maine based consulting firm offering planning tools for local fire and EMS departments. General discussion.

Sharon Morrell reports on difficulties within neighboring EMS and fire departments.

Joe Connell proposes, without objection, to further consider the proposal, but to table discussion for the time being.

VI. Audience Communication

None.

IX. Executive Session: Personnel Matter, 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A)V.

None.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned, without dissent, at 10:57am