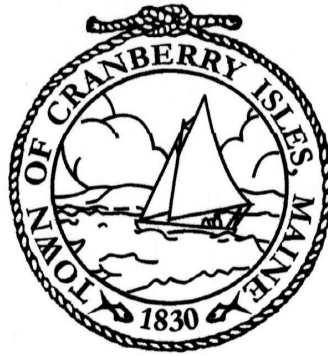


SELECT BOARD  
JOE CONNELL  
AMANDA BRACY



TOWN CLERK / TREASURER  
DENISE Mc CORMICK

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
TO THE SELECT BOARD  
JAMES FORTUNE

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATOR  
SHARON MORRELL

## Select Board Meeting Minutes January 17, 2024 Cranberry House

### **Attendance:**

Amanda Bracy, Select Board  
Joe Connell, Select Board  
Denise McCormick, Town Clerk  
James Fortune, Admin. Asst.  
Ben Sumner, Deputy Town Clerk  
Sharon Morrell, PSC  
Dennis Dever, CEO & LPI (by video)  
Phil Whitney

Karin Whitney  
Allison Hess (by video)  
Nadia Rosenthal (by video)  
Katelyn Damon  
Jonathan Wood (by video)  
Jeremy Alley  
Nan Hadlock (by video)

**I. Call to Order: 8:45 by Joe Connell**

**V. Other Business (taken out of order)**

Select Board observes a Moment of Silence in remembrance to Select Board Chairman Cory Alley, who passed away January 5, 2024.

**IV. New Business (taken out of order)**

**A. Elect Board Chair**

Joe Connell reports on discussions with the Maine Municipal Association about how the Board should move forward after Chairman Cory Alley's passing. Amanda Bracy moves, without dissent, to appoint Joe Connell Select Board Chairman.

Select Board agrees, without dissent, to make no Select Board appointment prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

Joe Connell presents a letter of condolence from the Maine Municipal Association.

## **II. Review/Sign Financial Warrants**

Select Board reviews & signs Financial Warrants

Warrant #50	\$ 6,745.51
Warrant #51	\$ 95,377.19
Total:	\$ 102,122.70

All warrants were signed by the Select Board.

## **III. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes: December 12, 2023**

Select Board agrees, without dissent, to approve the December 12, 2023 meeting minutes as written.

## **IV. New Business (continued)**

### **B. James Wadman Auditor: Sign Engagement Letter**

Denise McCormick presents the annual engagement letter for the Town's financial audit. Select Board reviews and signs the letter.

### **C. Sign Loan Documents for New Plow Truck**

Select Board reviews and signs loan documents for the new Islesford Plow Truck.

### **C. Work Plan Updates**

James Fortune reports that road ditching has been completed on both GCI and LCI. He is also working with Versant Power and Sundog Solar to resolve an issue with the installation of solar panels at the Town Office.

Joe Connell advises that ramp and float repairs will be needed at the GCI Town Dock after the recent storms.

James Fortune reports that the 80' ramp normally used on GCI in the summer has been refitted into two pieces to allow the installation of the third float next summer.

Amanda Bracy requests drawings of proposed plans for the Mansell Lane parking lot be included in the Town report.

#### **E. Public Hearing: Fireworks Ordinance Amendments**

Chairman Joe Connell opens public hearing. Audience questions about viewing the ordinance prior to the hearing. Select Board agrees, without objection, to postpone the hearing until the next meeting.

Joe Connell proposes, without objection, to schedule a special meeting for January 26, pending approval of the school budget.

#### **F. Municipal Resolution: Hancock County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

Denise McCormick presents proposed municipal resolution. Select Board reviews and signs resolution.

#### **V. Other Business (taken out of order)**

James Fortune reports that a damage assessment from the January 10 storm has been sent to Hancock County and is the first step toward potential federal assistance if a disaster declaration is made. Damage includes complete loss of the Sutton Island Town Dock, flooding of the Town restrooms at Islesford, and washout of access to the Maypole--which impacts the Versant undersea cable serving Islesford. General discussion. Select Board agrees, without dissent, to task James Fortune to solicit the Town Attorney's input on how to deal with the washout on private property beyond Sand Beach Road that hinders access to the Versant undersea cable. Nadia Rosenthal asks about access to Sutton Island. James Fortune reports there are three moorings available near the former Town dock for use in accessing Sutton Island in the near term.

James Fortune reports that one side of the retaining wall at the Manset Town Dock also collapsed during the January 10 storm. Dennis Dever recommends constructing new, higher, barrier rather than replacing or repairing the existing wall.

## **VI. Audience Communication (taken out of order)**

Joanne Thormann asks about status of the USDA grant for the Town's Broadband project. James Fortune reports that the Town anticipates funding for the GCI and LCI portions of construction will be reimbursed by the grant, but that Sutton Island construction will likely not be reimbursed due to changes necessary after the grant was awarded.

Nan Hadlock requests that the damage report from the January 10 storm compiled for possible federal assistance be posted to the Town's website.

## **G. Sutton Island Dredging Plan Update**

Allison Hess asks about the status of the engineer's report on Sutton Island dredging in light of the dock's destruction. Joe Connell recommends new discussions about possible Sutton Island Town Dock solutions with the engineer and a possible change in the proposed warrant article for the dock.

## **H. Versant: Sutton Island Project Update**

James Fortune reports that the mitigation measures Versant Power has agreed to complete at Sutton Island as a result of last year's pole replacements have not progressed due to the recent storm. Dennis Dever reports Goodwin's may be putting in a temporary ramp access near the dock site at Sutton Island to facilitate continued progress.

## **I. 2024 Budget and Warrant**

Denise McCormick reports that the school budget has been delayed until Friday, January 19. General discussion of storm damage repair priorities. Consensus of the Select Board is that the Sutton Island Town Dock and access to the Maypole are immediate budgeting priorities. Select Board agrees, without objection, to task

James Fortune to work with contractors on immediate solution to stop tidal flooding across Sand Beach Road using Road Reserve funds.

Select Board agrees, without dissent, to table further budget discussion until the Special Meeting on January 26.

**V. Other Business (continued)**

Select Board agrees, without objection, to appoint James Amuso and Shippen Savidge plow truck drivers on Islesford.

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

Joe Connell moves, without objection, to go into Executive Session at 10:14A.M. for a Personnel Matter.

Joe Connell moves, without objection, to return from Executive Session at 10:40A.M.

**X. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned, without dissent, at 10:40A.M.