

**Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2008**

Present were: Rosendel Gerry, Chairman, Richard M. McLaughlin, E. Earle Brown and H. Bob Plausse. Excused: Cathy Hardy.

Islesboro Selectmen: Pete Anderson, Grayson Hartley and ?.

MDOT: Paul Pottle and James MacLeod.

Items taken out of order while awaiting Islesboro Selectmen and Town Manager.

3. Approve Monhart Septic System Easement (if ready):

Kinney reported that the survey required for the easement was not complete and therefore the easement was not ready to be signed. Kinney asked that due to the lateness of the season if the Board wished to allow the Monhart's to proceed at their own risk and sign the easement upon its completion.

Motion by Plausse, second by McLaughlin, to allow the Monhart's to proceed at their own risk with the installation of the proposed septic system for their Norton Pond Road property. **Vote: 4-0.**

4. Approve and Sign Public Hearing Notice(s):

Motion by McLaughlin, second by Plausse, to approve and sign the public hearing notices for the November referendum ballot questions and the winter road closings. **Vote: 4-0.**

5. Approve and Sign Special Town Meeting Warrant:

Motion by McLaughlin, second by Brown, to approve and sign the Special Town Meeting Warrant for November 4, 2008. **Vote: 4-0.**

1. Discussion of Harbor Floats:

Paul Pottle, MDOT Project Manager explained that the bridge projects will be constructed by Cianbro with some preliminary work performed in the spring of 2009 in preparation for a fall shutdown. In Lincolnville the north side should be completed by mid-June. In Islesboro Cianbro will do the "busy" side first and then move over to the "slow" side later. Cianbro is still preparing its schedule. When it is completed MDOT will share it with the communities and seek input. During construction weekly construction meetings will be held and are open to attendance.

The fall shutdown has a maximum allowable length of four weeks and can start no earlier than September 28, 2009. The contract allows for a bonus (\$10,000 per day) should the shutdown be completed early and a penalty should it run over.

Jim MacLeod stated that some freight may be able to come from Lincolnville & Rockland but it will be limited. The Ferry Service is looking at leasing a 50-75 passenger vessel for the shutdown period.

Lincolnville Harbormaster Hutchings reminded all present of the limited dock space and limited water depth (particularly at low tide). He stated that private vessels will be a challenge. He suggested that the needs should be identified and a plan developed. Perhaps Cianbro could allow for additional floats along the north side. Mike also stated that 85-100 people (mostly workers) cross the dock now before 7AM.

2. Discussion of Parking Issues:

Selectmen McLaughlin stated his concern that parking is an issue now and will become even more so during the construction project. He stated that 80-100 people park and go to work on the island on a daily basis. In addition the beach by the ferry terminal is getting more and more popular. The State is selling more parking permits than spaces that exist. More parking spaces are needed.

Paul Pottle stated that the parking situation has improved but the situation is not solved. During the shutdown the lanes currently used to queue for the ferry will be available for parking. This should add about 40 parking spots. The Towns could consider writing the Commissioner of MDOT to request land purchase and parking lot construction.

A suggestion was made about leasing land. Pottle responded that one time capital spending is sometimes easier to acquire than yearly costs. Leasing land might be necessary during the shutdown but it is not likely a long term solution to the parking situation.

Jim MacLeod stated that MDOT looked at a parking garage for the ferry facility in Rockland but it is “not in the cards”.

McLaughlin asked if the people from Islesboro had any idea how many additional cars might be in Lincolnville during the shutdown. Town Manager Diffin responded that they did not know but they would attempt to find out. Pottle stated that right now only the MDOT lot is available but they are looking for “opportunities” during the shutdown period. Selectman Gerry reminded Pottle that the parking challenges extend beyond the construction period.

Pottle stated that MDOT would be looking at hiring a facilitator for a day long partnering event during the month of November to help flush out issues. He suggested that the Boards of Selectmen designate individuals to participate. More information on this session to be forthcoming.

Town Manger Diffin volunteered to write a letter to MDOT Commissioner Cole on behalf of the Towns seeking additional future funding for additional parking.

Chairman Gerry thanked all for coming.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Kinney
Town Clerk