

Special Selectboard Meeting
25 September 2024
6:00 PM
Town Office at Isle La Motte School and via Zoom

In Attendance: Peter Brzozowy, Mary-Catherine Graziano, Cary Sandvig, Pat Treckman, Rusty Spaulding, Sylvia Jensen, Joe Deller (via Zoom), Erin Gilligan (via Zoom)

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Selectboard Chair Peter Brzozowy.
2. **Additions to Agenda:** Chair Peter Brzozowy requested time at the end of the meeting to discuss progress on the architectural assessment of the Town owned buildings.
3. **Contracts/Grants/Bids**
 - *Tree Trimming*
 - Discuss Status of Work on Main Street/Close Out of Current Contract - Mary-Catherine Graziano has been in contact with Travis Bruyette who intends to complete his contracted work trimming trees on Main Street in November; he will attend the October 16, 2024 Selectboard meeting to discuss the work pending in person. Mr. Bruyette expressed to Ms. Graziano apologized for his slow response to repeated calls from Town officials, as he is working through a backlog of work. The lack of response is a concern for the Board which will be raised at the mid-October meeting. The expectation of Mr. Bruyette's attendance at the mid-October meeting will be provided via text, and Mary-Catherine Graziano will advise the contractor to be prepared to discuss his schedule for the remainder of the year.
 - Bid Document Review - The Board reviewed the draft bid document with Rusty Spaulding, and several changes to the bid were made including the due date and the streamlining of trimming specifications. The Selectboard discussed the idea of setting a completion date of year end 2025, with Joe Deller voicing concern over providing a year for completion; Rusty Spaulding indicated that the lack of service providers in the region and their backlog of work will likely guarantee that the scope of work included will require a full year for completion. It was decided to include language in the bid for contractors to provide an estimated start date and completion date for the work, and bids will be due October 15, 2024 for review at the October 16 Selectboard meeting. Cary Sandvig motioned to publish the bid with the edits discussed, seconded by Peter Brzozowy, all in favor.
4. **Town Business**
 - *ARPA Funding*
 - Review and Execute Resolution for Grant Funds - Chair Peter Brzozowy read into the minutes the resolution as follows, after which motion was made by Cary Sandvig to execute the resolution, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.

RESOLUTION FOR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) ALLOCATION

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, the President of the United States signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to provide continued relief from the public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, ARPA created the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) that provided direct funding to state, local, and Tribal governments across the country to support their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Isle LaMotte has accepted an allocation of SLFRF in the amount of \$148,900.27; and

WHEREAS, SLFRF provides needed fiscal relief for recipients that have experienced revenue loss due to the onset of the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, Treasury presumes that up to \$10 million in revenue has been lost due to the public health emergency and recipients are permitted to use that amount (not to exceed the award amount) to fund "government services."; and

WHEREAS, Recipients may elect a "standard allowance" of \$10 million to spend on government services through the period of performance; and

WHEREAS, All recipients may elect to use this standard allowance instead of calculating lost revenue using the formula provided by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, including those with total allocations of \$10 million or less; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Isle LaMotte has the need to fund government services while in the recovery phase of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, the Selectboard of the Town of Isle LaMotte, Vermont, authorize the following:

Section 1. The following allocation of SLFRF funding to fund government services under the replacing lost public sector revenue spending category as follows:

Expend SLFRF funds in an amount up to \$148,900.27 for the purpose of municipal workforce retention to pay for payroll expenses for the period 01/01/2024 through 12/31/2024.

- Review Deadlines for Upcoming Vote - The Board reviewed the draft warning prepared, updating the first article and setting a date for the informational meeting. The Board questioned if the number of signatures gathered on the petition for Article 2 were sufficient for a binding resolution; ultimately a review of the statute indicated that 5% of registered voter signatures were required in either binding or non-binding situations. Furthermore, a discussion of the validation of the registered voters signing the petition was held; it was unclear if the Town Clerk had confirmed that all signatures were that of registered voters, but Ms. Jensen indicated that it was the responsibility of the Town Clerk to confirm the validity of signatories within twenty-four hours of the time of submission of the petition; the Board will follow up with Vickie Buswell to confirm. It was noted that the Town Moderator would need to be contacted for participation at the informational meeting. The Board discussed the date of the informational meeting and the total dollar commitment to be reflected in the article, as well as the publication date for the warning. Sylvia Jensen requested a modification to Article 2 to reflect that the new pavilion would replace the old pavilion, but the suggestion was deemed inappropriate as the petition had been signed by voters without the notation. The discussion turned to the distribution of ballots, and as the General Election ballots are being mailed to all residents by the State the Town would mail the ballot for the two articles to all registered voters, thus ensuring everyone an opportunity to weigh in on the decision. Chair Peter Brzozowy read into the minutes the warning as follows, after which motion was made by Mary-Catherine Graziano to execute the resolution, seconded by Cary Sandvig, all in favor. Following the reading of the warning, Cary Sandvig motioned to approve the mailing of ballots for the two articles to all registered voters, seconded by Pat Treckman, all in favor.

**TOWN OF ISLE LA MOTTE
OFFICIAL NOTICE
SPECIAL MEETING ARTICLES**

The legal voters of the Town of Isle La Motte are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Isle La Motte Town Office/former Elementary School on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM at which time the polls will be open for the purpose of voting by Australian ballot.

Article 1.

Shall the Town establish a Reserve Fund to be called the ILM 2024 Reserve Fund to be used for improving and maintaining Town Offices, as well as grant match, by depositing up to \$79,000 from the General Fund surplus in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804?

Article 2.

Shall the voters of Isle La Motte support reserving up to \$12,500 of 2024 Town surplus budget funds in support of matching grants to construct a 20 foot x 40 foot outdoor pavilion at the Veterans Recreational Park?

Ballots will be counted by members of the Isle La Motte Board of Civil Authority.

The Selectboard will hold an informational meeting at the Isle La Motte Town Office/former Elementary School on Saturday, October 26, 2024 at 10:00 AM. Remote participation may be accessed via the following methods:

By Computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88093679235?pwd=OTZOUldCdW5sQmFmWXlaVHJHMmM2Zz09>

By Phone: +1 646 931 3860 or find your local number at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88093679235?pwd=OTZOUldCdW5sQmFmWXlaVHJHMmM2Zz09>

Passcode: 416755

Meeting ID: 880 9367 9235

This information is also posted online at <https://islelamotte.us/>.

Isle La Motte Selectboard

Peter Brzozowy, Chair

Mary-Catherine Graziano

Cary Sandvig

Joseph Deller

Pat Treckman

- Pavilion Update - Sylvia Jensen announced that the Isle La Motte Community Organization (ILMCO) had pledged up to a \$1,000 donation towards the fundraising efforts for the project.

5. Other Business

- *Town Buildings Architectural Survey*

Peter Brzozowy announced that the grant-funded assessment of the buildings had begun, with walkthroughs completed by architects and structural engineers of both buildings. There are several pending items to be coordinated for completion by the Selectboard; Mary-Catherine Graziano will post a public notice via social media to alert the public of the reason behind the activity at Old Town Hall in the event the work draws attention and questions. A proposed calendar of meetings at various stages of the study and ultimate recommendation was reviewed and will include presentations at Selectboard meetings and to residents at warned public meetings beginning in October.

6. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM, motioned by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Pat Treckman, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted on 28 September 2024 -
Andrea Carbone

Peter Brzozowy, *Chair*

Mary-Catherine Graziano

Cary Sandvig

Joe Deller

Pat Treckman
