

Town of Isle La Motte
Selectboard Special Meeting Minutes – 2026 budget
20 January 2026

PRESENT – Chair, Peter Brzozowy, Vice-Chair, Pat Treckman, Joe Deller, Mary-Catherine Graziano, Cary Sandvig, Treasurer, Mary LaBrecque, Cemetery Commission representative, Cathy Tudhope, Board Clerk, Donna Bohannon VIA ZOOM – Erin Gilligan

Call to Order Meeting was called to order at 4:11PM by Chair, Peter Brzozowy

Additions/Adjustments – None made

Cemetery Commission – mowing contract – Cathy Tudhope began the discussion about the mowing contract for the cemeteries. There has been discussion about combining the mowing contracts and putting out to bid one mowing contract to include the town lands, and the cemeteries in one contract.

Cathy expressed the concerns of the Cemetery Commission about changing the contractor for the cemetery mowing as cemetery mowing requires a different set of skills than mowing other lands. The concern is that a different contractor may not have the proper equipment or the expertise it requires to mow around headstones and maintain the land on, in and around the graves.

Peter Brzozowy acknowledged that those were valid concerns and explained that the Selectboard is making the suggestion as a way to streamline the budget in the hopes of lessening the burden on taxpayers.

Both parties, Cathy Tudhope as representative of the Cemetery Commission and the Selectboard agree that lessening the burden for taxpayers is important but that properly maintain the cemetery lands is important as well.

There was more discussion about putting forth the bid packet to include two separate components to the contract. One component would be the town own lands, excluding the cemeteries and the other component would be the cemeteries. Contractors would have the opportunity to bid on one or both pieces and the contract could be separated into two. The Request for Bids (RFP) would give detail about both pieces of the contract and ask for specific information about qualifications, equipment and experience. This would allow the town to choose the most suitable contractor for both sections of the contract.

Mary-Catherine Graziano suggested and the other Selectboard members agreed that once bids come in for the mowing, the Cemetery Commission members would be a part of the decisionmaking process for the cemetery portion of the contract. Cathy Tudhope stated that she

felt the other Cemetery Commission members would be more accepting of the decision to put the cemetery mowing out to bid if they were going to have a voice in the final decision.

Budget completion – The group continued to discuss several areas of the budget where questions still remained. They made several changes/additions to the worksheet with fiscal responsibility being at the forefront of their minds.

No final amounts were determined at this meeting, and another budget meeting was scheduled for 01/22/2026 to begin at 6PM.

Cary Sandvig reported to all present that the CUD would like to attend the first meeting in February to update the town on the fiber optic lines being installed and when the town may have access to fiber optic internet. Cary also explained that they (the CUD) would like to attend town meeting to meet and greet taxpayers and hand out information about fiber optic internet. This topic will be added to the February 4th agenda.

Adjourn – At 6:58PM Peter Brzozowy motioned to adjourn – seconded by Joe Deller -all in favor – motion carried – meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Donna L. Bohannon

Assistant to the Selectboard / temporary Selectboard Clerk

Peter Brzozowy Chair

MaryCatherine Graziano

Joe Deller

Pat Treckman

Cary Sandvig