

Chappy Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting
December 6, 2022
5:00 pm

A meeting of the Committee was held on the above date and time via Zoom. Members present were: Rick Biros, Bill Brine, John Dropick, Rick Schifter, Sally Snipes Dana Strayton, Tom Tighlman, Peter Wells and Town Administrator, James Hagerty.

Katherine Patch from Fuss & O'Neill provided an update on the engineering assessment being done as part of the Chappy Ferry resiliency project and answered questions from the Committee on that work.

The minutes of the meeting of November 23 meeting were approved.

Bill Brine advised that the License Subcommittee had met and begun discussions regarding issues relevant to license renewal. He further advised that the expected the Subcommittee would be prepared to provide its recommendations by mid-January.

The Committee discussed issues relevant to the retention of an independent third party to review various forms of ownership, which it previously recommended to the Select Board. It was acknowledged that such a party would need access to financial information on the ferry operation to conduct that analysis. Hagerty agreed to bring to the Committee a proposed request for proposals for this engagement and thoughts on how it would be funded.

The Committee discussed the upcoming Select Board hearing on the request for an increase in the ferry rates. A motion was adopted to advise the Select Board that: 1) while the Committee had reviewed the conclusions of the Nardella & Taylor analysis, it had not been given access to the underlying report; and 2) Wells had acknowledged that the Ferry would "make it through the winter" without a fare increase. (Wells, Snipes and Schifter abstained).

The Committee entertained comments from nonmember attendees.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm.