A special meeting was called by 1st Selectman Jim Kuiken to discuss the purchase of new wireless scanners for the eTicket system. Wayne explained that the scanners used last year worked by storing the data retrieved from the scans until it could be uploaded to the host server and likewise the new data from any ticket purchases remained stored in the host server until it could be downloaded to the scanner. This process usually took place at the end of each shift. This created a problem when tickets were purchased and then used before the download process occurred. The mates typically trusted the word of the user and accepted the tickets even though the scanner labeled them as invalid which compromised the integrity of the system. The developers suggested we use wireless scanners that could communicate in real time with the host server. The scanners cost $1500 each plus an additional $30 for a spare battery and $200 for a 3 year service contract. Wayne suggested the ExCom appropriate up to $6000 from the ferry capital reserve to purchase three scanners, one now on a trial basis to insure it operates as expected and then two additional. Joe explained that the new process as planned was a radical change from the previous system and it remained untested. However, he thought that we should consider eventually getting 5 of the scanners. One for the captain and mate for each ferry and one for the ticketing agent. A motion was made by Mark Thomas and seconded by John Nun to appropriate up to $10,000 from the Ferry Capital reserve for the purchase of 5 scanners. The motion passed with 7 in favor and 0 opposed. It was agreed that one would be purchased immediately and sent to the developers to insure it operated satisfactorily and one would be sent to Joe Potts for his testing. The others would be purchased after the testing was complete.

There was also a discussion of the Ferry Debt owed by Alison Zea. Wayne told the Board that he would check with the Town Attorney to see what could be done legally to pursue the debt and report to the ExCom at the next meeting.