

HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

City Hall, Room 319, 5:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Tucker Braddock, City Manager John Salomone, Michael Gualtieri, Jerry Martin & Zechariah Stover

OTHERS PRESENT: Harbor Management Consultant Geoff Steadman, Harbor Master Rich Thayer and Recording Secretary Melinda Wilson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alderman Joseph DeLucia and Mark Sicuso

CITIZENS PRESENT: None

1. Call to Order: Chair Tucker Braddock called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.
2. Determination of Quorum: It was determined a quorum was present.
3. Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Jerry Martin, seconded by Michael Gualtieri, the July 23, 2019 meeting minutes of the Harbor Management Commission (HMC) were unanimously approved with a request by Mike Gualtieri to note the Italian Festival is actually named The Taste of Italy.
4. Community Policing Report: Officer Michael Lax of the Norwich Police Department was not present.
5. Correspondence: Mike Gualtieri reported on the revised June, July and August 2019 financial reports. The June statement was revised to show the payment to Docko. He relayed the HMC expenses and balances. On a motion by Zechariah Stover, seconded by Jerry Martin, the Revised June, July and August 2019 financial reports were unanimously accepted.
6. Harbor Master Report: Harbor Master Rich Thayer reported four boats in the river are causing blight. The four boats that are blighted are near Shipping Street with the permission of the property owner, Kennedy. Peter Castle said this was acceptable. The boats are not obstructing the river. Rich said he met with Blight Officer Brittany Williams, whom he complimented. Also there is a sailboat downriver that has a man living in it. The man living in the sailboat will leave within two weeks. The wakes of other boats are causing his boat damage. He asked Donald to spread the word that boats leaving wakes need to be careful.

7. New Business:

Jerry Martin asked that the harbor webcam link on the city website be sent to NCDL to be added to their website. City Manager John Salomone said he will take care of it. Jerry also asked Tucker Braddock to promote the webcam with local media. Tucker agreed and Geoff Steadman agreed to assist with drafting a letter.

Jerry also requested more police presence at Howard T. Brown Park. He noted that scooters are causing a problem. He also asked about the date the no-wake buoy can be removed for the winter. Rich referred Jerry to the marina management, as it is their responsibility.

Discussion ensued about moving boats that are in violation of various permitting rules, are blighted, etc. Geoff referred Rich to Kim Czapla at DEEP for Harbor Master questions.

Tucker reported that HMC has a permit from DEEP to go forward with the work on the docks. It needs to be recorded with the City Clerk. Once recorded it is good for five years. This covers the work that Docko estimated for the SHIPP grant. This will cost \$110 total. Mike Gualtieri made a motion to record the permit at an expense of \$110. The motion was seconded by Zechariah Stover. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Old business:

- a) Harbor Management Plan Review Update: Geoff Steadman reported that he has drafted the update HMP based on past conversations of the HMC and survey results. He had given them to City Planner Deanna Rhodes for review. He complimented her on her suggestions. He added her suggestions to Chapter 6. He handed out printed copies and will forward electronic copy to the recording secretary to be forwarded to all HMC members.

Discussion ensued on adding text to the plan to demonstrate the HMC's support of the appropriate use of sea planes in the harbor.

Geoff will present the last chapter at the next meeting.

Tucker asked each member to review the draft and bring comments to the next meeting. Members were also given the option of emailing suggestions to Geoff prior to the next meeting.

- b) Osprey Nest Update: Tucker noted that there has been no forward progress on the project. He will

make some calls. Discussion ensued on seeing if another scout was interested in the project.

- c) CT Port Authority (CPA) Grant Opportunity Update: Tucker noted the recent turmoil at the CPA and the resulting staff turnover. He wants to ensure that the importance of the turning basin is conveyed to the CPA.

Geoff reported that the Harbor Management Association wrote to Governor Ned Lamont requesting him to continue the SHIPP grant program. He also reported that Joe Salvatore of the CPA has been asked to give a report on the SHIPP grant proposals to the next meeting of the CPA Board.

- d) Police Station Nautical Flags Update: Mark Sicuso was not present. Tucker reported that he asked G&W for permission to clean up the brush near the tracks near the police station. G&W went ahead and cleaned it up on their own. He expressed his appreciation.

9. Citizen Comment: None

10. Other: None

11. Adjournment: On a motion to adjourn by Jerry Martin, seconded by Mike Gualtieri, the Harbor Management Commission meeting adjourned at 6:02 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Wilson
Recording Secretary*