

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON  
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING  
Monday March 8, 2021 7:00 P.M.  
City Hall, Common Council Chambers

**Members Present**

Sue Knauer, Jerry Gruen, Bill Driscoll, Jordan Schwanz, Dennis Brede, and Mike Gasper

**Others Present**

Harbormaster Dennis Cherny

Secretary Lisa Rathke

Marina Tenant Richard Laske

Bill Lundgren-Back 40 Broadband, LLC

1. **Roll Call: (Absent: Dan Laurance)**

2. **Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting**

**Dennis Brede made a motion to approve the October 12, 2020 minutes as written and Bill Driscoll seconded. Motion Carried.**

**Dennis Brede made a motion to approve the October 16, 2020 site visit minutes and Jordan Schwanz seconded. Motion Carried.**

3. **Monthly Financial Report**

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that the 2020 end of year numbers aren't final until the audit is complete in May or June, however, the City Treasurer doesn't believe that the numbers will change much. The Debt Service has been paid and the \$50,000 to the General Fund was taken by the city as well and we ended up with surplus a \$97,000 surplus pushing our Reserve Fund up to almost \$300,000. It was the best year for the marina in recent history. Member Driscoll mentioned that he would like the financial statements to show current and previous year numbers.

4. **Approve Hiring Of Seasonal Employees**

Harbormaster Cherny said that all the employees listed are re-hires that have worked at the marina in the past. They are all good workers and is requesting approval. **Mike Gasper made a motion to approve the hiring of seasonal employees as listed in the agenda item memorandum and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion Carried.**

5. **Update On Marina WIFI**

Bill Lundgren, Back 40 Broadband LLC presented an update on the Marina WIFI upgrade. He handed out the revised quote to the members. Bill mentioned that a meeting was held with Ald. Dan Benning regarding the need to have a faster internet connection and more upload bandwidth at the Marina. Dan will work with Digicorp and Spectrum regarding upgrading the service at the marina. Bill mentioned that unlike last year, the equipment needed for the project is in stock. Member Gruen thanked Bill for the update.

6. **Update On Newport Shores Project And Fish Cleaning Station**

Harbormaster Cherny stated that everyone received the packet of information that was presented to us from Ansay. Harbormaster Cherny explained to the City Engineer that what Ansay is proposing is not acceptable. It is no where near the size of our current fish cleaning station. What Ansay was proposing was the small fish cleaning station similar to the one by Ewigs. Member Gruen and Member Schwanz agreed and said that we need to have the same capability if not better than what we currently have. Member Gasper also mentioned that the structure that Ansay was proposing was a much lesser structure nor does it match the marina's current architecture.

Harbormaster Cherny also mentioned that Ian McCain from Ansay had stated that the current fish cleaning station would remain open until the new one is complete unless they feel it is unsafe for the users due to the construction. He mentioned that he does have a meeting with the construction company on Thursday to discuss the fish cleaning station. Member Driscoll stated that if we can't get access to the current fish cleaning station while the other one is being built; it will be the beginning to the end of the fishing in Port Washington. Discussion was held.

7. **Harbormaster's Report**

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that the Marina received the "Elite" Boater's Choice award in December based on customer reviews on Marinas.com. He also informed the commission that the marina has been re-certified as a "Clean Marina" and we are the longest running Clean Marina in the state of Wisconsin.

Harbormaster Master Cherny said that the ramp leading out to the breakwater was destroyed in a storm again and said that the City along with Foth is looking into asking the Army Corps Of Engineers to put in an underwater rubble mound to protect that area of the break wall.

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that fish were planted in the last couple of weeks; 30,000 Coho and 14,000 Browns. Member Brede added that they dumped 17,000 Browns, 13,000 Coho and a mixture of Rainbows into the creek.

With fuel prices going up, Harbormaster Cherny said that the marina purchased 25,000 gallons of gasoline and 25,000 gallons of diesel fuel at a decent price.

Water Levels are down about two feet since last summer.

Member Brede asked if there was any word from the Army Corps of Engineers since they approved the work to the South Breakwater. Member Gasper said that the award for amor stone to be placed on the outside and some possibly on the inside, however, he has no idea when they will be performing the work.

Member Gasper mentioned that the Rescue Boat had a lot of electrolysis on the side of the boat facing the fuel pier. Harbormaster Cherny said that the marina checks throughout the summer for stray electrical current and has not found any. The marina will be checked prior to opening this spring for any stray voltage coming from our electrical system.

**8. Marina Tenants' Comments**

No comments.

**9. Any Other Business That May Come Properly Before The Commissions**

No Comments.

**10. Adjournment**

**Bill Driscoll made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 pm and Dennis Brede seconded. Motion Carried.**

**Minutes Approved By The Harbor Commission 4/12/21**