

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING
Monday May 10, 2021 7:00 P.M.
City Hall, Common Council Chambers

Members Present

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

Others Present

Harbormaster Dennis Cherny

Secretary Lisa Rathke

Joe Burke-Resident

1. Roll Call: (Absent: All members present)

Member Gruen welcomed new member Tim Osowski to the Harbor Commission.

2. Election Of Chairman And Vice Chairman

Member Gruen opened nominations for Chairman. **Sue Knauer nominated the current Chair, Jerry Gruen, with no other nominations. Motion Carried.** Member Gruen opened nominations for Vice Chairman. **Sue Knauer nominated current Vice Chairman Bill Driscoll and Jerry Gruen seconded the nomination. Motion Carried.**

3. Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting

Bill Driscoll made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Dennis Brede seconded. Motion Carried.

3. Monthly Financial Report

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that there isn't a whole lot going on right now. He reported that the hot water heater in the restrooms on the west side behind Duluth Trading needed to be replaced at a cost of \$1100.00. During the last windstorm we had, we lost the tent at the North Building by the grills and that was replaced at a cost of \$600.00. Member Driscoll would like to see the comparison from last year to this year on the financial report. Secretary Rathke mentioned that she will send last year's financial statement and the current financial statement for the upcoming meetings until the audit is complete.

5. Approve Hiring Of Seasonal Employees

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that the list of employees are all new employees and they been interviewed. He is looking for them to be approved. **Dennis Brede made a motion to approve the list of new employees and Mike Gasper seconded the motion. Motion Carried.**

5. Update On Marina WIFI

Harbormaster Cherny reported that Bill started working on the project last week, however, he is still waiting on some parts which have been delayed due to the ship being stuck in the Panama Canal for 6 days causing 400 other ships to be delayed. Harbormaster Cherny stated that Bill is confident that the project will be completed by June 4th.

7. Update On Newport Shores Project And Fish Cleaning Station

Harbormaster Cherny shared the updated renderings of what the fish cleaning station will look like. They are still working on the underground mechanics of the fish cleaning station. They are suggesting two pumps be installed besides the grinder in case one of them breaks down there is a backup to keep the fish cleaning station functioning. Ansay would like to start ordering the parts. Harbormaster Cherny reported that the construction company did move the fence down by the North Building and we now have more of our parking lot back and they did clean everything up.

8. Harbormaster's Report

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that the lake levels in July of 2020 were at 5.2 feet above the zero mark on our scale and as of today we are now at 3.3 feet, the lake is down two feet from last year. He reported that half the boats are in the marina with more being launched every day.

Harbormaster Cherny reported that the Great Lakes Sport Fishermen generously donated 10 dock carts to be used to walk coolers from the trailer lot up to the fish cleaning station. He mentioned that he made a fenced in area in the trailer lot for them to be neatly stored.

Harbormaster Cherny reported that fishing has picked up and Member Schwanz added that there have been several six person limits coming in which is great news. Member Brede believes this is due to the stocking numbers being up.

9. **Marina Tenants' Comments**

No comments from the Tenants. Member Driscoll said that there is a Yacht Club meeting this Friday. He will mention it again at the meeting and will have something put in the Yacht Club's monthly newsletter, The Porthole, looking for anyone that would be interested in being the representative for the marina tenants.

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

Joe Burke commented that on the Marina Report found on the city website that it mentioned something about working on marketing the marina and he was wondering if that was ever done. Harbormaster Cherny said that the Marina is full, with a 65-boat waiting list. Member Driscoll added that right after that report came out Lisa came up with some ideas on getting boaters to come to Port Washington. Secretary Rathke added that by marketing the Port Washington Marina as a "Destination Marina" based on the marina facilities and the access to restaurants, bars, and shops and other things to do around town we have been full with transients that are staying in Port Washington longer rather than using us as a pit stop on the way to other marinas. Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that we have been a "Boater's Choice" award recipient for the last three years and in 2020 we were awarded the "Elite Boater's Choice" award which is the highest award given by Marinas.com.

Member Driscoll asked if Jerry and Sue had attended the Common Council meeting regarding the fish cleaning station and parking on the north end and Member Gruen mentioned that Harbormaster Cherny told them that they did not need to go on behalf of the Harbor Commission and Marina as the construction crew did as we asked and opened the fence to the fish cleaning station and cleared out their equipment and materials from the parking lot in front of the North Building and moved the fencing to open that back up for tenant parking prior to the common council meeting.

11. **Adjournment**

Dennis Brede made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion Carried.