

HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 21, 2016

- 1.) Meeting called to order
Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Reed at 4:31 P.M.
- 2.) Roll Call
Present-Butch Mehlberg, Dick Olson, Roger Reed, and Nancy Rhode; Excused-Ellis Mercier.
Also present: John Bostedt, Chief Bernie Faith, Mayor Heier, Bob LeBreck, John Mick, Sara Perrizo, Chief John Reed, Lee Rockwell,
- 3.) Approval of agenda
Motion by Olson, second by Mehlberg, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.
- 4.) Approval of the 7/20/2016 meeting minutes
Motion by Olson, second by Mehlberg, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion carried
- 5.) Public Input
Chief Reed commended the harbor masters for the work and efforts at the harbor. Perrizo reported the city council transferred \$250,000 in excess fund balance to the harbor's negative fund balance to insure the City's good bond rating is not affected. The harbor's negative fund balance is still \$250,000.
- 6.) Correspondence:
None presented
- 7.) Discussion/possible recommendation/updates on the following:
 - a.) 2017 3rd Annual Oconto Sailfest Craft & Vendor Event
Event organizers asked to be on the agenda, but were not present at the meeting to provide information.
 - b.) An ordinance amending the Municipal Code, Section 12-1-7 Boat Ramp User fees
This Section has not been updated in many years and states outdated fees. An amendment to the ordinance was presented that would not state fee amounts, but indicated that fees "shall be set annually by the Harbor Commission".

Motion by Rhode, second by Mehlberg, to recommend the ordinance amendment to City Council. Motion carried
 - c.) 2017 Rates
The Commission was informed of an informal meeting held with two marina consultants. Perrizo explained the consultants compared and scored the Oconto Harbor Marina and 5 other marinas in 35 marina related areas, and with the Oconto Harbor scoring the lowest, the consultants indicated a reduction in per foot rate was necessary to rent to more boats. They also offered advice, suggestions and considerations to improve the appeal of the Harbor marina. Department Heads commented that as part of their meeting discussion on improving the city, the lack of boats in the Harbor marina is discussed and is a concern. Jon Mick, owner of Hi-Seas Marina addressed the Commission, expressing his objection to a rate reduction.

After additional Commission member discussion, motion by Rhode, second by Olson to set the 2017 launch fees at the current 2016 rates, with no early bird discount, and allowing a second seasonal launch fee for \$10; motion carried.

Motion by Reed, second by Mehlberg to set the 2017 slip rental rates the same as 2016 for daily, weekly and monthly rentals, and decrease the seasonal rental to \$40 per foot; motion carried.
 - d.) Rental of golf carts @ Breakwater Park & Harbor
The mayor provided information on this project including an update on the use of County Y to access the harbor area, and the plan to have carts available at the harbor for rent.

e.) Speed limit lowering [golf carts]

The mayor reported that Oconto County has indicated they will not reduce the speed limit on County Y.

f.) 2017 Budget

The budget as prepared by Bostedt and Perrizo was reviewed. The Commission added \$1,800 in golf cart revenue and expense. Motion by Olson, second by Mehlberg to recommend the budget as presented with the addition of the golf cart funds; motion carried.

g.) Condition of City Docks

Although the area around the cement slab has been surrounded with caution fence the public is still using the slab as a fishing area. Bostedt was asked to discuss the status of a repair with Jeremy Wusterbarth.

h.) Harbor Town Guide [due before end of September 2016]

Rhode reported that Oconto County Tourism (OCT) had submitted the requested information in July.

However, the person putting the guide together has decided to change the format at the request of community members. Therefore OCT has since submitted the additional information request and is waiting for a proof of the page.

i.) Sheboygan Walleye Battle on the Bay Recap

97 boats participated and no problems were identified.

8.) Board Report:

a.) Marketing & Advertisement

Rhode asked if the Harbor ad placed in the 2016 Discovery Guide will be continued into the 2017 Guide.

The Commission agreed to continue with the ad, without any changes to it reflecting the decreased rental rates as they felt "economical rates" was acceptable.

b.) City boat ramps (Ellis)

No report

c.) Fishing Tournaments/Special Events

Currently no 2017 tournament applications.

9.) Park(s) Inspection Report (John)

No problems identified

Approval of accounts payable from July 1st – 31st, 2016 in the amount of \$2,545.85; August 1st – 31st, 2016 in the amount of \$2,656.19

Motion by Mehlberg, second by Olson to approve the accounts payable as reviewed, in the amount of \$2,656.19; motion carried.

10.) Revenue/Expenditure Reports

The Report was reviewed, with motion by Olson, second by Reed to accept the report; motion carried.

11.) Next Meeting date/time & agenda items:

The next meeting was scheduled for October 19th at 4:30 p.m. Agenda items identified for inclusion are: Sailfest (if requested by organizers) and parking and storing of golf carts.

12.) Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Reed.