

HARBOR COMMISSION
Wednesday, September 7th, 2022 @ 4:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers

The mission of the Harbor Commission Committee is to promote the use of the harbor and its facilities, maintain the public harbor facilities, and plan for harbor improvements.

- 1.) The Harbor Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Viestenz.
- 2.) Roll Call: Dick Olson, Nancy Rhode, Todd Trepanier, Jim Viestenz, Steve Stock; and non-voting member Paul Lukas
Also Present: Mayor J. Panetti; John Bostedt, Director of Parks, Rec., and Forestry
- 3.) **Rhode called motion for approval of Agenda; Olson issued second. (5 Ayes)**
- 4.) **Approval of Meeting Minutes from 08/10/2022 was placed into motion by Olson with a Stock second. (5 Ayes)**
- 5.) Public Input: Lukas submitted that causeway Yield signs are necessary: Superintendent Wusterbarth is determining the issue. Lukas also felt that the red light at the end of the causeway is difficult to see from on the water at night. (It was determined that it is @ Coast Guard measurement -even in lumens- therefore a change is not eminent: a conclusion that the parking lot and water tower lights might be causing this illusion.)
- 6.) Correspondence:
 - a.) Live Harbor Cam Views— 11,907 viewings between 8/8/22 and 9/6/22.
 - b.) Oconto Lighthouse (Dave Duca) Duca's complaint letter was included in the Commissions packet. It reads of his concern with the lighted pole at the end of the Breakwater/Causeway: he wants the old lighthouse back, says Mayor Panetti. The Commission concluded that Duca's request is more of a Coast Guard issue. **Viestenz and Olson seconded a recommendation that the concept of Duca's lighthouse should be forwarded to the US Coast Guard. (M/C)**
Bostedt will respond in the name of the City of Oconto to Duca and suggest he forward the request to the US Coast Guard.
- 7.) Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:
 - a.) Future Dredging (South Shore Break Wall) The Commission awaits Superintendent Wusterbarth's conclusion to both this and the grant dredging below.
 - b.) Update on Grant for Dredging— Superintendent Wusterbarth
 - c.) 2022 Seasonal Slip Rentals— Bostedt reported that 1 payment remains.
 - d.) Availability of Seasonal Passes sold at North Shore Bait Company— The past month resulted in 4 passes sold.
 - e.) 2023 Harbor Prices— Commission packets held a price sheet covering Oconto Harbor and Breakwater Park 2022 Boat Launch Fees and Summer Slip Rental Fees. Extended discussion volleyed from the partnership of price determination between area Counties to the Mayor's request that the Commission consider a rate increase. Thereafter how to raise prices and still consider cliental moved between several choices including an axel tax or flat rates, seasonal resident vs. non-resident fee differences, launch fees and/or slip rental fees. Director Bostedt stated that he must present the Budget next month and that he bases his numbers on the Commission decisions. **Olson motioned the following schedule for 2023: to raise the Daily Launch Fee to \$7; Seasonal Resident Launch Fee to \$55; Non-Resident Seasonal Launch Fee to \$75; and for a 2nd trailer to \$15. It too was determined that non-payment launch fee have a fine of \$75. Seniors (62+) and Military will receive a discount of -\$5 on a seasonal pass. Stock followed with a second. (M/C)**
The Commission concluded that Summer Slip Rental Fees will be aligned for summer 2024 in the future.

8.) Board Report:

- a.) Marketing & Advertisement— Director Bostedt is awaiting the proofs for the **Discovery Guide**.
- b.) City Boat Ramps— No issue presently
- c.) Fishing Tournaments/Special Events— Bostedt informed that there will be the MWC Championship @ the end of the month: 40 – 50 boats. Rhode informed that the County has been taking care of some tournament excess fees.
- d.) Park(s) Inspection Report [John Bostedt, Director] The US Coast Guard has been contacted as to end of the Causeway buoys: the type of purchase will be made from a booklet on-its-way.

9.) With limited discussion, **Stock made motion for approval of Accounts Payable from August 5th, 2022 through August 31st, 2022 in the amount of \$2,885.82. Rhode witnessed the second. (M/C)** Rhode noted the line item for Police Canine which should have been removed.

10.) Revenue & Expenditure Guidelines were viewed and questioned appropriately, then accepted by the Harbor Commission. Note that all carryovers existing in 2022 were dissolved and used for City debt.

11.) Next Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, October 5th @ 4:30 p.m.
Agenda Items: Future Dredging (South Shore Break Wall)
Update on Grant for Dredging

12.) **Olson summoned adjournment @ 6:03 p.m. Stock witnessed second. (M/C)**

Minutes submitted by
Susan K. Seidl