

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON  
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING  
Monday August 11, 2008, 7:00 P.M.  
City Hall, Lower Level Conference Room

Members Present

Jerry Gruen, David Larson, Jerry Baganz, Sue Knauer

Others Present

Harbor Master Dennis Cherny

City Administrator Mark Grams

1. **Roll Call:** (Absent: Ralph Hess and Frank Metz)
  
2. **Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting**  
**Jerry Baganz made a motion to approve minutes as written and David Larson seconded. Motion carried.**
  
3. **Monthly Financial Report**  
City Administrator Grams said that revenues are down, due in part to launches and transients being down this year. He said that expenses are down too. He said that by the end of August, the busiest part of the season will be over, so we will have a better idea of where we are at. Harbormaster Cherny added that everything is down this year and feels that the sporadic fishing as well as the high cost of fuel has played a big part in it. Gas and diesel are both down roughly 10,000 gallons compared to last year. The marina is also down about 800 launches compared to last year. With that, everything goes down, ice sales, store sales, etcetera. He said that Fish Day was a big loss as well for the marina.
  
4. **Conversion Of Permanent Piers To Floating Piers**  
Harbormaster Cherny said that City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven received proposals from three companies STS, JJR, and Baird. They all seem to have a significant amount of experience and they all stated that they will have roughly a September 2009 till April 2010 time frame for construction. Commissioner Gruen asked if there was any hope of getting grants for the project. Harbormaster Cherny said that grant writing is part of the proposals. The companies would apply for the grants as part of their fee. He mentioned that we don't have to take the lowest bid for the engineering, but will have to take the lowest bid for the actual construction of the marina. He said that they will review the engineering proposals and will hopefully come back with a recommendation by the next meeting.
  
5. **Hiring Of Seasonal Employees**  
Harbormaster Cherny said that the marina is losing a number of kids to college in the next week or two and would like to hire some help for the fall. Two of the employees have worked here in the past. **David Larson made a motion to approve the hiring of seasonal employees for fall and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion carried.**
  
6. **Update On Maritime Festival And Other Festivals On Marina Grounds**  
Harbormaster Cherny said that there has been a lot of activity going on for the festival. They started installing the walkways over the concrete tracks by the power plant. Additional crews are working on digging out a bunch of weeds and just cleaning up the coal dock area. Everything seems to be working out as planned and everything seems to be on schedule as well. The ships will rendezvous outside the harbor around 6pm. Marina personnel will be at Rotary Park as well as the coal dock helping them in.

Beyond that, he said that the festivals will be over after Maritime Heritage festival. The only thing after that is Labor Day, and we do have sailboats from South Shore Yacht Club as well as Sheboygan Yacht club that will be coming to the marina for that weekend.

7. **Harbormaster's Report**

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that 45 sailboats came in with the Clipper Cup sailboat race from Muskegon Michigan last weekend. He said that Ruth Lansing from Ozaukee bank had some ornaments with a fish tug and the old fish shanty on them that she wanted to donated as prizes for the race. During the awards ceremony on Saturday, the Mayor handed out these ornaments to the winner in each division. They will be engraved with their boat names and mailed back to them.

He said that Port Washington may lose this race. Other cities are vying to have the Clipper Cup come to their towns. So the marina and the yacht club need to discuss ways to ensure that the race continues to come back to Port in the future.

Harbormaster Cherny said that Lion's Fest went well for the marina, although the fishing left something to be desired. Out of the 306 boats that were registered for the derby, only 318 fish were caught, so a little over one fish per boat was brought in. But, he said that the fishing has picked up in about 200 feet of water. So hopefully that will continue to be the case.

8. **Marina Tenants' Comments**

No comments.

9. **Adjournment**

Jerry Baganz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. and David Larson seconded. Motion carried.