

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING
Monday March 10, 2008, 7:00 P.M.
City Hall, Lower Level Conference Room

Members Present

Jerry Gruen, Sue Knauer, Frank Metz, Ralph Hess, Jerry Baganz

Others Present

Harbor Master Dennis Cherny

City Administrator Mark Grams

1. **Roll Call:** (Absent: Traci Mead)

2. **Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting**

Jerry Baganz made a motion to approve minutes as written and Frank Metz seconded. Motion carried.

3. **Monthly Financial Report**

City Administrator Mark Grams said that the December '07 financial states pretty close what the final numbers will be. He said that our profit as of right now looks to be \$24,000 over what we had anticipated. The reserve fund balance of \$208,754 puts us in a pretty good situation. Operating expenses, salary, wages, and fringes, and commercial expenses were over expectations, especially in the fuel category. He said that last year was a very good year for the marina, and Harbormaster Cherny agreed.

As for the February '08 financial, City Administrator Grams said that there isn't too much to report. About half the slip revenues are in for the season. Right now it is just mainly expenses he said.

4. **Port Pirate Festival And Dockage Fees**

City Administrator Grams said that they received the financials from the non profit organization.

He said that Harbormaster Cherny and he were discussing what to do regarding the transient dockage fees for the Tall Ship. They agreed to waive dockage fees this year as the festival has grown, and the marina is booked with reservations for the festival. Pirate fest did ask for a refund of the dockage fees they paid the two previous years. City administrator Grams said that the marina wasn't booked with reservation the last couple of years, so he, as well as the commission, feels that there should be no refund. **Jerry Baganz made a motion to wave the dockage fees for Pirate Fest this year, but the commission maintains the right to revue it on a yearly basis. Ralph Hess seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

5. **Conversion Of Permanent Piers To Floating Piers**

Harbormaster Cherny said that he was hoping to save on engineering costs, but by law the plans must be drawn up by a state certified engineer such as JJR or Baird. That means that the engineering firm that draws up the plans will make roughly 5% of the total cost of construction which would come to approximately \$135,000.

City Administrator Grams said that they will have to put together a request for proposal for replacing the stationary piers with floating piers to submit to the engineering firms. He said that they will bring back the bids for engineering to the commission by May at the earliest and June at the latest.

6. **Update On Slip Rentals**

Harbormaster Cherny said that the marina has five 36' slips available and one 40' slip available on pier four. He expects to rent the remainder of the slips as spring approaches and people start putting their boats in the water.

7. **Highway 32 Project And Effect On Marina**

City Administrator Grams said that the project engineers have been working with the boat haulers to ensure that there is always a route open to the marina. Either Pier or Washington Street will be open to allow traffic to get to the marina. Harbormaster Cherny said that as of right now, there will be a one week window the third week in April for the haulers to get the boats that are over 18 feet on the trailer to the marina. Otherwise they will have to wait till the concrete is poured and set in May to get the tall boats to the marina. All other boats should be able to be hauled across Franklin on Pier or Washington. There will be plenty of signage directing people how to get to the marina and area businesses. The Franklin Street portion of the project is slated to be finished by June 1st.

8. **Harbormaster's Report**

Harbormaster Cherny informed the Commission that the building of the porous dike for the electric company will start soon. A marine construction company out of Michigan will be doing the work. The purpose of the dike is to protect the intake from the fish and algae that collect on the grates.

Harbormaster Cherny said that the ice-eaters ran a total of 9 to 10 days this winter due to cold spells well below zero. Also the electric company wasn't running so there wasn't any warm water discharge to help with the ice.

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that he attended the Charter Captains' Association meeting earlier in the day. They put together a report stating statistics about how the charter fleet is beneficial to the marina as well as the city and its tourism. There are currently 31 charters that run out of Port Washington, which is thought to be the largest fleet they have ever had here. Some of the statistics are as follows: Last year Charters pay approximately \$69,000 in slip fees to the marina as well as \$166,000 worth of fuel. Last year they purchased 49,294 gallons a fuel which is over half of the total fuel sold in 2007 at the marina. In 2007 they took out 12,842 people fishing, of them 7,416 were residents of Wisconsin and 5,426 were out of state residents. Approximately 4,800 were overnight guests in local hotels. They estimate that these individuals spent approximately \$240,000 at area restaurant establishments during their stay. Harbormaster Cherny said that these were just a few of the items listed in the report. He thought that Bill Reas, who put the report together for the association, did an excellent job.

He also mentioned that the men's restroom in the marina control building was tiled, and looks very nice.

9. **Marina Tenants' Comments**

No Comments.

10. **Adjournment**

Frank Metz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. and Ralph Hess seconded. Motion carried.