

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING
Monday May 12, 2008, 7:00 P.M.
City Hall, Lower Level Conference Room

Members Present

Jerry Gruen, David Larson, Frank Metz, Jerry Baganz, Sue Knauer, Traci Mead

Others Present

Harbor Master Dennis Cherny

City Administrator Mark Grams

1. **Roll Call:** (Absent: Ralph Hess)

2. **Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting**
Frank Metz made a motion to approve minutes as written and Traci Mead seconded. Motion carried.

3. **Election Of Chairman And Vice-Chairman**
Nominations were opened for Chairman. **Frank Metz nominated Jerry Gruen for Chairman and Sue Knauer seconded the motion. Motion carried.** Nominations were opened for Vice-Chairman. **Jerry Gruen nominated Frank Metz for Vice Chairman and Tracy Mead seconded. Motion carried.**

4. **Monthly Financial Report**
City Administrator Grams said that there really isn't much to report as it is still early in the season. Harbormaster Cherny added that launching is down this year compared to last year due to poor fishing and less than ideal weather conditions. He did say that overall revenue is up compared to last year because of the increase in slip fees and the fact that most slips have been rented for the season.

5. **Hiring Of Seasonal Employees**
Harbormaster Cherny said that the marina has a good group of returning employees. He also would like to hire three additional marina attendants as well as two employees to do maintenance. **Tracy Mead made a motion to approve the hiring of the listed seasonal employees and Frank Metz seconded. Motion carried.**

6. **Conversion Of Permanent Piers To Floating Piers**
Harbormaster Cherny said that he will be working with the city as well as JJR to come up with an RFP (request for proposal) for the engineering of the new piers. He said that the RFP must be uniform so that all companies are bidding on the exact same thing. He said that the city may accept the bid that they prefer without being bound to take the low bid for the engineering. But City Administrator Grams said that we are bound by law to take the low bid for the project itself.

Harbormaster Cherny said that the marina can gear the RFP to the product that we want. Like electrical service, pump outs at the slips, and whether we would like to go with concrete or composite decking. He hopes to have the RFP plan made out before the next Harbor Commission meeting.

7. **Update On Slip Rentals**
Harbormaster Cherny said that there are two 36' slips that have yet to be rented out for the season. He said that is much better compared to last year when we had 5-10 slips that still needed to be rented for the season.

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

City Administrator Grams said that right now the construction crew is ahead with the project. The road work could be open as early as before Memorial Day as they are now working on the sidewalk pavers. The deadline for the downtown project is June 1st. He said that they worked well with the boat haulers that they had access either using Pier or Washington streets to gain access to the marina. They have been very accommodating. He said that they will be discussing what to do about the parking stalls on the corners of Pier and Washington. The boat haulers would like them eliminated or possibly have restricted hours on them so that they may safely make the turns with their trucks and trailers. Vehicles parking in those spots along with the narrowing of the roads will make it difficult for them to maneuver the turns safely with a wide load.

9. **Update On Festivals To Be Held On Marina Grounds**

City Administrator Grams said that they have been working with Pirate Fest which will be held June 6-8th. They won't be using too much of the marina grounds. Mainly just the parking lot north of the North Slip. That is where their beer and food tent will be located. Harbormaster Cherny said that he has been informed that the Tall Ship Windy, which is the same size as the Windy II, will be attending the festival this year. He also said that he spoke with the crew of the Denis Sullivan, and they are not planning on stopping here before they head back to Milwaukee for the summer, so they will not be a concern.

City Administrator Grams said that they will have the usual set up for Fishday in July and for Lion's fest in August. Harbormaster Cherny said that they have been working on Maritime Heritage Festival, which is being held August 15-17th. They will be having five tall ships coming for their festival. Three boats will be tying along the coal dock, one at Rotary Park, and one in the south channel of the marina. He said that as of right now, they will not need the platform built and the floating piers over by the coal dock. The boats believe that they will be able to tie up and use their own ramps without needing any additional work done by the city. Harbormaster Cherny added that the work on the porous dike is scheduled to start at the end of the month. They will be working outside the harbor with barges and tugs where the old intake is located.

10. **Harbormaster's Report**

Harbormaster Cherny said that the water is up seven inches from last year. He mentioned that right now our fuel prices are \$3.22 for premium and \$3.34 for diesel. As of a couple of weeks ago the prices were projected to go up to \$4.14 for premium and \$3.95 for diesel. He expects them to be higher than that seeing as gas and diesel jumped up in price again in the last week. He mentioned that the floating piers that were in the west slip have been pulled out due to damage, and are being stored on a farm property. They don't plan on replacing them until something is done with some sort of break wall to help protect that area. He said that they will also have to be concerned about the discharge from the power plant as they are expecting that it could be up to 700,000 gallons a minute, which could make getting into the west slip extremely difficult. He said that they will be meeting with We Energies on Wednesday to discuss the discharge. Signs may have to be posted warning boaters of the dangerous strong current once both units are online.

11. **Marina Tenants' Comments**

No Comments.

12. **Adjournment**

**Frank Metz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. and Sue Knauer seconded.
Motion carried.**