

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING
Monday June 8, 2009, 7:00 P.M.
City Hall, Lower Level Conference Room

Members Present

Jerry Gruen, Ralph Hess, Jerry Baganz, Frank Metz, David Larson, and Peter Jushka

Others Present

Harbor Master Dennis Cherny

City Administrator Mark Grams

1. **Roll Call: (Absent: Sue Knauer)**
2. **Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting**
Frank Metz made a motion to approve minutes as written and Ralph Hess seconded. Motion carried.
3. **Monthly Financial Report**
City Administrator Mark Grams said that there is not too much to report. There hasn't been much action at the marina this spring. It has been especially sparse he said. Transients and daily launches have been almost non existent due to the weather and poor fishing. This will have an effect on the revenue for this year and may not meet our goals. He said that he discussed the marina operations with Harbormaster Cherny and possibly having fewer employees working a day. Harbormaster Cherny said that he has been keeping the same schedule as previous years, but sending people home if there is no business. He will continue to monitor it he said. City Administrator Mark Grams said that we will look at this again next month and see if there is need for all the employees or not.
Harbormaster Cherny added that this year we have 133 daily launches compared to the 163 we had last year. Only 126 season launches have been sold compared to the 183 we had sold by this time last year.
4. **Review Of Floating Pier Design Project**
Harbormaster Cherny said that Larry Ryan of Baird will be in attendance at the next meeting for a final revue of the plans. He said that the master plan will include the addition of extra slips, four slips on both piers four and three, because the request to extend some piers into the Federal Easement was approved. The project will be bid with the concrete aggregate decking. Existing mooring pilings will remain. There is no answer on the grant application for the pump out system yet he added.
City Administrator Mark Grams said that at July's meeting the final plans will be reviewed and go out to bids by the end of July. Bids will need to be in by August and from there hire a company and work to start in fall.
5. **Update On Festivals**
City Administrator Mark Grams said that Pirate Festival went fine and there were no problems or concerns. Final meetings with the Fish Day committee are coming up he said. Harbormaster Cherny added that Wednesday June 17th is the Disabled Vets Fish Outing and Thursday June 18th is the Double Handed Sailboat race. The GLSF Fishing Derby will be July 3rd thru 5th. July 31st thru August 2nd is Lions Fest and Fish Derby. Then we have Maritime Heritage Festival August 14th thru 16th. The Clipper Cup Sailboat race is also on August 14th, so the marina will be very busy on that weekend.

6. Harbormaster's Report

Harbormaster Cherny said that the Army Corps of Engineers was back to look at the break wall again and it is worse than they originally thought. Water is starting to break through some of the sections. He said that right now a break wall in Michigan with similar damage had a 50-60 foot section break off. Because we are no longer considered a commercial port, we are not a top priority. He said that is why it is imperative that we get our legislators to push for it to be repaired. Right now the state is preparing the 2011 budget, so if we want this work done in 2011 we need to get our Senators, like Herb Kohl, to get this request pushed through. We are waiting on a form needed for such requests, from Schneider, the company working on the coal dock. City Administrator Mark Grams said that once we have that, then the council can pass a resolution requesting this work to be done and forward it to Senator Herb Kohl's office. Hopefully we can get it pushed through his office as soon as possible so we can be included in the 2011 budget.

Harbormaster Cherny also wanted to inform the commission members about some work that will need to be done to the fuel system within the next couple of years due to code changes. Within the next two years the marina will be required to install an electronic alarm system that informs the truck drivers when the tanks have reached 95% capacity. This will cost approximately \$5,000. Within the next five years drip pans will need to be installed underneath each of the gasoline and diesel dispensers. Since we are redoing the fuel dock this next year, this will have to be done immediately at a cost of approximately \$5,000. Also he said that the marina's electronic tank level gauge is almost 15 years old and has become obsolete. Due to the lack of replacement parts for ours he said that we will need to get a new electronic tank level monitor and leak detection system. This will cost approximately \$15,000. Depending on where we stand money wise, we may tack a couple of these items onto the project said City Administrator Grams.

Harbormaster Cherny said that the water level is up a foot compared to this time last year and 1.7 feet from this time two years ago.

7. Marina Tenants' Comments

Marina tenant Joe Sobieski asked if it was possible to retain some larger dock boxes when the slips are redone. Harbormaster Cherny informed him that the fillets are made to fit the existing dock boxes. He also said that some tenants were wondering why the marina doesn't accept American Express. Harbormaster Cherny said that he thought maybe the interest rate was higher, but was unsure. City Administrator Grams said that he will look into it.

Marina tenant Russ Chapin commented on the decking material. He feels that the exposed concrete aggregate is by far the best. If a panel breaks, you just drop another one in. He said that the composite boards still get growth on them and can be slippery, where he has not run into that with the exposed aggregate. He also believes that the marina should add larger slips since there are only eight 50 foot slips. Even if you put pelican poles out at 50 feet or 60 feet he said. The dock doesn't necessarily have to be that long. He feels that this could generate more revenue for the marina. He commented on the dockside pump out system, saying that at Center Pointe Marina they had some initial problems with it, but has since gotten them resolved. He also asked if the electrical problems on pier four were going to be addressed during the reconstruction, and Harbormaster Cherny said that they would be. He then inquired if the meeting minutes could be posted unofficially on the website and City Administrator Grams said they could.

Marina tenant Paul Fuerst said that he was concerned if there would be enough room between pier four and the rip rap by the break wall with the additional slips being added. He believes that the right of way will be too narrow. Harbormaster Cherny said that was looked at and they believe that there should be more than enough room to maneuver.

8. Adjournment

Pete Jushka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. and Ralph Hess seconded. Motion carried.

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES: Not yet approved by the Harbor Commission