

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON  
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING  
Monday October 14, 2013, 7:00 P.M.  
City Hall, Lower Level Conference Room

Members Present

Sue Knauer, David Larson, Jerry Gruen, Dan Herlache, Jerry Baganz, and Bill Driscoll

Others Present

Harbor Master Dennis Cherny

1. **Roll Call: (Absent: Tony Matera)**

2. **Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting**

Member Herlache pointed out a mistake under the Monthly Financial Report. It reads that we sold 81,000 gallons of gas this year compared to 81,000 last year. It should read 78,000 gallons this year compared to 81,000 gallons last year. **Jerry Baganz made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion Carried.**

3. **Monthly Financial Report**

City Administrator Grams said that everything is looking pretty good for the year. There are only a few months left. Wages and utilities are the only major expenses before the end of the year. The way things look right now there will be a surplus this year.

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that the month of October has not been very busy so he doesn't see the numbers going up much. This year daily launches are at 2483 and last year they were at 2900, of course last year was a really busy year. We will need to take one more load of gasoline within the next couple of days as the tanks must remain at 50% full or higher over winter.

The other thing that was paid in September, per City Administrator Grams, is the Debt Service.

4. **Update On Slip Rentals, Boat Launches, And Transient Boaters**

Harbormaster Cherny said that slip rentals are the same as reported last month, although we do have seven people who paid \$100 to be put on a waiting list for next year. Member Baganz asked what size slips the people on the waiting list are looking for. Harbormaster Cherny said mainly 30' slips and a couple of 36' slips.

Harbormaster Cherny said that daily launches are down from 2900 last year to 2483 this year. Transient boaters are up from 747 last year to 807 this year.

5. **Review Of 2014 Marina Budget**

Harbormaster Dennis Cherny said that the \$5000 for donations was received the beginning of October from the Lion's Club. As you can see the remaining amount that the Lion's owe of \$2762 is in the budget for next year. On the revenue side, Harbormaster Cherny said that numbers were based on previous years. \$435,000 for Main Marina slip fees, \$80,000 for North Slip slip fees, \$500,000 in fuel revenue, and \$15,000 in ice revenue. On the expense side, Harbormaster Cherny said that wages went up a little as they are expecting a 2% increase. Summer help is at \$55,000 as that is based on past years. Electricity is always a big number. Water and sewer will stay the same as there is no increase for next year. Gasoline numbers are based on price. Supplies and repairs stayed the same as in the past. The Debt Service went down from \$225,670 to \$223,170 for 2014. Donations of \$45,000 to the City and \$10,000 to the Rescue Boat stayed the same. Jerry Gruen inquired what Other Marina Revenue was referring to. Harbormaster Cherny answered that includes the waiting list, dock box, washing machine, and any other income that is not listed in a category of its own.

Member Baganz wanted to clarify all that is donated to the Rescue Boat. Harbor Master Cherny said that we give them \$10,000 as well as a free slip and free fuel up to \$1,500. Member Baganz wanted to know in total approximately what we donate. Harbormaster Cherny said with slip and fuel about \$14,000 to \$15,000 total a year is donated to the Rescue Boat. Member Herlache mentioned that the boat, when it was purchased, was roughly \$225,000. He said that boat has to be paid for by now and feels that the marina donating money to them may be a little unreasonable now. Member Gruen agreed that maybe an update on the Rescue Boat's budget is needed otherwise these things can just go on forever. To clarify, Harbormaster Cherny said that the money was originally donated to help them to help with yearly operations. Their budget was approximately \$50,000 a year. They were contemplating getting rid of the boat and that is why the Marina stepped up and volunteered to donate the money to them. We wanted to keep the boat and not lose the service that it provided Harbormaster Cherny said. City Administrator Grams said that he has to call the county administrator any way and will see if he can get a copy of the Rescue Boat budget. Member Gruen said that this should be reviewed in the future.

**Dan Herlache made a motion to approve the budget as is and Bill Driscoll seconded. Motion Carried.**

6. **Harbor Master's Report**

Harbormaster Cherny said that the electrical service for the Tranquility was upgraded to 400 amps and the owner of the yacht is paying for the upgrade. He mentioned that a fourth of the boats are out of the marina for the season. The water level has gone down a bit. It is at .06 on the scale which is where it was in spring.

Last meeting Member Driscoll inquired as to when the closed signs would be going up on the break wall.

Harbormaster Cherny said that he spoke with the Army Corps. And they will give the marina a week's notice before they post the signs.

7. **Marina Tenants' Comments**

Marina Tenants, both having slips on Pier 2, aired their concerns regarding the lanterns that were launched as part of the Coal Dock Park celebration. They said that it was very scary watching them as they approached the boats in the marina. Some landed in the water right next to the boats. They also said that they had lost track at 96 of them that had fallen in the water. Their concern was what if one had landed on someone's bimini top. They could have done some major damage to the boats. They would like this reconsidered for next year if it is being planned again. Member Baganz said that somehow these concerns need to be verbalized to the people that were responsible for this activity and make sure that it doesn't happen again or that proper precautions are made.

8. **Any Other Business That May Come Properly Before The Commission**

Member Baganz asked Member Driscoll if he had heard anything back regarding the letter he wrote to the editor of the Press about the break wall. Member Driscoll said that he has not heard anything back from the congressman as he is sure this is a busy time of year for them. However, he did say that he heard back from several people who sent letters to Congressman Petri about the break wall's condition.

9. **Adjournment**

**Jerry Baganz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion carried.**

Minutes not yet approved by Harbor Commission