

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING
Monday November 18, 2019 7:00 P.M.
City Hall, Lower Level Conference Room

Members Present

Sue Knauer, Dennis Brede, Jerry Gruen, Jordan Schwanz, Dan Laurence, and Mike Gasper

Others Present

City Administrator Mark Grams
Harbormaster Dennis Cherny
Secretary Lisa Rathke
Kris Halbig Ziehm (Ozaukee Press)
Bill Lundgren (Wi-Fi Presentation)
Mayor Becker

1. **Roll Call: (Absent: Bill Driscoll)**

2. **Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting**

Dan Laurence made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion Carried.

3. **Monthly Financial Report**

City Administrator Grams mentioned that as of right now we are showing a profit of \$111,050 but that number will go down with the next two months being mainly expenditures. Comparing last year and this year at this time, last year we were looking at a profit of \$163,58. We are down about \$52,000 this year which isn't too bad with all the capital expenditures we have had this year and just the generally down year we had this year. Once November comes through, we will have a better look on where we will end up for the year. At least thus far we are still on the plus side.

4. **Wi-Fi Upgrade Presentation By Bill Lundgren**

Bill Lundgren presented his proposal for upgrading the marina's Wi-Fi system. The cost of the upgrade will be approximately \$18,000.00. Discussion was held. Bill will send out a copy of the proposal that Harbor Commission members can look over at the next meeting.

5. **Update On Newport Shores Project And Fish Cleaning Station**

City Administrator Grams informed the commission that there isn't anything new on Newport Shores. They still haven't given an exact start date they just keep saying spring of next year. As for the fish cleaning station, he did get some information from Crane Engineering, the firm we have used in the past for our fish cleaning station. They looked at it with City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven as far as what grinders and pumps would be needed as there has to be a minimum of 1% pitch in order to get the remains to the sanitary sewer/lift station. They are looking at a 3-tooth grinder and a 3inch force main that would be utilized. The pumps themselves would cost about \$3500 and a cost for the control panel, fiber glass basin and so forth would cost around \$50,000. We still need to see what we can salvage from the existing structure, but at least we have an idea of what we are looking at.

6. **Charge A Fee For Boats From Other Marinas That Are Put In/Pulled Out By Local Transport Companies**

Harbormaster Cherny informed the commission that there are two main boat haulers that work out of our marina and one or two others that do a couple of boats a year. These two main haulers put in/pull out probably 100 plus boats in spring and fall combined that our not our own marina tenants, but boats from other marinas. Right now, we charge these companies the \$95.00 season launch pass per trailer to do business at our marina. Harbormaster Cherny feels that we should be getting more from these boat haulers for those boats that they transport from our facility that are not our own marina tenants. Harbormaster Cherny said that he would like to charge each boat that is pulled out at our marina that is not one of our own tenants the \$95.00 season launch fee for the use of our facilities. This is a charge that we would have the hauler pay and they could pass this charge onto their customers if they wish. City Administrator Grams mentioned charging them just the daily launch fee of \$11.00 to put in/pull out non marina tenants' boats. Discussion was held. Member Schwanz believes that the \$11.00 launch fee is a reasonable amount to charge the boat haulers for the use of our ramps by non-marina tenants since the haulers can just pass this fee onto the boat owners. Seeing as no members present objected to charging the haulers the \$11.00 fee for use of ramps by non-marina tenants, Member Gruen suggested doing a formal approval at the next meeting.

7. **Discuss Submitting An MLS (WisDOT Multimodal Local Supplement) Grant For The Harbor**
City Administrator Grams mentioned that this is a new grant program through the DOT that's available to cities. Member Gasper mentioned that one of the Governor's vetoes produced this program. There is \$75million dollars available statewide, but only \$15million of that is set aside for cities and villages making it tough competition. There are several different categories where funding is available, and harbors are one of them. There is funding available for harbor dredging, port infrastructure expansion, and repair of dock walls. It seems that there is a boundary between what is considered maintenance and what is not. Discussion was held. Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that re-decking of the North Slip will be needed in the future if that would qualify for the grant. Member Gasper mentioned that there is a pretty tight timeline as applications must be submitted by December 6th. There is also a 90/10 local split for the grant. City Administrator Grams mentioned that he will reach out to Brian at Foth to see if they could put this application together for us.
8. **Discuss How To Apply Slip Fee Increase For 2020**
City Administrator Grams said that he looked at increasing the 30 and 36 foot slips 3½% and increasing the larger slips just a 2% increase rather than 3% you would end up gaining \$925. Member Laurence mentioned that he went along the same path. The target was a \$17,000 increase. He mentioned that he went by total footage and came up with \$2.15 a foot increase which is a consistent dollar amount rather than a percentage increase but gets you to that same \$17,000 target number. Member Knauer mentioned that the 3% increase across the board is a simple way of doing it. Member Gruen also agrees that the 3% increase across the board is the best route as not cause complaints amongst the tenants.
9. **Harbormaster's Report**
Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that haul out season went ok and that all the boats were out on time. He said that we have some new guests in the marina, otters! Member Knauer had taken a picture of the otters and sent it to the Ozaukee Press. The early freeze caught us by surprise and caused some damage to the hose bibs and a main water line. Harbormaster Cherny said that the last storm caused several more trees to make their way into the marina. We may not get some of them out of the water until spring. All the locks have been changed at the marina with new keys being distributed in spring. Harbormaster Cherny said that he will be attending the Wisconsin Marine Association meeting in Wausau on Tuesday and Wednesday. He also informed the commission that all the docks have been strung with line to keep the birds off the docks. Member Brede asked if the marina has a contingency plan for the projected increase in water levels. Harbormaster Cherny said what was done in the past is we built up the docks to accommodate the higher water. Thankfully we added the additional piling on to the pipes in the main marina. Harbormaster Cherny said that he will be discussing these issues at the WMA meeting in a couple of days.
10. **Marina Tenants' Comments**
No Comments.
11. **Any Other Business That May Come Properly Before The Commission**
No Comments.
12. **Adjournment**
Dennis Brede made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 pm and Mike Gasper seconded. Motion Carried.