

**MILFORD HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
November 18, 2010**

The Milford Harbor Management Commission held its regular meeting on Thursday, November 18, 2010 in the conference room at Milford Landing. Vice-Chairman Beard called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

Commission Members Present

J. Beard
N. Bodick
R. Brennan
R. Post
A. Waterman
R. Winters

Also Present

R. Swift, Operations Director, Harbormaster
L. Bodick, Deputy Harbormaster
B. Bier, Alderman Liaison

Not Present

R. Miller
G. Montano
D. Newman
N. Veccharelli, Alderman Liaison

Consideration of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting of October 21, 2010 were presented. Mr. Post made a motion to accept the minutes. Ms. Bodick seconded. Motion carried unanimously with no changes.

Public Comments – None

Chairman's Report – None

Director's Report – State/Federal pumpout grant money has been awarded. Mr. Swift has the contract paperwork from the State for the Mayor and City Clerk to sign. He is not sure how long the bid process will take but hopefully we will have the pumpout by spring.

The mooring floats are in the marina. The Army Corps of Engineers should be in on Monday to survey the whole harbor. Mr. Swift spoke to Ed O'Donnell, Regional ACOE, at the Connecticut Harbor Management Association meeting last week regarding dredging. They will do the survey but no dredging.

The mooring/floating dock fees are coming in slowly. Fifty plus letters were sent out last week to the non-renewers to give them a nudge.

The docks at the launch ramp will be brought over to the marina side in the next week or so.

New rebar for weighing down the bubbler system has been delivered. Repairs are being made to the system before installing it for the winter.

The outdoor water lines were blown out today.

The plants have been cut down and grounds cleaned up for the winter.

Mr. Swift spoke to Michael Griffin, Norwalk harbormaster, at the CHMA meeting regarding PILOT funds. There is no answer so far on whether towns are getting any funds this year. The Milford mayoral assistant said that it would be this fall sometime when we'd find out. She has a contact at the State that she is in communication with on this. Mr. Winters questioned whether the commission should do something such as sending a letter to our state legislators detailing the effect non-receipt of funds will have on Milford harbor. Mr. Swift said that he'd check with the mayor's office tomorrow to see if they've heard anything. Mr. Winters made a motion to send a letter to our state legislators detailing the usage of PILOT funds by the Milford Harbor Management Commission and the effect it would have if the funds are cut. Mr. Waterman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A fiber optic line is being run into the building to connect the computer directly to the system downtown which will enable online access to reports and figures that are being sent interoffice at this time. The cable has been run through the utility duct and someone will come back with the equipment for installation.

Mr. Swift spoke to MaryRose Palumbo, Inland/Wetlands, regarding pond dredging. \$900,000 in grant money from the DEP has been applied for. There's been no word as yet.

Ms. Bodick reported that she'd called references for the first three engineering consultant bids. The differences in bids for the top three were minor so she did not call anyone on their lists. Keeping in mind that references are more than likely people who liked the service, the following is what she gathered. Geo Environmental references stated that they were very professional, had good connections with the DEP, one did state that the company was slow in getting back to them when contacted. Coastlines references said that they were professional, had good DEP connections and any extras were because of ACOE extra requests. RACE-Roberge references gave glowing reports. Mr. Brennan stated that when he went through the bids only two gave complete breakdowns, the rest gave lump sum amounts. The top three bids estimated more time up front, thus the substantial price difference from the bottom three. Ms. Bodick said that monitoring while dredging isn't necessary. A post dredge survey is required so someone doesn't need to watch the dredgers every minute. Mr. Swift said that he'd found the lowest bidder gave a lump sum with no specifics on what was included for the price. Coastline was low on their per sample cost as compared to everyone else. Ms. Bodick said their figure was about what they charged her last year. Mr. Swift said that in the bid it was stated that a corporate engineering license is required. Coastline doesn't have one, their engineer is part time on call and the engineer has a license. He didn't know if that would be a problem. Mr. Swift also pointed out that RACE-Roberge was the only company in constant contact, aggressively pursuing the awarding of the bid. Discussion ensued regarding the second and third lowest bidders going round the table giving preferences for who each commissioner preferred and why. Mr. Waterman would like RACE-Roberge to define any vague specifications. Mr. Swift will speak to RACE-Roberge and see if they will work with us on the actual dredge contract, it's listed as an extra at this time. Mr. Brennan made a motion to accept the RACE – Roberge Associates bid proposal as Marina Dredging Consulting Engineer. Mr. Winters seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Harbormaster's Report – Mr. Swift has not heard back from Mr. Kammerer regarding a mooring letter sent to him requesting specifics. This would be for a private mooring off of his dock. The harbor plan makes no limitations on vessel size for private moorings. His property water frontage is 68' and from his dock to the channel is 150'.

Mr. Cubbison's vessel is at the Dock Shopping Center marina for the winter. Mr. Cubbison's mooring will be hauled and inspected before replacing next spring. It will be set further off the channel line when it is set.

Report of Standing Committees

Milford Landing – no report

Finance - Fund balance as of 10/31/10 was \$ 265,476.67 in savings and \$ 64,983.03 in checking for a total of \$330,459.70

Harbor and Mooring –no report

Housatonic – Mr. Beard asked if there had been any impact because of the I-95 bridge construction. Mr. Swift has not heard of any complaints as yet.

Amendments – no report

Correspondence – The Connecticut Harbor Management Association annual Holiday Party invitation was pass around for any commissioner that might be interested in attending. It is strictly a social event, no business.

Old Business – The pond dredging update, marina dredging project proposals and pumpout station were discussed in the Directors report.

New Business – None

Liaisons

Stratford - no report

Aldermen – Mr. Bier filled the commission in on what he knew of the High Street bulkhead project so far. He stated that funds were approved by the alderman, it is in the preliminary design stages and Mr. Kolwicz, Public Works director, would get the Harbor Commission's input.

P & Z - no report

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Tougas
Recording Secretary