

THE MILFORD HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 21, 2006

A. CALL TO ORDER

- Vice Chairman Beard called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

B. ROLL CALL

- Commission Members Present: R. Winters
R. Post
D. Newman
J. Zimmerman
A. Waterman
J. Beard
L. Carroll
- Also Present: R. Swift, Operations Director
L. Bodick, Deputy Harbormaster
J. Politi
- Not Present: G. Montano, Chairman

C. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 16, 2006 REGULAR MEETING

- The minutes were unavailable. To be considered at the January regular meeting.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Joseph Nesteriak, 20 Rogers Avenue, presented a plan for bulkhead replacement upon DEP's request. Mr. Carroll recused himself as he is Mr. Nesteriak's attorney. Two sets of plans were submitted. A2 sheet shows 20 Rogers Avenue is a private marina with 8 slips. Timber bulkhead needs repair. Mr. Nesteriak would like to replace it with a steel bulkhead. Some wetlands will be reclaimed per DEP. There is a current boat ramp that will be abandoned. Plans will be given to the Harbor & Mooring Committee for review. He would like approval prior to December 27, 2006. The number of slips will remain the same and the bulkhead will basically remain the same.

E. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- No report.

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The facility has been winterized.
- First night – New Year's Eve – fireworks will be at 5:00 P.M. and midnight.
- The budget has been submitted. The Mayor has reviewed it and made his comments. Mr. Carroll wanted to know what happened to the budget when it went to the Mayor. Mr. Swift said that it was mainly approved with a slight change in Seasonal help. The question was asked what we do on the revenue side. The city does most of the revenue adjustments since the expenses and revenue need to match. Once mooring floats are all paid off, we should be in good shape.
- An art student will hang 7 paintings on the end of pilings at the marina. These are to be installed before New Year's Eve. She should sign a waiver to hold us harmless for any damages to the paintings.
- Waiting for reservations to start coming in.
- Mr. Swift thanked everyone for their support.

G. HARBOMASTER REPORT

- Offers to 18 waiting list mooring applicants were sent out and are due back January 10, 2007. 25 or so of our present mooring holders did not respond. They were all notified in November that their mooring spaces would not be held. Some small moorings will not be filled at this time. We are at 80%.
- Dredging is moving along. Mike Ludwig, retired from NOAA, is helping move it along with Geoff Steadman. Testing samples were taken last week. The first test was found dredged material not suitable to pump onto the beach. Mr. Swift is hopeful that the dredging will be done April 15 – May 15. Budget to date is \$200,000. There should be enough money from bond for boat ramp to pay for the dredging. Marina owners have been very attentive and have been kept aware of the project. The next dredging committee meeting is January 10, 2007.
- The city should fund a study regarding upstream silt and the groin at the mouth of the harbor. Mr. Carroll made a motion to request the city to hire an engineering firm to review silting in the harbor. Mr. Newman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

H. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

1. MILFORD LANDING

- No report

2. FINANCE

- Mr. Swift reported a savings balance of \$349,893.36 and a checking balance of \$56,153.30 for a total balance of \$406,046.66. All bills are paid.

3. HARBOR & MOORING

- Helix contractor is almost done. Some parts need changing. He'll do them in the spring install.

4. HOUSATONIC

- No report

5. AMENDMENTS

- No report

I. CORRESPONDENCE

- Office door is full of Christmas cards.

J. OLD BUSINESS

- Mike Peyton, State DEP, wants some concession for out of town boat launches. We have no additional parking. There are only 32 spaces now. This use of our boat ramp could be for up to 10 years. Mr. Swift feels that we should leave it to residents and paying non-residents as it is now. This was a request from state departments since the state boat ramp on Naugatuck Avenue needs to be shut down due to work on the I-95 Bridge. Some monies were talked about for reimbursements but nothing was put in writing. Mr. Beard made a motion to leave the boat ramp as it is with its present fee schedule. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the state stating this. Also that it is a safety issue and at its maximum capacity at present. Mr. Newman asked if a letter would hinder our dredging program. It shouldn't. Mr. Beard stated that there are a number of accessible boat ramps on the Housatonic River that could be used alternatively by boaters. Motion carried unanimously.

K. NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Carroll made a motion to approve the meeting dates for 2007. Mr. Newman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Beard made a motion to keep the nominating committee the same as last year. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Past surveys have shown the silt has come from up river towns and sand on the Milford beaches was from West Haven. Years ago the Army Corps said that they would not fund non-commercial harbor dredging. A fund needs to be started for dredging to continue on a regular basis.
- Mr. Newman made a motion to discuss Mr. Nesteriak's proposal. Mr. Post seconded the motion. All in favor. Mr. Newman made a motion to approve plans as presented from Mr. Nesteriak. Mr. Post seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Zimmerman announced that he is resigning and this is his last meeting. Mr. Beard noted that Mr. Zimmerman's attendance has been almost 100% and thanked him for his service.

L. LIAISONS

- Stratford – no report
- Aldermen - Ms. Politi wanted to make sure that the public was aware of the application process for Harbor Commission members. Are we asking the city to engage a firm to survey the silting upstream and in Gulf Pond? Yes.
- Planning & Zoning

M. CONCLUSION OF MEETING

- Mr. Newman moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Waterman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Waterman