

HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES: **Wednesday, May 24, 2023**

**1. Call to Order - Roll Call**

The Wednesday, May 24, 2023 Harbor Commission meeting was called to order by Chair Dick Pufall at 5:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Peter Herlevi, Thomas Yankee, Gary Leino, Dick Pufall, Randy Harvey (5:45pm)

**ABSENT:** Alan Smiles (Excused), Shawn Brede

**ALSO PRESENT:** Scott Stegmann

**2. Public Comment**

There were no Citizens present wishing to address the Harbor Commission

**3. Approval of May 24, 2023 Meeting Agenda**

Peter Herlevi moved, seconded by Gary Leino to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**4. Approval of March 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Peter Herlevi moved, seconded by Thomas Yankee to approve the March 8, 2023 meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**5. Unfinished Business**

- a. Superfund Site  
Nothing new to report.
- b. Boat Launch  
In early June the City will be reapplying for funding through the State Waterways Commission. Marina Manager Stegmann has made contact with State Representatives, Chanz Green and Romaine Quinn regarding funding for a Superfund Boat Launch. With support from local representatives, Stegmann is hopeful to receive funding from the Joint Finance Committee soon.

**6. New Business**

a. Manager's Report

Stegmann informed the Harbor Commission that he had spoken with Sharon Major, Apostle Island Cruise Services manager, about the possibility of cruise services coming to Ashland Marina. Stegmann asked the Apostle Island Cruises owner and manager to discuss cruise plans with him prior to them presenting ideas to the Harbor Commission. The commission may need to schedule a special meeting to hear from Apostle Island Cruises about their summer boat plans. Stegmann informed the commissioners about the status of boats in the water, many of them still being on land due to inclement weather even late into May. Stegmann and Marina employees have all of the docks ready for the summer season with all electrical and water hookups working. Lastly, Stegmann discussed the need to move boats out of the back Superfund site lot so that can be opened up for summer car parking.

b. Employee Wages

A wage increase of \$1 per hour for Ashland Marina part time staff was presented to the commissioners. For Seth Hoffman, the increase would be from \$18.50 per hour to \$19.50 per hour and for William Jones, the increase would be from \$12.50 per hour to \$13.50 per hour. Tom Yankee proposed an increase in Hoffman's wages from the proposed \$19.50 to \$21 per hour. Questions were raised about the skill set of the employees and the need to retain employees. Commissioners deferred to Stegmann for an opinion on increased wages. Stegmann suggested a raise to \$14.50 per hour for William Jones and \$20.50 for Seth Hoffman for the 2023 season. Gary Leino moved, seconded by Peter Herlevi, to approve an increase in wages for Marina employees to \$14.50 per hour for William Jones and \$20.50 per hour for Seth Hoffman. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

c. Marina Rules: Stored boats and overnight stays

Discussion was had about stored boats and people living on stored boats in both the summer and winter seasons. Commissioners want to implement a guideline for those staying on boats that are out of the water, suggesting that sometimes staying on a boat is necessary but these long-term stays are not good for business. Stegmann informed the commissioners that he would work on and present a written out set of rules taking into account discussion from commissioners for overnight stays on stored boats at the next meeting. No action was taken.

d. Electrical metering devices

Stegmann researched possible electrical metering devices for each dock. He estimates around \$225 per unit. Right now, the marina doesn't charge a separate fee for electrical usage. Stegmann informed the commissioners that electrical usage and rates have recently gone up, and the marina is now looking for a way to reduce electrical costs for the Ashland Marina. Discussion was had about possible ways to limit customer usage. Ultimately, the commissioners decided that they need a better idea about the increase in the number of boats and increase in rates before implementing a fee to marina customers for their electricity usage. No action was taken.

e. Boat storage lot: Event usage and fee's associated

Discussion was had about possible fees the marina could implement for usage at the Superfund Site. Commissioners proposed implementing a non-refundable deposit to use the space and having a sliding fee schedule based on the size of the proposed event. Stegmann informed the commission that his top priority in this space is boat storage and any potential events taking place would have to depend on the number of boats stored in this area. Stegmann stated that he would bring the City of Ashland Comprehensive Fee schedule to the next meeting so commissioners could assess fees for event usage in this space. No action was taken.

## **7. Items for Next Meeting**

Continued discussion and possible presentation about Apostle Island Cruises doing business in the Ashland Marina.

## **8. Adjournment**

Gary Leino moved, seconded by Thomas Yankee to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chelsea List, Deputy Clerk