

HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES: **Wednesday, December 13, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Leino, Yankee, Smiles, Harvey, Herlevi, Brede, Pufall
Also Present: Stegman (Marina Manager), J. Leussman (DNR Warden), M. MacKenzie (Mayor)

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to amend agenda to move Item 6, Guest -WI DNR Warden - Jack Leussman to come before Item 5, Financial Statement Review.

Motion: Yankee
Second: Brede
Vote: Passes Unanimously (voice)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. September 20th, 2023 Harbor Commission Minutes
Motion: Leino
Second: Smiles
Vote: Passes Unanimously (voice)

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PERIOD

No members of the public present for comment.

5. FINANCIAL STATEMENT REVIEW

- a. Financial Statement Review
Reviewed the financial statements received from Finance Department on November 10, 2023. Covered the capital projects list and provided context for each item.

6. GUEST - WI DNR WARDEN - JACK LEUSSMAN

Introduced himself as the new person with the DNR. He is responsible for enforcement on Cheq. Bay and in the Apostle Islands. It is a new position to the DNR. His responsibility is regarding boating, commercial fishing, and sport fishing. Discussion on the weeds/milfoil in the Marina and what he the DNR opinion is on removal. Leussman said that permits are required, no matter that solution is taken, chemical or mechanical, and the process is a long one. Question about Registration for some boats in the marina with the DNR.

7. MANAGER'S REPORT

Witnesses of vandalism did not come forward to the Police. 2024 customers are looking good for returners, new customers coming in as well for next year. Winter storage is higher than last year as well.

Mayor MacKenzie gave information on what the responsibility of the Harbor Commission is. Covered the establishment of the Commission and when and what ordinances modified the Commission's bylaws.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Super Fund Site/Boat Launch - JFC Funding from 72% to 60%
WI Waterways Commission meeting was attended by Stegman, Mackenzie, and S. Hudson (P&R Director). The Commission approved dollars to the boat launch, however the Joint Finance Committee rejected the project unless the state share is reduced to 60% from 72%. With the budget the city has for the project, that new split is not feasible. JFC asked the City to reapply.
- b. Fuel System Update - Storage Tanks
Estimates are going to be gotten by Stegman. He has talked with a firm in Wausau and they came back with some numbers. It would be about 6 months from order to delivery as they are manufactured to order. All requirements for the state are satisfied for the moment, COVID delayed upgrade requirements, but the state has restarted the clock for replacement because of the single walled current tank.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. South Lot Boat Storage and Boat Launch
Handout was given for this item. Update on current storages and associated revenue. Storage is increased over last year. Discussion regarding increasing storage could compete with space with Book Across the Bay. A soft spot in the asphalt in the parking lot was brought to the attention of the Commission by a member of the Commission.
- b. Special Events on Marina Grounds
Book Across the Bay taking up storage space is a limit to Marina storage revenue in the parking lot. Mayor MacKenzie covered how BATB came to be an exclusive Ashland event and why the space is being used for BATB. He also explained how the city is expanding its involvement in BATB this year.
- c. Five-Year Capital Plans
Covered in Financial Statement Review Item.

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

No items were brought up by Commission Members.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 7th, 2024 at 5:00 PM at City Hall, Council Chambers.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Harvey

Second: Pufall

Vote: Carries unanimously (voice)