



**TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK  
Harbor Management Commission**

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**302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475-1741**

**Telephone: 860-395-3123 Facsimile: 860-395-3125**

**HMC MEETING MINUTES  
October 15, 2019 7:00 P.M.  
SECOND-FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Robert Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Robert Murphy, Chair; Paul Connolly, Secretary; David Cole; and Jennifer Donahue, Clerk. Lou Vinciguerra attended as a guest. Scott Mitchell, Harbor Master, arrived at 7:10 p.m. Attorney Michael Cronin arrived at 8:29 p.m.

Absent: Dick Goduti and Robert Soden.

**3. Citizens with Business before the Commission**

There were no citizens present with business before the commission.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 9, 2019 were considered. A motion was made by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. Connolly to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0. Mr. Connolly requested that, in response to Mr. Goduti's complaint as recorded in the September minutes, that the following comment be acknowledged: "Kathy's [Connolly] work ended in October 2015 and I [Paul Connolly] was appointed to the commission [HMC] in June 2016." Therefore, there was not a time when Commissioner Connolly's wife's work for the Town overlapped with his serving on the commission.

**5. Clerk Report**

Ms. Donahue's written report was reviewed by commission members. Updates were provided on wait list numbers and those awaiting spots on the wait list. Ms. Donahue requested that commission members set a schedule for renewal mailings and asked whether an email reminder was desired for pulling boats for the season. In addition, she reported on the recent Department of Revenue services requirement to switch from quarterly to monthly filing. This change is required as the commission has exceeded the statutory threshold in sales and use taxes paid to allow for quarterly reporting. Ms. Donahue also inquired with DRS about the taxability of moorings and slips as it has come to the commission's attention that similar entities throughout the state are not collecting sales and use tax. DRS has said these are taxable items within a certain time period each year.

Commission members asked that Ms. Donahue to follow-up on the tax issue with Lee Ann Palladino to help eliminate any ambiguity about the issue of charging sales and use tax. It was also agreed that an email reminder should be sent to North Cove mooring holders to reinforce the October 31 deadline to pull boats. An announcement should also be put on the website and Mr. Murphy will post a notice at the cove. It was also agreed that renewal letters should be sent to all mooring and slip holders as well as invitations to the first 15 people on the North Cove wait list with a deadline to respond of December 15.

**6. North Cove**

Mr. Murphy made a motion to add Fred Brooke of Lyme, Riley Anderson of Middletown, Ian Clifford, Robert Regan and Leonard Budney all of Old Saybrook, and Craig Lund of Haddam to the wait list. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0.

**7. Clothesline**

Mr. Murphy made a motion to add Ian Clifford and Caroline Redmann to the wait list. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0.

## **8. Ferry Road**

Mr. Murphy made a motion to add Robert Regan of Old Saybrook to the wait list. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0. Mr. Cole noted, with input from Mr. Mitchell, that in general anyone with a boat that is more than 30' long or with a draft of more than 4' should be alerted that the Ferry Road Dock would probably not be able to accommodate their boat.

It was also reported that the plumbing extension to the end of the fixed pier has been completed. The plastic piping has been replaced with copper. Some discussion of completing the as-build ensued, but a final decision to close the permit was not reached. It was agreed that for now the extra piles on two of the slips will remain.

## **9. Sheffield Street Project Planning, Bidding and Execution Discussion**

The commission's recommendation to hire Meeco Sullivan was approved by the first selectman and Board of Finance. The contract was approved and sent. Terms of payment have been agreed to.

Mr. Murphy presented a draft RFQ for the land-based work as the Town's public works director will not be able to perform the work as originally anticipated. Extensive review of the RFQ followed. Mr. Connolly made a motion to authorize Mr. Murphy to finalize and send the RFQ out to bid on behalf of the commission with all commission members having two days to email any further comments before finalization. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0.

Mr. Mitchell provided a sketch of his ideas on how to reconstruct the dinghy docks. Commissioners also reviewed the draft of the de minimus change letter for DEEP.

## **10. Harbor Master/Dock Master Report**

Mr. Mitchell had nothing to report.

## **11. Correspondence**

Correspondence was reviewed. There were no Rule 11 requests.

## **12. New Business**

The Greylock Property Group zoning discussion was removed from the agenda at the request of the parties who had requested an audience with the commission.

The rafting/bunking discussion was tabled.

## **13. Old Business**

Attorney Cronin reviewed the history of how the discussion of the authority of the commission came up. He reviewed parts of the Old Saybrook Town Code relating to Chapter 209. He then proposed the following addition to Article XI, Section 8-56 re powers, duties and responsibility of the Old Saybrook Harbor Management Commission:

To manage, control, and regulate those waterfront facilities set forth in Chapter 209 of the Old Saybrook Town Code entitled "Waterways," and any additional such waterfront facilities assigned to it by the Town of Old Saybrook or the Board of Selectmen.

Attorney Cronin noted that if the commissioners approved of the new language he would go before the Board of Selectmen to ask for approval to have the language added to the Town Code. Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the proposed addition. Mr. Connolly seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0.

Commissioners thanked Mr. Cronin and he left the meeting.

Mr. Murphy reported that he had recently talked with Susie Beckman about having more of a presence for HMC on the website. He was unable to meet with Christine Nelson regarding the update of the Harbor Management Plan as she was ill and could not attend their scheduled meeting.

## **14. Payment of Bills**

Mr. Connolly made a motion to pay Robert Becker \$250, \$166 to Olsen Sanitation, \$43 to the DRS, and \$88.93 and \$472.68 to Connecticut Water. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0.

## **15. Adjournment**

Mr. Cole made a motion to adjourn at 9:09 p.m. seconded by Mr. Connolly which was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0. The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Donahue  
Clerk, OSHMC