



**TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK  
Harbor Management Commission**

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

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**HMC MEETING MINUTES  
November 12, 2019 7:00 P.M.  
FIRST-FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Robert Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Robert Murphy, Chair; Paul Connolly, Secretary; David Cole; Robert Soden; Scott Mitchell, Harbor Master; and Jennifer Donahue, Clerk. Lou Vinciguerra attended as a guest. Brad Hurley, COO of Online Mooring, attended as a presenter.

Absent: Dick Goduti

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

There were no citizens present with business before the commission.

**4. Online Mooring Software Demo**

Mr. Hurley introduced his company, Online Mooring, which has been in existence since 2007 and is based in Glastonbury. The company has customers in three countries with berths ranging in number from 50 to 2,500. They offer a mobile app and a website. Guilford is currently using their service and Stonington and Westerly are coming on board soon. He demonstrated the product and answered questions. He left the meeting at 8:00 p.m. after the conclusion of his presentation.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the regular meeting of October 15, 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 4-0-0.

**6. Clerk Report**

Ms. Donahue's written report was reviewed by commission members. Updates were provided on wait list and renewal numbers. Monthly filing of the sales and use tax has begun. A mooring holder has provided a perpetual trophy to recognize the first person to send in their renewal each year. The donor, Dwight Merriam, is this year's first recipient. The financial report was also reviewed.

**7. North Cove**

The wait list currently has 27 people, 45 people have renewed and four have accepted moorings off the wait list.

**8. Clothesline**

The wait list currently has 15 people. Twelve people have renewed.

**9. Ferry Road**

The wait list currently has 18 people and four people have renewed.

**10. Sheffield Street Project Planning, Bidding and Execution Discussion**

Commissioners reviewed the RFQs for the land-based work. After discussion Mr. Murphy made a motion asking the commission to recommend to the first selectman that the contract be awarded to Connecticut River Dock & Dredge.

Mr. Connolly seconded the motion and discussion followed regarding who would oversee the project on behalf of the Town. A commission member or the building inspector will be asked to supervise the project's progress. The motion was so VOTED unanimously 4-0-0.

Mr. Soden reported that he had approved Docko to send the de-minimus change letter to the DEEP. He will follow-up to make sure it has gone out. He will also follow-up with the Army Corps.

Mr. Murphy reported that the signed contract had been sent to Meeco Sullivan last week. He would like to have shop drawings to consider at the December meeting if possible. He will follow-up with them.

Mr. Connolly reported on the draft kayak rack application. Commissioners with comments on the form and/or proposed rules should contact Mr. Connolly with their feedback before the December meeting.

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

Mr. Mitchell reported that the contested Cornfield Point mooring is still an issue. If the mooring holder agrees, he will move it over a little in the spring.

Mr. Mitchell suggested that the commission ask North Cove Yacht Club if the floating dock from Sheffield Street can be stored with their docks as was done three years ago in exchange for payment toward their electric bill to run the bubblers around their docks. Mr. Connolly made a motion to authorize Mr. Mitchell to negotiate with North Cove Yacht Club to store the dock for the winter for a maximum cost of \$500. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0 with Mr. Murphy abstaining.

Mr. Mitchell also reported that he had called the police last week because a sailboat was moored in the cove on a mooring that did not belong to it. He traced the boat to an out-of-state owner who claims the boat should have been delivered to Branford. The owner says arrangements have been made to have it picked up and transported to the correct location. Mr. Mitchell will have to pull that mooring himself as the contractor has already pulled the others.

Finally, he reported that a large pin on the end of the Sheffield Street ramp has come out twice in the last two weeks and it had to have been done deliberately. He advocated for cameras at HMC facilities. After some discussion Mr. Connolly agreed to bring a trail camera he had purchased for home use in to show commissioners as it might be a viable and economical option.

#### **12. Correspondence**

A mooring holder has requested clarification on whether a spouse who co-owns a boat with a mooring holding spouse is entitled to take over a mooring if the spouse whose name is on the mooring passes away. Commissioners discussed the issue without a clear resolution. Mr. Murphy will attempt to draft something for discussion for the December meeting.

#### **13. New Business**

Mr. Murphy reported that Mr. Goduti had filed an FOI complaint against him and Mr. Connolly related to a meeting by the Clothesline guardrail to discuss weeds. The Town has filed an appearance on their behalf.

Mr. Murphy noted that Lee Ann Palladino, finance director, had forwarded him a copy of the proposed personnel budget for the next fiscal year. No action is required, but Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the proposed personnel budget at this time unless something comes up between now and the finalization of the budget that does not seem appropriate for the proposed funding. Mr. Connolly seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 4-0-0.

The rafting/bunking discussion was tabled.

Mr. Murphy presented a draft meeting schedule for 2020 noting that if commissioners preferred to meet in a location other than the employee cafeteria, the second-floor conference room is available on the third Monday of the month. If commissioners consent to change the meeting from the second Monday of the month to the third, this change of venue is possible. After discussion, Mr. Murphy made a motion to accept the proposed 2020 meeting schedule for the third Monday of each month. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously, 4-0-0.

#### **14. Old Business**

Further discussion on the website was tabled.

Mr. Connolly reported that he had attended the selectman's meeting to approve the revised language for the Harbor Management Plan. The language was accepted and will be presented for final approval at the Town Meeting on 11/25. He encouraged commissioners to attend if possible.

There was no further discussion on property management.

#### **14. Payment of Bills**

Mr. Connolly made a motion to pay \$88.93 to Connecticut Water. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 4-0-0.

#### **15. Adjournment**

Mr. Cole made a motion to adjourn at 9:11 p.m. seconded by Mr. Soden which was so VOTED unanimously 4-0-0. The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Donahue  
Clerk, OSHMC