



**TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Harbor Management Commission**

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**HMC MEETING MINUTES
July 19, 2021 7:00 P.M.
SECOND-FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, TOWN HALL - HYBRID**

To access the audio from this meeting, please use the following link:

<https://youtu.be/LluaDG9qpik>

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; Robert Soden; Lou Vinciguerra; Scott Mitchell, Harbor Master; and Jennifer Donahue, Clerk.

3. Citizens with Business before the Commission

There were no citizens with business before the commission.

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting of June 21, 2021 were considered. A motion was made by Mr. Connolly and seconded by Mr. Cole to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was so VOTED unanimously 5-0-0.

5. Clerk Report

Ms. Donahue's written report was reviewed by commission members. Updates were provided on wait lists as well as progress on the database charting and the status of Flats & Beaches applications. The fiscal year-end financial summary as well as the monthly financial summary report were also reviewed. Ms. Donahue noted that some of the bills in the July packet should be allocated to FY21 and are noted that way in the financial summaries.

6. North Cove

There are 54 people on the wait list. Six people have requested Rule 11 exemptions and one has relinquished his mooring, which is now available for transient use.

Discussion of the dock crane was tabled.

The upgrade policy and space availability will be taken up in an upcoming meeting.

The Sheffield Street as-builts were discussed. Mr. Murphy will contact the surveyor to get a price and move the project forward.

7. Clothesline

There are 23 people on the wait list and two people have requested Rule 11 exemptions.

Two bids were received for the RFP for the stair replacement: Connecticut River Dock & Dredge for \$56,126.92 and Suchocki & Sons for \$104,800. Mr. Murphy asked if there were any concerns about the low bidder's proposal. It was noted that part of that proposal called for the HMC's surveyor to lay out the stairs for construction. Commissioners agreed this was reasonable. Mr. Murphy made a motion that the HMC authorize him to draft, negotiate and forward a finalized contract to the first selectman for the Clothesline Marina stair reconstruction with Connecticut River Dock & Dredge for work to be performed in accordance with their proposal submitted on 7/14/2021 and the RFP in the amount of \$56,126.92. Mr. Vinciguerra seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 5-0-0.

Mr. Vinciguerra reported on the North Cove ramp project. He noted that some stones along the wall needed to be put back in place and sealed in. He suggested that ramp installation should be timed with the MLLW (mean lower-low water) for better use of the ramp during tide cycles. Some excavation work will be needed to get the ramp to the

proper grade and then stone can be put in and topped with pavers. Mr. Soden suggested that any additional things that might benefit the project should be included in the permit. Commissioners discussed adding pole guides to the design to keep people from driving off the ramp while backing up and to provide spots to tie a boat off to. Mr. Soden suggested that a description of the activities be added to the permit application. Mr. Vinciguerra will incorporate the comments into the drawings and forward to Coastline for finalization. Mr. Murphy hoped that the drawings could be approved at the next meeting.

Discussion of responsibility for pole maintenance was tabled.

8. Ferry Road

Ferry Road has 22 people on the wait list with one person requesting a Rule 11 exemption.

Mr. Murphy noted that Mr. Nielson had sent the COP for the first selectman's signature. Mr. Murphy sent the completed documents to Mr. Nielson to forward to the DEEP.

9. Harbor Master/Dock Master Report

Mr. Mitchell reported that he needed to replace a hoop at the Ferry Dock which should be done this week. He also reported that there had been a squatter in North Cove for nearly a month. After unsuccessfully encouraging him to leave the police were called and he then moved to a mooring in the river. Further intervention may be necessary. Mr. Mitchell also worked with Matt at Online Mooring on a problem he was having placing some of the Flats & Beaches mooring points in Online Mooring. The problem is now resolved. Finally, Mr. Mitchell noted that there is a group of kids who are hanging on the crane and pilings at the Town Dock on Sheffield Street. They have also been jumping on boats and swimming even though it is posted that swimming is not allowed. The behavior is unsafe. Commissioners discussed documenting the activities through pictures, calling the police if needed and having more visibility of commissioners in that area to address the behavior. Mr. Mitchell also asked that video surveillance be reconsidered. Mr. Murphy will speak with Chief Spera about cameras.

Mr. Connolly thanked Mr. Mitchell for overseeing the weed cutting in the Clothesline area.

10. Correspondence

Commissioners acknowledged Rule 11 exemption requests from Larry Ritzhaupt, Marko Kaar, Bill Sullivan, Vaughn Peterson, Rick Beck, Jorgan Bjorkman (Clothesline), Paul Connolly (Clothesline, though now boat is on pole), and David Cole (Ferry Dock).

11. New Business

The LWRD License Application Form D COP for a floating dock at 212 Ferry Road at the state boat launch was acknowledged.

The Bulkhead Retention Project COP for 142 Ferry Road in response to a DEEP violation was acknowledged.

The Planned Development District Petition to Amend OS Zoning Regulations related to the potential Picard project at 91 Sheffield Street was discussed. This also ties in with agenda item #12(a). Mr. Murphy will send an email to Mr. Nielson at Docko to ask for a copy of the permit as a public notice was received by the office and the HMC will have to sign the consultation form before the project can proceed before the DEEP.

Commissioners engaged in discussion regarding the amount of land delineated as Marine Industrial in town as well as whether this project is consistent with the goals of the Harbor Management Plan. Specifically, they focused on Chapter 4 Sections 6 and 7. After extensive review, commissioners found the proposal to be inconsistent with sections 6.1, 6.3 and 7.1. With the limited details provided, the proposal appears consistent with sections 7.2 and 7.3; however, commissioners agreed that the granting of public access that is consistent with those sections does not outweigh the inconsistencies with the Harbor Management Plan. A similar proposal without public access for this property that had previously appeared before the HMC was found to be inconsistent based on Chapter Four Section 7 of the Harbor Management Plan.

Mr. Murphy made a motion that the HMC authorize him to send a letter to the Zoning Commission regarding the July 13, 2021 memorandum for the Planned Development District Petition to Amend the Old Saybrook Zoning Regulations related to 91 Sheffield Street stating that in totality it is inconsistent with the Harbor Management Plan and attaching a copy of the meeting minutes as explanation for the commission's reasoning. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED 5-0-0.

The revision of the Flats & Beaches requirements to include insurance and double pennants was tabled.

The discussion of fees was tabled.

12. Old Business

The Online Mooring update was covered earlier in the meeting.

Mooring succession for spouses was tabled.

Video surveillance was discussed earlier in the meeting.

13. Payment of Bills

Mr. Connolly made a motion to pay Docko \$1,865, Online Mooring \$108, Olsen's Sanitation \$196 each for June and July, Robert Becker two bills one each for \$75 and \$150 and the Department of Revenue Services \$33 for sales & use tax. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 5-0-0.

14. Adjournment

Mr. Cole made a motion to adjourn at 9:06 p.m. seconded by Mr. Murphy which was so VOTED unanimously 5-0-0. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Donahue
Clerk, OSHMC