



**TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Harbor Management Commission**

302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475-1741

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

**HMC SPECIALMEETING MINUTES
August 23, 2021 6:30 P.M.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, TOWN HALL - HYBRID**

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

<https://youtu.be/1LZKFMMzzHc>

1. Call to Order

Chair Robert Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Robert Murphy, Chair; Paul Connolly, Secretary; Robert Soden; Lou Vinciguerra; Scott Mitchell, Harbor Master; and Jennifer Donahue, Clerk.

Absent: David Cole (Note that due to a technical issue Mr. Cole was on the telephone and able to hear the proceedings but could not be heard or vote.)

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 July 19, 2021 were considered. A motion was made by Mr. Connolly and seconded by Mr. Vinciguerra to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was so VOTED unanimously 4-0-0.

5. Clerk Report

Ms. Donahue's written report was reviewed by commission members. Updates were provided on wait lists as well as the flats & beaches. The monthly financial summary report was also reviewed.

6. North Cove

There are 61 people on the wait list. Twelve people have requested Rule 11 exemptions and one has relinquished his mooring, which is now available for transient use. Due to the number of vacant moorings, Mr. Murphy thought there might be more than 12 people who needed a Rule 11 exemption. Mr. Mitchell will recheck the list.

Mr. Mitchell was asked to give the dock crane and its positioning some thought before the next meeting. Mr. Murphy will also ask Mr. Rutan for advice.

The upgrade policy and space availability for the 2022 season was discussed. Mr. Murphy will prepare a proposal to be reviewed at the September meeting.

There was no further report on the Sheffield Street as-builts.

Commissioners agreed that letters should be sent to those North Cove mooring holders who had vacant moorings but had not applied for Rule 11 exemptions.

7. Clothesline

There are 24 people on the wait list and one person has requested Rule 11 exemption.

Mr. Murphy sent a contract to Connecticut River Dock & Dredge for the stair replacement. It has not yet been signed and returned. Work will start in October.

Mr. Vinciguerra reported that he had marked up the drawings for the North Cove ramp and Mr. Soden noted that the vendor had clarified some information on the historical permitting with him. Permit application preparation is moving forward.

Mr. Connolly noted that weed whacking around the junipers should be done every time the landscaper goes to mow in order to keep the weeds down. It was agreed that he and Mr. Mitchell would meet with the landscaper on Saturday to clarify the work to be done on a regular basis. Mr. Murphy noted that he would speak with Mr. Rutan about the possibility of replacing the landward poles at the Clothesline facility.

Mr. Connolly had not noticed a lot of vacant poles this season and did not feel that Rule 11 violations were a problem.

8. Ferry Road

Ferry Road has 23 people on the wait list with one person requesting a Rule 11 exemption.

There was no further report on the permit update. The water usage and plumbing discussion was tabled until Mr. Cole could participate. No Rule 11 violations were discussed.

9. Harbor Master/Dock Master Report

Mr. Mitchell reported that he is looking for someone to pull the moorings in the fall and that no boats broke free in the recent storm. A problem squatter has again been asked to leave the cove.

10. Correspondence

Commissioners reviewed correspondence related to Online Mooring payments. Mr. Murphy noted that it might be a good idea to do a financial reconciliation before renewals start.

Correspondence was reviewed from Mr. Schilling who had declined a position in North Cove and then failed to renew his position on the wait list despite numerous communications. Commissioners agreed that he would have to reapply for the wait list.

Violation issues with three Pardi vessels were discussed. Determination of their 2022 renewal status will be discussed in September with Rule 11 violators. The commissioners agreed to send a letter to the Pardis reflecting the discussions at the meeting.

Commissioners acknowledged Rule 11 exemption requests from Rick Beck, Terry Frimmet, and Christopher Bazinet.

A notice of non-compliance for a dock at 17 Third Avenue was acknowledged.

11. New Business

The notice of waiver of public hearing from the CTDOT was acknowledged.

The notice from the Zoning Commission regarding a moratorium to amend the OS Zoning Regulations in regard to cannabis was acknowledged.

Discussion of requirements for boats in the Flats & Beaches led to a discussion regarding clarification of rules for those areas. Mr. Connolly will work with Ms. Donahue to draft a set of rules for review at the September meeting.

After a short discussion on fees Mr. Murphy and Mr. Connolly agreed to look into the fees more closely and also to survey what surrounding towns are charging. Ms. Donahue noted that Online Mooring is unable to require payment by credit card for just wait list fees – either all fees need to be subject to the requirement or all payors need to be given the choice of paying by credit card or offline. Commissioners asked that the system remain as is to give people a choice. Mr. Mitchell said he would investigate the cost of water timers for the Ferry Dock.

12. Old Business

Ms. Donahue requested permission to ask Online Mooring to make some adjustments to the database before renewals begin. She asked that the question of whether North Cove mooring holders would like a second dinghy spot if available be removed. Commissioners agreed. She also asked to automate the system to allow additional choices when mooring holders are renewing. Commissioners agreed.

Mr. Murphy agreed to draft a policy for mooring succession for spouses for discussion at the next meeting.

Mr. Connolly reported that he had discovered some relatively inexpensive cameras that can be used through an app to provide a video feed. He will send a link about the product for other commissioners to review.

13. Payment of Bills

Mr. Connolly made a motion to pay Robert Becker two bills one each for \$325 and \$50, Olsen's Sanitation \$196, Online Mooring \$222 and \$132, and the Department of Revenue Services \$48 for sales & use tax. Mr. Vinciguerra seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 4-0-0.

14. Adjournment

Mr. Murphy reminded commissioners of the special meeting on August 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the first-floor conference room.

Mr. Soden made a motion to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. seconded by Mr. Vinciguerra which was so VOTED unanimously 4-0-0. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Donahue
Clerk, OSHMC