1. Call to Order
Secretary Paul Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call
Present: Paul Connolly, Secretary; David Cole (remote); Robert Soden (remote); Jennifer Donahue, Clerk; Darren Gabel and Jeff Zee attended remotely as guests.

Absent: Robert Murphy, Chair; Lou Vinciguerra; Scott Mitchell, Harbor Master.

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 May 16, 2022 were reviewed. Mr. Cole made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Soden seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0.

5. Clerk Report
Ms. Donahue gave a brief overview of her regular written reports. All renewals for all lists have been completed and the wait lists in all areas are robust. Changes is the automation of Online Mooring have been made to make the North Cove wait list process run more smoothly next year. Income is up for the fiscal year which closes at the end of the month. Another refund was received from the CT DRS for surplus tax revenue resulting from an estimated tax payment in 2019.

6. North Cove
The cove has 146 moorings for the season with 48 people currently on the wait list.

Further discussion of mooring succession for spouses was tabled.

There was no report on the as-builds in Mr. Murphy’s absence.

7. Clothesline
The Clothesline is full for the season and the wait list has 29 people.

There was no report on the wall survey in Mr. Vinciguerra’s absence.

Further discussion on pole maintenance was tabled.

8. Ferry Road
The fixed dock is full. The floating dock has three boats, with the potential for a fourth if space allows. There are 25 people on the wait list.

Mr. Cole reported that he has the new Ferry Dock sign. To make it sturdier the sign company has recommended affixing a ½” piece of plastic to the back for an additional $100. Mr. Cole made a motion requesting that the
commission allow him to spend $100 for the plastic backing. Mr. Soden seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0.

Further discussion related to the docking of rescue boats was tabled.


There was no report in Mr. Mitchell’s absence.

10. Correspondence

Rule 11 requests from D. MacVaugh, V. Sutton and P. Bisson were acknowledged.

Correspondence was acknowledged from M. Raffa regarding an upgrade.

Commissioners discussed a letter from David Miller regarding fishing gear that had become entangled with his mooring and had trapped marine life. He asked that the commission enforce a ban on fixed fishing gear in the cove. Commissioners generally agreed that this kind of gear should not be allowed in the cove. Mr. Connolly will follow-up with Mr. Mitchell regarding rules that may already be in place and his ability to enforce them. Identifying the owner of the gear was also discussed. Ms. Donahue will acknowledge Mr. Miller’s correspondence and the commission will follow up on the issue at the July meeting.

11. New Business

There was no report on the police marine division.

Mr. Connolly reported that the grounds keeper that had taken over the business of the HMC’s previous vendor had declined to continue to service the account. He presented an estimate from a new vendor with experience with the kind of maintenance needed, especially at the Clothesline. The cost is significantly more than the commission was previously spending. He asked commissioners to approve spending up to $2,000 on maintenance fees with this vendor until the commission decides on a permanent solution. Mr. Cole made a motion to allow Mr. Connolly to expend up to $2,000 in the interim to do landscaping. Mr. Soden seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0.

A petition to amend the Old Saybrook Zoning Regulations to amend Section 53, Special Standards Drive-through Windows, Paragraph H, to include properties with frontage on Route 166 was acknowledged without comment.

12. Old Business

No report was available on the Kayak Subcommittee in Mr. Mitchell’s absence.

Ms. Donahue reported that she had checked out the file cabinet in the Town Clerk’s Office. There are a number of things that could be disposed of immediately. She will put together a list of the other things for consideration.

There was no further report on the video surveillance pending comments from Chief Spera.

Update on the Harbor Management Plan was tabled.

13. Payment of Bills

Mr. Cole made a motion to approve the following bills: State of CT for sales and use tax, $162; Saybrook Hardware for $4.99 and $67.72 for North Cove supplies; Online Mooring $264 and $372; Regional Restrooms $98; and Old Saybrook Plumbing $436.72 and $448. Mr. Soden seconded the motion which was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0.

Mr. Connolly also made a motion to authorize Ms. Donahue to pay an additional $98 for the portable toilets which had not been included with the bills. Since changing hands from Olsen Sanitation the portable toilet bills have been incorrect. Mr. Soden seconded the motion and it was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0.

14. Adjournment

Mr. Cole made a motion to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. seconded by Mr. Soden which was so VOTED unanimously 3-0-0. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Donahue
Clerk, OSHMC