



THE CITY OF WHITTIER

Gateway to Western Prince William Sound

P.O. Box 608 • Whittier, Alaska 99693 • (907) 427-2327 • Fax (907) 472-2404

**PORT & HARBOR COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, September 1, 2016
Homeowner's Lounge, BTI Building
6:00 pm**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Ed Hedges called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

OPENING CEREMONY

Ed Hedges led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commission members present: Ed Hedges, Monty Irvin, Mark Mitchell, Arnie Arneson and Dave Goldstein

MOTION: Arnie Arneson made a motion to excuse Brad Von Wichman from tonight's meeting.

SECOND: Dave Goldstein

DISCUSSION: None

Dave Goldstein: Yes, Mark Mitchell: Yes, Monty Irvin: Yes, Arnie Arneson: Yes, Ed Hedges: Yes

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Andy Dennis, Harbormaster

Naelene Matsumiya, Office Assistant

PUBLIC CITIZENS PRESENT

Mike Bender

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Dave Goldstein made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Agenda of September 1, 2016 as is.

SECOND: Arnie Arneson.

Dave Goldstein: Yes, Arnie Arneson: Yes, Monty Irvin: Yes, Mark Mitchell: Yes, Ed Hedges: Yes

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Passed Unanimously

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Dave Goldstein made a motion to approve the Port & Harbor Regular Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2016 as is.

SECOND: Arnie Arneson

Dave Goldstein: Yes, Arnie Arneson: Yes, Monty Irvin: Yes, Mark Mitchell: Yes, Ed Hedges: Yes

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Passed Unanimously

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Harbormaster Report

Andy Dennis reported the grant for the harbor fell through. The members of the commission thanked harbormaster, Andy Dennis, for a job well done this year. Arnie Arneson then asked Andy if he had installed dusk to dawn lights in the harbor. Andy confirmed that he had.

Arnie mentioned the A, B, C floats and suggested a letter to be written and sent to several places that would address the concerns about floats during windier days and how the harbor should build floats that could protect and accommodate boats during these extreme weather conditions. Andy explained the cost associated with the renovations for this specific instance.

B. City Manager's Report

None

CORRESPONDENCE

A. Harbormaster's Letter to Berth Holders

Andy Dennis said that he met with Bellingham Marine the previous Monday to discuss the difference in cost of the fingers with the triangle piece versus without. He explained that the advantage of the triangle piece was to stabilize the finger and provide flexibility; however, it lengthens the finger causing some disadvantage.

Andy further discussed the cost of the design with and without the triangle piece and the types of boats the finger with the triangle piece can and cannot accommodate. There was a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of the triangle piece. Dave then commented on the reconfiguration of the harbor and how it had actually caused a few problems to some berth holders. He suggested to make some changes on the wait-list and to add a section for boat size that should be mandatory. Andy stated that, that is how the slip application form has been formatted.

Charlene Arneson suggested Andy to ask the commission to write a formal letter of recommendation to the City Council.

MOTION: Arnie Arneson made a motion to comprise a letter to the Council to address the concerns about the "Triangle Piece" in the harbor.

SECOND: Dave Goldstein seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Dave Goldstein recommended that the commission leave it up to the council to make this decision.

VOTE: Arnie Arneson: Yes, Dave Goldstein: Yes, Monty Irvin: Yes, Mark Mitchell: Yes, Ed Hedges: Yes

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Harbor Policy & Procedure Review

Ed Hedges stated that the commission needed to come up with a Policy and Procedure first in order to review it. Andy Dennis reported on some things that needed to be added into the Policy and Procedure report,

ultimately stating the report needed to be updated. Members of the commission discussed and agreed. Dave Goldstein offered to assist the harbormaster regarding changes to the Harbor Policy and Procedures.

B. Annual Transients

Ed Hedges stated this is an issue that needs to be done with the Harbor Policies.

C. Moorage Agreements

To be addressed at the next meeting.

D. Wash Down Area

Ed Hedges mentioned that he has not seen boats being worked on at the harbor as much.

Andy Dennis suggested laying out a tarp underneath boats so it would be easier for boat owners to clean up after a wash. Ed then asked if pressure washing can be an option and Andy affirmed, so long as you lay down a tarp to catch any harmful chemical that may compromise the environment. He also clarified that if boat owners pressure washed their boats in the harbor, and if the paint washes off into the water, it is essentially littering. Andy told the committee about his idea to install a sandpit but was uncertain as he wouldn't know where to place it. He also talked about the overwhelming price of removing contaminated sand if ever lead based paints were to compromise the sand pit.

E. Septic Pump Out

Ed Hedges reported that no one was interested in paying \$5,000 for a pump out. Andy Dennis said a septic pump out is a service he'd like to provide if there was a demand for it. There was a long conversation about other locations that provide this service. There was also conversation about where it would be placed in the harbor. Andy stated that it isn't much of a demand to do anything.

F. Harbor Fees

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Reduce the Number of Members for Commission and Frequency of Meetings

Charlene Arneson said the ordinance stated to meet once a month. She went on to clarify that the members do not have to meet if it is not New Business. Dave Goldstein is concerned that people might show up to the meeting if they weren't notified of the cancellation. He suggested that the commission hold four regular meetings a year; the first Thursday of February, May, August, and November.

B. Float Configuration

Discussed during the Harbormaster's Report

C. Update on Head of the Bay Use and Plans

Harbormaster Andy Dennis mentioned the building of a breakwater and a boat launch at the Head of the Bay. Andy stated that a geochemical survey was done in 2014. We still do not have the results from the engineering firm. Apparently, they have been waiting for two years for the city to give them the go-ahead.

There was short discussion about parking at the Head of the Bay. Andy said it would be better for people to have the ability to park their cars and then head out on to the water. Dave Goldstein and Charlene Arneson discussed the water and the electricity situation in the area. Charlene and Dave also discussed the salmon viewing area.

D. Fish Cleaning on Passenger Dock

Dave Goldstein emphasized that current Harbor Policy and Procedures says that no one is to clean fish on the docks.

E. Harbor Budget

Discussed earlier.

F. Waste Issues

Dave Goldstein suggested that the City start a recycling program. He believes recycling will benefit not only our environment, but also our community. Andy Dennis said he will talk to Alaska Waste about a recycling option. Arnie Arneson suggested that a platform be built and placed in front of the dumpsters to make it easier for people to dispose of their trash. Andy replied that the platform would get in the way when the dump truck came to collect the trash. There was a lengthy conversation about when the truck comes into town to pick up trash.

G. Living Arrangements in Harbor

Dave Goldstein clarified that this was meant for the RV's in the harbor area. He was not sure if the ordinance was changed so that recreational vehicles could be stationed in the harbor. The members of the committee discussed the Avis car rental and the parking space they take up.

H. Lighting

Discussed during the Harbormaster's Report.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mike Bender inquired about the 2017 moorage fees. Andy replied that the harbor is developing a budget to finish the harbor rebuild, but there has not been talk about increasing the fee. Andy and Mike discussed the time frame of the construction, the price, and the triangle piece.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Dave Goldstein read aloud a statement he drew up regarding the reconfiguration of the harbor: The Port and Harbor Commission recommends that additional reconfigurations and/or rebuilds of the floats and fingers in the Whittier Harbor be done in a manner that accommodates different hull designs, i.e. square hull, "V" hull, tapered hull, double ender hull, etc. The intent is to design and build without the recently used stabilizing triangle.

NEXT MEETING ATTENDANCE PLANS: October 5, 2016

Remove Septic pump from agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mark Mitchell made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Dave Goldstein seconded.

Mark Mitchell: Yes, Dave Goldstein: Yes, Monty Irvin: Yes, Arnie Arneson: Yes, Ed Hedges: Yes

VOTE: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm

Attest:



Naelene Matsumiya
Office Assistant



Ed Hedges
Chair of Port & Harbor Commission