



THE CITY OF WHITTIER

Gateway to Western Prince William Sound

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

**PORT & HARBOR COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, October 1, 2015
Homeowner's Lounge, BTI Building
6:00 pm**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Ed Hedges called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

OPENING CEREMONY

Ed Hedges led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Ed Hedges	Seat A	P
Peter Denmark	Seat B	A
Brad Von Wichman	Seat C	A
Monty Irvin	Seat D	P
Larry Gilman	Seat E	A
Arnie Arneson	Seat F	P
David Goldstein	Seat G	P

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Mark Lynch, City Manager
Scott Korbe, Public Works Director
Jennifer Rogers, Deputy City Clerk

PUBLIC CITIZENS PRESENT

Charlene Arneson

MOTION: Arnie Arneson made a motion to excuse Peter Denmark, Brad Von Wichman and Larry Gilman from tonight's meeting.

SECOND: Monty Irvin

DISCUSSION: David Goldstein asked Jennifer Rogers if she had heard from the absent members. Jennifer replied that Brad Von Wichman called and said he wouldn't be able to attend. She did not hear from Larry Gilman and Peter Denmark.

Ed Hedges Y Peter Denmark Q Brad VonWichman Q Monty Irvin Y Larry Gilman Q Arnie Arneson Y David Goldstein Y

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Arnie Arneson made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Agenda of October 1, 2015 as is.

SECOND: David Goldstein

Ed Hedges Y Peter Denmark Q Brad VonWichman Q Monty Irvin Y Larry Gilman Q Arnie Arneson Y David Goldstein Y

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Arnie Arneson made a motion to approve the Port & Harbor Regular Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2015 with the following amendments:

Correct the spelling of Buckner Building on page 3, paragraph 4.

Mark Lynch pointed out a grammatical error on page 5.

For clarification purposes, David Goldstein recommended that the word, land, be added to tank farm on page 4, first sentence of Head of the Bay Plans.

SECOND: Monty Irvin

Ed Hedges Y Peter Denmark Q Brad VonWichman Q Monty Irvin Y Larry Gilman Q Arnie Arneson Y David Goldstein Y

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Harbormaster Report

None

B. City Manager's Report

City Manager, Mark Lynch reported that there are two harbormaster finalists. A meet and greet is scheduled for October 12 and October 14 at 6pm at the Council Chambers. Scott Korbe will have general oversight of the harbor until a harbormaster is hired.

Before Ross Blaker left, he informed Mark Lynch that a few boat owners had concerns with the electrical bill. Scott Korbe added that during the months of March, April and May, the harbor rebuild was taking place so there was no electricity provided. Charges for electricity increased from .9 cents per kilowatt to .15 cents per kilowatt. Mark stated that he was working on the harbor budget and said that we're on track now; we're basically breaking even with the electrical costs. We were losing significant money at the harbor in years past because we were charging less for electricity than it was costing us to buy it.

Scott Korbe reported that water was shut off this week. The current generator is operational. Preparations for winter are underway. Signs have been taken down and seasonal equipment is being stored. He is hoping that all preparations for winter will be complete by the end of next week.

Dave Goldstein asked if the dock structure can be modified to accommodate boats that have a square hull. Some people have been on the wait list for years. If they get a slip, they can't pull all the way forward and their stern sticks out. Scott Korbe replied that he'll have to look at policy and procedure and get back with him. The brackets cannot be removed; they're there to stay. It's part of the structural integrity of the design.

Dave Goldstein asked if it would be possible to relocate the posts that are sticking out. Scott replied in the affirmative and added that they can stick out of their slip 10%. Scott stated that we can't void the warranty of the dock.

There was further discussion about this topic and possible solutions.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Installation of Dump Site

Mark Lynch announced that the City Council will begin discussions on the 2016 budget on October 13th. He suggested if the commission has a recommendation for a project like that, make a motion tonight and he'll bring it up to the council.

Dave Goldstein suggested that instead of a mobile pump out, it would be nice to have a pump out similar to the one located at the Cliffside Marina. He added that most harbor facilities have their pump out stations at the water level and there's a pump to pump the sewage.

Charlene Arneson stated that there used to be a pump wheels and there used to be one for oil at the EVOS building. She asked what happened to those. She added that there's a large one that pumped out the oil in the bilge water and they took the oil from the cruise ships and burned it. There was also a small one just for the sewer system. Scott Korbe replied that they still have that and it's still operational.

The large pump that was used for bilge water froze up. Charlene asked if it's still a viable unit. Scott replied that yes, it can be fixed. Scott stated that the commission should consider which slip would they want to give up to provide this service. Electrical and sewage is already at the bulkhead of the gangway.

In his opinion, a portable pump would be a pain for the staff, but cost beneficial. Most people have 50 gallon tanks and some people have 100 gallon tanks. It was questioned how many people would utilize this service? Most people pump on the way out to Montague or at the Sound. Charlene added that when they had a pump out, people with little boats used it.

Mark asked if there was a fee for the use of the pump out station. Charlene replied that there was not. Dave Goldstein added that some people with smaller boats take their waste and dump it out near the Delta float. He stated that having something at the water levels for the boats is a good one because it negates the problem of having to pump it at the City dock which doesn't work at low tide.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution #05-2015- To Abolish the Harbor User Fee

MOTION: Arnie Arneson made a motion to approve Resolution #05-2015.

SECOND: David Goldstein

Ed Hedges Y Peter Denmark O Brad VonWichman O Monty Irvin Y Larry Gilman O Arnie Arneson Y David Goldstein Y

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION: None

B. Harbor Budget for FY2016

Mark Lynch stated that he didn't have any proposals to change any fees, so the budget should remain the same for next year. Capital improvements for 2016 include installing new siding and a new roof for the harbor building. The money for the generator is in this year's budget. Scott is hoping to purchase and install one by the 1st of the year.

A grant application was submitted to replace the C float and all the fingers and headwalk from A- C; the City has agreed to match that grant. If we get the grant, one council member wants to gain approval from the rest of the council members to fund the completion of the B float.

David Goldstein stated that in years past, the commission received a complete budget which included the rates, grants, everything in writing that would be submitted to the council. Along with that, some information on what happened during the year to see if we've stayed within the budget or gone over the budget. He added that it's probably too late in the year for that, but would like to see that happen in the future.

C. Harbor Winter Water

Covered under the City Manager Administrative Report

D. Harbor Lighting

Ed Hedges reported that though there isn't anything plugged into it, the meter next to his boat reads 100 kilowatts, so the lights are running through meters. He wanted to know why the lights are running through the meters.

Scott replied that he talked to someone at Bellingham Marine and was told that the electrical is on the backside of the fuse of the power side; that is the reason why it went off when it was turned off. The metering portion is on the backside of the meter and not being charged to the berth holder. Ed reiterated that there isn't anyone plugged into it and its reading 100 kilowatts and it's going up as the lights are on. Scott stated that the wattage on the lights are so low LED that all the dockside lights consume the same amount of one street light. Scott added that he will look into this.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Charlene Arneson requested that the harbormaster only allow diesel boats at the C and D crossover because she smelled fumes at the harbor from a gas boat. Charlene said in the past, she has seen two gas boats and one diesel boat blow up.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

David Goldstein stated that he found a section in the September 3, 2015 meeting minutes that should be clarified. Under the Head of the Bay Plans, he suggested that the word land should follow tank farm since we no longer have a tank farm.

NEXT MEETING ATTENDANCE PLANS: To be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Arnie Arneson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.


SECOND: David Goldstein

Ed Hedges Y Peter Denmark O Brad VonWichman O Monty Irvin Y Larry Gilman O Arnie Arneson Y David Goldstein Y

VOTE: The vote passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm

Attest: 
Jennifer Rogers
Deputy City Clerk


Ed Hedges
Acting Chair