

WATERFRONT AND HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING

The Waterfront and Harbor Management Commission conducted a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2015, in room 213 of Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615 pursuant to notice duly posted.

1. CALL TO ORDER: At 7:30 p.m.

PRESIDING: Chairman Edward Scinto

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE: Edward Scinto, Scott Corner, Bill Rock, Thomas Gloersen, Thomas Logan, Frank Stirna, Patrick Gribbon, Thomas G. Cotter, Alan Minter

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Richard Fredette, Henry Halverson, James Tucciarone

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Administrator Geoff Steadman, Harbormaster Ross Hatfield

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTED: March balance sheet

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES Mr. Rock made a motion to approve the minutes of March 11, 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Minter. The motion carried unanimously.

3. PERMITS AND REVIEWS — No new permits.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from River cleanup committee requesting sponsorship donation. A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. COTTER, SECONDED BY MR. ROCK TO FORWARD \$300.00 FOR A SPONSORSHIP DONATION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Plans and Recommendations - Mr. Gribbon stated that BSC Group (Long Beach West) has been delayed.
- b. Dredging Update – Mr. Rock reviewed the history and facts re: the new agency, CT Port of Authority. A public hearing was scheduled but was unknown to interested WFHM commissions.
- c. Vessel Maintenance —Mr. Gloersen reported. The harbor master’s boat is in the water and good to go.
- d. Ramp Maintenance – Mr. Corner reported. The price for fixing the railing/ handicapped ramp is \$3,000.00. Mr. Scinto will contact Mr. McCarthy, Dir. Of Public Works, for a timeline to repair the item.
- e. Finance — Mr. Gribbon reviewed the above-cited report. He distributed the non-enforceable parking violation tickets. Tickets will be given to vehicles w/o launching

- permits for the purpose of a polite warning and perhaps generate some revenue. The ticket displays Mr. Hatfield's name and phone number. Memorial bench for Bonds dock is priced at \$924.98 by "Hayneedle". Placement of Bench and material for bench discussed.
- f. Information and Technology – No new information.
 - g. Special Events
 - (1) River cleanup to take place April 25
 - (2) Boat Show/Tag Sale will be held on May 9th at the launching ramp.
 - h. Municipal Pier – Fundable project.
 - i. Bonds Dock subcommittee — To be power washed.
 - j. Birdseye concession subcommittee —Mr. Stirna reported his meeting with Mr. Donaldson. Mr. Donaldson owes money and he states that he wants to be reimbursed for the fence that he had installed around the dumpster. Mr. Cotter said that Mr. Donaldson has no certificate of insurance. Mr. Gribbon said that Donaldson's permit selling efforts collected only \$400.00 last year. Mr. Scinto will contact Mr. Bishop re: the contract.
 - k. No wake Zone — signage — No new information.
 - l. State and Regional Organizations - Mr. Rock, as representative to CT Harbor Management Association, conveyed Stratford Waterfront Harbor Management Commission's concerns as he met with our State legislators re: CT Port Authority and how Stratford is potentially affected.
 - m. Shore Road 10-year plan — The Greenway Committee is scheduled to meet May 6.
 - n. Review/Study/Update Harbor Management Plan subcommittee — No report.
6. HARBORMASTER REPORT – Mr. Hatfield reported:
- The harbor master boat is in the water.
 - The new Fire Boat has 300 horse power.
 - The proposed new railroad bridge over the river will take 2 years.
7. OLD BUSINESS
- A. Breakwater Key Launching Ramp — Mr. Cotter reported that the ramp is now completely open. Discussion occurred re: suggestion to post a person in the parking lot during the summer to sell launching permits. A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. MINTER, SECONDED BY MR. LOGAN TO POST SIGN IN THE AUTO/BOAT TRAILER PARKING LOT OF THE CONDO SAYING "LAUNCHING PERMITS

ARE SOLD” WITH A LIST OF THE SALE LOCATIONS. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. CoP re: retain repairs and modification to pier in the Housatonic River. Address of applicant, 348 Housatonic Ave. Agent for applicant: John Hilts, Rowayton, CT. Mr. Hilt was in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Steadman conveyed a brief history of the property, formerly owned by Blackwelder. DEEP/OLISP issued a “Notice of non-compliance” for 348 Housatonic Avenue for unauthorized repairs to dock on Nov. 25, 2014. Mr. Hilts related a brief history of the property when it was purchased by Mr. Sams.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. MINTER, SECONDED BY MR. COTTER TO TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS.

1. The WHMC reiterates its previous comment that in 2006 the WHMC considered a proposal by the previous owner of the affected property to build a dock structure, and at that time recommended that the structure be built in the center of the property’s Housatonic River shoreline, and that it is the understanding of the WHMC that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued an approval to the previous property owner to build the dock structure in the center of the property’s Housatonic River shoreline.

2. The applicant's plan drawing does not show a dimension from the proposed structure to the applicant's property line and to the existing dock at the neighbor's property. In addition, a note on the plan drawing says that the locations of neighboring in-water structures are approximate and shown for illustrative purposes only. As the drawing is not stamped by a professional engineer or land surveyor, the WHMC can have no confidence in its accuracy. The WHMC recommends that the OLSIP take no action on this application until such time as proper dimensions from the proposed structure to the nearest property line and neighboring in-water structure are shown and the DEEP OLISP has confidence in the accuracy of the plan drawing.

3. The WHMC informs the applicant to contact the Town building department to obtain all necessary building approvals for the proposed work.

4. The WHMC reserves its right to review the proposal at such time as it may be modified, be the subject of a public notice or hearing, or additional information is available.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Coastal Resiliency study — Mr. Steadman gave a brief description of the function of the study citing environmental recovery, SAEP and Water Pollution Plant damages after storms, beach erosion, coastal flooding to name a few.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Corner reported on the Fishing tournament to take place the 3rd weekend in September. The tournament will be sponsored by the Fire Dept. to raise funds for the burn unit.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Mr. Steadman reported the response to our letter to DEEP re: disposing of dredged material by a Stamford company (Dolphin Cove) to Stratford point-no-point. DEEP's reply indicated designating the location is within their authority and Point-no-point is a public trust area.
- B. UI upgrade and relocate two circuit crossing the Housatonic River. Mr. Steadman reported the Zoning Commission meeting Minutes of March 3. Project needs State Sitting Counsel approval. Coastal site plan approval is required.

10. ADJOURNMENT — There being no other business to discuss, Mr. Rock made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stirna and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Cabral, Secretary