

ESSEX HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION



**Town of Essex
29 West Avenue
Essex, CT 06426**

**Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 26, 2016
Meeting Room A**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jeff Going called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Essex Harbor Management Commission to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Attendance

Members Present

- Jeff Going, Chairman
- Earl Fowler, Alternate
- Terry Stewart
- Walter Wiegert, Treasurer

Ex Officio Members Present

- Buddy Hitchcock, Deputy Harbor Master
- Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

Others Present

- Susan Chamberland
- Doug Domenie, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina
- Paul Kotowski
- Cy Libby, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina

Earl Fowler was seated for John Senning.

3. Approval of April Regular Meeting Minutes

The April 28, 2016 regular meeting minutes were reviewed.

Motion: Terry Stewart moved to approve the April 28, 2016 regular meeting minutes. Walter Wiegert seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Terry Stewart, and Walter Wiegert; 3-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

4. Public Comment

Susan Chamberland was present at the meeting to discuss her concerns with regard to bird droppings and the use of biosonic bird devices. Based on her research, Susan has concluded that these devices don't seem to work and she is wondering if there is some way the problem can be solved collectively. The situation was discussed. The Commission suggested that Susan send a complaint to the Town Manager about the noise and how it affects her personal enjoyment of her boat and the enjoyment of her guests and visitors to the Town.

It was also suggested that the Harbor Commission send an email to Essex mooring permit holders to make them aware and seek their input regarding the concern that has been raised with regard to the use of biosonic devices and the impact they have on some boat owners' enjoyment of their boats.

Motion: Terry Stewart moved to designate the Chairman to send an email to Essex mooring permit holders to make them aware and seek their input regarding the concern that has been raised with regard to the use of biosonic devices and the impact they have on some boat owners' enjoyment of their boats. Walter Wiegert seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Terry Stewart, and Walter Wiegert; 3-0-0 motion approved.

Paul Kotowski was present at the meeting to ask if he could tie his boat up to the Town dock while he goes to DMV to obtain a plate. He was told that he could and that the maximum tie up time is six hours.

Cy Libby noted that the Gilman rock markers are in.

Doug Domenie shared information on the upcoming hearings and comment period for the EPA's proposal to open a dredge disposal site in Eastern Long Island Sound. The comment period ends on June 27, 2016. Doug is encouraging everyone to lend their support and it was suggested that the Commission send an email to Essex mooring permit holders to get the word out about this.

Motion: Terry Stewart moved that another email be sent to mooring permit holders advising them of these hearings and comment period and asking for their support, as well as the Commission sending a letter to support the proposal. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Terry Stewart, and Walter Wiegert; 3-0-0 motion approved.

The two emails mentioned above will be sent to all Harbor Commission email distribution lists of record.

Financial Report

Treasurer Walter Wiegert reviewed the May 26, 2016 Treasurer's report.

Motion: Terry Stewart moved to approve the May 26, 2016 Treasurer's report. Earl Fowler seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler and Terry Stewart, Walter Wiegert abstained; 2-0-1 motion approved.

Walter noted that the Gilman invoice in the amount of \$5,724.00 which was approved at the last meeting was paid in May and is not reflected in the May report.

Two invoices were presented for approval:

- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$288.20 for May Clerk Services;
- Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina - \$2,997.00: \$1,698.00 for one half of the total bid to reset the Town docks and marks as quoted and \$1,299.00 for repair and replacement of ground tackle.

Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to approve the invoices presented. Terry Stewart seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Terry Stewart, and Walter Wiegert; 3-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

It has been agreed that the title of Treasurer will be passing to Terry Stewart at the end of this fiscal year, June 30, 2016.

Jeff Going moved to add Terry Stewart as a signatory to the Harbor Management Commission bank accounts. Walter Wiegert seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Terry Stewart, and Walter Wiegert; 3-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

A copy of this motion will be given to Terry Stewart to present to the bank as documentation.

5. Harbor Master Report

Paul noted that he was late for the meeting because he was responding to a report of jet skis doing 50 to 60 mph in the mooring fields off of Pettipaug and the Boat Club.

Sabbatical Request

- Jim Francis

An updated registration was received from Dirk Lewis for Mooring Permit #137.

Mooring Permit Applications

An application was received from Charles Klewin for a mooring in Middle Cove. Although he provided the requisite registration and certificate of insurance information, he completed the wait list application rather than a mooring permit application and submitted the wait list fee of \$10.00 rather than the applicable mooring permit fee. He will be sent a mooring permit application to complete and his \$10.00 check will be returned.

It was noted that the wait list application received from Stewart Galeucia for a mooring in North Cove and read into the April meeting minutes was intended to be a mooring permit application. He will be sent a mooring permit application for completion and removed from the wait list, and his \$10.00 wait list application check will be returned.

Paul noted that the Harbor is filling in nicely. He is going to ask the Essex Yacht Club to let him know if they see any problems in the Harbor and if so, he and Cy Libby will address them.

6. Harbor Management Business

- **Capital Projects:** None.
- **Town Access Ways:** None.

7. Correspondence

None.

8. New Business

Doug Domenie raised a concern about the inconsistency in ground tackle which is causing boats to hit each other. Doug asked the Commission to consider standardizing the ground tackle to minimize the variations and associated problems.

Doug ask if there was any negative feedback after the boat show such as parking or anything else. There was none.

9. Old Business

- **Confiscated Vessel Auction**

There was no official update since John Senning was not at the meeting, but Jeff thinks the auction was or will be held within the designated timeframe.

- **Harbor Management Plan Update**

No update.

- **Newsletter**

No update.

- **Rock Marker Purchase**

Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to approve the purchase of two rock markers from Gilman in the amount of \$430.00 each. Terry Stewart seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Terry Stewart, and Walter Wiegert; 3-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

- **Wally Schieferdecker Recognition**

Plans are in place for this to occur at the June meeting.

11. Adjournment

Motion: Terry Stewart moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Walter Wiegert seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Terry Stewart, and Walter Wiegert; 3-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk