

ESSEX HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION



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

**Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 27, 2015
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

- Earl Fowler, Alternate
- Jeff Going, Chairman
- Wally Schieferdecker, Vice Chairman
- Terry Stewart, Alternate
- Walter Wiegert, Treasurer
- Joe Zaraschi

Ex Officio Members Present

- Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

Others Present

- Cy Libby, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina

Earl Fowler was seated for John Senning.

3. Approval of June 25, 2015 and July 23, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The June 25, 2015 and July 23, 2015 meeting minutes were reviewed.

Motion: Wally Schieferdecker moved to approve the June 25, 2015 and July 23, 2015 meeting minutes as written. Walter Wiegert seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Wally Schieferdecker, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. Financial Report

Treasurer Walter Wiegert reviewed the August 27, 2015 Treasurer's report.

Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to approve the August 27, 2015 Treasurer's report. Earl Fowler seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Wally Schieferdecker and Joe Zaraschi; Walter Wiegert abstained; 3-0-1 motion approved.

Walter noted that he has submitted the quarterly financial report to the Town Treasurer.

Four invoices were presented for approval:

- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$277.09 for July 2015 Clerk Services;
- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$277.09 for August 2015 Clerk Services;
- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$54.10 reimbursement for small vessel removal warning notice;
- Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina - \$152.25 to recover and reset "F" mark.

Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to approve the invoices presented. Wally Schieferdecker seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Wally Schieferdecker, Walter Wiegert and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

6. Harbor Master Report

New Wait List Requests

- Thomas Casey, Mack Lane, check dated 6/29/15
- Sean Peterson, Main check dated 7/20/15
- Patrick Shea, Main, check dated 8/2/15

Paul has a feeling that Essex Boat Works moorings are being used for seasonal, not just service, moorings. He raised the question as to whether this is the time to consider not renewing some of the moorings and suggested that he and Jeff have a conversation with the owner about the situation. Paul will initiate the meeting.

Paul noted that he will get together with Cy Libby to determine if there is anyone who might not be eligible for a mooring permit renewal due to lack of use. He also noted that a deadline calendar is being put together to keep the permit renewal process on track for the 2015 - 2016 season.

Jeff Going suggested that a review of the Meadows be done.

Paul Riggio will send a note to Mrs. Varano about Mr. Varano's mooring status in light of his passing to see what she would like to do for the 2016 season.

7. Harbor Management Business

- **Capital Projects:** None.

- **Town Access Ways**

Vanessa Schaefer's comments on her 2015 Bushnell Park Vessel Registration were reviewed and discussed. Jeff Going will prepare a written response and copy Commission members. The response will include an invitation to the next meeting.

The number of small vessel permits issued and storage capacity was discussed. The racks have reached full capacity based on the number of permits issued. Joe Zarschi has been checking the racks on a regular basis and has observed that the number of vacant spots varies each time. Although it appears there are enough vacant spots to accommodate the people on the wait list, other factors such as parking and impact on neighbors need to be considered. Also, regardless of the number of vacant spots at any given time, space should be kept available for those who have been issued permits since, like the mooring permits, they have been paid for and should be available for use when desired.

Three small vessels were confiscated for lack of a permit after the warning notice was issued. There are now approximately 10-12 small vessels that have been confiscated and in Town storage. Jeff will communicate with John Senning about this.

It was suggested that the placement of the permit decals on small vessels be clearly specified next year so they can be seen easily.

8. Correspondence

A copy of the COP application to expand floating dock use at the Connecticut River Museum was received from DEEP.

A copy of a COP application to DEEP was received from Angus M. McDonald Gary Sharpe & Associates, Inc. on behalf of Mr. Douglas Wisch to retain and install a 64 linear foot wooden bulkhead, remove and replace a 15 linear foot wood bulkhead and retain and maintain an existing floating dock on his property on Bank Lane.

9. New Business

- **Long Island Sound Councils & Assembly**

First Selectman Norm Needleman has asked the Harbor Management Commission for a recommendation on whom to appoint to the Long Island Sound Councils & Assembly. Recommendations will be discussed at the next meeting.

- **Pilings in North Cove – Potential Hazard to Navigation**

The pilings on the east side of North Cove that are under water and a potential hazard to navigation were discussed. An inventory will be taken of the pilings and a determination made as to who they belong to so the problem can be taken care of.

A copy of the new Town of Essex Code of Ethics Policy was given to all members. These must be signed and dated by everyone and returned to the Town.

10. Old Business

- **Bushnell Park Small Vessel Permit Update & Discussion**

Discussed under Town Access Ways, Agenda Item #7.

- **Harbor Management Plan Update**

The Harbor Management Plan update project was moved to the next meeting.

Cy Libby provided information on harbor mark replacement options and pricing. It was suggested that four marks be purchased to put on the outer marks on a trial basis. This will be a winter project.

11. Adjournment

Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. Walter Wiegert seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Wally Schieferdecker, Walter Wiegert and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk