



# Harbor Management Commission

[www.essexct.gov](http://www.essexct.gov)

**Executive Board**  
Jeffrey Going, Chairman  
Terry Stewart, Treasurer

Essex Town Hall  
29 West Avenue  
Essex Connecticut 06426  
Telephone: 860-767-4340  
Fax: 860-767-8509

**Regular Members**  
John Senning  
Earl Fowler

**Alternate Members**  
Kit Schellens  
Susan Malan

**Ex-Officious Members**  
Paul Riggio, Harbor Master  
David Fasulo, Deputy Harbor Master

## Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting, Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 7:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order** - Chairman Jeff Going welcomed everyone to the Harbor Management Commission. Members and attendees announced themselves. Attendees were asked to please identify themselves for the record prior to making any comments.

**This meeting was made available to the public via Zoom:**

**INVITE LINK:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86441321316?pwd=dmhyN0pqSTNrSk1FNvZ0VGNTZWZjQT09>

0VGNTZWZjQT09

**Meeting ID:** 864 4132 1316

**Passcode:** 283120

## 2. Attendance:

### Attending Members

Jeffrey Going  
Earl Fowler  
Kit Schellens (*seated for Joe Zaraschi*)  
Susan Malan (*seated for John Senning*)  
Terry Stewart

### Absent Members

John Senning  
Joe Zaraschi (Resigned)

### Ex Officious Members

Paul Riggio, Harbor Master  
David Fasulo, Deputy Harbor Master

**Attendance:** Doug Domenie, Safe Harbor in person, Cy Libby, Safe Harbor Dauntless Marina via Zoom

Chairman Jeff Going revised the agenda adding the SHM Essex Island Marina Application and the Amtrack Bridge Proposal.

**MOTION** made by Jeff Going to approve the new agenda items. **SECONDED** by Kit Schellens, **Voting In Favor:** Jeff Going, Kit Schellens, Earl Fowler, Susan Malan; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None. **Approved:** 4/0/0. **Discussion:** No further discussion

### **3. Approval of December 17th, 2020, Meeting Minutes:**

**MOTION:** made by Kit Schellens to approve December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020, meeting minutes as presented; **SECONDED:** by Earl Fowler; **Voting In Favor:** Earl Fowler, Susan Malan, Kit Schellens; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0. **Discussion:** No further discussion.

### **4. Public Comment:**

None.

### **5. Financial Report:**

Terry Stewart provided reports on the following balances as of the end of December 2020. Deposits included the online mooring deposit for the month.

**Total Funds Balance---a/o 12/31/20: \$39,843.82**

**MOTION** made by Kit Schellens to approve the Treasures Report as presented. **SECONDED** by Earl Fowler; **Voting In Favor:** Kit Schellens, Earl Fowler; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** Terry Stewart. **Approved:** 2/0/1. **Discussion:** No further discussion

### **Invoices:**

- Clerk Invoice #46 from the Town of Essex: \$382.04
- SH Dauntless Shipyard and Marina: \$2,472.50 for removing the Harbor Marks and Floats for the 2020 season.

**MOTION** made by Earl Fowler to approve the invoices as presented; **SECONDED** by Kit Schellens; **Voting In Favor;** Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, Earl Fowler, Susan Malan; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 4/0/0. **Discussion:** No further discussion.

### **6. Harbor Master Report:**

Paul Riggio provided the following Essex Harbormaster Report. There are 95 approved mooring permits, 3 wait list applicants offered mooring permits submitted/under review, 17 Wait list applicants offered wait list renewals on 1/15/21. And 12 submitted/under review, 5 incomplete. The deadline is 2/15/21 – Paul said he will send reminder out this weekend.

Three new mooring permits are on the wait list applicants since last meeting:

Joan Sauvigne-Kirsch, Main, 12/28/20  
Jack Martin, Main, 1/21/21  
Robert Cornell, Main, 1/21/21

Two new small vessels are on the wait list applicants since last meeting:

Claire Morrison, 12/28/20  
Kevin Rogers, 12/30/20 and Commercial renewal period begins February 1, 2021.

### **Harbor Management Business**

- **Nav Aide Maintenance:**

Cy Libby submitted an inspection report of the condition of harbor buoys. The Meadows is ok, “B” needs weight added to hold it upright. Recommend a chain and a swivel to be added under buoys. Main Harbor “B,D,G,J” are ok and “A” needs a swivel replaced. “E” needs a swivel replaced,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ” chain to hold it upright. Buoy “F” the swivel is frozen, replace the swivel and shackle. Buoy “H” lower chain needs to be replaced. “I” the chains needs replacement. Total cost for all buoy repairs would be \$2,704.56.

**MOTION** made by Terry Stewart. **SECONDED** by Earl Fowler, **Voting In Favor:** Terry Stewart, Kit Schellens, Earl Fowler, Susan Malan; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None. **Approved:** 4/0/0.  
**Discussion:** No further discussion.

- **Town Public Access Ways:**

**North Cove:** Marker #18 is lost and there is a request to get another one. The fire boat crew are suggesting putting a green marker at the tip of Foxborough Point therefore, it would be #19 and replacing one lost with a red marker #22. The Proposal is putting 6 in the main Middle Cove channel area. Start will be West of Essex Yacht Club and would carry through the curve but not to Frank Flores dock and the marina would continue their area. A total of 10 new replacements, 10 posts the square green ones are \$55.00 each for the panels and the red triangles are \$42 a piece for the panels. Jeff would go to Middle Cove marina to ask for their financial participation Paul Riggio offered to make up poles and bolt them. Jeff Going agreed.

- **Public Access:** Public Works has a plan this spring to reduce and reshape the turning island at the foot of Main Street to make launching and retrieving boats easier.

- **Bushnell Access:** None
- **Mack Lane/Novelty Lane**  
None.

- **Schnidman & Bergantino (continued from Dec)**

Christina Lopes from DOCK sent the proposed project is to remove an existing pier, ramps, and floats. Construct a new 4-FT wide wood pile and timber pier with a 5-FT wide x 10-LF "L Shaped" pier head all waterward of the Mean High Tide and CT Coastal Jurisdiction lines. The new dock facility will be a driven-pile supported, 60+/- LF by 4-foot wide, 29+/-feet of wooden pier will have a 1:10. slope leading to a 5-FT wide x 10-LF "L-Shaped" pier head. The existing pier head was crib supported and that cribbing will be removed. Approximately 9 pairs of piles will be driven with a 10-foot spacing to support the pier. The new dock facility will be constructed slightly shifted to the north at the shoreline landing to pass between areas of tidal vegetation south of the existing dock to minimize environmental impact.

**MOTION** made by Terry Stewart concerning the Certificate of Permission applications for both Schnidman and Bergantino. **SECONDED** by Earl Fowler; **Voting In Favor;** Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, Earl Fowler; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** Susan Malan; **Approved:** 3/0/1.  
**Discussion:** No further discussion.

- **SHM Essex Island Marina Application**

John Lust sent Chairman Jeff Going a letter stating that Essex Island Marina is planning a minor expansion and the modification of their existing permit status to that of a perimeter permit. This will allow them to perform ongoing maintenance and slip alignments much more easily. Doug Domini from Dauntless was present in person at the meeting.

Jeff Going began by expressing his concerns of the plan. One being that the drawing shows the federal channel which is nowhere near the docks. There is a 20 ft stand off shown in drawing and the requirement is a 25 ft standoff. Jeff looked at the map and the new East/West dock section that was the gas dock, is proposed to be 10 feet x 50 feet.

There was further conversation of how the docks are to be measured and placed. Doug's said timeline for the project is estimated to begin next winter. Jeff expressed concern about the E dock proposal, which prompted discussion. Further review will be planned for HMC Feb meeting.

- **Amtrak Bridge Proposal (*Planned Waterway Vertical Clearances for Bridge*)**

Cy Libby talked to Craig Rolwood who is the project manager for Hardesty & Hanover LLC who are the contractors for the bridge. Craig provided a Sketch Showing the Planned Waterway Clearance which was shown to the EHMC members.

The existing bridge vertical waterway clearances based on survey data and current Mean High Water (MHW) elevation is approximately 17.71 feet to MHW for the existing approach spans and very close to 18 feet for the existing movable span. At the navigation channel, vertical clearance for the proposed bridge replacement will be increased approximately 6 feet over existing conditions, a significant improvement.

The concern that the heavy recreational summer boating season, some smaller craft pass beneath fixed approach spans of the existing Conn River Bridge outside of the limits of the navigation channel. At the request of local mariners, Amtrak has investigated designing a new bridge approach span clearance to match the existing condition (17.71 feet). Amtrak has found that it can design Approach Span 6, which is adjacent to the movable span, to match or exceed the current clearance condition. Except at Span 6 where the same clearance as currently exists will be provided, the new replacement bridge approach spans undersides will be a little lower to the water than the existing spans by varying amounts of approximately 2 feet to 4 feet: i.e., clearance to MHW will vary from approximately 13.58 feet (at west abutment) to 15.98 feet near the middle of the river, as compared to approximately 17.71 feet for the existing bridge approach spans.

The reason for the approach spans having a little less vertical clearance is that the present-day, efficient design uses modern deep girders under the bridge deck rather than much more expensive through- trusses from the 1907 vintage, existing bridge design.

Cy Libby said how he wants to gather feedback from the EHMC members of the clearance of the bridge. Kit Schellens asked how old the last bridge has been standing, CY Libby believes it is over 100 years old.

#### **8. Correspondence**

No correspondence.

#### **9. New Business**

Jeff Going said the Town of Essex re-organized slightly that the planning and zoning have merged, and it is leading to personnel change and job description adjustments and a new employee will be coming in early February. There will hopefully be better communications between the commissions for the future to come.

#### **10. Adjournment**

**MOTION** made by Kit Schellens to adjourn the meeting at 8:15p.m. **SECONDED** by Earl Fowler ; **Voting In Favor:** Susan Malan, Kit Schellens and Earl Fowler; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0.

Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, February 25th, 2021, at 7:00 pm.  
Essex Town Hall, Conference Room A, 29 West Avenue, Essex, CT.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Gleason  
Recording Clerk