

Newburyport Harbor Commission
City Council Chambers
January 8, 2015
Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Brad Duffin called a meeting of the Newburyport Harbor Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Brad Duffin, Bob Dow, Justin Dutcher, Dan May, Paul Dahn and Jamie Knapp. Also in attendance was Harbormaster Paul Hogg.

2. Minutes

Justin Dutcher moved to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2014 meeting as submitted. Paul Dahn seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Review of Past Resumes for Open Harbor Commissioner Position

Justin Dutcher will circulate to the members the resumes of two candidates to fill the vacancy on the Commission. He will invite these candidates to attend the February 12 meeting. An executive session will be held following their interviews. Paul Hogg will ask Peter Lombardi if he has been contacted by anyone interested in the position.

4. Subcommittee Reports

Budget and Finance Committee

No report.

Regulations, Safety and Moorings Committee

Jamie Knapp, Paul Dahn and Andrew Casson have begun gathering information on rates in other communities and expect to report on their findings at the next meeting.

Coast Guard City Liaison and Community Outreach Committee

No report.

5. Harbormaster's Facility

Geordie Vining and David Keery reviewed the plans for the proposed Harbormaster's facility. While the concept for the structure has largely remained the same, some modifications have been made. The floor elevation was lowered from 14.1 to 13.1, which reduced the number of risers on the deck from seven to four and the length of the ramp. The size of the Harbormaster's office was reduced 20%. The permitting process is moving forward. The Conservation Commission issued an Order of Conditions and the ADA granted a waiver for an elevator. Progress is being made with regards to the selection of materials and information on solar technology is being gathered. The City Council controls a Green Initiative fund that might be used to cover the cost of the solar consultant and panels. The Chapter 91 licensing process is underway and the site plan review process for the Planning Board will begin soon. A response on the application for a boating infrastructure grant should be received in April. The design team will meet shortly with the mechanical,

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electrical and plumbing consultant and with an engineering firm on the issues of security and technology.

The design package should be completed during the summer and the project put out to bid in the fall. There could be some degree of overlap in the fall between the boating season and construction. The next round of cost estimating will be done when the design is 75% complete. Mr. Vining expects to be able to provide an update on progress at the March meeting.

6. Harbormaster's Report

Paul Hogg reported that:

- 2014 excise tax bills will be sent out at the end of January and payment will be due in 60 days. The bills for 2015 will be sent next September in order to help eliminate confusion.
- Waterways permits will be sent out in March.
- a ice breaker will be used as needed to keep work on the Whittier Bridge moving forward.
- the Coast Guard is seeking feedback on discontinuing the use of a rough bar light on the north jetty. He will work with Dan May to draft a response from the Commission.
- he has been working with Bill Taplan on the design of the new dock to be used for an upriver tour boat. Mr. Taplan has signed a lease with the Waterfront Trust and has given a deposit.
- he is beginning to consider staffing for the next season.
- the project to upgrade the fish pier at Cashman Park will be put out to bid in February.

7. Adjournment

Jamie Knapp moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Dan May seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.