

**Newburyport Harbor Commission**  
Harbormaster's Facility  
May 2, 2018  
Minutes

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Andrew Casson called a meeting of the Newburyport Harbor Commission to order at 7:01 p.m. In attendance were Andrew Casson, Adam Armstrong, Bob Dow, Jamie Knapp, Chris Kealey, Jay Lesynski, Justin Dutcher and Dan May. Harbormaster Paul Hogg was also in attendance.

**2. Minutes**

Bob Dow moved to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2018, meeting as submitted. Jamie Knapp seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Justin Dutcher and Dan May abstaining.

**3. Watersheet Application**

Jamie Knapp recused himself from the discussion. Andrew Casson reviewed the guidelines for public hearings for watersheet applications. Harry Hanson is proposing to refurbish an existing deck and extend it two feet in both length and width. Paul Hogg has reviewed the application and it was confirmed that abutters have been notified. Bob Dow moved to approve the application as submitted. Dan May seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**4. House Float Ordinance**

The City Council planning and safety subcommittee is in the process of reviewing the draft house float ordinance.

**5. Interviews of Candidates**

Three residents have expressed interest in filling the vacancy on the Commission. Kevin Bannigan and Ron Thurlow were interviewed at previous meetings. Todd Chase has not attended any meetings and has not been interviewed. Ron Thurlow attended tonight's meeting and reviewed his qualifications for the members who were not in attendance at the April 11 meeting.

**6. Harbormaster's Report**

Paul Hogg reported:

- he worked with the Department of Fish and Game to install signs at the Joppa Park ramp indicating canoe and cartop boat access only is permitted. No trucks with trailers are allowed.
- the docks and safe boat have been put in the water.
- the office is now open five days per week.
- the City electrician will be responsible for installing and inspecting the electrical boxes and stanchions this year.
- over 500 waterways permits have been issued to date. An all-time high of 55 employees have been hired for the summer season.

Newburyport Harbor Commission  
May 2, 2018

- he is working to obtain a State grant in the amount of \$300,000 for the repaving and striping of the Cashman Park lot. The drainage must be addressed in one area of the lot where water collects. The kayak ramp could be paved at the same time if there are sufficient funds.
- a container for the recycling of shrink-wrap has been placed at Cashman Park.
- the Maritime Society has not confirmed the visit of a tall ship for the Memorial Day weekend.
- a base is being prepared for the installation of a new Reeds Ferry shed at the Plum Island parking lot.
- the State is considering imposing a \$3 surcharge at the Plum Island parking lot. The extra funds would be given to the City to be used for dune restoration projects. This could impact the department's revenue stream because many visitors already think the fee is too high and might seek less expensive parking alternatives.
- a fishing clinic for children will take place at Cashman Park on Saturday, May 19.
- the safe boat will be in the parade this year in a partnership with Home Base and disabled veterans.

**7. General Business**

- Paul Hogg approved the temporary placement of buoys for an upcoming American Yacht Club dinghy race.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Flag Day 5K road race is scheduled for June 16.
- The members must be diligent about keeping up with their Coast Guard City tasks.
- Justin Dutcher asked for clarification on a few budget items.
- Changes in the pattern of boat traffic would make the continuation of details at the Whittier Bridge desirable.

**8. Public Comment**

None

**9. Adjournment**

Bob Dow moved to enter into an executive session at 8:05 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the candidates for the open position and to not reconvene the open session. Dan May seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Casson; yes, Armstrong; yes, Dow; yes, Knapp; yes, Kealey; yes, Lesynski; yes, May; yes, Dutcher; yes.