

Session 12-07 a Regular Meeting of the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Ulmer at 6:00 p.m. on July 25, 2012 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS CARROLL, HARTLEY, HOWARD, STOCKBURGER, ULMER, WEDIN, ZIMMERMAN

STAFF: PORT AND HARBOR DIRECTOR HAWKINS  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK JACOBSEN  
COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR KOESTER

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

The agenda was approved by consensus of the Commission.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Mark Landwehr , non city resident, expressed his surprise that there wasn't any public in the audience to participate giving the Commission's bullet list. He elaborated on the importance of public participation. He commented regarding an empty dumpster he came across, trash on the ground, sanding on the roads, cleaning up Homer, eagle feeding, and PCB's behind the post office.

### **RECONSIDERATION**

There was no reconsideration scheduled.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. June 27, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved as corrected by consensus of the Commission.

### **VISITORS**

No visitors scheduled.

### **STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS**

A. Port and Harbor Director's Report for July 2012

Harbormaster Hawkins reviewed the staff report. He answered questions regarding security at the harbor in relation to the statewide security exercise that included a MARSEC level increase.

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Commission Representative for Art Selection Committee

None of the Commissioners expressed interest in participating on the art selection committee.

B. CIP Recommendations

Community and Economic Development Coordinator Koester reviewed the process. Harbormaster Hawkins addressed the new projects that he proposes being added to the CIP. He explained in his previous years working with the CIP he feels like they have been spoon feeding the projects for the CIP list, but he thinks it would be better to go facility wide and list the needs. They may ride there for the next 10 years, but at least the big picture is there. There was a brief discussion about some of the projects.

HOWARD/HARTLEY MOVED TO ADD THE 9 PROJECTS TO THE HARBOR ENTERPRISE TO THE CIP LIST. THOSE PROJECTS INCLUDE PORT AND HARBOR BUILDING, HARBOR ENTRANCE EROSION CONTROL, SYSTEM 4: VESSEL MOORING FLOAT SYSTEM, RAMP 5: RESTROOM, SYSTEM 2: POTABLE WATER, FISH DOCK RE-PAVEMENT, RAMP 8: RESTROOM, FIRE CART REPLACEMENT, AND OUTER DOCK ROAD IMPROVEMENT.

Commissioner Carroll asked to see a price breakdown to justify the bathroom cost.

VOTE: YES: HOWARD, STOCKBURGER, ULMER, WEDIN, CARROLL, HARTLEY, ZIMMERMAN

Motion carried.

The Commission took time to review and individually rank the projects which resulted in the overall ranking as follows:

1. Harbor Improvement Revenue Bond Projects (30 points)
2. Port and Harbor Building (19 points)
3. Barge Mooring Facility (14 points)
4. Harbor Entrance Erosion Control (8 points)
5. Marine Ways Large Vessel Haul Out (7 points)

Commissioner Carroll commented that he is partial to revenue producing projects and ranked the large vessel haul out as number 2. Cordova, Valdez, Kodiak, and Seward have travel lifts and he thinks if Homer doesn't get one we will be left behind. There was discussion about if it is something private enterprise should pursue and Mr. Carroll said the other community's travel lifts are city owned facilities and they provide year round jobs.

Commissioner Stockburger commented regarding the deep water dock expansion as an important project. It would be nice to have a regular freight service in Homer. It is another revenue source. Harbormaster Hawkins said that it has been on for many years.

There was no objection expressed to sending this project list to the City Council for consideration.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- A. Monthly Statistical & Performance Report June 2012
- B. Weekly Crane and Ice Report

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- C. Deep Water Dock Report
- D. Pioneer Dock Report & Ferry Landings Report
- E. Water Usage Report
- F. Letter to Port and Harbor Advisory Commission dated October 11, 2011 from Peter Zimmerman & Bill Lovett Re: Harbor Improvements
- G. Memorandum 12-21 from Harbormaster Re: Funding for a New Harbor Office (backup to Ordinance 12-37 & Resolution 12-065)
- H. Ordinance 12-37 Amending the 2012 Budget to Fund an Engineering Evaluation of the Existing Port and Harbor Building
- I. Resolution 12-064 Supporting a Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Application
- J. Resolution 12-065 Tasking the Port and Harbor Improvement Committee with Pursuing Funds for a Port and Harbor Building
- K. Commissioner Attendance Schedule for City Council Meetings 2012

In response to questions on informational items, Harbormaster Hawkins explained that steadily losing the halibut quota for the last few years is the biggest reason for the decreased tonnage over the dock. A lot of the vessels that used to deliver here are delivering to a closer port to where they are fishing due to lower quota and cost of fuel. He noted that the year to date ice is incorrect, this year they have sold 1346 tons as of the 15<sup>th</sup>. Last year at the same date they sold 1572 tons. It has picked up the last two weeks with salmon. Harbormaster Hawkins said he questions the numbers on the decrease in cargo and will check the numbers before next meeting.

**COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

Mark Landwehr made comments noting benefits of having a travel lift in the harbor and he hopes they are able to get funding for their projects, because there may come a time when money isn't available. We need to take care of our infrastructure.

**COMMENTS OF CITY STAFF**

Harbormaster Hawkins thanked everyone for showing up tonight.

**COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER**

None.

**COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Ulmer commended everyone for their good work tonight.

**COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION**

Commissioner Carroll's comments were inaudible.

Commissioner Wedin thanked the Harbormaster and their staff for their work on the ramp 4 fish cleaning tables. The birds are gone and it's awesome.

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Commissioner Howard commented about the women's restroom at ramp 2. He hasn't been allowed to go in because he winds up having to pay a \$100 fine, but he understands from others that it is terrible shape. There has been a letter in the paper about it and his niece went in it today and said she couldn't believe what a pig pen it was. Harbormaster Hawkins said he will look into it.

Commissioner Stockburger thanked everyone and apologized for missing last meeting. He thanked Bryan, every time he works with him he is a true professional. He commented that the CIP process was interesting; he looked at it and was surprised they were able to reach their top five from such a long list. All of their rankings were pretty consistent.

Commissioner Zimmerman and Hartley had no comments.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting adjourned at p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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MELISSA JACOBSEN, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_