

Session 12-04, a Regular Meeting of the Port and Harbor Improvement Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Wythe at 5:30 on March 22, 2012 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Present: Mrs. Wythe, Mr. Hartley, Mr. Howard, Mr. Hawkins

Absent: Mrs. Howard, Mr. Lewis

Staff: City Manager Wrede  
Deputy City Clerk Jacobsen

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented by consensus of the Committee.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

#### **RECONSIDERATION**

None

#### **SYNOPSIS APPROVAL**

A. March 8, 2012 Meeting Synopsis

The synopsis was approved by consensus of the Committee

#### **VISITORS**

#### **REPORTS**

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **PENDING BUSINESS**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Review Tariff Recommendation

Mr. Hawkins reviewed the information provided in his memorandum to the Tariff Sub-Committee and they discussed revised numbers from last night's sub-committee meeting. They addressed fuel wharfage rates, ice and crane fees, moorage, and the head tax that is in the tariff but not enforced at this time.

HOWARD/HARTLEY MOVED TO INCREASE THE FUEL WHARFAGE TO TAKE IT FROM 1.03 CENT PER GALLON TO TWO 2 CENTS PER GALLON.

It was noted that it is approximately an 89% increase. There was brief discussion supporting the motion and it was noted that it will be implemented over two years.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

HOWARD/HARTLEY MOVED TO INCREASE MOORAGE RATE BY 15% TO BE APPLIED OVER TWO YEARS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

HOWARD/HARTLEY MOVED FOR ALL RATES BEING CONSIDERED BE INCREASED OVER AT TWO YEAR PERIOD IN EQUAL INCREMENTS, 50% EACH YEAR.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

HOWARD/HARTLEY MOVED TO INCREASE ICE FEES BY 10% OVER A TWO YEAR PERIOD.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

HOWARD/HARTLEY MOVED TO INCREASE THE CRANE RATE BY 10% OVER A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS.

Mr. Hawkins commented in opposition to increasing crane fees. The fees are already high and it is hard to see them go over \$100 when compared to other facilities in the state.

VOTE: NO: HAWKINS, HARTLEY, WYTHE, HOWARD

Motion failed.

HOWARD/HARTLEY MOVED TO START ENFORCING THE HEAD TAX AND MODIFY TO INCLUDE ALL PASSENGER CARRYING VESSELS FOR HIRE AND IMPLEMENT OVER A TWO YEAR PERIOD.

There was discussion clarifying that it be enforced at the tariff rate so for two year implementation it is \$1 this year and \$1 next year.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

Mr. Hartley asked to have Seward's head tax rate at the Port and Harbor Commission meeting.  
HOWARD/HARTLEY MOVED TO INCREASE DOCKAGE TO 100% OF THE ANCHORAGE GRADUATED RATE OF 2011 AND INCREASE THE RATES OVER A TWO YEAR PERIOD.

Mr. Hawkins suggested instead of specifying the 2011 rates changing it to the current advertised rates to stay consistent, then if Anchorage increases their rates within the next two years, the City would increase theirs as well.

WYTHE/HAWKINS MOVED TO AMEND TO 100% OF THE ANCHORAGE GRADUATED RATE OVER TWO YEARS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: (Main motion as amended) NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

HOWARD/HARTLEY MOVED THAT WE DO NOT MODIFY THE SEAFOOD WHARFAGE RATE.

There was discussion that the increase is not a lot of money and it is beneficial to have incentive for more fish processing. There are other ways to promote that.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

Consideration was given to the notion of dedicating the funds to show the money will be segregated and to be used for the purpose of paying off the bond. Question was raised whether it will imply that when the bond is paid off the money will no longer be collected. They agreed that discussion of a statement of intent in a resolution might be enough. They talked about rough numbers and think the proposed increases should be enough to cover the bond repayment.

#### B. Public Outreach Schedule

The Committee reviewed the list of user groups that they should do outreach with. The groups include the Homer Yacht Club, Homer Charter Association, North Pacific Fisheries Association, Homer Marine Trades Association, and Alaska Charter Association.

They assigned the following tasks:

- Harbormaster Hawkins will work on the fact sheet and power point for the Committee's presentation.
- Clerk's office will schedule Committee of the Whole, Economic Development Advisory Commission and Port and Harbor Advisory Commission Meetings, schedule the Coffee Table with KBBI, and any other public notice that would be required.
- Staff will work on getting information on the City website.
- Move the feature articles up one week. City Manager Wrede will work with Mr. Hawkins and prepare the articles.

Suggestions for the fact sheet include:

- The reason for establishing the Committee
- What revenue bonding means
- What the money will be used for
- Why they are selecting targeted projects
- How matching funds tie in
- Play on the fact that we won't stop looking for other money, but quit waiting for other money while our facility continues to deteriorate
- Taking a proactive stance and hope the result is that government sees it and wants to work with us
- Include photos showing the need for these improvements and timelines
- Asset value compared to depreciation funds
- How long the projects have been on the CIP list

#### **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

None

#### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

None

#### **STAFF COMMENTS**

None

#### **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

None

#### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled on April 5, 2012 at 5:30 pm at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue.

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MELISSA JACOBSEN, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

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