

Session 13-10, a Special Meeting of the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Ulmer at 6:05 p.m. on October 30, 2013 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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

ABSENT: DONICH (excused)

STAFF: PORT DIRECTOR/HARBORMASTER HAWKINS
DEPUTY CITY CLERK JACOBSEN

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

HOWARD/STOCKBURGER MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no public comments.

RECONSIDERATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 28, 2013 Regular Meeting and October 9, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes

HOWARD/STOCKBURGER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 28 AND OCTOBER 9.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

Councilmember Barbara Howard recognized Port Director/Harbormaster Hawkins for being awarded Harbormaster/Port Director of the Year by the Alaska Harbormasters Association.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/ BOROUGH REPORTS

A. Port and Harbor Director's Report for September and October 2013

Harbormaster Hawkins reviewed the September and October reports in the packet. In response to questions he confirmed that Bill Sullivan is following up on his improvements and is doing a good job. He commented about the placement of a rock with a plaque to designate a marker for the water trail; work being done on the Deep Water Dock fine tuning the area where the fenders were replaced; harbor erosion entrance project completion; the Tustumena is back and it's amazing how many local people are working on that boat.

Harbormaster Hawkins also explained a "vessel of concern contract" that has been drafted to be used as needed when vessels come to the harbor that need to be allowed in, but needs firm guidelines for them to be there. Guidelines have included bonding, deadlines, scope of work, and strict timeline when they would leave. It is to ensure the harbor doesn't get stuck with the vessel.

PUBLIC HEARING

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Seafarer's Memorial Parking Lot Expansion

Chair Ulmer called for a motion regarding the Seafarer's Memorial Parking Lot Expansion Project.

HOWARD/ZIMMERMAN MOVED THAT THE PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION SEND THE PROJECT FOR THE SEAFARER MEMORIAL PARKING LOT EXPANSION FORWARD TO THE COUNCIL RECOMMENDING THAT THEY FUND THE DESIGN, ENGINEERING, AND PERMITTING FOR THE PROJECT; FURTHER THAT THE COUNCIL CONSIDER USING HART FUNDS IN LIEU OF HARBOR RESERVES, BUT IF NECESSARY, THE HARBOR RESERVES COULD BE CONSIDERED.

There was discussion that the Commission could hold a public hearing for this funding, as well as the hearing that would occur for the Council to pass an ordinance allocating funds. There will also be a public comment period for the permitting process.

Question was raised about preliminary cost estimates for engineering services. Harbormaster Hawkins said to raise the fill, buy the capping material, and paving, he got a very rough estimate of \$100,000, and the rule of thumb is generally 10% of that would be for engineering.

Discussion ensued about gravel instead of paving, and dealing with the water runoff. Harbormaster Hawkins noted that if the paving is done right there won't be puddles and developing a bio-swale is an option for dealing with the runoff. The water will definitely have to be addressed.

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

Motion carried.

B. No-Wake Buoy

PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 30, 2013

Harbormaster Hawkins advised that the recommendation in the staff report can be changed to recommend that the project be funded in the 2013 operating budget, instead of the 2014 harbor reserve account. He reviewed the information in the staff report, explaining that the buoy would be installed each the spring and removed in the winter using the harbor tug, they would purchase two buoys that are the same model the Coast Guard uses in the Kasilof river. It will be white, lit, and say "No Wake". There are no issues through City Code, or through the Chief of Police. Citations can be written, and periodic videotaping will occur. He would also like to place more no wake signs at the JJ float and load/launch ramp. Mr. Hawkins referenced the aerial photo to show areas of placement.

The Commission brought up issue with the 2 mph speed limit in the harbor and agreed to discuss it at a future meeting.

HOWARD/ZIMMERMAN MOVED THAT THE PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION SEND FORTH A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO FUND PURCHASING THE NO WAKE ZONE FLOAT BUOY OUT OF THE 2013 OPERATIONS BUDGET.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Port & Harbor Commission Annual Review of Port of Homer Terminal Tariff No. 600

Harbormaster Hawkins commented that this will likely come back to the Commission after the first of the year for a thorough review. Currently there are no changes recommended.

There was brief discussion and the Commission did not recommend any changes.

B. Homer Spit Handicap Parking

Harbormaster Hawkins reviewed his staff report and advised that staff is able to work on this to ensure compliance for handicap parking.

C. November Meeting Schedule

The Commission discussed scheduling in relation to Fish Expo in Seattle and the Thanksgiving holiday. The group agreed to hold their next meeting on December 4th at 5 pm at the City Hall Conference Room.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Monthly Statistical & Performance Report August & September 2013
- B. Weekly Crane and Ice Report

PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 30, 2013

- C. Deep Water Dock Report
- D. Pioneer Dock Report & Ferry Landings Report
- E. Water Usage Report
- F. Letter from City Manager to ADOT Re: Support for Drill Rig Endeavor
- G. Alaska Dispatch Article Re: Jack-up Rig Returning to Homer
- H. 2013 Ramp 1-4 Parking Review
- I. National Fisherman Magazine Article Re: Alaska's Trickle-down Effect
- J. 2013 Council Meeting Attendance Schedule
- K. 2013 Strategic Plan

Commissioner Howard asked about long term parking passes for the season. Harbormaster Hawkins said he would have the totals at the next meeting. Mr. Howard also questioned the amount collected for lot 1, which is generally well occupied but didn't seem to bring in much revenue for the day in September.

Commissioner Stockburger questioned the status of the drill rig. Harbormaster Hawkins said he didn't have any updates on the rig. There was brief discussion of daily dockage charges relating to the support vessels, noting that the Deep Water Dock is a working dock and not an area for long term docking. He would like to be able to fit the support vessels in our harbor, and it is an example of why we need more space.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

None

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Deputy City Clerk commented that Daniel Donich was appointed to fill Commissioner Wedin's vacancy. He is excused tonight for a previously arranged trip, but should be at the next meeting.

COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER *(If one is assigned)*

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

Chair Ulmer congratulated Harbormaster Hawkins for his award and thanked the group for their work.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Stockburger congratulated Harbormaster Hawkins and is glad that he is here.

Commissioner Zimmerman congratulated Harbormaster Hawkins.

Commissioner Carroll asked to include discussion of travel lift ideas on the next agenda.

Commissioner Howard and Hartley had no comments.

PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 30, 2013

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m. The next special meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. at the City Hall Conference Room located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

MELISSA JACOBSEN, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: _____