

Session 17-05 a Regular Meeting of the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Ulmer at 5:00 p.m. on April 26, 2017 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONER CARROLL, HARTLEY, STOCKBURGER, ULMER, ZEISET, ZIMMERMAN

ABSENT: DONICH

STAFF: PORT DIRECTOR/HARBORMASTER HAWKINS  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK JACOBSEN

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

CARROLL/HARTLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

### **RECONSIDERATION**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. March 22, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

CARROLL/HARTLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

### **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

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

A. Port and Harbor Director's Report for April 2017

Harbormaster Hawkins reviewed the staff report.

They talked about the Crescent City, California harbor whose photo was on the meeting packet cover. According to history, the harbor has had over 40, 4.0 measurable tsunamis. They were hit hard by the 2006 tsunami from Chile and as they were working on funding and how to rebuild when the 2011 tsunami from Japan hit. It's a commercial harbor and is vital to the area and the cover photo is of

their new tsunami resistant harbor. Harbormaster Hawkins said he'll have more information in the next meeting packet on this and the Pacific Coast Congress Annual Conference that he attended in San Francisco.

There was brief discussion regarding:

- A short term lease for an ice machine and a bait machine by ramp 4;
- The status of the Icicle fish pump and City Council's request to issue another RFP for a second fish pump;
- The small boat handling class he, the Deputy Harbormaster, and Port Maintenance Supervisor taught at the college;
- Crane training; and
- The vessel impound process.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

## **PENDING BUSINESS**

- A. Homer Port & Harbor Advisory Commission from Port Director Re: Current Revision to New Tariff
- a. Memo to Port and Harbor Advisory Commission Re: Current Revision to Draft New Tariff dated April 19, 2017
  - b. Terminal Tariff No. 1 – April 18, 2017 Revision
  - c. Terminal Tariff No. 600 – Current

Harbormaster Hawkins briefly reviewed the memorandum in the packet.

The group discussed Rule 23- Fish Dock Rules and Regulations.

Commissioner Zimmerman asked what defines the use of the fish pier by common carriers in section 23.01. Harbormaster Hawkins explained the common carrier definition by the Federal Maritime Trades Commission, is a vessel that carries cargo or passengers between ports including foreign ports and United States. Commissioner Zimmerman pointed out that common carriers are also trucks that do LTL. Harbormaster Hawkins suggested they clarify by adding the word vessels.

They Commission discussed section 23.02. They acknowledged that loading and unloading fish and fish products is the primary use and takes priority, but several members questioned the priority of fishing gear versus other gear that a boat may need to load or unload at the cranes. Harbormaster Hawkins explained that vessels will call and ask if they can go to the dock to load or off load gear or supplies and emphasized the importance of communication with the Fish Dock staff and/or with the fish buyers on the dock by those vessels; that is generally the way it operates. It was noted that it is a fish dock and we need to make sure that's its main use, but we don't want to cut out other people using it. If uses other than fishing continue to grow, different options to handle those other uses will need to be considered.

Harbormaster Hawkins suggested amending 23.02 to read: The Fish Dock is to be used primarily for loading and unloading fish and fish products. All other uses are first come first served.

They discussed challenges of timing with a project that will take 15 minutes versus something that will take a few hours. Harbormaster Hawkins again emphasized the importance of vessel owners communicating with the Fish Dock and buyers. He will think about appropriate language to address the communication aspect for the next meeting.

Commissioner Zeiset commented regarding section 23.03, and suggested clarifying contractors being allowed on to the Fish Dock to work on boats. Harbormaster Hawkins explained they aren't trying to limit contractors with this section, it's directed at fish dock use for buying fish. He talked about vendor agreements for vendors providing service at the facilities. Having the vendor agreements on file and updated annually is a goal.

There was discussion to confirm that the new moorage rate structure will be included as soon as they can implement it at the harbor. Until then the annual moorage fee of \$44.88 per lineal foot is included in the tariff.

Commissioner Stockburger asked if the fees included in Rule 38 – Marine Repair Facility, include use of the chip pad. Harbormaster Hawkins said if someone put a boat there to work on it, he would apply those rates.

Discussion ensued about the availability of water and electricity at the chip pad, and the ability to use the area for wash down now that it's somewhat set up with the settling pond and filtering system. A problem is the water is at the entrance next to the harbor office and the sump is at the other end, but a tank and pressure washer could work. Harbormaster Hawkins said he isn't focusing any effort on using the chip pad, but if someone wanted to, it could be addressed, and that there isn't electricity.

The group did a little brain storming about having an opportunity to bring in some revenue to the harbor and allow people to clean boats. Harbormaster Hawkins shared his concern about competing with local businesses who provide that service. Commissioners shared that there are some restrictions for local businesses such as dealing with tides and location of their yards. They also talked about boat storage. The commission agreed they would like to have more discussion about using the chip pad at their next meeting.

They agreed to have the tariff on the next agenda. Harbormaster Hawkins encouraged the group to read the red highlighted area and be ready to discuss and make any recommendations on those items.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- A. Port & Harbor Monthly Statistical Report
- B. Water/Sewer Bills Report
- C. Crane and Ice Report
- D. Deep Water Dock Report
- E. Pioneer Dock Report
- F. Dock Water Report
- G. Pacific Coast Congress 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference Agenda April 11-14, 2017

H. Council Meeting Attendance

Harbormaster Hawkins commented briefly about the Pacific Coast Congress meeting and will have more information at the next meeting.

**COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

**COMMENTS OF CITY STAFF**

Deputy City Clerk Jacobsen said this may be her last meeting with the group and thanked them for the years working together. She said she'll see them when they come to Council meetings. She reminded them one last time to turn on their microphones for their next clerk.

Harbormaster Hawkins updated the Commission on efforts for a new restroom at ramp 2. They have looked at ways to stock pile funds from the state and cruise ship head tax funds from the borough for a big project like this; also forward funding from reserves and the ability to pay it back. There may also be grant opportunities as well. This is something they can talk about next month.

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

**COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Ulmer thanked everyone for their work. She said she will be absent next month and can call in if needed.

**COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION**

Commissioner Carroll had no comment.

Commissioner Zimmerman told the Harbormaster good job on the documents.

Commissioner Hartley seconded that.

Commissioner Zeiset agreed, he's impressed with the work that's been put into it.

Commissioner Stockburger agreed and said there is some really good stuff in the document.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

---

MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

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