



MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission Meeting
Wednesday, October 7, 2020
7:00 PM

REMOTE Meeting

Meeting conducted pursuant to the March 12, 2020 modifications to the Open Meeting Law made by Governor Baker pursuant to the state of emergency due to COVID-19. This meeting was live broadcast by SCTV.

Commission Members Participating Remotely: Mike Gibbons; Chairman, Richard Murray; Vice Chairman, Brian Kelly, Howie Kreutzberg. David Sincoski, Craig Rosenquist, Stephen Mone; Harbormaster, David Friedman, Alicia Anthony; Recording Secretary

Commission Members not in Attendance: Tucker Patterson; Dave Healy, Associate Member; Steve Guard, Associate Member

Others in Attendance: Maura Curran, Board of Selectmen

Mike Gibbons called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Mr. Gibbons asked for a motion to approve the October Meeting Agenda, a motion was made by Howie Kreutzberg and seconded by Brian Kelly, Voted majority in favor (8-0) to accept the agenda as submitted by roll call vote; UNANIMOUS

Mr. Gibbons asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the September Meeting, a motion was made by David Friedman and seconded by Brian Kelly, Voted majority in favor (8-0) to accept the minutes as submitted by roll call vote; UNANIMOUS

Harbormaster Report – Stephen Mone

A. Update on new boat delivery

Mr. Mone reported that he had spoken Stewart Workman, builder at SW Boatworks. Yesterday he had launched the boat to set and adjust the waterline before they put the boot stripe on. It will now go back in to the shop to get the boot stripe put on. There is currently a delay on the windows due to Covid19 delivery issues, and the electrician is completing the wiring but the boat is pretty much ready to go otherwise.

Harbormaster plans to take Unit Two out of the water on the 15th to remove the year old plotter and send it up to Maine to have installed on the new boat. There will be both a plotter and a radar on this boat. Unit Three's plotter will be put on to Unit Two. Mr. Mone said the boat looks fabulous and he feels everyone will be very happy with it when it arrives. Mr. Mone informed the board that they have sent up VHF radios and a police radio and ordered the rest of the equipment from a Maine vendor that gave good pricing.

B. Piling project overview

a. Management oversight by GEI

Mr. Mone brought the board up to speed on the CPM Piling Project-changing the Cole Parkway Marina from a chain and stone anchoring system to permanent pilings. The consultant (GEI) has worked with the Town on the permit, and is also responsible for the oversight of the project.

b. Rough schedule and milestones

The crane is ready to disassemble the marina taken and will move the fingers further down towards the Lobster docks. The gazebo area will be fenced in with Jersey Barriers creating a safe traffic plan. The piles have all been manufactured and coated in Indiana. On October 16th the crane will show up and piles, floats, and hoops will be delivered. The old pier will be dismantled and the project will start. May 14th is the latest date of completion for this project. Chairman Gibbons suggested that GEI keep Harbormaster Mone up to speed on milestones being met.

C. Parking lot lights at Jericho

Mr. Mone said that after Resident, Brad White brought up the lights at the Jericho Boat Ramp he reached out to the Department of Fishing and Boating Access, as it's the State boat ramp, and informed them that the Waterways and the Town was concerned that there weren't any lights there. Mr. Mone also reached out to National Grid to determine the cost to rent parking lot lights that would be pole mounted; and are working together to get lighting restored. Mr. Mone will get a completion date for the committee. The State is also putting together a plan to revamp the parking lot and ramp to keep it in good working order. These are all State projects with no cost to the Town of Scituate. It was mentioned that residents in the area may complain about the new lighting being of concern at night but Mr. Mone said these are shining down and more of a safety light feature. This project won't be adding additional lighting rather just replacing what is there to keep the property safe.

It was also brought up that the parking lot is unlit, and are concerned with the public's safety, we need to and understand when will get resolved. Mr. Mone said he would reach back out to the State for answers. Maura Curran stated

that Town Administrator, Jim Boudreau is working along with the State and requesting resolution but as this is a State issue it's something that takes longer than we would like.

Scituate Resident, Brad White. He said that at the last meeting he mentioned that there isn't a port-o-potty down there and it could be used frequently, wants someone to look into.

Mr. White also mentioned that he believes the gangway and dock use on the left-hand side is unusable with the pipes that go around the pilings. He suggested it be configured for boats to be tied up to relieve congestion as its just dead space currently.

D. Marina report- Season End

Mr. Mone reported that this year was very busy with transient boaters but that things went along pretty well. He had hoped to have piling in and done as to not have any issues. At end of season, we had a wind storm out of the southwest and a resident reported that a microburst came across the harbor and snapped the dock. The Harbormaster and staff helped get to get this residents boat off and to put it back in place. After the wind had died down, they moved the boat down to another finger float and put caution tape on the float that had damage. Mr. Mone also contacted the other patron to warn him to take care of his boat. The plan will now be to repair or replace this float. Part of this master plan, Mr. Mone would like to see unused piles from The Cole Parkway project reused at the end of these 36 foot finger floats.

Mr. Mone also shared that he sent out notifications as a reminder to stakeholders in the marina to remove dock lines, fenders, floats, pieces of wood, etc. so that the contractor doesn't remove this for them when he begins. An email was also sent out advising of wind and weather warning keeping everyone informed.

V. Old Business

A. Comprehensive Dredge Project Plan update

Mr. Mone stated that he has been working with Sean McCarthy in the Engineering Department and Coastal Management Officer; Kyle Boyd. They now have a Final Draft Permit RFP ready, things look good and should have this back finalized soon.

Mr. Mone educated the board on the differences and benefits of a Comprehensive dredge permit verses a Dredge Permit. Rather than getting a dredge permit for each location, a Comprehensive Dredge Permit is for all Scituate Waterways. The benefits of this is that there is only one permit to renew, one date rather than several, and we'll have permitting in place if something small comes up. The Total Budget approved by The Town of Scituate for this was about \$80,000 (Brian Kelly was going to look in to if

closer to \$90,000) for engineering fees although some dredge analysis activity may come up before the start of the project.

It was asked if we were going to hire a consultant for this and Mr. Mone said we'd be reviewing this but the work will be done by the engineering department at the Town Hall rather than an outside person. Committee suggested we ask about relevant expertise and Mr. Mone and Gibbons agreed that is why this project isn't just about the cost. Mr. Mone said with existing permits it would make this easier to move forward and if anyone has past information to please provide that to him as it would help. It was mentioned in the RFP to look in to past projects of the respondents.

B. Town of Scituate Mooring rental- Suggested Mooring Rules and Regs Language

Mr. Gibbons referred to the last meetings discussion on language on the rules and regulations. There was a question then about how the term "transient" was used. Mike researched a couple of other Town's documents and found that a couple of different town had the definition in their rules and regulations. Document was not available as we experienced a power failure just before the meeting had started. In general it appeared that Town's often used as up to two weeks was considered transient. At this point we just want to make sure that it's ok to add this to the rules and regulations.

Brian Cronin, Brian Kelly and Rick Murray offered to help Mike out with this research and helping to put together a proposal.

C. Small vessel decal study – Other Towns Policies Update

Mr. Mone stated that he sent out requests to other Harbormasters in the organizations he's involved, asking if any of them had registration requirements, user fees or associated policies. Most of these Towns responded back that they do not have any requirements but do encourage all the users to use the coastguard decals so when they are found floating they can be returned to owner without creating a search and rescue mission. He heard back from four Towns who strongly encouraged the decal requirement if they're left on town property in something such as a rack system. Most towns reported a \$25 fee for each small vessel using the rack system.

Dave Dauphinee stated that after having several conversations, this was basically broken down to three points;

He first stated that he'd like to dig in to the towns that Mr. Mone mentioned ways of doing it. This would be similar to mooring or dingy permits, where people come pay for and apply the sticker to boat. If they don't have a sticker on racked object it will get removed. Barnstable did remove ones not identifiable and brought to transfer station. This was found property to be auctioned off if not claimed. Dave asked if Mr. Mone one could get the other two town's names.

Secondly, Dave mentioned that ramps are a question because of State ownership/involvement. Dave stated that this is far as they have gotten and it will take a lot more work. Mr. Mone said that he is still looking at everything, parking fees, and rack systems, as well as locations.

It was questioned if this was even a solvable problem or not unless the harbormaster office enforces this strictly which is probably something they don't have enough staff. Mr. Gibbons agreed with these thoughts. Dave Dauphinee suggested maybe looking at a racking system as a first step. Mr. Murray agreed and thought this would work well with a lottery system. Mr. Gibbons opened the conversation up to the community.

It was suggested maybe even reaching out to the Vocational Technical School to build these racks if decided to move forward.

VI. New Business

A. Waterways By-Law Edits

Mr. Gibbons and Mr. Mone saw a couple of items that needed to be looked at;

- Section 30,920, Item B, paragraph 2 – “no moorings shall be rented..”, should be changed to “other than the Town of Scituate, no moorings shall be rented”
- Section 30,920, Item B – Header, “Town landings, decks and floats..”. Change to docks
- Section 30,290, Item B – “no person shall tie to a town dock, pier, etc... for over 60 minutes without acquiring a permit”. Taking out “60 minutes”

Mr. Gibbons made a motion to accept all changes as discussed and this was voted on by roll call vote; (7-1) as Steven Mone abstained.

Mr. Gibbons informed the board that he would send out the drafted edits highlighted and a letter will be sent to the selectmen for the annual town meeting.

B. Certified retained earnings – Brian Kelly

Mr. Kelly spoke with Nancy Holt had requested updated retained earning figures from Nancy today. However, the Town server had a problem and she was unable to provide that detail today. Brian will circle back to Nancy later this week.

There was good news in that the Waterways Enterprise Fund had finished October with \$116,000 increase while expenses decreased. Brian will have a full report for the board for the next meeting.

C. DMF Grant Program for Recreational Fishing

Mr. Gibbons explained this Grant Program is to improve salt water fishing opportunities. Max Grant of \$15,000. Mr. Gibbons has the information if anyone would like any more information. It was asked if maybe this could be

used for kayak racks. Maura asked if this could be used for the issue resident, Mr. White brought up regarding signage and lighting at Jericho.

VII. Participant Q&A

Resident, Brad White spoke. He wanted to the board to know that there is a breach in the wall. He's noticed about 15 pickup trucks that are parking in that tender area that was planted by conservation with a strict 'no parking'. The board agreed that this is a known issue. Mr. Mone stated that maybe DPW moved these for their mowers.

Maura Curran wanted to update the board that Roht Marine area as this is a state area, and since there are signs there, nothing more can be done. The Board of Selectmen will reach out to the State Senator O'Connor as a next step.

Rick Murray mentioned the possibility of having more people patrol the spit area from a safety standpoint on weekends during high times. This will be added to next meeting's agenda and possibly ask Steven and Brendan from The Scituate Police to speak.

VIII. Adjourn Meeting

Mr. Gibbons made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m., which was voted all in favor by roll call vote; (8-0) - UNANIMOUS.