

**TOWN OF SCITUATE, MASSACHUSETTS
WATERWAYS COMMISSION**



**MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission
Wednesday, July 6, 2022
7:00 pm
Scituate Senior Center
333 First Parish Rd
Scituate, MA 02066**

Commission Members Present: Chairperson; Mike Gibbons, Scituate Harbormaster; Stephen Mone, Member; Dave Friedman, Member; Brian Kelly, Member; Craig Rosenquist, Member; Dave Haley, Associate Member; Brian Cronin, Associate Member; Dave Dineen, Associate Member; T.J. Malvesti

Also in Attendance: Recording Secretary; Alicia Anthony, Selectboard Liaison; Maura Curran, Officer Brendan McAuley of Scituate Police Department, Economic Development Commission Liaison; Fran McMillin

Members Not in Attendance: Vice Chairperson; Rick Murray, Member; Howie Kreutzberg, Member; Dave Sincoski, Associate Member; Steve Guard

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to call the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., which was made by Member; Brian Kelly, seconded by Member; Dave Friedman, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0).

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to accept the meeting agenda, which was made by Dave Friedman, seconded by Brian Kelly, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0).

Chairperson Gibbons made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 1, 2022 meeting, which was seconded by Brian Kelly, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0).

Chairperson Gibbons made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 9, 2022 meeting, which was seconded by Brian Kelly, and voted unanimously in favor (5-0-1).

Harbormaster Report

- A. Marina Design and Dock Replacement Status**
 - a. Town Meeting Warrant Article**

Harbormaster Mone informed the board that the final design cost is estimated for \$2.5 million and will require additional funding. He went on to say that part of the bid package will include having potential bidders hold their bid pricing 60 – 90 days after the award. Harbormaster Mone reported that Chairperson Gibbons, Member Brian Kelly, and himself met with Town of Scituate's Finance Director; Nancy Holt, to discuss funding scenarios due to the current high costs associated with the project. He mentioned that the current cost estimates are approximately \$2.5 Million, including engineering costs. Mr. Mone stated that the RFP is on track for the August 1, 2022 release and will be available to potential bidders for three weeks. Harbormaster Mone reminded the board that Special Town Meeting will be held on Monday, September 19, 2022. He is hoping that a Notice to Proceed will be granted soon as the project is anticipated to begin on October 16, 2022.

B. Dredge Projects Update

Harbormaster Mone reported that both Marshfield and Scituate reapplied for river dredging through the Seaport Economic Council granting process. Mr. Mone also applied for another Seaport Economic Council grant for design and permitting for several areas around the harbor, including; the Maritime Center Marina, the Lobster Association Dock, Cole Parkway, a small area in front of the Mill Wharf, and the Commercial Wharf. He stated that the total cost for the grant applied for is \$375,000, which is an 80/20 split (80% from the Seaport Economic Council and 20% from the town). Harbormaster Mone also mentioned that this is a two-year process before the actual dredging could begin.

Harbormaster Mone gave an overview on the 4th of July weekend, saying that it was very busy. He stated that there was great cooperation between the Harbormaster's Office and the Scituate Police Department. Harbormaster Mone informed the board that The Spit was very busy over the weekend and although there was some trouble, Marshfield and Scituate Harbormasters as well as the Scituate Police Department kept an eye on the activities.

There was then a brief discussion regarding an unmanned boat off of the coast of Marshfield, where two men fell overboard. It was said that the boat was in a constant circle until Sea Tow disabled it by fouling the prop. It was also mentioned that a fishing boat from Marshfield Harbor fished the two men from the ocean, and that drone footage was shown on the media outlets.

Old Business

A. Financial Update

Member; Brian Kelly, informed the board that the finances are still tracking the same as last month. Going on to say that the Waterways Commission is up between \$20,000 and \$25,000 in revenue, and approximately \$270,000 in retained earnings.

B. Shellfish Closure Update – Dave Friedman

Mr. Friedman updated the commission that UMass Dartmouth, who has been surveying clam-flats along the coast, indicated that so far, the reports and surveys look promising for a possible Fall 2022 opening.

C. SHARC Update – Craig Rosenquist

Mr. Rosenquist reported that the RFQ period has closed, and eight bids were received. He went on to say that the committee is currently reviewing the bids, and plan to make a recommendation to the Selectboard within the next several weeks, on what engineering firm should be selected.

D. Harbor Wi-Fi

Harbormaster Mone reported that there was one bid associated with the Harbor Wi-F RFP and the proposal is currently being reviewed by Town Administrator; Jim Boudreau.

The board then discussed the Maritime parking lot repairs, after Chairperson Gibbons stated that he hadn't added it to the evening's agenda as planned. He informed the board that no action can be taken. Harbormaster Mone indicated that he spoke to Scituate DPW regarding a large pothole at the entrance to the parking lot. He went on to say that the DPW improved the area with suitable material until a permanent solution is decided. Member; Brian Kelly stated that he would like to have a discussion with Town Administrator; Jim Boudreau, to discuss the roles of the Maritime Center and the Waterways Commission, and the overall management of Maritime Park and the Maritime Building. A discussion from the April 2022 meeting regarding limiting the hours of the Maritime Center from Mondays through Fridays, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., between April 15th and May 15th as well as October 1st and October 31st was then mentioned. This was an idea to coordinate the heavy activity of Scituate Boat Works as the move boats around in the parking lots, pre-boating season as well as post-boating season. Mr. Kelly mentioned the idea of the Commission receiving a 15% fee when Scituate Boat Works exceeds a certain amount financially. It was agreed to keep this item on next month's meeting agenda.

Participants Q&A

North Marshfield Resident; Brad White, questioned about adding a Porta-Potty at the Jericho Road Boat Launch, to which Harbormaster Mone indicated that there is a unit in place there already.

Mr. White then expressed his concern about the current floating dock at the Jericho Boat Launch, as the pilings are being located on the outside of the floats which make it challenging to have several boats tying up on the float. Harbormaster Mone, stated that this is a State Fishing and Boating Access question. He went on to say that the state currently has a grant project in progress at Jericho. Mr. Mone offered to work with Mr. White in contacting the state official in charge of the current project and has put them in touch with one another.

Scituate Resident; Keith Walo, of 200 Country Way, stated that he has an issue that he would like added to the next Waterways Meeting Agenda.

Mr. Eric Bradley, the new representative of two Scituate marinas, brought up his concerns about the layout of the Scituate Marina dock replacement project. Harbormaster Mone invited him to his office to view the plans.

Mr. White spoke again, enquiring about the pump out hours in the harbor, to which Harbormaster Mone responded that the self-serve pump-out station is open 24/7 during the summer months.

Chairperson Gibbons stated that he would be in touch with the board regarding the next Waterways meeting, as there is a possibility the Commission won't meet in August.

Chairperson Gibbons made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m., which was seconded by Harbormaster Mone, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0).