

HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 10, 2009
6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ald. Jason Sladky
Jim Ruffolo
Jack Resch
Jack Culley
James Anderson
Lee Kummer
Peter Allie

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Huck, Harbor Master
Jodi Scott, Secretary
Valerie Mellon, Director of Public Works

Election of new chairman and co-chair

M. Huck announced that the Commission is currently without a chairman and co-chair. J. Ruffolo made a motion to elect a new chairman and co-chair. J. Sladky seconded motion. J. Culley nominated J. Ruffolo. J. Ruffolo declined and nominated J. Anderson. J. Culley retracted his nomination of J. Ruffolo. and seconded the nomination of J. Anderson and nominated J. Resch as co-chair. J. Anderson accepted the nomination. M. Huck made a motion to close nominations and J. Anderson is elected chairman by acclamation. J. Sladky seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Approval of the Minutes from June 25, 2009 Meeting

J. Ruffolo made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2009 meeting. J. Sladky seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Introduction on new members

Lee Kummer, Peter Allie and Jack Culley introduced themselves and shared their interests in being a member of the Harbor Commission.
All others present introduced themselves and shared their interest in the Harbor.

HAP (Harbor Assistance) Grant

The application for repairing the dock wall which was made by the City of Manitowoc on behalf of City Center has been submitted. It will be considered and a funding announcement will be made in December. The Harbor Commission's role in this was simply to show its support; City Center funded it solely.

Solar power at Marina

All parties involved seemed to be interested in having the solar power installed at the Marina. M. Huck and J. Culley had a conference call with the City Attorney to discuss the details of the project. Sailboats, Inc. is not set up to utilize the federal tax credits nor does the City gain the benefit of the electrical generation, therefore it would not be good

use of city tax dollars. Manitowoc Public Utilities may need to develop some alternative energy generation facilities to meet their credit requirements. Manitowoc Public Utilities are working to determine if it will be financially feasible for them to participate in this project.

Wisconsin Commercial Ports Meeting

M. Huck summarized the Wisconsin Commercial Ports meeting he attended in August. The Port of Green Bay, Milwaukee and LaCrosse are the most involved in commercial shipping. Tons of steel are being brought over from china, broken up in Milwaukee and put on barges to be brought here to be turned into wind towers. The main topic covered at the meeting was that the State of Wisconsin, through the DNR, is currently considering legislation to regulate the discharge of ballast water in the waters of the state. The Commercial Ports Association is interested in having a federal standard applied so none of the states surrounding the Great Lakes can legislate themselves out of the shipping business.

Updates of inquiries received from Shippers

Shippers made a request to M. Huck for salt. He then passes the request on to City Center. J. Resch stated his concern about current shipping standards in regard to invasive species coming into our waters. The current standards should be checked and enforced. J. Anderson commented that the feds should be enforcing the standards but J. Sladky is concerned they will overreact and hurt ports. M. Huck will pass along any information he receives to the Commission.

Discussion of ongoing concerns

J. Ruffolo wants a recommendation made to stop run off from up river. He would like to see something done about the sediment that comes from up river. J. Anderson suggested being prepared when asking questions to the DNR as the up river run off is not hurting the river bed.

It was agreed by all commission members for agenda and minutes to be emailed; it is not necessary to mail them.

L. Kummer requested resources to bring him up to date on Harbor Commission programs and past discussions. M. Huck informed him that past minutes are available on line.

J. Ruffolo made a motion for M. Huck to write a letter to GAO for Maritime to gain acquisition of lighthouse.

J. Anderson seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

J. Anderson shared information about NOAA Marine Sanctuary.

J. Ruffolo made a Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:20 p.m. J. Sladky seconded the Motion.

MIKE HUCK
Harbor Master

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