



THE CITY OF WHITTIER

Gateway to Western Prince William Sound

P.O. Box 608 • Whittier, Alaska 99693 • (907) 427-2327 • Fax (907) 472-2404

**PORT & HARBOR COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, October 11, 2017
Homeowners' Lounge, BTI Building
6:00 pm**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ed Hedges called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

2. OPENING CEREMONY

Ed Hedges led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Commission members present: Ed Hedges, Greg Clifford, Brad VonWhichman, Arnie Arneson, Dave Goldstein, and Mark Mitchell

ABSENT MEMBERS

None

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Kyle Sinclair – Harbormaster
Naelene Matsumiya – Office Assistant

PUBLIC CITIZENS PRESENT

Charlene Arneson, Frankie Graham

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Arnie Arneson made a motion to approve the Special Meeting Agenda of October 11, 2017 with amendments.

SECOND: Brad VonWichman

DISCUSSION: Change “Regular Meeting” to “Special Meeting.”

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Brad VonWichman made a motion to approve the Port & Harbor Regular Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2017 with amendments.

SECOND: Dave Goldstein

DISCUSSION: Dave Goldstein pointed out a spelling error in the minutes under C. Review Plans for Harbor Rebuild. “C-D connector was spelled, “seedy connector”. The change was made.

VOTE: Unanimous

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None

7. SPECIAL MEETING ITEMS

A. Review of the 2017 Summer Season of Whittier Harbor and Port

The Harbormaster reported that the season was good and that everything went well. He commented that it was busier than he was expecting, but it was a very good season nonetheless. He introduced the opportunity for the Harbor to obtain a portable pump-out skiff. Kyle continued by stating the many benefits that will come from owning a portable pump-out skiff and the convenience it will grant the Harbor. The Commission discussed this topic for some time.

Greg Clifford mentioned that he was at the recent Council meeting and expressed to the Commission that resolutions are stronger than recommendations to the Council. He reminded the Commission that this was recommended by the City Manager during an earlier Port and Harbor Commission meeting.

Commission agreed.

MOTION: Dave Goldstein made a motion to task the City Manager with drafting a resolution supporting the Harbormaster's project of acquiring a pump-out skiff under the CVA Grant. Specifying a 25/75 split on it.

SECOND: Greg Clifford

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously

B. Review of the preliminary 2018 Whittier Harbor Budget

Dave Goldstein acknowledged the Harbormaster for all his work this summer and inquired about the progress at the head of the bay. The Harbormaster replied that the project is still in its very early stages. He reported that the Corps. Of Engineers will be starting the process next month to begin working on the head of the bay project. Topic was discussed at length.

The Harbormaster reported that the Cruise Line gave a presentation that indicated that there will be larger vessels in the future. He stated that he believes the Chamber of Commerce has an opportunity to start discussing advertisement with the Cruise Line industry. Dave Goldstein mentioned the possibility of a cruise line dock by the head of the bay and how two cruise ships will bring tremendous revenue to the city.

Commission discussed lights at the Harbor for the darker winter months and the safety it would provide for those traveling at night. Kyle updated the Commission that Bellingham will be coming back up to install the lights for the Harbor. Arnie Arneson briefly talked about the electricity down at the harbor. The Commission also inquired about Harbor staffing. The Commission agreed to have a resolution written up to guarantee 2 people on the docks. Kyle assured that staffing concerns have been resolved and that there will always be 2 people on the docks at all time for safety precautions, but he obliged to the Commission's decision to write up a resolution.

Kyle Sinclair reminded the Commission that he had not yet met with the City Manager to discuss the budget. He mentioned the Tiger Grant and how he is working on getting the City Dock and the life replaced.

C. Harbor Policies and Procedures

The Harbormaster reported that the lawyer’s approval on the Policy and Procedures is still pending.

D. Harbor Fees

The Harbormaster recommended keeping the fees as they are.

8. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Dave Goldstein asked if the concrete from the Buckner Building could be used in making a breakwater as the men from the IRT group had said at the previous Council Meeting. The Commission discussed the topic for some time.

Mark Mitchell brought up the code for the Port and Harbor Commission and recommended that Naelene Matsumiya send Commission Members updated versions that they can look a as a handbook. The Commission agreed.

Mark Mitchell began to make a motion to have the Port and Harbor Ordinance Chapter 2.54 sent to each Commission member, but the Commission reminded him that he did not have to make a motion for the request.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

COMMISSION COMMENTS

None

NEXT MEETING ATTENDANCE PLANS:

Next meeting date: March 8, 2018

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Arnie Arneson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Dave Goldstein

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm

Attest: 

Naelene Matsumiya

Office Assistant



Ed Hedges

Chair of Port & Harbor Commission