

**EAST LYME HARBOR MANAGEMENT & SHELLFISH COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 20, 2018
7:30 PM
EAST LYME TOWN HALL**

Chairman
Stephen Dinsmore

Treasurer
Donald F. Landers Jr.

Secretary
Joseph Hitchery

Members Present: Steve Dinsmore, Joe Hitchery, Don Landers, Rick Kanter, Don MacKenzie, Greg Murin, Bill Mountzoures
Members Absent: None
Ex Officios present: Paul Dagle, Deputy Harbor Master Marc Berger
Guest: Ron Johnson

FILED
Aug 24 20 18 AT 3:05 AM/PM
[Signature]
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

1. **Call to Order:** S. Dinsmore called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM
2. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting of July 16, 2018**

MOTION: (Landers/Murin) to approve the July 16, 2018 minutes as submitted:
Vote: Approved. In favor- Dinsmore, Hitchery, Landers, Kanter, MacKenzie, Mountzoures. Opposed-none. Abstaining- Murin.

3. Public Delegations

Peter Harris, WELSCO stated he would comment and answer questions when the WELSCO Aquaculture Policy Statement is discussed.

4. Reports

A. Shellfish

R. Kanter reported the Niantic River is closed for shell fishing.

B. Harbor Master

Chairman Dinsmore stated that there were errors in the last revision of the recommendation letter to the State for East Lyme Harbor Master. He will amend and send with contact information.

Deputy Harbor Master Berger stated he and Ron Johnson have been out in the Harbor Master boat. M. Berger participated in a rescue of four people from a capsized boat. The incident caused the assessment of supplies and safety equipment that are lacking in case of an emergency. R. Johnson will submit a list of items for possible purchase by the Commission.

C. Treasurer

D. Landers informed the members of bills submitted:

Expenses	Income	vendor
\$3000.00		Annual contribution to STR-STH
\$ 50.00		WELSCO-patrol and sampling
\$ 589.77		Crocker Boat Yard-painting and launch
\$ 1288.96		Crocker Boat Yard-Radar repair and electronics
	\$25.00	Dock Fee

The invoices for Crocker Boat Yard will be split with the Waterford Harbor Management Commission.

D. Ex-Officio

P. Dagle informed the Commission the Harbor Management Plan, including the proposed ordinance, was forwarded to the town attorney for review and will be on the upcoming Board of Selectmen agenda.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Harbor Management Plan-Update

Chairman Dinsmore stated the review of the Harbor Management plan is on the Board of Selectmen agenda for September 5, 2018 at 7:30. Geof Steadman will be there to answer any questions on behalf of the Commission.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Correspondence:

No Correspondence

B. Niantic River Watershed Letter on Waterford Solar Farm

D. Landers, member of the Niantic River Watershed Committee informed the Commission that the letter to the State Siting Council, addressing the proposed Solar Farm, will not be sent from the Niantic River Watershed Committee but instead will be submitted by a member of the Committee as a private citizen. D. Landers stated the deadline to comment was today (8/20/2018). He informed the members that the site chosen was a 100-acre triangle between Interstate 395 and 95. The site will be clear cut of all trees. The Niantic River Watershed Committee is concerned because the area is at the headwaters of the Niantic River and could have a negative impact on the river. Letters have been sent to State Senator Formica, State Representative Holly Cheeseman and State Representative Kathleen McCurdy. The Town of Waterford has also sent a letter

to the Siting Council expressing their concerns. Because the deadline to submit comments has passed, it was suggested a letter be sent to request extending the deadline to allow more comments.

MOTION: (Murin/Landers) to send a letter from the Commission to the Siting Council asking the deadline for comments be extended. Vote: Approved Unanimously.

C. Amended WELSCO Aquaculture Policy Statement

The Commission members had numerous questions and comments on the proposed policy.

- Members thought the approval process for licenses (Pg 2, ¶14) should be more clearly defined.
- Are the terms, “footprint” and “operations” the same? If they are the same be consistent. (P. Harris stated they are the same)
- 10-acre limit discussed
- What is process for approval of licenses and what constitutes a success and therefore consideration of a commercial operation?
- Will the East Lyme Harbor Management and Shellfish Commission (ELHMSC) be consulted if WELSCO decides to change the approved areas for aquaculture?

Peter Harris, WELSCO commented as follows:

- ELHMSC could approve the Policy Statement on behalf of the Town according to the East Lyme Town Attorney and Board of Selectmen.
- The section on issuing licenses can be rewritten for clarity and accuracy.
- The proposed policy was sent to the East Lyme Town Attorney but has not received comment.
- R. Kanter and P. Harris stated the Policy has been revised many times and fully vetted by Waterford’s Town Attorney.

Chairman Dinsmore asked members to email all comments to him by August 28, 2018.

7. FINAL COMMENTS

Terry Lineburger (Waterford) informed the Commissioners that in May 2018, a Public Hearing on the “Policy” was held in Waterford and the public overwhelmingly was opposed to type II aquaculture gear in ten acres of the river. She informed the Commission that there was a traffic study of the river but it only counted traffic going under the bridge. It did not take into consideration the volume of recreational traffic that stays in the river and does not go through the bridge.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Murin /Hitchery) to adjourn at 9:06 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Sue Spang
Recording Secretary