

**EAST LYME HARBOR MANAGEMENT & SHELLFISH COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17, 2020 7:30 PM
EAST LYME TOWN HALL
Meeting was conducted by ZOOM due to COVID**

Chairman
Stephen Dinsmore

Treasurer
Donald F. Landers Jr.

Secretary
Joseph Hitchery

Members Present: Steve Dinsmore, Joe Hitchery Greg Murin, Craig Mason, Don MacKenzie, Don Landers, Rick Kanter

Members Absent: none

Ex-Officio(s) Present: P. Dagle

Ex-Officio(s) Absent: Harbormaster Ron Johnson, Deputy Harbor Master, Mark Berger,

1. CALL TO ORDER: S. Dinsmore called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 18, 2020

MOTION: (Murin/Landers) to approve the February 18 2020 minutes as presented.

Vote: APPROVED Unanimously

FILED

3. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS: none

Nov 19, 20 20 AT 3:53 AM/PM
Brooke Stearns ATC
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

4. REPORTS

A. Treasurer

D. Landers informed the commission that 66% of the 2019/2020 budget was spent. The 2020/2021 budget was reduced to \$6650 and so far \$107.00 has been spent. He reported that the pump out expense was taken out of their budget and was paid by WELSCO. After discussions between East Lyme, Waterford and WELSCO it was decided that each would pay a third of the cost for the pump out boat. D. Landers thought the funding for that expense might be put back into their budget.

D. Landers will check the mailbox for any outstanding bills.

B. Ex-Officio

Selectman Dagle informed the members that the referendum approved the additional funding for the Public Safety Building.

The BOS approved body cameras for the police and new cameras for the police cars.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Londregan Lease Renewal (EL 3)

Chairman Dinsmore suggested renewing the lease for one more year. He said there has not been additional research into the lease due to COVID and he would like to give the commission time to complete its due diligence on the issue. D. Mac Kenzie reminded the members he submitted a survey of lease costs in the area. He said the current rate of \$5.00 per acre is not sufficient. S. Dinsmore did not think it would be appropriate to raise the fee without notification of Mr. Londregan.

MOTION: (Landers/Kanter) to extend the Londregan lease for an additional one year at the rate of \$5.00 per acre to commence on the expiration of the current lease. Vote: APPROVED unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. East Lyme, Waterford Town Boundary Dispute.

S. Dinsmore reported he heard from Harbor Master, Ron Johnson concerning the Waterford Harbor Master tagging moorings on what has traditionally been considered East Lyme waters. The dispute is between two options; is the boundary the center of the channel or the center of the Niantic River.

P. Dagle informed the commission that Waterford will not pull any East Lyme moorings until the situation has been settled and an agreement reached between the two towns.

Some of the long time members recalled this issue coming up before and at that time, it was decided that the boundary is in the middle of the Niantic River, drawn equal distance from both sides of the river.

B. POCD

S. Dinsmore thanked D. Landers for supplying input to the POCD. The POCD subcommittee pulled items from the Harbor Management Plan to include as recommendations to the POCD.

P. Dagle informed the members that the BOS asked the POCD committee to come up with priorities for the recommendations and if the commission has some suggestions as to what they consider priorities they should contact the committee.

C. Harbor Master Boat

S. Dinsmore reported that R. Johnson had some concerns about the winter storage of the boat and its readiness in case of an emergency. Inquiries have been made to Public Works to see if they had any room to store the boat but were told there was no room.

R. Johnson also asked if shrink wrapping was possible. It was decided that the boat would be stored inside with a trickle charge so it would be available in an emergency. If it has to be stored outside it should be shrink wrapped.

D. Correspondence-none

7. FINAL COMMENTS

P. Dagle informed the members the BOS will be reviewing pier leasing and their renewals along with approving criteria for applications for leasing.

R. Kanter said the recreational shell fishing areas in the Niantic River were reclassified and Sandy Point was taken off the list of approved shell fishing areas. He said most of the sites had been moved down river.

S. Dinsmore said the Niantic Bay has been fully opened to shell fishing except the restricted area by the Niantic Bay Yacht Club.

Terry Lineberger want to confirm the commission was aware of the various aquaculture permit processes for local and state waters which came out in the summer of 2019.

S. Dinsmore said they were reflected in the recently approved Harbor Management Plan.

S. Dinsmore said there will be a December meeting to approve the 2021 meeting dates and for election of officers.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Landers/Hitchery) to adjourn at 8:22 PM. Vote: Approved Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted
Sue Spang
Recording Secretary

2020 Meeting Dates: March 17, April 21, May 19, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 15, October 20, November 17 and December 15.