

**EAST LYME HARBOR MANAGEMENT & SHELLFISH COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2021, 7:30 PM
EAST LYME TOWN HALL**

Chairman
Stephen Dinsmore

Treasurer
Donald F. Landers Jr.

Secretary
Craig Mason

Members Present: Steve Dinsmore, Don Landers, Joe Hitchery, Don MacKenzie, Rick Kanter

Members Absent: Greg Murin, Craig Mason,

Ex-Officio(s) Present: P. Dagle, BOS liaison

Ex-Officio(s) Absent:

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 19, 2021

MOTION: (Landers/MacKenzie) to approve the minutes of the regular July 19, 2021, meeting as amended:

R. Kanter clarified that it was the Harbor Master and Deputy Harbor Master who hired Marker 7 to get the derelict boat, ~~so it was only right that~~ *which is why* he sent the bill to the town.

The following sentence was questioned:

When the Harbor Master contacted Tim Londregan from Marker 7 he was guaranteed, he would be paid for the work.

(The recording of the meeting has the Deputy Harbor Master stating, "When we asked Tim to do it, we *assured* him that he would be paid at some point, somehow, whether by the owner or the town. So that's something that is on the town's expense now").

Vote: APPROVED unanimously

3. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS:

A. Delegations from the Public

Pete Harris, Waterford said he supports the leases for aquaculture in the Niantic River and the Niantic Bay. There is wide public support and the town's POCD supports aquaculture.

4. REPORTS

A. Treasurer

D. Landers stated there were no new invoices and the invoices approved at the last meeting were submitted.

B. Ex-Officio

P. Dagle reported that the approval process for the aquaculture leases need to be approved by the BOS after town attorney review and Harbor Management approval.

There will be a special town meeting on September 1, 2021, to approve \$270,000.00 of American Rescue Plan funds.

C. Harbor Master-no report

FILED
Aug 17 20 21 AT 3:00 AM/PM
(Craig Mason)
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Abandoned Boat in Marker 7 possession – update

S. Dinsmore spoke to the First Selectman concerning the Marker 7 invoice and he was not happy and instructed that the invoice is not paid.

T. Londregan, Marker 7, said he does not care who pays the bill, but services were rendered, and he should be paid. He said Mark Berger contacted him and then Mark got in touch with the Harbor Master who approved it.

R. Kanter reiterated from the last meeting that Marker 7 was contracted by the town, not by the owner of the vessel and sometimes there is an emergency situation that needs to be dealt with and there may not be enough time to get approval from the First Selectman. The town has some responsibility to pay at least a part of Marker 7's invoice.

T. Londregan submitted invoices and email correspondence between himself and the town. He discussed the issue with the town attorney, and it was agreed the town would pay \$6,317.19 which includes the salvage fees, hauling fees and two-day storage fees. The town agreed that they would haul the vessel from the property, they have not moved it as yet.

P. Dagle will discuss with the First Selectman the process for approving the invoice. He will also discuss the insurance policy and better communication with the police department and the Harbor Master.

D. Landers discussed getting on the BOS agenda for a recommendation to the BOF for an additional appropriation for the invoice.

The members discussed the process for the town taking legal ownership of the boat.

B. EL Waterford Town Boundary dispute – Confirmation that Waterford HM's will respect the agreed upon border

R. Kanter reported that he reached out 4-5 times to Rick Miller, Waterford Deputy Harbor Master and his calls were never returned. He will contact Dave Crocker, Waterford Harbor Master.

J. Hitchery confirmed that it is his understanding that the East Lyme and Waterford First Selectmen were in agreement that the political boundary of the towns is the middle of the river.

Fred Wise, Waterford Harbor Management member suggested the towns get together and discuss the issue of moorings.

S. Dinsmore will write to the Chairman of the Waterford Harbor Management Commission requesting that no boats on East Lyme moorings be tagged by Waterford Harbor Master.

C. Shellfish Lease Renewal Process

C. Mason is still incorporating comments from the past meeting into the lease renewal document. The process for lease approvals were discussed and it was the understanding of some members that only the Harbor Management Commission had the authority to approve leases for the river and bay.

T. Londregan stated he would provide his original permit to DEEP and ACOE as well as a list of gear he uses. He said that according to the commissions Harbor Management Plan the only needed approval for a lease is by the Commission and he has past correspondence from the town attorney stating the same. He expressed concern about the BOS approval.

D. T. Londregan Lease Renewal (EL3) – Update: Craig Mason-discussed previously.

E. Habitat Restoration – Habitat studies – No action

F. Shellfish Management Plan-no action

G. Establish mooring policy – How to limit town liability for derelict vessels

The members discussed the number and location of moorings on the East Lyme side of the Niantic River. D. MacKenzie expressed his opinion that the two towns come together and develop a policy for the future of moorings in the river which would define the number and locations of moorings.

The members were concerned with additional moorings in the river and their impact on recreational activities.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Correspondence-none

7. FINAL COMMENTS-none

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Landers/Hitchery) to adjourn at 8:52 PM. Vote: Approved Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted

Sue Spang

Recording Secretary

2021 Meeting Dates, September 21, October 19, November 16 and December 21.