



FILED IN EAST LYME
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C. L. Hitchery
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF EAST LYME
EAST LYME HARBOR MANAGEMENT/SHELLFISH COMMISSION

Chairman
Stephen Dinsmore

Treasurer
Donald F. Landers Jr.

Secretary
Joseph L. Hitchery

Not official until approved by the Commission at its next regular meeting

April 21, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes; East Lyme Town Hall

Commissioners Present: Stephen Dinsmore; Donald Landers; Barbara Johnston; and Rick Kanter

Commissioners Absent: Joseph Hitchery; William Mountzoures; and Greg Murin

Ex Officios Present: Harbor Master Dick Morris; Marc Salerno; and Deputy Harbor Master Marc Berger

1. Call to Order. Chairman Dinsmore called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 17, 2015

MOTION: Commissioner Landers moved to approve the March 17, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Johnston. The motion carried. (4-0-0).

3. Public Delegations

A. Docko - Dowling Boat Lift - No one from Docko was in attendance.

4. Reports

A. Shellfish. The river is open. Stream gauge said 0.8" of precipitation was received during the last rainfall.

B. Harbor Master.

- I. Mr. Morris discussed the automobile accident that occurred yesterday, in which a vehicle collided with a telephone pole on Main Street, causing it to collapse, and the three transformers on the pole to fall and leak oils. Clean Harbor began skimming the waters yesterday at 7:00 p.m., and is currently down there skimming the waters, as part of their 48-hour skimming process, and they are hoping to be finished by noon tomorrow.
- II. Mr. Morris stated that there are 60 moorings that have not renewed with inspection points done to them. The majority are Jaxson Vibber and Mike Tyler doing their work. There has been a good run with what has been going on, in terms of the stickers and permitting, as well as money being received to finance the efforts. His hope is that all of the moorings will be permitted and stickered by June. Mr. Vibber assured Mr. Morris that he was going to get out in the next week to complete the rest of the inspections in the bay.

- III. Mr. Morris is still attending the Harbor Master Training Program, and it's going well. He says, including tomorrow, there are probably three more weeks left.
- IV. Mr. Morris brought up the topic regarding environmental moorings. Commissioner Kanter stated that the Shellfish Commission would be in favor, and that the inspection would be done via diving.
- V. Mr. Morris went on to add that the Harbor Masters, through First Selectman Nickerson, have applied for a grant through the Federal Government, as they are looking to purchase a 24' hard-bottom rib boat, center console. They have received a letter from the Captain of the Port to say that they are a part of Marine Port Security, as well as letters from other Agencies. All letters will be submitted mid-May. This boat will replace their current boat, and will be shared by both towns, as well as adhere to the current MOU that is in place.

C. Treasurer.

- I. Commissioner Landers received 6 invoices:
 - A. Save the River, Save the Hills: Fred is working on developing a communication sign posted on the railroad bridge. Total cost to be split between the 3 Commissions. Our obligation is \$197.50, and will be billed as a Maintenance of Harbor line item.
 - B. Town of Waterford, Waterford Harbor Management Commission: 50% share of the Harbor Master boat totals \$1,590.95, and will be billed as a Maintenance of Harbor line item.
 - C. Support of telephone service/WeatherLink subscription: This has been paid for by WELSCO, in the total amount of \$50.
 - D. WELSCO: 2 invoices in the amounts of \$12.50 and \$43.75, both for warden patrol and water sampling for February and March of 2015.
 - E. The Day: This invoice needs to be redirected to the Town, as it was a payment for the Notice for Public Hearing in the amount of \$220.40, and that is the Town's obligation.
- II. Commissioner Landers received a check from Timothy Londregan III for \$100, for the application fee.
- III. Commissioner Johnston questioned the division of obligations between the three Commissions. Discussion ensued regarding this topic.

D. Ex Officio.

- I. Mr. Salerno discussed the Board of Finance's decision to reduce the Board of First

Selectman's budget by \$125,000. This action, in turn, forced the budget for the Commission's stream gauge to be removed. Discussion ensued regarding the negative effects that are going to take place, due to the lack of the stream gauge, which would include, but would not be limited to, not being able to measure the pollutants entering the river, as well as monitoring flow rates to be able to do timely evacuations. The question arose regarding asking the four towns to chip in to try and get the stream gauge paid for, or even approaching the New London water company to see if they'd be willing to fund the gauge. The stream gauge is set to be turned off at the end of the fiscal year (mid-July 2015).

- II. Mr. Salerno said that the boardwalk's construction is behind schedule, and is not looking to open until September.

5. Old Business

A. Harbor Management Plan - Update. Chairman Dinsmore informed the Commission that he had met with Geoff Steadman and went over the revised Plan. Copies were distributed among the Commissioners that were present in the meeting, and Chairman Dinsmore is looking to get the Plan out to the absent Commissioners prior to the special meeting. Areas that are bold are changes that have taken place since the last time it was reviewed. Bold print is new information. Commissioner Landers suggested soliciting dates for when the special meeting is to be held via email.

B. Stream Gauge Discussion. This was discussed above, during the Treasury update.

6. New Business

A. Correspondence.

- I. Two Consultation Forms were received: One addressed to the Shellfish Commission; and one addressed to Harbor Management. These were in regards to Dowling's boat lift. There was some discussion on the topic.

MOTION: Commissioner Landers moves to find permit consistent with Shellfish Management Plan and Harbor Management Plan, with note on Shellfish Management Consultation Form that it's restricted relay area and there is not active recreational shell fishing. Seconded by Commissioner Kanter. The motion carried. (4-0-0).

- II. Commissioner Kanter raised the issue of the Director of Camp Niantic sending a letter to WELSCO, which stated that Camp Niantic wants to put buoys out in their "exclusionary" area. Much discussion was had regarding whether it truly was an exclusionary area, or if there should just be informational buoys put out, since people are permitted kayak and shellfish in the area, with permission. Chairman Dinsmore is going to contact Camp Niantic to get further clarification.

7. Final Comments.

Chairman Dinsmore made a comment that bay permits have not been sold in the past two years.

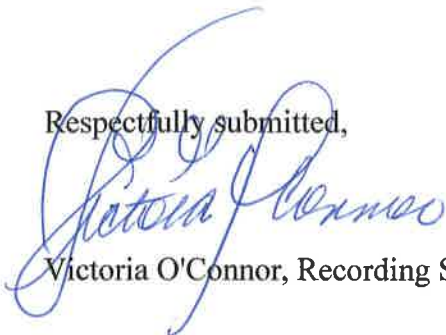
He also made note that he was in attendance at the Niantic River Watershed meeting that was held at the Police Station, and that it was very informational. It discussed the effects of sewers in Pine Grove, and the effects on local water quality, in general. They were not willing to categorically draw any conclusions, but stated that there has been a reduction of at least 30% of nutrient-loading materials in the water. This was further asserted by Commissioner Kanter stating that the reduction could continue, as all of the nutrients and minerals leech out of the waters and go into the sewers. Don Landers went on to say that there is a renewed interest in implementing sewers at Saunders Point.

Commissioner Kanter brought up the fact that there seems to be a larger amount of brown seaweed along the shoreline. Don Lander stated that this is normal, and it's called ectocarpus. It should reduce by the summer.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Commissioner Johnston moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. It was seconded by Commissioner Landers. The motion carried. (4-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Victoria O'Connor", is written over the typed name.

Victoria O'Connor, Recording Secretary