

HARRISVILLE HARBOR COMMISSION
Regular Meeting April 7, 2011

Chairman Laatz called the regular meeting of the Harrisville Harbor Commission to order in the Harbor Building at 7:00 p.m. on April 7, 2011.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call found five commissioners present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Arthur Laatz, Vice-Chairman Daniel Bruske, Treasurer J. Michael Crick, Commissioners: Neal Gehring, and Robert Sanderson.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Secretary Robert Schemanske & Commissioner Marion Tartaglia.

GUESTS: Lorne Hamilton

ALSO PRESENT: Harbormaster Jerry Brown; Recording Secretary/Bookkeeper Jeannette Schultz and Steven Baksis.

Minutes of the Oct. 22, 2010 regular meeting, having been emailed to each commissioner, were presented for approval. Minutes were reviewed. MOTION: Gehring/Sanderson to approve minutes as presented. Motion passed and minutes were adopted.

Financial Reports:

The annual financial statements, as of December 31, 2010, along with monthly summary of accounts for January, February, & March 2011 were presented and reviewed with several positive notes. Having taken several cost-cutting measures, it was noted that there was a profit (before depreciation) for the first time since 2007. Also, the Harbor was able to resume making monthly payments on the loan from the City of Harrisville. MOTION: Crick/Gehring to accept reports as presented. Motion carried. Reports were adopted and placed on file pending audit.

Harbormaster Report:

Harbormaster Brown requested a re-evaluation of wages for Steve Baksis. Brown plans to work less hours than Baksis this season, in order to train him for advancement to Harbormaster in 2012. Discussion concerning wages referenced a motion made at the 9/15/10 meeting. Baksis presented a proposal that detailed two pay options based on anticipated hours for both Season and Off Season work. Action was deferred to new business at this meeting.

Brown stated that he plans to hire a minimum of three new dock hands for the coming season, as some of last year's employees will not be returning. He invited the Commissioners to be involved in the interviews and hiring decisions.

He requested that the Commission consider sealing the parking lot this summer. He has received one quote and it was decided that he should get two more quotes before a decision will be made.

He has made arrangements for dredging to begin this weekend.

CRS training will be held on May 2nd. Baksis and two dockhands will plan to attend.

The Veeder Root machine will be repaired tomorrow and the annual tank inspection will be performed at that time.

The van has been repaired by JB's Auto (John Bernard), for a partial credit toward the amount that he owes the harbor for the trailer.

Steve Baksis offered several suggestions for the coming season:

He recommended not renewing a contract with Trugreen in 2011. There are concerns as to whether the fertilizer service is actively helping and that fertilizer run-off was supporting the growth of invasive grasses at the water's edge. He offered to do the fertilizing, which will also be a cost saving for the harbor. It was agreed not to renew the contract with Trugreen.

He recommended that we hire Sunrise Pest Control (in Greenbush) to spray the area in order to eliminate bugs and spiders. They will spray our harbor buildings for \$65. No decision was reached at this time.

He presented a new 3-part Sales Receipt, which he designed, as a more efficient method to be used to register boaters. The cost of printing will be \$225 for 1,000 sets.

He displayed new yellow shirts for Harbor employees at \$13/ea. We are currently paying \$17.50/ea. Baksis is a representative for the shirt company and can purchase them at wholesale. He will sell them to the harbor at his cost. Brown recommended that we accept his offer. MOTION: Bruske/Sanderson to accept the new shirts as proposed. Motion carried.

Lorene Hamilton requested that the Commission refrain from allowing music groups to use the lower parking lot during summer events.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Gehring had prepared a very informative report on the "Docks and Grant Application Status", which he presented, stating that the date has passed to submit an application for 2011. He recommended evaluating the situation at the harbor with Mr. Peterson this Spring. He suggested that there would be a two-phase grant request. The 1st phase for Engineering and the 2nd for Construction. He will be overseeing the grant application process to be submitted for 2012.

Brown reported that the 90-day trial of the EZ Energy Savers has not shown a saving as projected by the company. They will be returned to the company for a refund.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion by Crick/Gehring to adjust the rate of pay for both Brown and Baksis to \$14/hr. beginning May 1st, 2011 to be re-evaluated at the August Commission meeting. Motion carried.

Gehring inquired about the possibility of restricting some monies for repair and maintenance. It will be considered in the Fall when the new budget is prepared.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled to be held at the Harbor at 7 p.m. on May 5, 2011.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Crick/Bruske to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

N. Jeannette Schultz
Recording Secretary