

HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

November 14, 2013
6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lee Kummer
Jack Resch
Fred Radandt
Jim Ruffolo
Peter Allie
Mike Dailey

STAFF PRESENT

Paul Braun, Harbor Master

OTHERS PRESENT

See Sign in Sheet

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Alderman Jason Sladky
James Anderson

Approval of the Minutes from July 25, 2013 Meeting

J. Ruffolo made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2013 meeting.
F. Radandt seconded the Motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Update on Coastal Management Grant – Request for Proposals

Mr. Braun gave the Commission an update on the Request for Proposals for Coastal Management Grant project. The project entails the study and report of an area along the east side of the Manitowoc River across from the "Peninsula Property" from the former WPS office building to the former Consumer Steel building.

Mr. Braun stated the he is in the process of finishing up the request for proposal which will then be mailed out to various consultants. The proposals from the consultants will need to be returned to the Planning Department by the end of December with selection of the consultant by the early part of January 2014.

The project completion date per the Coastal Management guidelines is June 30, 2014. Mr. Braun explained that the City owns the land for approximately 95% of the proposed project area; the other two property owners are WPS and 1311Spring LLC.

Mr. Braun stated that there will be a group of individuals that will read over the proposals and then each individual will score the proposals independently and then a consultant will be selected. Mr. Braun stated that if there are any Commissioners that are interested in being part of the proposal review team they should contact him.

Mr. Braun concluded by saying that the Commission does not need to take any formal action on the item and that the presentation is for information purposes only.

Discussion on the Fish Cleaning Station

Mr. Braun explained to the Commission that he put this item on the agenda because he received a phone call from a reporter from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel newspaper. The reporter was writing an article about the fish cleaning station in Algoma and that their fish entrails are reused by the Dramm Corporation and made into organic fertilizer. Mr. Braun was not sure if this topic was discussed by the Commission in the past but he felt it was important to discuss the issue for the benefit of himself and the new Commission members.

The Algoma system grinds the entrails; a conveyor system then moves the entrails into a cooler where the Dramm Corporation collects them and converts it to fertilizer. One of the main reasons Algoma uses this system is to keep the entrails out of the sanitary sewer system.

Mr. Braun stated that he did talk with Brian Helminger, from the Manitowoc Waste Water Treatment Plant, Mr. Helminger stated that the entrails cause some issues but because the treatment plant is so large it can easily accommodate the added fish waste.

Rich Larson, Manitowoc Marina, stated that the Marina is responsible for maintenance of the fish cleaning station and that in the past there were issues with either the machinery breaking down or vandalism but ever since the fishing club purchased the newer grinder system the troubles are very few. The current issues are that the system is getting old and outdated.

The Commission generally discussed the matter some more but determined that no further action was needed and if they decided they could reopen the discussions in the future if the need arises. No action was taken on the issue.

Discussion on the Facility Security Plan

Mr. Braun stated that he received an email from the Sturgeon Bay Police Department who were asking for a copy of Manitowoc's Facility Security Plan (FSP) to use it as a template for their own plan. Mr. Braun explained that the

Marine Transportation Security Act requires certain industrial and municipal facilities located adjacent to or near any waters under the jurisdiction of the United States shall conduct an assessment and prepare a security plan. Mr. Braun further explained that the plan does not have to be completed by the City because it's port does not meet or exceed certain criteria. Mr. Allie and Mr. Dailey stated that both of their entities were required to complete the plans. Mr. Braun mentioned that he talked with the Coast Guard Station in Milwaukee and asked if the City of Manitowoc needs to have an FSP, according to the Coast Guard the City does not need an FSP.

Further discussion was held but not action was required on the matter.

Discussion Wisconsin Department of Transportation 2014 Annual 3 Year Statement of Intentions

Mr. Braun explained to the Commission that the annual 3 year Statement of Intentions is due to the Department of Transportation on or before April 1, 2014. The item was placed on the agenda to make the members aware that the report will be brought up at the next Commission Meeting for their support.

Mr. Braun stated projects that show up on the Statement of Intentions are not necessarily mandated to be constructed but if the projects are not shown on the report they will not be eligible for Harbor Assistance money. Private property owners are now able to complete their own statement of intentions which is a relatively new option, in the past private property owners had to be sponsored by the City.

The item was for discussion purposes only and no action was required.

Update regarding De-Authoring a portion of the Manitowoc River – WRRDA

Mr. Braun brought the Commission up to date on the status of the Water Resources Reform & Development Act (WRRDA). The Act is a very large document that is used to allocate federal monies to various water related transportation issues. Authored into the Act is text that would remove a small triangular shaped portion from the Manitowoc River's federal channel. De-federalizing the area would allow Burger Boat the opportunity to expand a boat lift allowing them to build larger yachts.

Mr. Ruffolo stated that he recently talked with Senator Johnson who said that there is no reason that the de-federalization itself would be removed from the Act but the larger Act may be in jeopardy.

No action was required on the topic.

Future Project List – Map

Mr. Braun stated that the future project list is an item that will always be on the agenda and will be a tool used by the Commission to track any potential projects that the Commission would like to pursue.

Mr. Radandt stated that his business has some old tires that anyone can have to use. The Commission discussed the item and said that they would pass along that information to anyone that may have use for the tires.

Mr. Allie stated that the escape ladders that allow an individual to climb out of the river need to be repainted and in some cases an additional rung needs to be added due to the low water levels. Mr. Braun mentioned that he talked with the Army Corps of Engineers about that exact issue and the Corps stated that the maintenance of the ladders is the responsibility of their organization and is an item they want to address but due to finances the maintenance is always deferred.

Mr. Ruffolo mentioned that in the spring of the year there are always trees floating in the river creating a navigation hazard. He said that when possible they would remove the obstruction, Mr. Allie also stated the same issue. They mentioned that in the past they would call Kevin Glaeser at the Department of Public Works to have the debris removed but now that he is retired they would like to have a contact name. Mr. Braun stated that he would look into the issue and find a contact person for the business owners to call.

Herald Times Reporter Article – Wisconsin Port’s Week

The Commission discussed the Herald Times Reporter article that highlighted Wisconsin Port’s Week. The Commission stated that the article featured the Allie’s and the peninsula property and was a nice article.

The Commission briefly discussed the vacancy of one of the Commission spots and the need to fill the vacancy.

J. Ruffolo made a Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:50 p.m. P. Allie seconded the Motion.

Respectfully,



Paul Braun
Harbor Master