

HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

February 20, 2020
4:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joe Holzinger
Peter Allie
Rich Larsen
Lee Kummer
Doug Borys
Fred Radandt

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Ted Jennejohn
Mike Dailey
Dave Luckow

STAFF PRESENT

Paul Braun, Harbor Master
Jeremy DuChateau
Dan Koski

OTHERS PRESENT

Connor Siemers
Robert Stanick, Army Corps
Randall Eigenberger, Army Corps
Daniel Wiesner, Army Corps
Jeff Houghton, Via Phone UWM Freshwater
Science Department
Gary Boeckman

Approval of the Minutes from the March 11th, 2019 Meeting

Motion made by Rich Larsen and seconded by Fred Radandt to approve the meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

New Business

Discussion with Army Corps of Engineering regarding their 2020 Harbor Related Projects.

R. Eigenberger, R. Stanick and D. Wiesner from the Army Corps of Engineering provided a summary of the projects they are currently working on and what is planned for the future. The Corps are continuing to construct a higher berm along the east edge of the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) to try and prevent the wave action from topping the armor stone revetment wall. They stated the CDF is two dredging cycles away from being filled; two dredging cycles is approximately 6 to 10 years. Options in the future to deal with dredging material is to either go higher on the CDF, build a new CDF or dry land dispose of the material. The Corps has not been building new CDFs in recent years.

There is a dredging project planned to start in May. One of the options to transload the dredge material into the CDF would be from the marina side. The dredging contractor would be using a closed clam bucket which would be cleaner and not spray debris around. The walkway out to the dog run would need to be closed during the project; the Commission voiced concerns with the trail being closed in addition to noise, dirt and seagulls becoming a nuisance. The marina transloading location is preferred by the Corps because the protected area is not affected by the wind and wave action, the existing sediment in the CDF is unstable so trucks and other equipment are sinking and getting stuck, and the location is nearest to where the sediment is needed in the CDF.

The Corps representatives stated that they are projecting that the Lake Michigan water levels will surpass the all-time high since the levels have been tracked. They also discussed the issues with the sediment that is located in the turning basin in the up river area near the former Manitowoc Company peninsula. Due to the contaminants in the sediment caused by Wisconsin Public Service's former coal gasification operation the Corps cannot dredge the federal channel. WPS will have to remove the polluted sediment prior to any Corps dredging activities.

Discussion on Water Levels & Erosion Issues

P. Braun explained the handout which showed the historic and projected lake level chart that Army Corps of Engineers produced. The Lake Michigan water level is projected to surpass the all-time high level that was established in 1986. P. Braun stated that since water levels have been recorded Lake Michigan has fluctuated almost 6 feet from all-time low to all-time high.

P. Braun also showed the Commission a GIS mapping tool that the Community Development created which was designed to locate and prioritize areas along the Lake Michigan shoreline that are being affected by erosion caused by the lake levels.

Harbor Commission Membership and Appointments

The Commission discussed that the term for F. Radandt and M. Dailey will be expiring on June 1, 2020; after a brief discussion F. Radandt stated that he would be willing to serve another 3 year term on the Commission. The Commission discussed that M. Dailey was having some health issues and would no longer be able to serve on the Commission.

City of Manitowoc's 2020 Harbor Assistance Program's Annual Statement of Intentions

P. Braun detailed the potential harbor projects that are listed in the 2020 Statement of Intentions. P. Braun said that there are 8 potential projects listed, some have been listed in previous years and that there is no penalty in listing a project. The Statement of Intentions is a listing of any project that may occur in the next 3 years. To be eligible for Harbor Assistance Program funds the project must be listed in the Statement of Intentions.

F. Radandt made a motion to approve the 2020 Statement of Intentions, R. Larsen seconded the motion.

Annual Tonnage and Bridge Lift Reports.

The annual tonnage and bridge lift report was handed out at the meeting. The Commission discussed that report that the Department of Public Infrastructure compiles every year. P. Braun stated that there were a couple edits to the report. The updated inbound tonnage for 2019 was 205,435 tons and the outbound tonnage was 109,857 tons with the total tonnage moved through the port of Manitowoc equaling 315,292 tons. In 2018, the tonnage was 161,512.

Signage & Rules for the Transient Dock Facility

P. Braun referred to the draft sign and rules attachment in the Commissioners packets. The rules in the packet were a draft for discussion purposes on how the new transient

dock located between the 8th Street bridge and the Wisconsin Maritime Museum should be regulated. The Commission felt that the 30' maximum boat length was too short and that the 24 hour maximum stay should be shortened to 4 hours. The Commission also agreed that registering with the Marina's store is preferred than registering with the bridge tenders. The Commission also wanted an ordinance drafted by the Attorney's Office that would give the Police Department authority to issue citations to any boat owner that is docking at the transient facility longer than the 4 hour maximum.

Discussion Regarding Status of Former CN Railroad Property.

P. Braun stated that there were 3 maps in the Commissioner's packet; the first is an aerial showing existing conditions, the second is a concept plan and the third is the two overlaid together. P. Braun explained the concept plan for the redevelopment of the site; explaining the anticipated land uses and infrastructure that is proposed. P. Braun stated that he just wanted to keep the Commission apprised of the activities occurring on the property.

Discussion Regarding Harbor Mapping Project – School of Freshwater Sciences, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

J. Houghton, Research Specialist from UWM was on the speaker phone to explain their project. J. Houghton explained that the Freshwater Sciences Department is conducting a mapping project of the Manitowoc Harbor and three other harbors; Two Rivers, Sheboygan and Port Washington. The goal of the mapping project is to help stakeholders in each community to enhance ecosystem services so that diverse recreational opportunities, and a recreational economy can flourish alongside industries that employ area residents. The project runs through 2021 and technical GIS maps and more accessible public maps will be produced.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be selected at a later time.

Adjournment

F. Radandt made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:25p.m. L. Kummer seconded the Motion.

Paul Braun

Harbor Master