

HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

October 18, 2022
4:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Peter Allie
Lee Kummer
Dave Luckow
Ted Jennejon
Fred Radandt
Rich Larsen

STAFF PRESENT

Paul Braun, Harbor Master

OTHERS PRESENT

None

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Doug Borys
Scott McMeans
Ald. Bill Schlei

Approval of the Minutes from the March 8th, 2022 Meeting

Motion made by L. Kummer and seconded by S. McMeans to approve the meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

New Business

Update on S.S. Badger Car Ferry Project

P. Braun stated that there was an accident this past sailing season where the Badger did some damage to the car ferry loading dock apron. Collins Engineering is doing a structural inspection to determine the extent of the damages. P. Braun said Collins Engineering did a structural inspection prior to the 2022 sailing season so they will have a good base line to use to compare inspections.

P. Braun also explained the fence project that the car ferry installed around their grounds to meet security concerns related to Homeland Security. The car ferry worked with the Coast Guard related to security issues.

Update on Fender Dock System adjacent to City Hall and the Sheet Cap Replacement East of the Briess Elevator

P. Braun stated that the wood fender docking system for transient boaters adjacent to City Hall was finished this past summer. McMullen and Pitz was awarded the job, after a public bidding process. The system entailed a single 12" x 12" wood fender system that runs for 260'. The City will promote the area to boaters on their website.

P. Braun detailed the sheet cap replacement project east of the Briess Elevator. McMullen & Pitz reinstalled the cap after rock barges and other vessels have damaged. In addition to replacing the sheet cap, larger tires were placed along the sheet wall to prevent further damage in the future.

Update on Lake Michigan Water Levels

P. Braun explained that the current Lake Michigan water levels are 10" lower than this time last year but are 7" higher than the long monthly average. Water levels are 34" lower than the highest monthly average for any month and 37" higher than the lowest monthly average for any month.

Discussion Regarding Remote Control Sailboats in the Marina

P. Braun stated that he received a phone call from salmon fisherman saying that there are 6 small buoys in the northerly portion of the marina in the area of the blue rail. The fisherman said that he and others have lost their lures when salmon get tangled in the buoys. R. Larsen, who operates the marina and leases the area, said that he gave permission for the remote-control club to place the buoys. The Commission discussed the matter and stated that they don't have any issues with the buoys remaining in place and if more complaints are stated in the future the issue can be revisited at that time. The Commission felt that there are other fishing locations available in the marina.

Update on Confined Disposal Facility Activities

P. Braun briefed the Commission on the status of the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF). The Army Corps of Engineering owns the facility and is in the first year of a 3 year Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) which is looking into the long-range solution to future dredge materials. The CDF is nearing capacity and the DMMP will look at various alternatives for dredge materials. The original CDF was 100% paid by federal dollars but any new dredge material facilities will be a cost share between the City and Army Corps.

P. Braun also stated that a landscape architect student from UW-Madison School of Architecture will be doing his year long Capstone project on the long term uses on the CDF and how it interacts with the downtown. The City has never done any type of long-range master plan for when the CDF is full and turnover to the City.

Update on the Revetment Work along Lake Michigan and the Army Corps of Engineering's Section 14 Program.

P. Braun explained that the City, Central Brown County Water Authority (CBCWA) and Army Corps continue to work on the Section 14 grant program which would be used for improving the revetment along the Lake Michigan shoreline from the Yacht Club property to an area just north of the Waldo Blvd roundabout. The Corps has estimated engineering construction costs which are substantially more expensive than what CBCWA had paid in 2020, so the Corps will revisit their budget numbers and try to determine actual numbers by reaching out to a contractor for their insights.

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 5:40 p.m. L. Kummer seconded the Motion.

Paul Braun

Harbor Master