

HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2024
4:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Peter Allie
Lee Kummer
Doug Borys
Fred Radandt
Jeremy Anderson
Rich Larsen
Christopher Born

STAFF PRESENT

Paul Braun, Harbor Master

OTHERS PRESENT

Dan Koski

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Ald. Bill Schlei
Scott McMeans

Approval of the Minutes from the October 11th, 2023 Meeting

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

New Business

Review of Harbor Assistance Program Annual 3 Year Statement of Intentions

P. Braun explained that the City annually submits to WisDOT the Statement of Intentions; the intentions are intended to make any commercial port project eligible for the Harbor Assistance Grant dollars. The statement of intentions does not commit the City to any projects. P. Braun detailed the 8 potential projects in the port of Manitowoc to the Commission. The statement of intentions is due to WisDOT on or before April 1.

Update Regarding the 2024 Harbor Assistance Program Recipients.

P. Braun detailed the 3 entities that were awarded the Harbor Assistance Grants. Briess Malt & Ingredients Inc. received \$1 million to dredge the bed of the Manitowoc River and refurbish a ship unloading system which is used to import and export commodities. St. Mary's Cement received \$562,000 to dredge the bed of the Manitowoc River to restore navigation depth to support shipping at the St. Mary's Cement Facility and City Centre LLC received \$1.34 million to construct a load-out pad for assembling, testing, and shipping new crates designed by Konecranes Inc. P. Braun explained that the City has no financial responsibility with the grants; the funds are awarded to the City which in turn transfers the grant to the private entity.

Update – Manitowoc Marina “A” Dock Project and Boating Infrastructure Grant.

P. Braun updated the Commission on the status of the grant application. The grant was submitted in 2023 and the City should find out in the next few months if they were awarded or not. The application is competing against all other marinas and port throughout the country. The grant application is in the amount of roughly \$440,000 which cover 75% of the grant eligible costs related to any transient boat slips.

R. Larson stressed the importance of continually investing in the maintenance of the marina; he commented that the City of Sheboygan's marina is facing maintenance and replacement costs in the area \$15 - \$20 million dollars and that they have permanently closed one of their docks which is used for the larger sized boats. The Manitowoc Marina has experienced an increase in inquiries and rentals from boat owners who are leaving Sheboygan.

P. Braun concluded by stating that MSA is at about the 80% construction drawings stage. The plan is to put the Dock "A" project out to bid in summer with the old dock being removed in fall 2024 and installation in late winter or early spring in 2025.

S.S. Badger Car Ferry Update

P. Braun commented that the car ferry is scheduled to start running on June 14th or maybe sooner if the work on the loading dock in Ludington is completed earlier.

Update on 2023 Port Tonnage and Bridge Lifts

P. Braun reviewed the tonnage and bridge lift report with the Commission. The Commission discussed the importance of the report and that it shows the importance of the activities that occur in the port.

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 5:30 p.m. D. Borys seconded the Motion.

Paul Braun

Harbor Master