

MINUTES OF WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 14, 2011

A meeting of the Waterways Management Commission was duly called and held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Dartmouth Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Joseph Hannon. The following people were present: Roger Race, Chris Hemingway, Michael Gill, and Gerald Clark. Absent were Warren Hathaway and Gerald Hickey. Also present was Mr. Steven Melo, Harbormaster.

At 7:05 p.m. the public meeting was adjourned for a public hearing.

At 8:10 p.m. the public hearing was adjourned and the public meeting was reopened.

Mr. Hannon reviewed the agenda for the evening. Mr. Race moved to accept the agenda. Mr. Clark seconded. So. Moved.

The minutes of the meeting of May 10, 2011 were reviewed. Mr. Clark moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Race seconded. So Moved.

New Business.

New Employees. Mr. Melo said that the Select Board has approved two part-time Assistant Harbormasters. Mr. Tyler Gomes, a first year cadet at Mass Maritime and Shawn Rainer who has retired from the Sheriff. He said that both have passed boat tests and both will bring different skills to the department. He said that Mr. Julian Race will be moving out of state for another job. He said that Mr. Race has been a big asset for the department. It was moved and seconded to thank Mr. Race for his services to the Town. All in favor.

F/Y 2012 Budget. Mr. Melo said that the budget was approved at Town Meeting for a total budget of \$256,244.76. He said that the Town overhead is approximately \$30,000. Mr. Hannon noted that it doesn't include the appropriation at Town Meeting for the Regrid. Mr. Melo said that appropriated money would be put in an article.

Old Business.

Shellfish Report. Mr. Hannon said that no funds are appropriated for the Shellfish Department. Mr. Melo said that the subcommittee wanted a management plan for that department. He said that the Finance Committee voted not the fund a management plan for this department. He said that the subcommittee would continue to meet on this subject. He suggested that the shellfish people should be involved in the subcommittee. Mr. Hannon said that this department would be kept separate from the Waterways Enterprise.

Rogers Street Update. Mr. Hannon said that they have a proposal from Souza-Branco to remove the lights from the NStar poles and reinstall on our own pole for \$2,300. Mr. Melo said that he sent out six bids and this was the only response. Mr. Hemingway moved to accept the bid. Mr. Race seconded. So moved. Mr. Melo said this bid is pending Conservation Committee approval for pole installation.

Waterways By-law Subcommittee. Mr. Clark said that they met today for the second meeting with the Town Administrator and Town Counsel. He said that the parking fines were discussed. He said that they are part of the Town By-Law revisions. He said that Town Counsel would review our recommendations. The final changes will go to the Fall Town Meeting.

"Parking Enforcement Official" Status. Mr. Melo said that this was a by-law adjustment. He said that the Town bestowed "Parking Enforcement Official" status for tickets; his assistants will also be authorized under the new by-law.

Harbormaster Schedule. Mr. Hickey requested this on the agenda. Mr. Melo said that Mr. Hickey would like to see him schedule vacations and have it approved by the Town Administrator. He said that he hasn't had time to schedule any vacation with all the tasks that have been added. He said that the vacations he scheduled for last year had to be changed due to classes, etc. Mr. Hemingway is concerned about Mr. Melo not taking time off. Mr.

Melo noted he doesn't receive overtime pay or comp time for the extra work he is doing, just grief about it. Mr. Melo said that he was told that Lisa Litos is look for full time work and may find it elsewhere if she doesn't get it here. He said the boaters desperately need additional full-time coverage, especially if taking his vacations is going to be a Commission priority. Mr. Race said that we might have to raise the rates to cover additional coverage.

Harbormaster Report.

Monthly Budget Update. Mr. Melo said that the updates are included in the package. He said the revenue is slightly less than last year. He said that "Nonquit Marsh" is proposing to buy an aluminum ramp for the pump out dock. He said this would be another project on his plate. Mr. Melo said that it would be a more accessible ramp. Ms. Nilsen said that an engineer would be required for a job this size. Mr. Gill said that the DPW Engineering division has worked on this area. Mr. Hannon asked if a vote is required to enforce this offer. Mr. Hemingway moved to accept this. Mr. Race seconded. So Moved. Mr. Hemingway asked if the ramp is safe for the public in the present condition. Mr. Gill said it is not. Mr. Melo is not sure; he said he will look into this. Mr. Hannon said that Mr. Melo should fix it so no one could get hurt.

Public Comment.

Mr. John Hayes said that with the projects pending Ms. Lisa Litos should be given full time employment. Mr. Hannon said this is under consideration.

Mr. Barry Walker said he is confused with the Shellfish Division. He understood Mr. Melo was the Shellfish Constable. He feels that the Harbormaster and Town Administrator should meet and come to an understanding; if it isn't feasible another option should be looked into. Mr. Hannon said that keeping it separate from the waterways funds is a big issue. Mr. Melo said he cannot enforce the Shellfish regulations without being sworn in as the Shellfish Constable under state law; that has not been done as far as he knows. He is worried about the time required to do that job properly. Mr. Walker said he understands this but some direction should be taken with this. Mr. Hannon said that at one time the two departments were together but then they were officially separated by vote of Town Meeting in 1995. Mr. Walker believes that there is a \$2,200. Shellfish budget, Mr. Melo said he was told that this money is no longer available.

Mr. Walker said that regarding the Shellfish Management Plan, he called Mr. Neil Churchill and Mr. Churchill said he could be available to meet with the WMC to help draw a plan. Mr. Race said that they met with Mr. Churchill but he didn't offer to write any plan. Mr. Walker said he is willing to help with this.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Vieira