

Fairhaven Marine Resources Committee
Meeting Minutes: April 1, 2021

Present Via Zoom: Harbormaster Tim Cox, Chairman Mike McNamara, Robert Hobson, Andrew Jones, Selectman Robert Espindola, and Dave Hebert & Michelle Potter.

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MASS.

Eric Dawicki was absent.

Chairman McNamara called the meeting order at 6:30 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Hobson made a motion to approve the March meeting minutes. Mrs. Potter seconded. Selectman Espindola would like the minutes amended to note he had partial attendance. Minutes then passed unanimously.

Harbormaster Updates:

The ramp at Seaview is being repaired. It will be put back in mid-April.

The boats have been pulled out of the shed. Some minor repairs will be done on them. All the boats are getting new radios. All boats will be launched after the installations.

He is working with the Fire Department to pick a low tide in mid-April to power wash Hoppy's and possibly Pease Park boat ramps.

Mr. Hobson asked about crack in the cement at Hoppy's. Harbormaster Cox said that he would have to contact the State as they pay a percentage of that. He will contact Doug Cameron.

Chairman McNamara asked for dredging updates. Harbormaster Cox stated he spoke to Foth Engineering they will begin the study of West Island dredging with the next month. Regarding the Phase V dredging, Harbormaster Cox informed the committee that he has been meeting, along with Foth, the residents who are interested in dredging their properties to go over the timeframe and contract details.

a. Pump Out Rules & Regulations

The State requested a copy of the Town's & City's pump out rules & regulations. We don't currently have pump out rules and Harbormaster Cox would like them put into the new draft of the Waterway Rules & Regulations. He presented a drafted a copy using nearing town's current regs.

Mr. Hobson asked about boats power washing and who regulates it. Mr. Jones & Mr. McNamara established that this issue is regulated by the state.

Shellfish Updates:

a. Northeast Maritime Aquaculture Site Application

Morgan Dawicki speaking on behalf of NMI. They have requested a two-acre aquaculture site so they can use as a course of study at the school in the near future. They have submitted their request letter to the Town along with the \$100.00 down payment.

Harbormaster Cox noted that they have met with the State and plotted a preliminary area for the new site. He presented this to the committee. They are looking for Town approval to move forward. Harbormaster Cox also noted this is an 8-12 month process. Mr. Hebert made the motion to support the request from NMI. Mrs. Potter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Progress at Union Wharf:

Harbormaster Cox displayed some pictures of the ongoing construction at the Wharf while explaining some of the work that is happening. The Town is now looking into tarring the entire wharf.

Chairman McNamara then read a letter from Town Council regarding the issue of the land swap at Union Wharf. Discussion ensued regarding opinions about the agreement.

Harbormaster Cox updated the committee on the water situation at the Wharf. He has three quotes coming shortly.

Any Other Business:

Mr. Hobson asked if the Waterway Rules & Regulations are approved at Town Meeting in June, when will they begin to be enforced. Selectmen Espindola believes as soon as it is adopted but will validate that with Town Council.

Mr. Hobson asked for an update on the opening of the coves. Harbormaster Cox stated he will be closing North Cove and opening Round & Senior. The date is to be determined by the State.

The next meeting will be May 6, 2021.

Motion to adjourn made by Harbormaster Cox, Mr. Hebert seconded. Passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Sheri Souza
Recording Secretary

Approved 5/6/21