

WISCASSET WATERFRONT HEARING
OCTOBER 8, 2009

MINUTES

Present: Bryan Buck, Cindy Collamore and Richard Lutes

Also present: Peter Dalton

Absent: Matt Corwin and Susan Robson

1. Call to Order

Bryan Buck called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. Review and Approval of September 10, 2009 Minutes

Bryan moved to accept the Minutes of September 10, 2009. Cindy seconded. Vote 3-0.

3. Navigation Channel Mooring Removal

The Harbor Master plans to move three moorings out of the navigational channel at no expense to the owners through the use of grant funds. All three have been allegedly dragged by other boats or have moved away from their original location.

The three moorings belong to Roy Farmer, Clark Jones and Clark Jones' grandson.

The Harbor Master recommends servicing Clark Jones' mooring at the time it is pulled up.

Bryan makes a motion to endorse the Harbor Master and clear the channel and have it go in front of the Board of Selectmen with the Waterfront's approval. Dick seconded.

Arthur asked for more discussion on the matter.

The grant runs from September 1st, 2009 to the end of February 2010. The grant allows six months move the three moorings out of the navigational channel, move any abandoned moorings, and move three or four more that are too close to each other. The cost to the owners who elect to move during the grant period is zero.

Bryan motions to accept the Town Manager's and the Harbor Master's reports on the navigational channel mooring removal and votes to move forward. Cindy seconds. Vote 3-0.

4. Harbor Master Report

In response to a newspaper article, Peter Dalton responds to the Harbor Master boat usage. The vessel doesn't run on gas. It runs on diesel. It has a 100 gallon tank that was filled last year. It currently has 3/8 of a tank left. Peter only runs the boat when needed; to set moorings, put the upweller in, and bail out boats.

The whole commercial pier is scheduled to be re-skinned so town trucks don't go down through when they are dumping snow.

The pier is made of 2-in hemlock with several cross-members that are cracked. Re-skinning the top surface will re-enforce the load bearing weight. The cost of the job will be about three to four thousand dollars. The cost of the town crew will come out of the Harbor Master's budget.

Bryan makes a motion to accept the Harbor Master's report. Dick Lutes seconds. Vote 3-0.

5. Other Business

Permission was asked to place scarecrows on the Main Street Pier. Arthur replied that no request needed to be made to the Selectmen.

The vendors made a request to leave their buildings on the pier for the winter. There would be less damage to the pier from removing and replacing the buildings and it would be less of an economic burden for vendors, as it costs up to \$2500 to remove them.

There is no history of vandalism to the buildings during the winter. Insurance would be needed year-round.

The parking lot is on MDOT land and the Town is not responsible to plow. The vendors would not need to ask permission to snow plow.

There was a discussion of the ordinances and a consensus to re-address the policies. Currently the vendors have two weeks following October 15th to remove their buildings. The committee recommends changing the dates in the policies, which are currently subject to change by the Selectmen.

Bryan makes a motion to endorse the shopkeepers leaving their buildings over the winter due to rough economic times.

Cindy requests more discussion and recommends the vendors pursue generating a more concrete year-round rental agreement.

There are currently 5 vendor spots, but room for six. Frank Sprague mentions he was grandfathered into his current rental space on June 28, 2006. He currently rents three spots and pays 80% of the power on the dock.

Bryan makes a motion for the Waterfront Committee to endorse leaving the vendor buildings over the winter. Dick Lutes seconds. Vote 3-0.

The dates of the Co-Op started October and runs through December. The sales are good, selling lobster and shrimp. The lobstermen work in cooperation with the Co-Op.

A request was made to hang a sign naming the pier. –Tabled.

Discussion about a plaque of the old ships on the pier. – Tabled.

Discussion of who should take the Minutes at Waterfront Committee meetings.

Bryan makes a motion to have Lisa continue taking the Minutes, with the Town Manager as a back-up and a Committee Member as a second back-up. Cindy seconds. Vote 3-0.

6. Adjourn

Bryan makes motion to adjourn. Cindy seconds. Adjourn 7:48 p.m.

Minutes by Lisa Garman