

MEETING MINUTES OF HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
APRIL 3, 2019

The West Haven Harbor Management Commission held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 in the Harriet North Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioners Pacapelli, McKeon, Flynn, Pimer, Assistant City Planner Killeen, Public Works Liaison Paine and Consultant Geoff Steadman. Absent was Commissioner Potter.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Pacapelli at 6:35 PM.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Commissioner McKeon made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 6, 2019, seconded by Commissioner Flynn and passed.

Regular Meeting

1. Update on Boat Launching Ramp Feasibility Study - Commission Input

Mr. Killeen stated the consultant is working on a proposed restoration plan for wetlands on the City's compost site as proposed compensation for the potential disturbance of the State DOT's wetland mitigation project on the State DEEP site. Mr. Killeen is also working on a spreadsheet analysis of all properties that might have the potential for a boat ramp to show the pros and cons of individual sites. He feels this will be beneficial for the meeting with DOT and DEEP, based on input from DEEP and the CT Port Authority. Mr. Killeen did meet with Lou Esposito to make him aware of this issue in case legislators need to be brought in to ask the agencies to give this their full attention. Mr. Steadman informed the commission that an announcement of grant funds for small harbor improvement projects is expected to be published by the CT Port Authority on April 22.

2. Proposed Salt Marsh Creation project at Sandy Point

- a. DEEP Permit Consultation Form (Draft) and NH Harbor Improvement Project Description; and
- b. Report on March 8 Meeting with Army Corps of Engineers

A copy of the DEEP Permit Consultation Form was distributed to the commission members for their review. Mr. Killeen introduced Judy Schieffle from the New Haven Port Authority to answer any questions that may come up. Ms. Schieffle explained the dredging project will widen and deepen the channel. There will be 4.3 million cubic yards of materials produced. The Army Corps suggested disposal sites for the dredging material. Disposal sites suggested were Morris Cove area, creating an oyster habitat, rock placement at west Breakwater and Central Long Island Sound Disposal Site. DEEP would like a concurrence from this commission that the commission approves the project including the proposed creation of a salt marsh adjacent to Sandy Point utilizing a portion of the dredge spoils from the project. The commission will be able to review plans in the future. Mr. Killeen presented aerial photos of Sandy Point. Mr. Paine explained under Sandy Point there is an outfall pipe which needs to be

replaced. He also described the flow of the water and the erosion that occurs from the storms and stated anything that is located in the area of the proposed wetland creation project will most likely get washed out. Commissioner Flynn stated the plan is not feasible because it blocks the outflow of Old Field Creek. Commissioner McKeon discussed removing the sand from the channel and keeping it far away from that channel so it doesn't silt into the channel again. Mr. Steadman suggested that the commission agree to let the harbor improvement project move forward in the approval process but voice the commissions' concerns that this project does not reflect what is in the Harbor Management Plan and the commission would like to review the detailed plans when they are submitted for a permit. Commissioner McKeon stated this plan needs to be in compliance with the Harbor Management Plan and whether there will be a public benefit. Mr. Killeen stated he will respond that there is not enough information and to state the concerns of the commission that were discussed tonight. Commissioner Flynn made a motion to send a letter to support the dredging project and to raise concerns about the potential impact that this proposed wetland creation will have on the harbor management area and policies of the Harbor Management Plan, seconded by Commissioner McKeon and passed.

- c. Continued Discussion of proposed budget for FY 2020 (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020)

Mr. Killen stated a letter was submitted to the Mayor and the Council on behalf of the Commission in support of the Harbormaster's budget. Also, Mr. Steadman is willing to be retained on an hourly basis as a consultant to the Commission. Commissioner Flynn made a motion to retain Mr. Steadman as a consultant, seconded by Commissioner McKeon and passed.

3. REFERRALS

- a. Text Change Application – File # ZR 19-008. Applicant proposes to change multiple sections of the Zoning Regulations to add a new use, "Recycling Processing Facility", by adding a new definition and amending Table 39.2 to allow this use by Special Permit in the Light Manufacturing and Industrial Planned Development District. Applicant: 55 Industry Drive

Mr. Killeen explained that the only recycling allowed in West Haven currently is recycling of glass, bottles and wood, etc. This proposal would create a regulation to enable the recycling and crushing of construction materials, such as asphalt and concrete. The proposed amendment would allow this use by Special Permit in the IPD and LM zones. Portions of the IPD Zone are located along the West River and abut the Harbor Management Area, which is in the jurisdiction of the Harbor Management Commission. This text change would recommend a use that is not presently in the regulations. A special permit process is necessary. Commissioner Flynn made a motion that the Harbor Commission has no concerns with the application as proposed, however, any special permit or site plan applications along or within the Harbor Management

area need to come before this commission for review, seconded by Commission McKeon and passed.

4. REPORTS OF STAFF AND COMMISSIONERS

ADJOURNMENT: 8:25 p.m.

Commissioner McKeon made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Flynn and passed.