

MINUTES OF BAY ST. LOUIS MUNICIPAL HARBOR COMMISSION

Date: Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Location: Bay St. Louis Conference Center, 588 Main Street, Bay St. Louis

The meeting convened at 3:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Ken Barbor, Chair, Chris Roth, Vice Chair; Charles LaFleur, J.P. Compretta and Mike Hemsley, alternate.

Absent: Commissioner Seal

City Officials Present: Chuck Fortin, Harbor Master and Paula Fairconnetue, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Ken Barbor, Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RE: January 26, 2016

Commissioner LaFleur moved, seconded by Commissioner Roth, to approve the minutes of September 29, 2015, as presented.

A vote was called for with the following response:

VOTING YEA: LaFleur, Compretta, Barbor and Roth

VOTING NAY: None ABSENT: Seal

HARBOR MASTER'S REPORT

Commissioner Compretta inquired about the status of the wave screen permit.

Chuck Fortin reported that the Corp of Engineers and the State are both on board with issuing the permit for the wave screen project, but the city is still waiting on the biological opinion from the National Marine Fisheries Services. The city has been notified that it can take 9 to 12 months for the NMFS to issue an opinion.

Chuck reported that the financial statements are not yet available. The comptroller has been engaged with auditors and resolving other old accounting issues.

The harbor is currently 40% over the occupancy rate we had last year at this time, and receiving a lot of inquiries for the summer. The 50' and 60' slips are full and only a few 45' slips are available. Reservations are being made for the Fourth of July holiday. A lot of transient business is expected over the summer.

The harbor is switching over to the Encode Accounting System, which the city uses. The move will make billing easier because the harbor and city are currently using two different accounting systems and the finance department has to duplicate entries into Encode. Once the harbor changes to Encode, billing entries for the harbor will automatically go into the Encode System.

Commissioner Roth inquired about the status of the city engineer providing a layout of the harbor that shows demarcation lines of the Corp of Engineers, State and County properties.

The Harbor Master reported that Jason Chiniche is working on the map and should have it available soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Alternate Commissioner

The Commission reviewed Ordinance No. 604-02-2016, “An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 547, Harbor Ordinance, to allow an alternate to vote.”

Discussion was had on the ordinance reference of two alternates serving on the board. Hemsley stated for clarification that the Council is willing to amend the ordinance to reflect that one alternate would be adequate.

Floating Roof for Events Deck

Discussion was had on the possibility of a Floating Roof, which is basically made up with sails strung between pylons. The roof would need to be supported by strong pylons and engineered for safety.

The Harbormaster informed the commission that the city is working on other projects that are more crucial to the harbor at this time. The city submitted a Tidelands application for the fishing pier extension. Application is in process for an extension of the day pier, additional restrooms, showers, laundry room and office at the south end of the harbor. These are high priority projects for the harbor; also, discussion is being had on construction of pier five. He asked the commission to submit a photo of what they have in mind for the roof and he would look for possible grants for the project.

Commissioner LaFleur inquired about a discussion the commission had at an earlier meeting regarding setting up an account for future maintenance of the harbor.

Chuck Fortin stated that an account is not currently setup. The matter should be discussed with the mayor and finance department at budget time. He suggested an approximate \$20,000 deposit per year in a reserve fund for maintenance items.

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A nomination was made by Commissioner Compretta to reappoint Commissioners Ken Barbor as Chairman of the Board, and Chris Roth as Vice Chair.

There were no other nominations from the floor.

A vote was called for with the following response:

Commissioner Compretta moved, seconded by Commissioner LaFleur, to confirm the reappoint of Commissioner Barbor as Chairman of the Board, and Commissioner Chris Roth as Vice Chair.

The next Harbor Commission meeting is scheduled for April 26th at 3:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Commissioner LaFleur moved, seconded by Commissioner Compretta, to adjourn the Harbor Commission meeting, there being no further business to discuss.

A vote was called for with the following response:

VOTING YEA: LaFleur, Roth, Barbor, Seal and Compretta

VOTING NAY: None