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TOWN OF WESTBROOK
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

UNAPPROVED MINUTES FOR JANUARY 24, 2023
WESTBROOK HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
866 Boston Post Road, Mulvey Municipal Building
6:00 p.m., South Conference Meeting Room

Attendance/Roll Call: John Rie, Chairman; Evan Cusson, Vice Chair; Dean Artkop, Andy Calderoni, Tom Fahey, Karl Gelotte, Gary Nolf, Harry Plaut, Harbormaster; and Ronny Stevenson

Absent: Dave Russell, Assistant Harbormaster; and Mike Panella

Guests Present: Peter Huta, Resident

Also Present: Recording Clerk Kathleen King

Call to order: Chairman John Rie called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

He welcomed Karl Gelotte as an Alternate Member of the HMC.

Motion to add to the agenda the LWRD License Application, for Wetmore's Marina, 362 Boston Post Road, adding slips in Section 1. The motion was made by E. Cusson; seconded by T. Fahey. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Minutes: October 25, 2022

Motion to approve the minutes from October 25, 2022 as submitted. The motion was made by R. Stevenson; seconded by E. Cusson. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Bills:

There were no bills.

Correspondence:

COP, Certificate of Permission - 128 Menunketesuck Road - to raise the road
SLR – Wetmore’s Marina – 362 Boston Post Road – to add boat slips in Section 1

Harbormaster’s Report:

H. Plaut reported that there are 3 (three) new Danger Rock Buoys. He said that he already has different sections of chain, shackles and anchors for the 3 (three) buoys purchased. One buoy will be placed south of Menunketesuck, one will be placed west of the island, and one will be placed over by Middle Beach. The 3 (three) Danger Rock Buoys will be installed in the spring.

H. Plaut said the sheet piling needs to be addressed at the Town Dock. The Town Dock is not under the jurisdiction of the HMC.

Chairman’s Report:

New Business:

J. Rie reported that he added \$1,000.00 to the HMC budget for Buoy Maintenance. Other than that change, the budget remains the same.

J. Rie has requested \$25,000.00 under Capital Reserve for dredging.

1. Annual Elections – Chairman and Vice Chairman

Motion to nominate J. Rie as Chairman of the HMC. The motion was made by R. Stevenson; seconded by E. Cusson. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Motion to nominate E. Cusson as Vice Chairman of the HMC. The motion was made by R. Stevenson; seconded by D. Artkop. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

2. Discussion of Policies and Procedures for New HMC/Police Boat

J. Rie reviewed the list of policies and procedures for the new HMC/Police Boat from D. Russell, Assistant Harbormaster. J. Rie was concerned about the “no towing” rule. Towing of other boats is not allowed due to liability issues.

J. Rie asked about patrolling for fireworks, etc. Patrolling is not allowed because a police officer would need to be on board the boat.

J. Rie is going to speak to D. Russell about helping a boat in distress. The concern of the HMC is that if they don’t help a boat in distress, it may take Seatow or the police time to get there, and that time could be critical.

J Rie will also discuss the shallow water limitation with Dave.

E. Cusson will be the designated HMC contact for the boat.

3. LWRD License Application for Wetmore's Marina, 362 Boston Post Road, adding slips in Section 1

Wetmore's Marina is doing away with their boat launch.

Motion to approve the LWRD for Wetmore's Marina for adding boat slips was made by E. Cusson; seconded by T. Fahey. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed. J Rie will sign and forward the HMC Determination form.

4. Discussion of 2023 Mooring Plans and Policies

R. Stevenson said there are issues with the mooring registration process. He knows of someone who tried registering for a mooring multiple times and was unsuccessful. H. Plaut said the person R. Stevenson was referencing had difficulty because he had an incomplete application.

There was a discussion about the applicant being responsible for submitting the GPS coordinates for their moorings. J. Rie said he will put something on the Town Web Site that it is recommended that the mooring applicant put in their longitude and latitude for their boat mooring.

A. Calderoni said he would order more boat mooring stickers for this coming year's mooring registrations.

All Patchogue River moorings are scheduled to be hauled for inspection/maintenance at the end of the 2023 boating season. If all the Patchogue Moorings are not rented this year, those not rented will not be reinstalled after hauling/inspection. H. Plaut said at this point, he has 1 (one) Patchogue Mooring rented for this coming boating season.

H. Plaut said he does not anticipate any open Patchogue River moorings. He said they were sold out last year, but not everyone put out a boat on their mooring. The HMC decided not to increase mooring fees this coming year. J. Rie said with the existing fee structure, there is \$9,600.00 in the account to pay for the mooring maintenance and removal of derelict or illegal beach moorings.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 p.m. was made by E. Cusson; seconded by T. Fahey. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathleen King, Recording Clerk