



**TOWN OF WESTBROOK**  
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES FROM AUGUST 27, 2019**  
**WESTBROOK HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**

**Attendance/Roll Call:** John Rie, Chairman; Evan Cusson, Vice Chair; Harry Plaut, Harbormaster Ex Officio Member; Bill Angelini, Bob Charrette, Tom Fahey, Gary Nolf, Ronny Stevenson and Andy Calderoni

**Excused Absences:** Lee McNamar, Dave Russell, Assistant Harbormaster

**Guests Present:** Howard “Bud” Kane

**Call to order:** J. Rie called the meeting to order and led the “Pledge of Allegiance” at 6:00 p.m.

**Bills to be paid:**

**Motion to** pay H. S. Platt Environmental \$200.00 to replace 2 permitted buoys that were removed because they were inadequate, and they needed to be put back in the water. This motion was made by T. Fahey; seconded by A. Calderoni. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

**Motion to** approve the time sheet for Kathleen King for \$113.40 was made by R. Stevenson; seconded by E. Cusson. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

**Motion to** pay Olsen Sanitation \$170.00 for the porta potty for July and August was made by R. Stevenson; seconded by E. Cusson. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

**Minutes: June 25, 2019**

**Motion to** approve the meeting minutes of June 25, 2019 as presented was made by E. Cusson; seconded by T. Fahey. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

**Correspondence:**

**Harbormaster’s Report:**

There were three transmittal forms for 3 deposits totaling \$460.00, and H. Plaut has \$80.00 still to submit.

There was discussion about placing the rock buoy and replacing red buoy #6A.

H. Plaut said he spent most of July answering questions about stickers and delivering and mailing out mooring registration stickers. He spoke to the gentleman who had bounced a check for his mooring registration, and that's been all cleared up.

There are close to 78 legal moorings in the water right now.

There was discussion about the "slow, no wake" buoys off of Stannard Beach. It is believed that they are being used to designate a swimming area. H. Plaut will follow up with D. Russell about this.

### **Chairman's Report:**

J. Rie said some people are not getting their mooring permits because they have a seasonal home with no mailbox, so the mailing is returned, or they have a permanent address out of the area and the sticker got mailed there. On the 2020 application, there will be a place to ask the applicant where they would like the permit to be mailed.

B. Angelini suggested that applicants come to the Town Hall to pick up their stickers, so there are no issues with mailing.

H. Plaut suggested an "early bird" registration which would allow people to purchase their mooring registration stickers at this year's rates. It would be an incentive for people to register early.

J. Rie submitted an article in Westbrook Events about the moorings, specifically the stickers, rules regarding moorings, etc.

#### **1. Discussion of handling of shoreline mooring permits and violations.**

There was discussion about requiring boat owners to insure their boats.

There was a discussion about mooring permit fees for 2020, and the commission voted to keep them at \$20.

There was discussion about charging mooring owners a fine for not registering their moorings and having them removed.

**Motion to** initiate a \$150.00 fee for unregistered moorings which will be pulled from the water for violations in the 2020 boating season was made by E. Cusson; seconded by A. Calderoni. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Commission members would like to get smaller stickers next year than the ones used this year. They would have a color for each year. No boat number would be required.

A. Calderoni offered to contact the sign company to ask about the colors that would be best in terms of what color writing will be best over the base color.

## **2. Letter to be sent to all current mooring holders.**

J. Rie drafted a letter to be sent out to current mooring holders. He would like to send a letter out at the end of September/beginning of October with a table with the mooring tackle requirements and a new registration form. Commission members agreed on the letter. He would like to amend the letter to gather more information from the mooring holder, to give more information to the mooring holder and to ask where the applicant would like the permit to be mailed.

E. Cusson suggested that there should be a disclaimer in the letter as well as the permit application that the mooring holder signs acknowledging that the boat owner is responsible for the safety of their own boat.

J Rie will discuss whether the disclaimer used by the Town of Old Saybrook will be acceptable for use by Westbrook.

## **3. Discussion of new mooring tackle requirements including winter sticks, labeling of moorings, etc.**

There was discussion about chain thickness and what would be suggested to mooring holders. Commission members agreed to ½". There was discussion about what the weight of the anchor should be. H. Plaut suggested a minimum of 100 pounds for a jet ski and a minimum of 200 pounds for a boat with larger boats needing heavier anchors.

## **4. Inventory of mooring tackle owned by Westbrook-Harbormaster to supply list of what is available.**

There are two buckets of chain, no shackles, the red #6 buoy that was not replaced, the pyramid was given to Mr. McCall and there were no stickers for "no wake." There are 3 floats (buoys) at the Transfer Station. About a half dozen buoys got moved to a container behind the high school as well as 2 #6 reflective signs, 1 green sign and stickers.

B. Angelini suggested that someone needs to go to the Transfer Station and to the container behind the high school to do a full inventory. Both R. Stevenson and B. Angelini were listing items that are at the Transfer Station and at in the container at the high school.

The marker buoys (rock, no wake, etc.) are usually pulled in early to mid-November.

H. Plaut said he can purchase mooring tackle at Kellogg Marine for a good price.

#### **5. Budget for mooring marker repair removal and replacement**

J. Rie said that in the special reserve fund for mooring maintenance, there should be enough for Patchogue mooring service and maintenance. He said there should be enough money to take care of what needs to be taken care of. A balance of approximately \$10,185 was in the fund as of the last printout from the Finance Department.

#### **6. Discussion of markers for hazardous locations; Paul Shlien letter; Markers off Stannard Beach, others.**

The rock mark on the east side of the Menunketesuck is missing.

A letter dated 7/2/2019 was received from Paul Shlien of Stannard Beach regarding a hazard he'd like to correct. He requested that the Town purchase a rock buoy to mark 3 dangerous rocks in from of Stannard Beach. There was a boat accident in that location last year, and he'd like to prevent anyone else from having an accident.

Commissioners would like H. Plaut and D. Russell to discuss the placement of that rock buoy, the missing rock buoy east of Menunketesuck, and any other buoys which should be placed to mark hazards and report back to the HMC at their next meeting.

#### **Old Business:**

There was no Old Business.

#### **New Business:**

##### **1. Opening of quotes received for mooring tackle and buoy removal, replacement and repair.**

The following two bids were received:

Beebe Dock and Mooring Systems and H.S. Plaut Environmental Company dba Sealite CT Distribution

##### **2. Height markings on bridges.**

The bridge heights have to be marked per law. This should be handled by the State Department of Transportation. The burden for the height marking should not fall on the Town; it should be handled by the State. H. Plaut will contact the DOT.

**Executive Session:**

- 1. Select vendor(s) for mooring tackle and buoy removal, replacement and repair.**
- 2. Pay schedule for Harbormaster.**

**Motion** to enter into Executive Session at 7:17 p.m. was made E. Cusson; seconded by G. Nolf. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

**Motion** to exit Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. was made E. Cusson; seconded by R. Stevenson. No motions were made, and no votes were taken. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

**Motion** to accept the quote and select the vendor H. S. Plaut Environmental Company dba Sealite CT Distribution for mooring tackle and buoy removal, replacement and repair was made E. Cusson; seconded by A. Calderoni. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

**Motion** to pay Harbormaster H. Plaut his yearly stipend of \$3,000.00 in monthly increments per the Town's suggestion was made E. Cusson; seconded by A. Calderoni. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

**Adjournment**

**Motion** to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. was made E. Cusson; seconded by T. Fahey. All members voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Kathleen King*  
Kathleen King  
Recording Clerk