

ST. GEORGE HARBOR COMMITTEE
St. George Town Office
MEETING MINUTES
February 19, 2019

The Harbor Committee meeting was called to order at 6:12 P.M. by Chairman Morris.
Members present were: Chairman Dan Morris, Ben Norton, Glen Hall, and Peter Henderson.
Also present: Randy Elwell (Planning Board liason), Harbor Master and Tim Polky (Town Manager)
Public Present: Jim Lee.

Any public comment? Not at this time.

Old Business:

Approve meeting minutes from January 22 as written by Board Secretary.

A motion was made by Hall, seconded by Norton, to accept meeting minutes of January 22. The vote was 4-0; motion carried.

New Business:

Harbor Master Report: Down in Port Clyde, there was a failure at the year round float system. The last piling out on the end of the float system tipped over the night before. Wednesday morning (2/20/19) it will be removed until a new piling can be put in. Outside float is tied back to where the garbage cans are. We don't need it right now and boats can shift until the piling can be driven.

10 Cold Storage fall out occurred a few weeks ago, everything is almost all filled in and covered. DEP and everyone was contacted and Jimmy Kalloch was able to fill it in sufficiently. Fabric underneath and then rock.

Harbor Master Selection Committee begins reviewing applications tomorrow. 7 applications have been submitted and the selection committee will consist of Harbor Master, Dan Morris, Randy, Bill Mroz, Tim Polky.

Jim Lee spoke up regarding Maine Harbor Master training course and whether the new Harbor Master would go to that training. It is a great program and the basic course is mandated by state. The basic course is a 12 hour course, some of it is boring depending on how much you know already. Doesn't have to be done this year, it just has to be done within a year of accepting the job of harbor master.

March 6 - Joint Meeting with Planning Board

One a motion by Hall, seconded by Norton, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING began at 7:00 P.M. Opened by Harbor Master.

PUBLIC PRESENT: Richard Bates, Tim Polky, Bob Cremonni, Jim Lee, Paul Campbell, and Evy Blum.

Why we would like this to happen: the fees have not changed in around 10 years, most costs for most things have risen since then, i.e. postage, office supplies, mooring lists. Dramatic increase in non-resident and non-tax payer individuals applying for berths in town waters. These additional revenues will help offset basic infrastructure, maintenance and repair cost.

What we're looking to do is increase resident recreational from \$20 to \$40. Non-resident recreational from \$100 to \$150, Resident Commercial from \$15 to \$25, Non-Resident Commercial from \$75 to \$100, Rental Mooring from \$75 to \$100, Service Mooring from \$20 to \$40, and Mooring Application from \$50 to \$75.

A couple years ago, there were way too many people who were on the waiting list, so we started to implement that if you're still on the wait list after two years, you have to reapply (therefore pay a fee again). None of the increases are punitive and are still dramatically lower compared to nearby towns.

Will help offset some of the pressures we've had in the past years.

Questions from the public:

Bob Cremmoni asked about thoughts about fees for using the floats? Harbor Master answered that he has tried not to do that. Definitely going to have to look at that in the future. We are lowering the limit on dinghy size and horsepower which will be instituted next summer. Harbor Committee will reexamine length and horsepower limit to see if things become more user friendly.

Bob Cremmoni also asked "do you have any idea of what percentage of the dinghy are resident versus non-resident? We consider a lot of summer residents to be full residents, if they pay their own taxes. True "resident" (183 days or more) we don't have the percentage of use. Almost all recreational moorings are summer folks.

Richard Bates asked what the board thinks is reasonable for a waiting list? Will the waiting list change because of these new fees? It is completely dependent on how many people are done with boating in a certain year. We've added some smaller boat moorings around the perimeter of the harbor. It may cut down on the waiting list itself but there is no way of telling how long people will be on the list. The bigger the boat, the longer the wait will be.

Bob Cremmoni asked if this will have any bearing on cold storage? No, it is completely separate.

Public Hearing ended at 7:21.

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal L. Tarjick
Harbor Committee Recording Secretary