



**Provincetown Public Pier Corporation (PPPC)
Judge Welsh Room - Town Hall
Meeting Minutes of Thursday, August 29, 2013**

Members Present: Kerry Adams (KA), Ginny Binder (GB), Carlos Verde (CV), Herbie Hintze (HH)
Members Absent: Scott Fraser (SF) (Conferenced In)
Other Attendees: Rex McKinsey (RM), Pier Manager/Harbormaster, Scott Chovanec (SC), Provincetown Police Department, Connie Boulos (CB), Administrative Asst.

Chair Kerry Adams called the Public Meeting to order at 5PM.

AGENDA

Presentation

Kerry Adams (KA), on behalf of the board, presented Lee Ash (LA) with an engraved gavel and inscription for her years of service. LA thanked the board and mentioned that in eight years of service she has learned that you cannot be guided by the problems but have to pick a dream and go for it. LA said that all members should be proud of their accomplishments over the last eight years. She wanted to also say that the board should continue to focus on a wave attenuation to keep our docks in good shape.

Public Statements

Resident Jim King wanted to formally read into the meeting minutes a letter he sent to LA. The letter is as follows:

‘Attention Lee Ash and all the Pier Corp Members:

I am requesting that the Pier Corps and/or the Harbormaster prepare a typical budget based on monitoring the harbor and pier activities as had been done in the past (prior to the inception of the “Marine Patrol Pilot Program”). If possible, I would like to know what the cost of operations for managing the pier would have been for the summer of 2013 if the Marine Patrol Program did not exist. Please include fuel costs (gallons used) and replacement materials such as anchors etc. I have made a similar request to the Police Chief in an attempt to compare and understand the actual cost of the Marine Patrol Program vs. business as usual (without the Marine Patrol Program).

If my request is vague in any way, or any clarification about what I am asking is needed please contact me via e-mail at jamesking@optonline.net, or by telephone at 914 456 7424.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,
James E. King’

He is requesting, as a concerned citizen, the above information. JK said the Marine Patrol Officer (MPO) program was based on 3 things: cooperation between the Harbormaster and the Police, cost savings, and increased safety. All of these have been proven false and the MPO Program is not viable or necessary for this town. The Pier should be managed by the Harbormaster, and police should have the Pier included in their foot patrol. That, with the camera system, will prove the MPO program is not necessary. Even though discussion is not encouraged for public statements, there were some comments. RM said he should have these numbers by next meeting and it was delayed in order to give a more complete picture of the program (program ends in Fall). JK does not want to know about the budget, but the actual cost of the MPO program and Harbormaster personnel verses police personnel. CV said that this cannot be judged when the program is active. SF also had a statement, but it was unrecognizable due to connection issues. JK said he will stop by the office to see RM and get clarification.

Special Agenda

Columbia Queen

Michael Gorman (MG) from the Columbia Queen (vessel containing rooms, restaurants, and entertainment) is attempting to bring the vessel for dockage to Provincetown. The business has started the process of learning the steps and being diligent to put them in a situation to be successful.

GB said that the regulatory environment for something like this is complex and for the PPPC to evaluate, the board would need feedback of local and state agencies for social and economic benefit and environmental impact. GB wants to make sure that the vessel would economically impact the town in a positive manner without cannibalizing other businesses and that the board can answer their constituents. To do that, more information is needed to give an opinion. MG said that the company had embarked with the state in searching for a location. The company is prepared to hire 35 to 40 local residents per season for servicing. MG said the company is geared to being part of the community and enjoys what Provincetown has to offer. Columbia Queen wants artists, writers, sculptors, etc. to be part of the ship. The company is looking to have a small piece of Provincetown while operating under the rules the city requires.

GB said the town will have to look at different angles and need the company's help to demonstrate economic and social benefits to make sure no unattended consequences occur. MB wants to be cooperative, but not in an intrusive way. HH had asked if there will be room on board for the hires to live due to the lack of housing in town. MG said that the Columbia Queen has 65 crew quarters and could also help house, besides crew, others groups that need assistance.

CV said it was a great idea, but the large vessel will produce more flow on the Pier and may cause structural damage. MG said the size is not that different from Provincetown II and the Pier is accustomed to that size already. MG said the vessel and tenants will not be interested in parking and instead is trying to develop a voucher system for the parking lot where guests would pay. Also, they have different ideas to possibly transport people and luggage back and forth. CV said that this will change the skyline and people are concerned. He has asked Columbia Queen to work with the town to give the PPPC more information.

Working Group Reports

No discussion ensued.

Pier Manager's Report

Truck Purchase

RM said an invitation to bid for surplus DPW vehicles was given to him, but Luis Ribas (LR) talked to the DPW and discovered the trucks will not serve the staff's purposes due to the cost of repair. The office looked at a company based out of Marlboro that has a pre-approved contract with the state. A new F-250 truck, which would be suitable for the Harbormaster's Office, would cost \$30,440. This is comparable to what other departments would pay, and the money would come out of the \$50K capital reserve budget. KA likes the idea of a new truck because of the warranty that would come with it. The office is unsure of how long the warranty would be.

CV wants to see more options and referred to the motion in the last meeting of the Harbormaster presenting five options to the board. He was also wondering why RM is going through a state contract, and RM said it avoids the procurement process. The office wants to get the best truck for the money. Much discussion ensued about why five options were not brought to the board. KA and LR mentioned that the office did look at several different versions and wanted a new truck with these options because that best suited the needs of personnel.

GB is on board with the purchase as long as it saves time and expense for the staff and optimizes RM and LR's time on the Pier. RM said because of various issues and services the Harbormaster provides, the staff does need something substantial that will make the office more efficient. SF agrees with CV; RM went through the process but did not bring it to the PPPC. However, SF agrees in the principal of giving people the tools needed to do the job. RM gave the board the best guess and there needs to be a vote on it.

A motion was made to buy a \$30,440 truck for the Harbormaster's office through our Capital Reserve budget, but because of a GB's withdrawal of her 2nd and an abstain vote by SF (SF is not sure how the board can budget in future years for emergencies if we take from this fund) the vote was amended. CV withdrew the motion, and made a new motion for the PPPC to purchase a truck with no more than \$10,000.

Motion: Carlos Verde **2nd:** Scott Fraser

All voting done by roll call

Vote:

Yes: 3 (Carlos Verde, Scott Fraser, Ginny Binder)

No: 0

Abstain: 2 (Kerry Adams, Herbie Hintze)

Motion passes.

LR mentioned it may be easier for RM to go through the Board of Selectmen to request the town buy the HM office a truck due to it being a hardship for the department.

Labor Breakdown

The Labor Breakdown for the Nemo Storm/FEMA Grant was shown to the PPPC by RM. CV questions the breakdown and will bring it to the office to see RM for more discussion.

Priority List

RM read his task list to the board and explains where each priority stands.

Dredging Violation – Army Corp of Engineers has received the response concerning the violation.

Mooring Field Mapping – The projected finish date for the mapping will be September 15th, but the form development is ongoing and in process.

Security Cameras – The vendor has been chosen and RM is checking with Town Counsel. The cameras should be installed in 30 to 45 days.

Kayak/Beach Space/West End – The signs are up designating a no kayak area.

Floating Docks Work Group – RM is awaiting the Town Counsel's contract for this.

Army Corp of Engineers Permitted Structures/ Bring up to Spec Pier – RM said the specs are done but just needs to complete the cover letter. This should be completed by September 30th.

Financial Year End/Audit – The auditor has been notified and will be visiting the office for the records. The report will be back from the auditor by December.

Employee Evaluation Orientation – All evaluations are completed and submitted.

Squidding – The signs are up on the Pier designating areas in which squidding is allowed. The squid seems to be gone and there are less people on the Pier for fishing.

Maintenance/Barge – This is completed and the barge is back in the water.

Harbor Committee/Barry Clifford Mooring Field and other issues – Next meeting on this will be September 12th.

New Pumpout Boat – RM received the quote and expecting delivery of the boat next spring.

New Business

No discussion ensued.

The 09/12/13 meeting will be scheduled for 5:30PM.

