

Session 11-12, a Regular Meeting of the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Ulmer at 5:00 p.m. on December 14, 2011 at the City Hall West Conference Room located at 450 Sterling Highway, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS CARROLL, HARTLEY, HOTTMAN, HOWARD, ULMER, ZIMMERMAN

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER WEDIN

STAFF: PORT AND HARBOR DIRECTOR HAWKINS  
CITY MANAGER WREDE  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK JACOBSEN

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

The agenda was approved as written by consensus of the Commission.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no public comments.

### **RECONSIDERATION**

There were no reconsiderations scheduled.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. October 26, 2011 Regular Meeting and November 9, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes

Chair Ulmer noted corrections to the attendance sections of the minutes.

ZIMMERMAN/HOTTMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

### **VISITORS**

No visitors were scheduled.

### **STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS**

A. Port and Harbor Director's Report for December 2011

Port and Harbor Director Hawkins reviewed his staff report and responded to Commission questions.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

No public hearings were scheduled.

## **PENDING BUSINESS**

### **A. Capital Improvement Plan List Port and Harbor Projects**

The Commission discussed the projects that the Port and Harbor Improvement Committee is recommending for a bond sale. Councilmember Wythe was in attendance and participated in the discussion regarding the Committees recommendations. They addressed concerns about the necessity of a new harbormasters office and options of remodeling the existing building, building a new building, or recycling an existing building on the spit. Overslope may not be necessary or financially feasible.

City Manager Wrede advised that Council approved \$25,000 to get cost estimates for the projects. He will need good numbers to prepare the bond application. It was noted that there is a strong possibility that the harbor could receive matching funds and it will be advantageous to have the application in place and the fees established to be able to move forward.

It was explained that nothing is cast in stone at this point. There is still work to be done with getting cost estimates, establishing what projects are feasible, having a recommendation from the Commission, and having public hearings. There is no obligation to take any money until there is assurance that it's a project the city needs at a cost the city can afford.

The Commission briefly commented regarding the history of the overslope and also addressed the concept of a barge facility over by Pier 1. It could add moorage without a large investment and tie in with an uplands use. The Harbormaster has put out feelers and is waiting on input. If it seems feasible, he will bring it back for consideration.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Memorandum to Port and Harbor Commission from Port Director Re: Homer Moorage Rates**

Harbormaster Hawkins reviewed the staff report and the Commission made no recommendations.

### **B. Memorandum to Port and Harbor Commission from Deputy City Clerk Jacobsen regarding amending Regular Meeting times**

HOWARD/HARTLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM TO AMEND THE REGULAR MEETING TIMES AND SCHEDULE IT ON THE NEXT MEETING AGENDA.

There was brief discussion that it might be helpful to some of the Commissioners who have a hard time making summer meetings.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- A. Weekly Crane and Ice Report
- B. Deep Water Dock Report
- C. Pioneer Dock Report & Pioneer Dock Ferry Landings Report
- D. Water Usage 2011
- E. Monthly Statistical & Performance Report
- F. Workboats Magazine's "Davy's Demise" Derelict Vessels Salvaging Article
- G. Memorandum to Port and Harbor Advisory Commission from Port Director Re: 2011 Fish Expo Results Dated December 5, 2011
- H. Strategic Plan
- I. Lease Expirations as of 2/17/11
- J. Commissioner Attendance Schedule for City Council Meetings 2011 & 2012

Harbormaster Hawkins reviewed his memorandum regarding the Fish Expo results. He thought it was a positive experience.

Commissioner Zimmerman said he would not be available to attend the January 9, 2012 City Council meeting and Commissioner Howard said he would attend.

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

Jessie Nelson commented in agreement that the barge improvement that was mentioned seems like a good thing to move forward on. She said that she was on the Commission 25 years ago and even then there was talk of overslope. She wonders how long it will be before it happens.

### **COMMENTS OF CITY STAFF**

Harbormaster Hawkins reviewed the Commission's strategic plan and the Commission agreed to have it on the January agenda for updates.

### **COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER**

There were no Councilmember comments.

### **COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Ulmer commented that she was in San Diego and was surprised at how many people there have been to Homer, a lot of them on cruise ships.

### **COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION**

Commissioner Carroll appreciated Councilmember Wythe's comments. He has a better understanding of the bond process.

Commissioner Hottman agreed that it was good to have Councilmember Wythe here to pass on information.

PORT AND HARBOR ADVISORY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 14, 2011

Commissioner Hartley thanked Councilmember Wythe for coming and invited the other Commissioners to attend future Port and Harbor Improvement Committee meetings.

Commissioner Howard noted that parking will be on the agenda for January. He asked about Mariner Park camping fees. It was explained that camp fees are collected in an iron ranger and camp fee collectors monitor the area.

Commissioner Zimmerman thanked Harbormaster Hawkins for the moorage information. He commented that the Lease Committee met and made a recommendation to approve a \$1 per year lease for Pier 1 Theater.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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MELISSA JACOBSEN, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_