

November 29, 2023

SPECIAL HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING

5:30 P.M.

WASHBURN CITY HALL - 119 N WASHINGTON AVENUE

Commission Members Present: Nick Suminski; Candace Kolenda; Matt Crowell; Jared Trimbo; Caroline Nelson; Michael Wright; Rodger Reiswig

Commission Members Absent: None.

Municipal Personnel Present: Scott Kluver, City Administrator; Michelle Shrider, Marina Manager; Arianna Austin, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order – President Suminski called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of the November 15, 2023 Meeting – Shrider requested a clarification regarding not bubbling on Pier 4, but will bubble at the ramps at Piers 1, 2, and 3. Kolenda moved, and Trimbo seconded, to approve and place on file the November 15, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried 7-0.

Public/Member Comment – Reiswig requested an update on the Travelift tires.

Treasurer’s Report –

Payment of Invoices – Crowell moved, and Trimbo seconded, to approve the invoice from Marina Management Inc. in the amount of \$6.49. Motion carried 7-0.

Slip Transfers – None.

Marina Manager’s Report: Shrider reported on Travelift repairs and the inspection. Chris Dale, Harbormaster, will be removing the gear boxes. Travelift will be in the area and will pick up the gear boxes for repair. Chris will also be putting them back in after the repairs are complete. Travelift will not be charging labor costs for this repair. The inspection revealed overlooked hoses that will need to be replaced. The seat may also need to be repaired. The radiator leaks typically once per year and has been repaired in Ashland. Shrider noted a repair and fabrication company that she will contact for possible fabrication options. Injection pressure pump leaks and will need to be sent for repair this winter. Kolenda moved, and Trimbo seconded, to accept and place on file the Marina Manager’s Report. Motion carried 7-0.

Update on Repair Project at Boat Ramp and on the Water Line Repair – The water line work will begin tomorrow and take two to three days to complete. The boat ramp is significantly more damaged than initially thought. The surface further out is not level and will not allow the plates to lie flat. Discussion occurred on how far into the water repair needs to occur. Condition was noted, but no action will be taken at this time. New signage, in addition to the new power loading ordinance, will hopefully reduce the need for further repair.

Discussion and Action on Repair, Purchase, Rent or Lease on Loader – Kluver noted the three primary options, including purchasing a new electric loader, repairing the current 544 John Deere loader, and purchasing a new diesel loader. Pros and cons of the electric loader were discussed, including unknown reliability, distance to service providers, limited battery life, and sound reduction especially indoors. Clint from Ashland McCoy discussed warranty, service agreements and options, including a 344 John Deere loader which is comparable with the current loader, which is in stock in Merrill and available December 12. The current quote includes a \$5,000 trade value for the current loader. The estimated cost of repair for the current loader is \$15,000. The attachments are included in the quote from McCoy. Financing, renting and leasing options were discussed; however, interest rates are high, and financing is

unnecessary. Mike from Superior Cat discussed the Caterpillar 914 High Reach as the option closest to the current loader, which will be available in December, with necessary attachments. Financing options were noted. Warranty, service agreements and options were discussed. Kluver reviewed the bank account totals and recommended purchasing outright. Wright discussed the pros and cons of repairing the current loader. Although the machine meets the needs of the marina, there are several known issues that have not been addressed. Used loaders are very rare and expensive. The consensus of the commission is to go with a new diesel loader. Discussion occurred, comparing the John Deere and Caterpillar options. Kolenda moved, and Reiswig seconded, to purchase the 344 John Deere loader from McCoy. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion and Action on Purchase of Pick-up Truck/Plow – Suminski discussed quoted options. Ewald, which has the state contract, quoted less than Ashland Ford. Both options would need to be ordered and could range from three to nine months until delivery. Used options are limited and expensive. Suminski’s recommendation is to go with the Ewald option. Wright moved, Trimbo seconded, to purchase the option through Ewald with the 9’2” plow. Motion carried 6-1, with Kolenda opposing.

Discussion and Action on Amendment to 2023 Budget and/or Adjustment to Recommended 2024 Budget – Kolenda moved, Crowell seconded, to approve a budget amendment for the 2023 budget for \$178,955 for the purchase of the loader. 7-0. Crowell moved, Nelson seconded, to approve a 2024 budget amendment for \$55,586 for the purchase of the pick-up/plow. Motion carried 6-1, with Kolenda opposing.

Adjourn – Suminski adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Arianna Austin
Administrative Assistant