

# Harbor Commission

## Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 19, 2016  
5:30 p.m., Council Chambers



City of South Haven

### 1. Call to Order by Stephens at 5:30 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

Present: Nick Fazio, Greg Sullivan, Cathy Pyle, Tim Reineck, Steve Schlack, Tim Stegeman, Mary Stephens

Absent: None

Also present: John Marple, Marina Manager

### 3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Stegeman, second by Sullivan to approve the April 19, 2016 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented.

All in favor. Motion carried.

### 4. Approval of Minutes – March 16, 2016

Motion by Stegeman, second by Schlack to approve the March 16, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes as written.

All in favor. Motion carried.

### 5. Interested Citizens in the Audience Will be Heard on Items Not on the Agenda

None at this time.

### 5a. Financial Reports

Hosier reviewed the financial reports.

### NEW BUSINESS

### 6. Budget

Hosier noted she aligned this year's budget with what the previous harbor master had laid out. Set aside some money for the fish cleaning station and driveway for Black River Park; has budgeted a fair bit of money into that as the driveway is in deplorable condition and the fish cleaning station needs a lot of work.

Stephens asked for more detail which Hosier provided explaining that revenue is funds coming in, including hopeful place markers for state matching grants. Hosier noted the only grants we have heard back on are for the restrooms and skid piers, which were passed at last night's city council meeting.

Stegeman asked about putting a couple of signs at the boat ramp about the buoy and how to text for the data. Hosier stated we just ordered signs for some of the other sites and will look into that. Stegeman asked about an electronic sign to relay information in addition to the buoy information. Stegeman noted he thought it was in the 5-year plan. After discussion, Hosier stated she will look into the possibility of an electronic sign.

Stephens asked about a new roof for the South Side Marina to which Hosier responded that the city was awarded grants and matching funds were approved by council for the dock extension and South Side Marina. Hosier added that a metal roof is being considered since they last longer.

In response to a question by Reineck, Hosier explained that the city does have funds earmarked for the roof on the South Side Marina facility.

Hosier noted for the North Side Marina there are no substantial changes and no place markers for state grants since we were just awarded two. Again, Hosier carried over the same kind of line items amounts for the following year.

For the River Maintenance Fund, Hosier noted funding will carry on as in the past.

Stephens asked if we receive a contribution from DDA for River Maintenance Fund; Sullivan pointed it out in the budget. Sullivan asked about increasing the operating transfer in noting the commission had discussed doing that in the past. Hosier noted that would be for dredging and while she can look into that she does not see the amount changing.

Motion by Stegeman to city council to approve this budget with the addition of the sign for Black River Park and the electronic sign.

Hosier noted she is pretty sure the Black River Park sign can be gotten but doesn't know whether she can fit the electronic sign in this year's budget. After discussion, Stegeman modified his motion to leave out the Black River Park sign.

Second by Reineck.

All in favor. Motion carried.

## 7. Staff and member comments

Hosier: Answers to commissioners' questions from last month were emailed; the staff report regarding the Maritime District has been printed and that information placed at each computer.

Contacted by Yacht Club regarding Queen's Cup. Discussion ensued noting that Queen's Cup is a big draw and a big drain on resources both for the city and the yacht club.

Stegeman: Spoke about the weather buoys being installed and running; around July will be the midway point in the five-year deal. Suggested that Steelheaders do a Go-Fund-Me account to raise money to fund the buoy after five years. In response to a question from Stephens regarding how much it costs to maintain the buoy Stegeman said, "\$20,000 a year."

Hosier noted that the City of Holland will not have a buoy this year as they were unable to raise as much money as needed. Stegeman added that the three main contributors for the South Haven buoy are the City of South Haven, Van Buren County and Entergy at donations of \$5,000 each. Discussion ensued regarding grant money which Stegeman noted stops at getting the buoy, and suggested that commissioners try to see if anyone you know can support the buoy.

Fazio: Asked what information the buoy sign should include. Stegeman noted that our visitors may not know of the buoy. Reineck said the number to activate the foghorn should be included. Discussion regarding whether there is still a sign on channel with the foghorn information and whether the foghorn is operable at this time.

Stegeman: Last night City Council approved the special event request and noted that the tournament will be starting a little earlier in the day, so we hit sun up, necessitating a 5:30 a.m. bridge opening and a 6:00 bridge opening on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

Pyle: The clock at the water plant is ten minutes off. Inquired about when the gate/charging will begin. Hosier explained that the gate has been serviced. Marple noted that the fish cleaning station is going as of today, so the gate is going down.

Marple: VandenBosch bought a grinder from River Bend, which has been installed. The plan is to repair the other one and have two of them. In response to a question by Pyle, Marple said the fish cleaning station will be locked at night.

Reineck asked if the fish cleaning station at the North side is operational. Marple said he believes it is running.

Marple: Seasonals are down a little bit at Black River Park. The Maritime Museum Marina is full other than one one-year only slip. The North Side Marina is doing well. Not receiving a lot of calls on transients, which is worrisome, but have a lot of rendezvous on line.

Stegeman: This Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> is the South Lake Michigan Fisheries Workshop. <http://southhavensteelheaders.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Southern-Lake-Michigan->

[Fisheries-Workshop-2016.pdf](#) Steelheaders are having a membership drive at \$40 per year.

Stephens: Concerns about securing Marine Services in the harbor. All Seasons is up for sale. The Commission has an interest in retaining marina services including the gas dock and deep water haul-out. Asked for suggestions of what the commission can do.

Schlack said that as the city receives information it will be required to go to Harbor Commission. We as a Harbor Commission could make a statement that we want to be involved, but "I'm sure we will be involved." Stegeman noted Mrs. Geisler just passed away so more information may be available soon. Discussion ensued regarding the real estate listing, cost and whether the land and the business will be sold separately or together.

Sullivan: Asked about plans for a boating safety workshop in the next couple of months. Hosier is working on it and has been in conversation with the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

## **8. Adjourn**

Motion by Stegeman, second by Schlack to adjourn at 6:07 p.m.

All in favor. Motion carried.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Marsha Ransom  
Recording Secretary