

**CITY OF NORWALK  
SHELLFISH COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 1, 2021**

This meeting was conducted by Zoom/Teleconference.

**ATTENDANCE:** Steve Bartush, Joe Madaffari, Nick Sacchinelli,  
Thomas Mattera.

**STAFF:** Thomas Closter

**POLICE:** None.

**ADVISORY:** Joe Schnierlein, Water Quality Chair; Geoff Steadman,  
Consultant

**GUESTS:** John Romano, Harbor Commission Chair; Alan Kibbe, Harbor  
Commission.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Bartush called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**• March 4, 2021.**

Mr. Bartush noted that Sgt. Scully had dialed into the March meeting under Sgt. Lapak's account.

The following corrections were noted:

Page 1, under **ATTENDANCE**; **POLICE**: please change Sgt. Peter Lapak to Sgt. Greg Scully.

Page 3, under **NEW BUSINESS**, paragraph 1, line 1: please change "Mr. Hiltz" to "Mr. Hilts"

**\*\* MR. MADAFARI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 4, 2021 AS CORRECTED.**

**\*\* MR. MATTERA SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 4, 2021 AS CORRECTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

Mr. Bartush said that they had requested Captain Pramer regarding a formula for seed oyster fees. He said that he hoped to have that information next month.

## **TREASURER' S REPORT**

Due to the fact that the meeting is being held on the first day of the month, there is no report at this time.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

There was no report at this time.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A) Health Department –**

2.75 inches of rain as compared to 3.85 last year. The average rainfall over the years for March has been 4.7. The total rainfall for the year to date is 8.50 inches. On March 18, there was .88 inches. March 25th there was .72 inches and on March 28th, .90 inches of rain fell. There were no bypasses in March.

Mr. Closter was asked what the earliest date was that they would close the beach due to bacteria levels. Mr. Closter replied that they only monitor the beach from Memorial Day week-end to Labor Day.

### **B) Wastewater Treatment Plant -- No report.**

### **C) Water Quality**

Mr. Schnierlein updated the Commissioners about the recent letter from Ms. Jones about the Wilson Point discharge pipe and the Rowayton Yacht Club's lack of a pump out station. Discussion followed.

### **D) Permits –**

The permits are on sale at Fisherman's World.

### **E) Police -- No report.**

**F) Advisory** – No report.

**G) Harbor Management** –

Mr. Steadman gave a summary of the recent meeting regarding the water quality consultant.

Mr. Romano said he hoped that the Shellfish Commission sells many permits since the Harbor Commission’s budget was reduced by \$10,000.

Mr. Romano went on to speak about the decline in the public mooring along with the recent project identifying City owned property that abutting property owners have appropriated for their own private use.

**\*\* MR. MADAFFARI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE COMMITTEE REPORTS AS PRESENTED.**

**\*\* MR. SACCHINELLI SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Walk Bridge** – No report.
- **Eversource** – No report.
- **Fees** – No report

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Bartush said that he had learned how to reserve drone time and will be reserving some time for Sgt. Scully to do some observations on an on-going project.

Mr. Bartush said that he would like to have a discussion about the format for the applications. He requested that in the future, an application should be presented as one continuous, collated digital document.

Mr. Romano said that he would like to have copies of the “as built” plans. Mr. Steadman said that he believed they were required to submit the plans to DEEP and would call them to check into this.

Mr. Romano said that they would need to see what the mean low water, depth and other similar metrics on the applications.

• **165 Gregory** – The Commission reviewed the application. Mr. Romano said that there had been a significant amount of silting around that area, which raises concerns

about the depth. He also noted that the drawing did not show the full width of the river. Mr. Kibbe also expressed concerns about the size of the fairway for passing vessels.

Discussion followed about the accuracy of the drawing and measurements. It was suggested that they request a survey. Mr. Steadman said that at the upcoming Harbor Commission, the Harbor Commission should request more information. Mr. Bartush said that he had taken photos of the shellfish resources at the site.

- **13 River Drive** – Mr. Bartush displayed a photo of the site at full low tide. Mr. Kibbe narrated the presentation of the project. The request is to extend the dock with a float. He noted that the timber dock was not sturdy and also crosses over the property line. Discussion followed about potential staking in order to clarify the location of the proposed water ward terminus, include an opposite shore view in the drawing and suggest that having the pier located perpendicular to the seawall would be more beneficial.

- **38 Yarmouth** – Mr. Bartush said that he did not see any impact that the steps would have on the shellfish beds. Consultation – no objection to moving forward

**Next Meeting May 6, 2021 @ 7:15 p.m.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MR. MADAFFARI MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* MR. SACCHINELLI SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Services