

**CITY OF NORWALK
SHELLFISH COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 2, 2022**

The meeting was held via Zoom teleconference

ATTENDANCE: Steve Bartush, Chair; Joe Madaffari, Jonathan Pageler

OTHERS: William Mooney, Health Department; Capt. Tim Pramer, Joe Schnierlein, Water Quality Chair; John Romano, Harbor Commission Chair

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bartush called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m. A quorum was present. He said that both Mr. Mattera and Mr. Madaffari have retired, so the Commission has two open seats.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Mooney said that he had not left the May meeting, but he explained that Mr. Romano had been using Mr. Mooney's account and was the person who left the meeting. Mr. Mooney had not left the meeting at any time.

**** MR. MADAFFARI MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2022 MEETING AS CORRECTED.**

**** MR. PAGELER SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2022 MEETING AS CORRECTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one from the public present who wished to comment at this time.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no report at this time.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

There was no report at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A) Health Department –

Mr. Mooney said that in May there was 3.39 inches of total rainfall. During May of 2021, there was 5.90 inches of rainfall. Traditionally, there has been 4.47 inches of rainfall. There were three closures on May 7th, the 19th and the 27th, all of which were due to rainfall. There were no bypasses during May.

B) Wastewater Treatment Plant – There was no report at this time.

C) Water Quality –

Mr. Schnierlein said that they had discussed what would happen with the testing at Wilson Point Cove along with the Harbor Watch Group. Going forward, the focus will be on the north end of the Cove because of the storm sewers. So far the readings have been good.

Mr. Schnierlein said that there had been a major algae bloom recently. He said that he was concerned about the Dissolved Oxygen on the surface that was monitored by the USGS for June 1 and June 2nd.

D) Permits – Permits are available at Fisherman’s Cove.

E) Police – Mr. Bartush said that the new Police Marine Boat had arrived.

F) Advisory – Mr. Bartush reported that the water temperature in the Harbor was 64F.

G) Harbor Management –

Mr. Bartush asked if the postponed Harbor Commission meeting would be rescheduled as a Special Meeting or just wait until the next scheduled meetings. Mr. Romano said that they were developing an agenda. He added there were no pending Harbor applications.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Walk Bridge – DOT –** There was no report at this time.
- **Eversource –** There was no report at this time.
- **35 Rowayton Ave. –**

Mr. Bartush, Mr. Hilts and Mr. Sacchinelli have toured the property, along with a member of the Five Mile River Commission. Mr. Bartush said that there was an 120 foot total encroachment. He said that he would like to see it in line with the neighbor to the north.

Mr. Bartush stated the following recommendations into the record:

Total encroachment including the vessel beam not to exceed neighbor to the immediate north with vessel and widths. It is an active, natural shellfish bed area including oysters. Any construction boats or barges potentially on the ground at low water must be removed for the low tide to a mooring location and technical specifications to be approved by the Five Mile River Commission Harbor Superintendent. No dredging was applied for or reviewed. No benthic changes applied for or reviewed. Floating dock and ramp with winter removal and off-site storage. 18 inch float stops, a 5 foot right of way head clearance below the pier just below mean high water. The drawings are not official stamped surveys as is usual from Mr. Hilts. No vessel or structure other than piles or float stops may touch the bottom at mean low water. The use of best practices for sediment plume control and containment including incoming and or slack-tide work. The Shellfish Commission will conduct site work inspections to review compliance.

**** MR. MADAFFARI MOVED THE FOLLOWING:**

TOTAL ENCROACHMENT INCLUDING THE VESSEL BEAM NOT TO EXCEED NEIGHBOR TO THE IMMEDIATE NORTH WITH VESSEL AND WIDTHS. IT IS AN ACTIVE, NATURAL SHELLFISH BED AREA INCLUDING OYSTERS. ANY CONSTRUCTION BOATS OR BARGES POTENTIALLY ON THE GROUND AT LOW WATER MUST BE REMOVED FOR THE LOW TIDE TO A MOORING LOCATION AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS TO BE APPROVED BY THE FIVE MILE RIVER COMMISSION HARBOR SUPERINTENDENT. NO DREDGING WAS APPLIED FOR OR REVIEWED. NO BENTHIC CHANGES APPLIED FOR OR REVIEWED. FLOATING DOCK AND RAMP WITH WINTER REMOVAL AND OFF-SITE STORAGE. 18 INCH FLOAT STOPS, A 5 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY HEAD CLEARANCE BELOW THE PIER JUST BELOW MEAN HIGH WATER. THE DRAWINGS ARE NOT OFFICIAL STAMPED SURVEYS AS IS USUAL FROM MR. HILTS. NO VESSEL OR STRUCTURE OTHER THAN PILES OR FLOAT STOPS MAY TOUCH THE BOTTOM AT MEAN LOW WATER. THE USE OF BEST PRACTICES FOR SEDIMENT PLUME CONTROL AND CONTAINMENT INCLUDING INCOMING AND OR SLACK-TIDE WORK. THE SHELLFISH COMMISSION WILL CONDUCT SITE WORK INSPECTIONS TO REVIEW COMPLIANCE.

**** MR. PAGELER SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

This decision will be sent to Mr. Hilts.

Next Meeting – July 7, 2022 @ 7:15pm (Zoom)

Mr. Madaffari said that he would like to discuss the past practice that the Commission used to have a dinner to thank the Commissioners. He said that he would like to have some kind of gathering. There are individuals who are leaving the Commission and also for the Commissioners to meet Mr. Pageler.

Mr. Romano said that he would like to include the Harbor Commissioners and the Marine Police that are retiring. Discussion followed.

**** MR. MADAFFARI MOVED TO SCHEDULE A SUMMER EVENT INCLUDING BOTH THE HARBOR COMMISSION AND THE MARINE POLICE AND WHO WILL CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY.**

**** MR. PAGELER SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Discussion followed. Mr. Madaffari will work on coordinating this with Mr. Romano.

ADJOURNMENT

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

**** MR. PAGELER SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services