

**City of Norwalk**  
**Shellfish Commission Meeting**  
**May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Page 1 of 3**

**CALL TO ORDER 7:10 PM**

**ATTENDANCE**

Commission: Jack Casagrande, Pete Johnson, John Frank  
Staff: Tom Closter  
Police: Absent  
Advisory, Harbormaster Mike Griffin  
Guest: Mike Harden, Water Quality Committee Chair.

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

March minutes approved with no corrections by Mr. Casagrande, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pete Johnson

**TREASURER**

Comm. Johnson reports:  
Full detailed reports not finished at Comptroller's office in time for this meeting.  
Starting balance, Mar 31,2009 was \$15,077.14. Deposited \$291.50 \$120 for clam permits, \$171.50 for product (oysters) , all from Pramer Oyster Co.  
Paid phone bill \$204.53 and Police OT \$152.40, Interest for April was \$26. Balance now is \$15,037.71, same month last year \$7,072.48, two years ago \$22,942.91

**SECRETARY**

Comm. Frank reports  
Letter from Dave Carey indicates all corners on leased beds in Norwalk have not been transferred to Lat-Lon format, compatible with GIS systems, asks if Commission is interested in helping to pay \$6 per corner for developing that information through private sub-contractor. Commercial harvesters' already have that data. Carey can get it from them, without any expense..  
New charts for recreational clamming permits were discussed at length. State wants to eliminate some area now shown as conditionally open, as too difficulty to manage for closures. State is taking over closures. Tom Closter indicates closures can be handled remotely and rain gauge can be accessed online. Chair will talk to Kristen Frank further. Proposed project at 6 Shorehaven Rd for applicant Dawson involves rebuilding an existing groin and that part seems reasonable, but also includes "beach nourishment". John Hilts is the agent and he tells me the beach nourishment is DEP's idea. It would require dumping 165 cubic yards (4455 cu. Ft) of sand, from some yet to be determined source over an area of 4425 sq. Ft, resulting in average coverage of a foot of sand, planned to slope from about 2ft at the bulkhead, down to zero at the water's edge. Mike Griffin pointed out that DEP would not even consider letting the City used purchased sand from any upland source as capping material for the harbor dredging project. We have objected to the beach nourishment part of this project, and put all parties on notice that we will insist on removing all shellfish from that area, at applicant's expense, if this is permitted. This was suggested by Dave Carey.

## Page 2 of 3

Project for Mc Donough at Sylvester Court has been revised, at the Army Corps insistence, so that support beams between the piling will keep dock well off the bottom. We had approved this design without such supports as it looked to have enough depth to float the dock during normal tides cycles in several feet of water.

Letter to John Atkin, chair of WPCA, about March 14<sup>th</sup> spill at treatment plant, was sent (Apr 22) and copy was passed around the table. Discussion ensued and several of the commissioners and Mike Harden and Mike Griffin agreed attending the next meeting might be appropriate to hear the discussion of the spill, our letter, and accountability, if any, for the spill, if any.. CI&P has been contacted again about remediation plans for cable replacement project and responded that their monitoring is complete and they should have reports soon. Remediation planning will begin as soon as they have the monitoring reports. DEP, EPA, & Triton Environmental have been contacted about 23 Platt St remediation. All report everything stalled pending result of lawsuit between present and prior owners.

Norwalk marine contractors, Skip Gardella, put a spud barge and crane hard aground on a town natural bed at Girourd's dock off Woodland Rd on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Chair was called at home, called Sgt LaPak, and went to the scene and got pictures. Spoke to Skip Gardella who claimed to have been working on the boat lift and pulling and re-driving some pilings when the tide got away from him. The next morning a complaint, with a photo, was sent to Peter Francis at DEP and there has been no response.

### COMMITTEES

#### HEALTH DEPT

Mr. Closter reports:

3.47 inches of rain in April vs. 3.00 last year and average since 1987 of 4.31 inches.

There were 464 calls in April. There was a closure in the CAA area for over 1/2 inch of rain on most of April

There was one by-pass reported.

Date	Amount	Location	Time	Results
4/8	200 gals	Treatment Plant	10 Min	Pump failure

#### WATER QUALITY

Mike Harden, Chair of water quality committee, was introduced. He thanked us for last year's help with the intern program and asked for the same level of support this year. (\$3000) Brief discussion.

Motion by Mr. Casagrande, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Johnson, unanimous.

#### PERMITS

Mr. Casagrande reports permits are all distributed to outlets, no report at this time of any sales. Outlets have been notified charts are being changed and permit buyers should be told to come back for new charts.

#### POLICE

Absent, no report

#### ADVISORY

Mr. Harden states water temperature is 44.7 degrees, out side the harbor.

**HARBOR MANAGEMENT**

Harbormaster Griffin urges development of commission plan/ requirements for project review.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Casagrande to accept committee reports.

**OLD BUSINESS**

CL & P remediation plan

WPCA March spill

Gardella Barge aground

Transplant, this month

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**NEXT MEETING**

THURSDAY June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

At 8:03PM by Comm. Johnson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Casagrande

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