

PORT COMMISSION REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING – Wednesday, May 24, 2023

The Port of Port Townsend Commission met for a regular business session at the Point Hudson Pavilion Building, 355 Hudson Street, Port Townsend, and also online via Zoom.

Present: Commissioners Petranek and Hanke with Commissioner Hasse excused
Executive Director Eron Berg
Deputy Director Eric Toews
Director of Finance and Administration Abigail Berg
Director of Capital Projects and Port Engineer Matt Klontz
Via Zoom: Attorney Seth Woolsen

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Rec. 00:00:00)
Commissioner Petranek called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Unanimous approval of excusing Commissioner Hasse from the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Rec. 00:01:30)

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – GENERAL (Rec. 00:01:43)

Nicole Gauthier, Jefferson Transit General Manager, spoke about the availability of a seat for District 2 and 3 representatives on the Transit Board with applications due by June 2.

Pete Langley of the Port Townsend Foundry spoke about concerns with the travel lift purchase and the close stacking of yachts and fire concerns with wooden boats and eventual displacement serving smaller vessels.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA (Rec. 00:07:42)

A. Approval of Workshop & Business Meeting Minutes from May 10, 2023

B. Approval & Ratification of Warrants

Warrant #066901 in the amount of \$39,841.29

Warrant #066902 through #066905 and Electronic Payment in the amount of \$112,879.95

Warrant #066906 in the total amount of \$21,561.78

Warrant #066907 through #066950 in the amount of \$188,858.46

Electronic Debit \$553.13

C. Resolution 791-23 authorizing Filing an Application with the Washington State Department of Transportation, Aviation Division, Seeking Airport Aid Grant Funds to Support Construction of a Second Taxi-Way Connector at the Jefferson County International Airport, and Assuring that Local Matching Funds are Available and Authorized

D. Resolution 792-23 Authorizing the Executive Director of the Port of Port Townsend to Apply for Federal Economic Development Administration Disaster Supplemental Grant Funding to Support Acquisition of a New Variable Width 300-Ton Mobile Travel-Lift to Sustain Boat Haven Haul Out Operations, Retain Existing Jobs in the Marine Trades Economic Sector, and Create New Job Opportunities, and Expressing its Commitment to Providing Local Grant Matching Funds.

The Consent Agenda was approved as written by unanimous consent with the removal of Item D from the Consent Agenda to Regular Business. In addition, minutes of the May 10 workshop were revised to reflect a.m. versus p.m. when Commissioner Hanke left the meeting and meeting adjournment. Regular Meeting Minutes were revised to reflect under Item IV Special Presentation to read Hoist Operator III versus II.

V. SECOND READING ~ none

VI. FIRST READING~ none

VII. REGULAR BUSINESS (Rec. 00:10:52)

A. Water Walk and Sea Level Rise Project Update (Rec. 00:11:45)

Executive Director Eron Berg and Capital Projects and Port Engineer Matt Klontz provided an update, shared Staff's efforts to communicate with other agencies on

community engagement, and led a discussion of funding needed. The decision is whether to allocate Port funds to the project.

Commissioners: Staff gave additional details, project timing, and responded to questions about the three project phases and overall funding needed. The project for the work leading up to a grant application for design and construction from Larry Scott Trail to the Water and Sims intersection would protect the yard and flats district with Phase I (and maybe Phase II) of Segment 1. The public process of Segment I would explain the phases and how agencies may collaborate. The City would take the lead for Segment 2. Commissioner Hanke expressed interest in being included in the engineering/consulting interviews. Although this project is not in the current budget, the Port Commission already authorized \$100,000 to match \$50,000 funding from Jefferson County. This is an additional request for authorization to spend up to a total of \$300,000. Discussion ensued about support by other agencies and protection of the boatyard with a walkway versus other alternatives.

Unanimous approval of motion to approve IDD reserve funds of up to \$250,000 to support this phase of the Waterwalk and Sea Level Rise project.

- B. Resolution 792-23 Authorizing the Executive Director of the Port of Port Townsend to Apply for Federal Economic Development Administration Disaster Supplemental Grant Funding to Support Acquisition of a New Variable Width 300-Ton Mobile Travel-Lift to Sustain Boat Haven Haul Out Operations, Retain Existing Jobs in the Marine Trades Economic Sector, Create New Job Opportunities, and Expressing its Commitment to Providing Local Grant Matching Funds. (Rec. 00:58:50)

Executive Director Eron Berg and Deputy Director Eric Toews gave the staff report on this grant for a project that will increase jobs, the lift's variable width would allow more flexibility operationally, and expand capacity in the yard while also getting into more hard-to-reach buildings. The equipment concerns expressed earlier in public comment would be addressed operationally.

Commissioners: While there was consensus on seeking a new lift, there was a difference of opinion on seeking a variable versus regular lift. Additional time would allow Commissioners to collect more information from a wide variety of marine trades experts on this new equipment and whether it could make a difference. Having a larger 35-foot notch was thought to offer not only flexibility, but increased capacity for the Port. Staff noted a future ask for which the marine trades would appreciate is a hydraulic trailer, so perhaps a marine 75-ton variable travel lift that is custom built to the 70-ton height.

VIII. STAFF COMMENTS (Rec. 01:26:42)

Director of Finance and Administration Abigail Berg: The 2022 annual report has been submitted to the State Auditor and this unaudited report would be published on the Port website in the next few weeks.

IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (Rec. 01:27:55)

Commissioner Petranek reported on her efforts concerning the Alaska Chinook Fishery closure.

X. NEXT PUBLIC WORKSHOP & REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (Rec. 01:28:40)

Next Meetings: Thursday, May 25 at 5 p.m. Intergovernmental Collaborative Group at Pavilion Building and via Zoom. Public Workshop and Regular Business Meeting: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at Pavilion Building and via Zoom, with Public Workshop at 9:30 a.m. and Regular Business Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Rec. 01:29:26)

At 7:00 p.m., the Commission went into Executive Session for 20 minutes to discuss with legal counsel current or potential litigation pursuant RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) with no expected action.

At 7:21 p.m., the Commission came back into open session.

XII. ADJOURNMENT (Rec. 01:30:18)

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m., there being no further business before the Commission.

ATTEST:



Peter W. Hanke, Secretary



Pamela A. Petranek, President



Carol L. Hasse, Vice President