

PORT COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING – Wednesday, September 11, 2024

The Port of Port Townsend Commission met in workshop session at the Point Hudson Pavilion Building, 355 Hudson Street, Port Townsend, and also online via Zoom.

Present: Commissioners Petranek and Hasse with Commissioner Hanke via Zoom  
Executive Director Eron Berg  
Director of Finance and Administration Connie Anderson  
Director of Capital Projects and Port Engineer Matt Klontz via Zoom  
Harbormaster Kristian Ferrero  
Manager of Capital Projects Dave Nakagawara  
Capital Projects Administrator Natalie Toews  
Port Recorder Joanna Sanders

I. CALL TO ORDER (Rec. 00:00:00)

Commissioner Hanke called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

II. 2025 BUDGET – Discuss Tax Levies with Jefferson County Assessor (Rec. 00:00:28)

Jeff Chapman and Lauralee Kiesel of the Jefferson County Assessor’s Office reviewed Port levy and IDD levy amounts reviewing their handouts and detailing the estimates. Although they are not quite done with the calculations, new construction is expected to be roughly \$75 million. The City of Port Townsend will be revalued in 2025 and will include the Port of Port Townsend. Eron Berg noted the staff recommended budget would reflect 1% for property tax and 0% for the IDD, maintaining \$2.6 Million for 2025. A decrease of 2 cents for the IDD and .06 cent for the general property tax levy.

III. 2025 FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT REVIEW (Rec. 00:25:20)

Director of Capital Projects and Port Engineer Matt Klontz reviewed the Project Cost Summary detail by property and by project with distinctions between anticipated funding, secured funding, and unsecured funding. There was discussion about projects without secured funding and concern about funding capital maintenance. Executive Director Berg noted the concept strategy to address/repair every building every decade which would mean five buildings a year with acknowledgement that there is a fair amount of catching up to do. The next Port Report will focus on the IDD and how it has been used, including the last IDD collection year of 2027 after which a smaller capital program will occur.

Matt Klontz then reviewed the Boat Haven linear dock estimates. He and Eron Berg led a detailed discussion of optional dock systems, an alternate funding strategy to the RCO Big Tier II grant funding dollars received, and whether to advance the project to inform on the capital assets plan. That action would happen at a regular business meeting.

IV. PORT ELECTRIFICATION STRATEGY DISCUSSION (Rec. 1:20:30)

Executive Director Eron Berg referenced the Commission’s receipt of the Port Electrification Handbook from Pacific Northwest, a reference to aid U.S. Port Energy Transitions. For various reasons, the Port did not apply for these programs through the Port Electrification Grant Program and he asked what projects the Commission envisions the Port might apply.

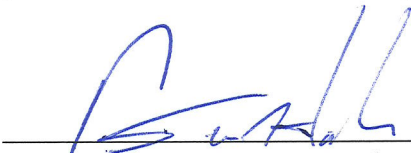
Commissioner discussion centered on ideas for producing electricity through wind and solar and reducing fossil fuel dependance. Concern was expressed about the need for planning and exploration of effective strategies as well as what other Ports are doing before jumping into a project. Ideas were to provide upgraded electricity to the boats in the marina and in the yard, including a 75-ton electric lift, conversion of and increasing shore power to 100 amp on the docks and exploring solar panels, including possibly over Chimacum Creek.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT (Rec. 01:48:23):

VI. ADJOURNMENT (Rec. 01:48:50): The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m., there being no further business before the Commission.

ATTEST:

  
Pamela A. Petranek, Secretary

  
Peter W. Hanke, President

  
Carol L. Hasse, Vice President