

PORT COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING– December 8, 2014

The Port of Port Townsend Commission met in regular session at the Commission Building, 333 Benedict Street, Port Townsend, WA

Present: Commissioners – Tucker, Clinefelter and Hanke
Executive Director – Crockett
Deputy Director - Pivarnik
Auditor – Khile
Attorney – McCarthy
Minutes – Nelson

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Tucker called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Crockett pulled from VII - Potential Immediate Action, Item A – CERB Authorizing Resolution No. 623-14. This item was moved to XII - Executive Session, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (c).

Commissioner Clinefelter moved to approve the Agenda as amended.

Commissioner Hanke seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

III. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes – November 25, 2014

B. Operations Reports – November 2014

C. Approval of Warrants

Warrant #053827 through #053847 in the amount of \$126,431.63 for Payroll & Benefits

Warrant #053848 through #053902 in the amount of \$129,717.24 for Accounts Payable

Commissioner Tucker moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Clinefelter seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Not related to agenda) (1:33):

Jim Heumann commented on Mr. Crockett's "Note from the Director" on the Port's website.

Bertram Levy commented on snow on the docks and the marina survey.

George Yount expressed his concerns in the budget on debt service and cash flow.

Ron Hayes suggested establishing a "sinking fund", charging Port patrons a fee solely for this fund, for emergencies.

V. SECOND READING:

A. Point Hudson Breakwater Update (12:26):

Mr. Crockett reported that staff met with Coast & Harbor Engineers (C&H) on Friday for the latest briefing. He explained C&H would provide a presentation at the December 22, 2014 9:30 AM Public Workshop. He said when design is complete; it should be in permitting in January. Mr. Crockett also informed the commission that the Army Corps as well as the City might require the walkway, which would add a large expense to the project.

VI. FIRST READING:

A. Commission/Senior Staff Retreat (17:01):

Mr. Crockett stated that Commissioner Hanke has expressed his desire to hold a retreat. Mr. Crockett wanted to find out if all commissioners were interested, and if so, to think about how many retreats to hold, whether or not to have a facilitator, what topics to discuss and a venue to hold the retreat. He said one item to include for discussion might be the Strategic Plan and whether to create a new one, tweak the current one, or re-adopt the plan. Mr. Crockett referred to his message in the budget where he discussed the costs of maintaining facilities. The subjects of whether to improve or get rid of certain facilities, whether to build new infrastructure should also be a topic at the retreat.

Commissioner Clinefelter wants to focus on establishing an advisory committee, which he believes should have been formed by now.

Mr. Crockett received permission from the commission to move forward with planning an off-site retreat.

VII. POTENTIAL IMMEDIATE ACTION ITEMS:

A. CERB Authorizing Resolution:

Moved to Executive Session

VIII. STAFF COMMENTS (24:41):

Ms., Khile is in the process of finalizing with financial advisor, Scott Bauer, a plan to meet on the refunding of outstanding debts. Mr. Bauer will make a presentation to the commission and staff in the near future. Mr. Crockett would like to see Cynthia Weed, our bonding attorney, to also attend and discuss refinancing options and various funding available to port districts.

Mr. Pivarnik informed that the AWOS equipment was delivered this week and is waiting installation. He added it should be functioning by mid-January.

Mr. Crockett talked about the WPPA Annual meeting staff and the commissioners would be attending, beginning tomorrow. He added he would attend the Marina Committee meeting on Wednesday. He also informed that he sent a public comment to Dept. of Natural Resources last week on DNR's draft Aquatic Conservation Plan. He explained there are great impacts on state tidelands in the plan. Since the Port has Port Management Plans (PMAs) with DNR, the question looms on whether our properties would be impacted. Mr. Crockett stated he is concerned that there is no Economic Impact Statement included in the Plan. The plan calls for no concrete docks, new shading rules, no more hard-armoring, etc.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS (31:13):

Richard Zade, "representing the scuba diving community", explained he traveled from Tacoma to get an update on the Point Hudson breakwater. His concern is to protect the marine life there. He explained removing the rocks would destroy seventy years of a great marine habitat.

Karen Fletcher, also a diver, discussed the different and rare kinds of marine life, including two endangered species spotted near the breakwater.

X. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (39:36):

Commissioner Tucker discussed the annual Marine Resources Committee (MRC) conference he attended Friday and Saturday, which included MRC members from all over the Puget Sound region. They discussed the rain garden projects, the volunteer no-anchor buoys, eelgrass degradation, among other things.

XI. NEXT MEETING/PUBLIC WORKSHOP: Next Special Meeting to be held MONDAY, December 22, 2014 at 1:00 PM, with the Public Workshop preceding at 9:30 AM in the Port Commission Building, 333 Benedict St, Port Townsend.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The regular session recessed into Executive Session, at 1:41 PM to discuss potential sale of Real Estate, duration of fifteen minutes with no action, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(c). The Executive Session was delayed until 1:46 PM until the public left the building.

At 1:52 PM, Ms. Nelson checked outside for any public waiting for the reconvening of the regular meeting. Finding no one, the Executive Session was extended another few minutes. At 1:54 PM, Ms. Nelson went outside and told three bystanders the meeting was reconvening if they would like to attend.

XIII. RECONVENING/ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING:

The meeting reconvened at 1:54 PM. The commission and staff discussed the prevailing wage set for Jefferson County by Department of Labor & Industries, and how it is set the same as King County.. Whereas, Clallam County has its own set wage, which is much lower. The commission would like to press for a change in Jefferson' County's prevailing wage with state representatives.

Having no further business to come before the commission, the meeting adjourned at 1:57 PM.

ATTEST:

Stephen R. Tucker, President

Peter W. Hanke, Secretary

Brad A. Clinefelter, Vice President