

PORT COMMISSION MEETING – March 24, 2004

The Port of Port Townsend Commission met in regular session at the Tri-Area Community Center, Chimacum, WA.

Present: Commissioners – Beck and Sokol
Executive Director – Crockett
Auditor – Taylor
Operations Manager – Radon
Facilities Manager – Pivarnik
Attorney – Harris

Absent: Commissioner Pirner (Excused)

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Upon motion of Commissioner Sokol, the Agenda was unanimously approved with the following changes:

III. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of Minutes – March 10, 2004
- B. Approval of Warrants:
 - #29812 through #29834 in the amount of \$27,908.30
 - #29835 through #29837 in the amount of \$13,181.37
 - #29838 through #29905 in the amount of \$47,866.25
- C. Hanson Electrical Contract CO#1

Mr. Taylor clarified that the last warrant should say \$47,866.26 cents instead of .25 cents

Upon motion of Commissioner Sokol, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved as corrected.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS (not related to Agenda):

Bill Dunaway:

Said it is extremely difficult, if not impractical, to secure liability insurance for an old wooden boat. Even after the required haulout and survey, which could amount to \$600-700, he would not be assured of qualifying for insurance. He asked the Port to assist boat owners in this quest for finding insurance. He volunteered to research the possibility for the Port establishing group coverage and offering a per boat rate. He believes that without such assistance, a number of boat owners would find themselves in a bind and many old boats could begin to leave the Port.

In speaking about similar laws in Oregon, Commissioner Sokol offered his understanding that putting together group coverage would be beyond the purview of the Port but added that it might be worth others investigating. Commissioner Beck agreed that Port policy should not be changed until the implications can be more thoroughly researched.

James Arsulich, Port Townsend Livery and Carriage:

In recalling that one of his horses got frightened and broke loose in the Port last year, he acknowledged the liability concerns about his business. He also reviewed his business license and noted that he forwarded to Mr. Pivarnik information regarding his having added the Port as a rider to his \$1M insurance policy. He described his reevaluation of how to deal with the hooking and unhooking of the horse to ensure more secure handling procedures. He asked that he be able to continue to operate in Point Hudson. Although supportive of the business, Commissioner Beck proposed some Powder River corral panels to place around the horse and carriage for additional safety. Mr. Arsulich said while he would comply if required, the panels are expensive and would be cumbersome to set up and tear down. He assured the Commission that when the horse comes on and off the trailer, he is securely tied by the bridle and collar.

Mr. Radon commented that this operation is not a good fit with Point Hudson's narrow streets and he has concerns about safety. Mr. Arsulich acknowledged the one narrow area in front of the Cupola House.

Commissioner Beck moved to allow the Port Townsend Livery and Carriage operation to continue, with the security procedures Mr. Arsulich described in place. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Gloria Bram commented that a less expensive alternative might be canvas web screening.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Update – Point Hudson Redevelopment

Mr. Crockett noted that Staff had released the request for qualifications in newspapers and journals. The application period would close at 4:30 PM on April 19, 2004. Two dozen copies were also mailed to individuals who specifically requested them. A letter also went to ten individual stakeholders inviting their participation in an Advisory Committee, the first meeting of which would be on April 1 in the Marina Room. Mr. Crockett also reported that Port Staff will conduct consultant project briefings and tours on March 30 and 31.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. 2004 Rhododendron Parade Invitation

Mr. Crockett noted that it is time to confirm the Port's participation in the Rhododendron Festival Parade (Sat. May 15, 2004 at 1:00 PM). Commission confirmed their desire to participate in the parade, again using the Port's truck and boat.

VII. STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Taylor:

The completed 2003 Annual Financial reports for both the Port and the Industrial Development Corporation were mailed to the State Auditor. Copies would be placed in the libraries. Commissioner Sokol asked if the Port is eligible for an abbreviated audit, to which Staff responded probably not, as long as we continue on a biyearly schedule.

Mr. Pivarnik:

He had met with all Point Hudson tenants about their leases, many of whom are looking for short-term leases.

The Port's new video (PowerPoint) projector has arrived. While he will be using it for many presentations, it will also be available to the Commissioners.

Mr. Crockett:

He will be out of town tomorrow to attend Governor's committee on Nearshore Salmon Recovery Regional Policy Group. They will likely meet six times this year.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Sokol:

CNBC said this morning that there are 17.4 million boats in the U.S., with the largest number being in Michigan.

In an Internet search, he found Ports now have "Comprehensive schemes of harbor improvements and industrial developments".

The Commission and Staff should feel good about the 2003 Financial Report and the Port's strong financial position.

He will be gone until April 8 or 9.

Commissioner Beck:

There would be a forum on the Dosewallips Road reconstruction this Saturday. He would be present in support of the rebuilding.

X. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, April 14, 2004 at 1:00 PM at the Point Hudson Marina Room, Port Townsend, WA. A workshop would begin at 9:30 AM.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:43 PM, the Commission recessed into Executive Session for 10 minutes to discuss a legal and real estate issue, with no expected decision.

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM, there being no further business to come before the Commission.

ATTEST:

President

Secretary

Vice President