

PORT COMMISSION MEETING – January 26, 2011

The Port of Port Townsend Commission met in regular session in the Commission Chambers, 375 Hudson St, Port Townsend, WA

Present: Commissioners – Collins, Thompson, Erickson
Executive Director – Crockett
Deputy Director – Pivarnik
Attorney Lake - Goodstein Law Group
Minutes - Nelson

Excused: Auditor - Taylor

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was amended to reflect the addition to Old Business: **Item C** - Landfall RFP Results and **Item D** – Ramp Fees for February Fishing Derby.

Mr. Crockett added that an Executive Session is necessary to discuss two real estate issues, with duration of approximately 15 minutes and no action or decisions expected.

Commissioner Collins moved to approve the Agenda as amended.

Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

III. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2011
- B. Resolution No. 554-11 – Authorizing Sale of Abandoned Vessels
- C. Write-off Register

Commissioner Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Not related to agenda):

Rosemary Sikes, Admiralty Audubon Society, explained that she and Dan Collins met with Larry Crockett on a tree planting proposal at Kah Tai. They are seeking the Port's approval to plant trees there (map and email sent to Commissioners prior to meeting). This would be a partnership with the City's Park & Rec Board and Tree Board and the Admiralty Audubon Society. Volunteers would be planting on February 26.

Mr. Crockett and the Commission gave permission for the plantings to go forward.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Public Hearing: Jefferson Transit Authority Proposition 1 and Replacement Education Programs, Operations, and Maintenance Levies Proposition 1 (6:36):

Mr. Crockett reminded the Commission that Tim Caldwell spoke in favor of Jefferson Transit Proposition 1 at the last meeting. It was agreed that today's meeting would invite comments both for and against this proposition in a Public Hearing. Commissioner Collins had added at the last meeting to include the School Levies Proposition 1 in this hearing. Mr. Crockett explained that an endorsement is not required and that the Commission can endorse either or both Propositions collectively, or individually. The public is invited to speak:

Rick Jahnke read from his written statement in support of Jefferson Transit Prop 1.

Richard Townsend spoke in support of Jefferson Transit Prop 1.

Tim Caldwell spoke in favor of Jefferson Transit Prop 1 and asked for support from the Port Commission, either collectively or individually.

David Griswold speaking as a marine trade business owner explained that some of their customers use the transit. Many travel from Seattle and this is a convenience to marine trade customers.

Commissioner Collins moved to endorse Jefferson Transit Proposition 1.

A second motion was not heard and the motion failed.

It was agreed the Commissioners would decide individually.

Mr. Crockett explained the School Levies Proposition 1.

Audience members were invited to speak. There were no public speakers.

Commissioner Collins moved to endorse School Levies Proposition 1.

A second motion was not heard and the motion failed.

B. North Olympic Peninsula Data Centers Wireless Proposal (23:17):

Mr. Pivarnik introduced the owner of North Olympic Peninsula Data Centers, Leo Boyd, who had come to the Port previously proposing to provide wireless service to Port customers.

Mr. Boyd explained his service; up to eight times faster service than our current providers, a broader range (would cover both the Boat Haven and Point Hudson), secure passwords and reliability at a cost to the customer. It would be available to tenants, marine trade businesses, boaters and Rv'ers. An antenna would need to be installed for this service. Discussion on whether this company would be charged a fee by the Port.

Attorney Lake agreed that we would not need to charge the company, as their company is providing a benefit to our customers. She added that an agreement would need to be drawn up.

Commissioner Collins moved to authorize staff to move forward and work on an arrangement to secure this service.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

C. Landfall RFP Results (45:00):

Mr. Crockett informed that the Port received three Request for Proposals (RFPs) last Friday for the Landfall site. He would like to firm up a process and timeline for selection. He suggested the top two be interviewed and to set a goal for selection at the second Commission meeting in February.

D. Ramp Fees for February Fishing Derby (50:00)

Mr. Pivarnik reminded how in the past the Commission had voted to waive the ramp fees for derby participants and requested this be the same for the February 2011 derby. In exchange for waived ramp fees, the community receives a big economic boom from derby participants who come from all over the state, during a normally quiet winter weekend.

Mr. Crockett also recommended that slips at the new Boat Haven docks be made available for derby boats before relocating tenants back to the A/B docks. (Tenants will be allowed to move back to the A/B docks February 22 and will have a six-week grace period to complete this.) This will prevent much congestion at the boat ramp.

Commissioner Collins moved to waive ramp fees during the February 19, 20, & 21 Olympic Peninsula Salmon Derby and to have slip space available on the A/B docks for derby participants.

Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Quilcene Moorage Rates (56:20):

Mr. Pivarnik explained that he was approached by Harbormaster, Tami Ruby, about the possibility of keeping the current rate structure at the Herb Beck Marina in Quilcene since tenants recently acquired a rate hike upon completion of the Quilcene dredging and only sixteen of the thirty-seven slips are currently occupied. Reasoning also that Quilcene marina facilities aren't quite up to par compared to the Port Townsend facilities and Quilcene lacks the many conveniences that are found here in town.

Commissioner Thompson moved to keep Quilcene moorage rates at their current level (as opposed to the new square foot rates).

Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

Motion passed with two yes votes (Thompson and Erickson) and one nay (Collins).

B. Approval of Warrants:

Commissioner Thompson read the warrants, as presented:

Electronic Debit to Frontier (Union) Bank in the amount of \$1,972.24 for Washington State Combined Excise Tax Report – December 2010

Warrant #045921 through #045946 in the amount of \$37,451.59 for Payroll

Warrant #045947 through #045950 in the amount of \$14,778.45 for Payroll Benefits

Warrant #045951 through #045993 in the amount of \$121,413.33 for Accounts Payable

Commissioner Thompson moved to approve the warrants as presented.

Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

VII. STAFF COMMENTS (1:02:40):

Mr. Pivarnik informed that he would be attending the Peninsula Development District (PDD) meeting Thursday in Larry's absence. A staffer from Patty Murray's office will be there.

Mr. Crockett told of the recent Airport Industrial Park Advisory Group meeting, which Commissioner Thompson also attended. Comments received from attendees were that it was an excellent meeting.

He added that the Port is hosting a joint marketing meeting for 12-14 people, formed by marine trade business owner, Diana Talley.

Mr. Crockett explained to the Commission that he will and has been putting various draft bills and topic issues, pertaining to this legislative session, in their boxes. He informed that he will be working the Seattle Boat Show on Thursday, and will be absent from the February 9, 2011 Commission meeting, as he will be on vacation.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS (1:09:35):

None

IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (1:09:44):

Commissioner Collins announced that he, along with Commissioner Erickson, had attended the January 25 Joint Economic Strategic Working Group Public Meeting in town and heard many ideas.

Attending the recent Higher Education Committee meeting, there was discussion on the current push to fund a building at Fort Worden to be used as a higher education building, by Peninsula and Goddard Colleges.

Mr. Crockett added that at the Joint Economic meeting a citizen commented to him that the Port of Port Townsend has the best return on investments in the community. He also received compliments on the Port's newsletter and website.

Commissioner Erickson commented on the contrast between the Port Hadlock and the Port Townsend Joint Economic meetings, attendance-wise and content-wise.

He reported that he will be speaking to the Port Ludlow Yacht Club Friday. They asked to be informed on the goods and services that the Port of Port Townsend has to offer.

Commissioner Thompson commented on a WRIA 17 issue, regarding the Governor's advice to put WRIA under the Department of Agriculture, believing this is a good idea, with Mr. Crockett agreeing.

Commissioner Thompson also asked Mr. Pivarnik if he was going to bring up the idea of the transfer span with Senator Murray's staff at the PDD meeting. He also reaffirmed that they would discuss the Army Corp's Reconnaissance Study of the Boat Haven.

X. NEXT MEETING: Next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at 3:30 PM in the Port Commission Chambers, 375 Hudson St, Port Townsend.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The regular meeting recessed into Executive Session at 7:50 PM on the real estate issues, with no action or decisions, with a duration time of fifteen minutes.

XII. RECONVENING OF REGULAR MEETING:

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:05 PM.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.

ATTEST:

David H. Thompson, President

John N. Collins, Secretary

Leif W. Erickson, Vice President