

PORT COMMISSION MEETING & 2013 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING - October 23, 2012

The Port of Port Townsend Commission met in regular session in the Conference Room, Port Administration Building, 375 Hudson Street, Port Townsend, WA

Present: Commissioners – Erickson, Tucker, Thompson
Executive Director – Crockett
Deputy Director - Pivarnik
Auditor - Khile
Attorney - Lake
Minutes – Nelson

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

II. Public Hearing on 2013 Operating/Capital Budget, 2013 Moorage Rates and 2013 Property Tax Levy:

Commissioner Erickson opened the Public Hearing at 6:31 PM, beginning with a reading of the rules of the Public Hearing and then introduced Finance Director, Amy Khile, who presented the 2013 Operating/Capital Budget.

Mr. Crockett, in summary, discussed the budget and how it was developed, and highlighted the fact that the Port is operating in the black.

Commissioner Erickson opened the Public Hearing to Public Comments.

Gary Rossow, Port Townsend resident, spoke that he is in support of the 2013 Budget, and specifically, supports the plans budgeted to install a small boatlift. He spoke of the need in Port Townsend to be able to lift smaller boats (under 5,000 lbs.) in and out of the water, especially keel boats. Mr. Rossow thanked the Commission for including a small boatlift in the budget and encouraged them to move forward with this project.

With no further comments the Public Hearing closed at 6:38 PM. (Budget Resolutions will be brought to the next Commission meeting for approval.)

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Crockett added to Old Business, Item C-Public Infrastructure Fund (PIF), and moved Old Business, Item B-Mobilisa Agreement Extension to be read in front of Item A, since Mobilisa staff was in the audience.

Commissioner Erickson moved to approve the Agenda as amended.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA (9:15):

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 10, 2012
Approval of Public Workshop Minutes – October 10, 2012

B. Computer Tablet Policy

Commissioner Tucker requested some minor changes to the document in order to clarify some wording. Attorney Lake will change the word, “private” when referring to personal use, to the word “non-public”.

Commissioner Tucker moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Not related to agenda):

Linda Herzog of Quilcene thanked the Commission in advance, for showing their support of Quilcene, by attending the Quilcene Community Meeting on Saturday, October 27, 2012 at 4:30 PM.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

B. Mobilisa Agreement Extension (13:06):

Mr. Pivarnik stated this is in regards to Mobilisa’s radar array installed on the roof above the Shanghai Restaurant. He explained the current agreement expires next week and Mobilisa staff would like to extend the agreement by six-months. (Included in the meeting packet is a print of the radar activity, which aims out towards the water.)

Mr. Pivarnik introduced Mobilisa Board Chairman, Nelson Ludlow and Wireless Program Manager, John Krouse.

Mr. Ludlow thanked the Commission for giving Mobilisa the opportunity to test this system. He explained their customers are the Navy, Coast Guard and Homeland Security. He added that this extension is needed for use as a demo to their customers, requiring the radar to be activated for an average of sixteen hours a month. Commissioner Thompson asked what this radar does. Mr. Ludlow explained it searches for dirty bombs on cargo ships and other

vessels, using a combination of sensors that work with the Mobilisa buoys. If their customers purchase the system, the radar would be installed in other parts of the country. He added that the buoys are and will continue to be manufactured here in Port Townsend, contributing to the local job market. He also noted the radar installed on the Shanghai roof is a Furono boat radar.

Commissioner Thompson moved to extend the agreement with Mobilisa by six-months. Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

A. Passenger Only Ferry Update (21:15):

Mr. Pivarnik informed the Commission that he spoke with the Port of Kingston and was told their Commission will surplus the boat tomorrow. He also was told that King County is still interested in acquiring the Spirit. The Port of Kingston is not willing to pay for a crew and the fuel needed to bring the Spirit to the Port of PT for a survey, but could probably provide the insurance as long as our Port hired the Port of Kingston's crew and purchased their fuel for the transport. The Port of PT would be required to return the Spirit back to Kingston upon completion of the survey.

Mr. Crockett advised the Commissioners that a decision on whether to move forward with surveying the Spirit should take place no later than Thanksgiving.

Commissioners Erickson and Thompson both agreed the need to hire a top of the line surveyor and all Commissioners concurred to move forward with bringing the Spirit to Port Townsend for the survey.

C. Public Infrastructure Fund-PIF (25:35):

Mr. Crockett handed out an article from the October 9, 2012 edition of the Peninsula Daily News written about the City's lack of funds to repair the community pool and the possibility of the County helping with the repairs using Public Infrastructure funding. He reminded the audience that Commissioner Thompson sits on the PIF board and they will be having a meeting coming up on October 30, 2012. Mr. Crockett wanted to bring to the attention of the Commission this is not a use that the funding was set aside for. This money is for basic public infrastructure in support of economic development. He reminded the Commission of the two letters sent by the Port to the County, written in June of 2011, supporting funding for Quilcene's fire flow and septic system. The Commission agreed with Mr. Crockett, and Commissioner Thompson was asked to make the Port's feelings be known at the October 30 meeting.

Linda Herzog, fully endorses everything discussed between staff and the Commission on the PIF.

She sees some kind of deal of support looming between the City and County on pool funding.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Marine Tourism Bill – SB 6248 (38:01):

Mr. Crockett explained this bill would allow larger cooperate-owned vessels be allowed to stay in Washington longer than the current maximum stay of 60 days, without being taxed. Currently, these larger vessels leave the state before 60 days to avoid the tax. If this bill passes, it would allow these boat owners to stay here longer, spending money on boat repairs and putting money into communities. Mr. Crockett encouraged the Commissioners to attend the November 19, 2012, "Meet Your Legislators" meeting at the NW Maritime Center at 4:00 PM. The focus of this meeting is to show support of this bill.

Commissioner Erickson moved to support the passing of HB 6248.

Commissioner Tucker seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Approval of Warrants (41:57):

Commissioner Tucker read the warrants, as presented:

Electronic Debit to Union Bank in the amount of \$8,279.75 for Washington State
Combined Excise Tax for September 2012

Warrant #049800 through #049826 in the amount of \$40,288.24 for Payroll

Warrant #049827 through #049830 in the amount of \$17,056.36 for Payroll Benefits

Warrant #049831 through #049885 in the amount of \$195,683.95 for Accounts Payable

Commissioner Tucker moved to approve the warrants as presented.

Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

VIII. STAFF COMMENTS (43:19):

Attorney Lake stated she would be giving a presentation on Personal Service Contracts at the WPPA Annual Meeting in November.

Mr. Pivarnik explained that earlier today he, Mr. Crockett and Mr. Toews had a good meeting with City Manager, Dave Timmons, on marketing the passenger only ferry. Staff left with the feeling that there is a good possibility LTAC funds might be available for ferry marketing.

Mr. Crockett informed he is leaving tomorrow for the WPPA Small Ports Conference in Leavenworth. He also reminded that Commissioner Erickson would be attending the PDD meeting in Quilcene on October 25, 2012.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

X. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (46:43):

Commissioner Erickson explained that tomorrow he is participating in a tour of Grays Harbor.

(An envious discussion occurred amongst staff and the Commission as Grays Harbor has some innovative projects to check out.)

XI. NEXT MEETING AND PUBLIC WORKSHOP: Next regular meeting to be held Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at 1:00 PM, with a Public Workshop preceding at 9:30 AM, in the Port Administration Building Conference Room, 375 Hudson St, Port Townsend

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM there being no further business to come before the Commission.

ATTEST:

David H. Thompson, Secretary

Leif W. Erickson, President

Stephen R. Tucker, Vice President