



DOCKLINES

Harbors & Waterways Quarterly Newsletter

March 2013

Allen Harbor Dredge Project



Burnham Associates – The major maintenance dredge project of Allen Harbor inlet channel and basin has been completed. Burnham Associates mechanically dredged approximately 38,000 cubic yards of material from the harbor, and transported it via dump scows to the Massachusetts Bay Offshore Disposal Site. The project was funded through an innovative cost-sharing agreement among the Town of Harwich and private businesses and private homeowners on the waterfront of Allen Harbor. As a result of some initial delays relating to the defined dredge template, along with weather delays from Hurricane Sandy, a Nor'easter and several days with Gale Force winds a waiver to the Jan 15 Time of Year Restriction was requested and granted; project completion date was extended to 28 February. All but one scow load was completed by 28 Feb; the Town received permission from DEP/DMF and ACOE to dig a final scow load on 2 March – a total of 60 scow loads of dredge material was taken

from Allen Harbor basin by Burnham Associates. Post dredge survey was completed on 26 February by CLE, the Town is awaiting final volume numbers.



Barnstable County Dredge – In addition to the area dredged by Burnham Associates, the Barnstable County Dredge was hired by the Town to dredge the southwest corner of Allen Harbor basin; an area that was outside the Burnham dredge template, but part of the Town mooring field. The County dredged approximately 6000 cubic yards of sand from the entrance to the Herring River to build a large sand berm on Pleasant Street beach parking lot that is being used to contain the dredge material from Allen Harbor. After construction of the sand berm, the County dredged approximately 8000 cubic yards of material from Allen Harbor and discharged it into the berm for dewatering – a 1-2 month drying process. Material will be trucked to the transfer station for disposal once adequately dewatered.

Upcoming Town Meeting Warrant Articles



Multi-Mission Boat – The Harbormaster is requesting funds for the purchase of a new Fire & Rescue patrol boat. The new boat will replace the Commander, a 1990 35' Duffy that the Harbormaster Department currently uses as the primary response boat, as well as the 22' Ambar Fire Rescue Boat previously used by Harwich Fire. The aging 35' Duffy (classic fishing boat) is not an appropriate emergency response boat - it is slow, lacks maneuverability, 4' draft is very limiting, and requires too much maintenance. The 22' Ambar is past its serviceable life and the Fire Department has made the decision to not commit further funds to keep it in service. The new multi-mission patrol boat will be

maintained and operated by the Harbormaster Department and augmented by Harwich Fire, and will serve as the Town's primary maritime public safety and enforcement asset. The desired Multi-Mission Patrol Boat will be approx. 27' in length, equipped with twin outboards, a dive door for personnel recovery, a tow post, partially enclosed center console, radar and GPS plotter, and installed piping for fire pump (potential hull pictured above). With a new capable Multi-Mission Patrol Boat we will be eliminating the need/practice of duplicate response by the Harbormaster Department and Fire Department as has been done in the past, resulting in cost savings relating to over-time pay for Fire personnel, fuel, and maintenance.

Allen Harbor Bulkhead / Drainage - The bulkhead where our Town floats are located is in serious need of being replaced. There are several large sink holes along the edge of the bulkhead that pose a real safety issue. We have continually tried to fill the holes with stone; however, the retaining system has failed. In addition the Town parking lot drainage system needs to be properly graded in order to prevent storm water runoff from surrounding land uses and boat traffic; we hope to also include the construction of a bulkhead on the south end of the parking lot, just to the west of the public ramp. The Town Engineer, working with Coastal Engineering is currently preparing design plans for both the bulkhead replacement and parking lot drainage repair. The Harbormaster is also working with MA Office of Fishing and Boating (FBA) for a public access grant to help fund the project.



Maintenance Dredging - The Town has a Chapter 91 license from MA DEP for dredging and beach nourishment projects. With the chronic shoaling in Harwich harbors and entrance channels, annual maintenance dredging is a critical to the safe navigation of recreational and commercial vessels operating within Harwich waterways. In addition, navigable waterways are the life-line for a variety of commercial enterprises that support the local economy, to include a passenger ferry, two passenger fishing boats, a sightseeing passenger boat, a number of charter fishing boats and a large commercial fishing fleet. Funds not only support dredge work and associated engineering fees, but they also pay for the required MA Audubon bird monitoring program along Town beaches.

The purpose and intention of this informal quarterly newsletter is to inform interested individuals about the status, plans and progress of the Harwich Harbors and Waterways projects. The goal of the Harwich Waterways Committee is to make Harwich Port and even better boating community. Each issue will include **Feature Articles** that will detail that topic. Please direct any questions or comments to the Chairman of the Harwich Waterways Committee. Volume 1 March 2013

Potential Concepts and Plans

Harwich Harbors:

- a) **Seasonal Maintenance Dredging** **Feature Article**

Allen Harbor:

- a) **Harbor Dredging (completed in winter of 2013)** **Feature Article**
- b) Replacement and Expansion of bulkheads
- c) New Town Dock that is Handicap Accessible
- d) Replace restrooms with handicap accessible facility
- e) New storm drain drainage and resurfaced parking areas
- f) Expansion of Town boat slips
- g) Repair and extension of (west side) jetty

Round Cove and Pleasant Bay:

- a) Additional boat trailer and vehicle parking
- b) Scheduled Ramp maintenance
- c) Scheduled Dock float maintenance
- d) Seasonal "Porta-potty" and fresh water at dock
- e) Restricted Trailer Parking for permits only

Saquatucket Harbor:

- a) New Harbormaster Office & Workshop Building
- b) **New Harbormaster SAR/Utility/Fire Boat** **Feature Article**
- c) New Public Handicap accessible rest rooms
- d) New Dock Renter's Handicap accessible rest rooms w/ showers
- e) New Dock replacement and expansion of number of slips
- f) New Handicap access ramp to docks for boat passengers and slips
- g) New Pedestrian and Handicap Boardwalk and Observation decks at parking lot
- h) Seasonal Vendor stands at boardwalk
- i) New Commercial Fishing Loading/Unloading area with Hydraulic lift
- j) New Harbormaster Pump-out station and SAR/Utility/Fire Boat Dock
- k) Additional vehicle parking

Wixon Dock and the Herring River:

- a) Wixon Dock improved access from shore
- b) Increased Dock and Beach parking
- c) Kayak rental facility at Rt. 28
- d) Rt. 28 Launch Ramp, Restricted Trailer Parking for permit only

Wychmere Harbor:

Inner Harbor:

- a) Wychmere Dock replacement
- b) Wychmere Dock slip expansion
- c) Wychmere Dock Dredging
- d) Wychmere Fishing Shanties
- e) Replace rest rooms with Handicap facilities

Outer Harbor:

- a) Harbor Dredging
- b) Harbor Jetties expanded and raised for 'Harbor of Refuge'
- c) Increase the number of assigned and transient moorings