

**MINUTES
TOWN OF HARWICH
WATERWAYS COMMITTEE
HARWICH FIRE STATION CONFERENCE ROOM OR VIRTUAL
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023, 6:00 PM**

Attendance and Introductions:

The following were present and participated: Bob Thomason, Mark Kelleher, Kathy White, Howard Curtin, Cecile Curtin, Heinz Proft (Natural Resources Director), Peter Shankman, John Rendon (Harbormaster)

The following members attended remotely and participated: John Donahue, Amy Usowski (Conservation Agent), Kevin Buruchian (GEI Consulting)

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING:

Dan Hall (Chairman), Joe Johnson, James Walpole, Kent Brushella, Larry Brutti, Roger Peterson, Dan Casey, Rich Shevory (Alternate)

MINUTES: March 15, 2023 Review & Approval

Mr. Peterson moved to approve the Minutes of the March 15, 2023 meeting, seconded by Mr Walpole. Vote 6:0 in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA: None

OPEN FORUM: None

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Rendon gave the monthly financial report. The information is included in the packet. He compared this year's YTD figures to last year's YTD figures and explained the differences.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Wixon Dock & Landing Improvement Project

Mr. Rendon introduced Kevin Buruchian from GEI Consultants who is the engineer on the project, and Amy Usowski, Conservation Agent who both assisted with the project design..

Mr. Rendon gave an overview of the events leading up to the project. The initial focus was to preserve the site and improve public access as well as address the landing storm water runoff and erosion concerns. He described each of those issues and what will be done to correct them in

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detail. He also gave a timeline for the project from start to completion. His presentation included maps and diagrams to show the areas he described.

Information that had been submitted by Kathy White was distributed to all board members. Mr. Rendon also read a letter aloud from Mr. Zarette who is a direct abutter but was unable to attend and asked that his comments be included in the record. He is in support of the Wixon Project plans and uses and feels it will be a great environmental benefit and improvement to the existing conditions and problems currently associated with this site. He requested that his letter be accepted as a formal letter of support.

A letter from Mr. Donahue, also an abutter and in support of the Wixon Project, was read aloud.

Amy Usowski, Conservation Administrator noted the benefits to the Plan from the Conservation Commission's point of view. She also added the negatives to modifying the north side.

Abutters and residents expressed their concerns about the Plan and use of the south side. They described the south side access path to be grassy and muddy. They also described the bottom to be mucky with a quick decline into deep water with a very strong current. They are concerned that the south side is dangerous and that changes to the south side will contribute to erosion.

Support for the Plan was also expressed. The present bulkhead is deteriorating, the south side is already being used as access and the path will be widened and continue to the water, parking will be limited and signage will direct people away from certain areas. The proposed posts will prevent vehicles from going up and over. Additionally, the proposed structures will have no impact on the day to day currents.

Chairman Hall asked Committee members if they were in support of the Wixon Dock & Landing Improvement Plan.

Mr. Drushella moved to accept the Wixon Dock & Landing Improvement Projects as proposed, seconded by Mr. Peterson 5:0:1 with Mr. Johnson abstaining for personal reasons.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Proposed Dock Replacement - 109 Riverside Drive (Argus). Coastal Engineering Co.

___presented the proposed dock replacement and explained the plan in detail.

Mr. Johnson moved to accept the second revision of the Proposed Dock Replacement pages, G-001, C-101, C-102 and C-301, seconded by Mr. Walpole Vote 6:0 in favor

MONTHLY REPORT:

Board of Selectmen - None

Harbormaster - None

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Mr. Proft, Natural Resource Director gave the monthly report including the increasing numbers of Herring. He also noted that he will be retiring and shared what he has put in place for the future.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Petition Article - Balloons (Patrick Otton)
2. Petition Article - Fertilizers (Patrick Otton)
3. Citizen Petition Hand-Out (Patrick Otton)

Mr. Rendon noted that Mr. Otton was unable to attend but asked that his letter regarding the petitions be distributed.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 7, 2023

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Walpole moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Johnson Vote 6:0 in favor.

Meeting adjourned, 7:47PM

Minutes Recorded by: Judith R. Moldstad

Authorized Posting Officer:

Posted by: Daniel Hall, Waterways Committee Chairman

Signed Date:

Posting Date: *JULY 19 2023 Dan Hall*