

Special Meeting of the Harbor Commission of the Borough of Atlantic Highlands was held Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at Borough Hall, 100 First Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. with the following roll call

PRESENT: Hoffmann, McDonald, Curry, Marchetti, Frotton, Archibald

ABSENT: Thompson

Also present were Administrator Hubeny, Harbor Master Bate, Assistant Harbor Master Amici and Mrs. Cassese.

Mrs. Frotton advised notice of this meeting was sent to the official newspapers on September 20, 2010. Copy of the notice has been posted on the bulletin boards in the Harbor Office and Borough Hall. Formal action might be taken.

Mrs. Frotton advised the purpose of this meeting is discussion and approval of 2010/11 Harbor rates.

Mrs. Frotton read letter from Fallon & Larson Borough Auditors regarding the Borough's longstanding budget practice of transferring Harbor utility operating surplus to the Current Fund budget. Mr. Fallon found that the methodology utilized is consistent with that allowed by State Statute and the regulations of the Local Finance Board, State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services.

Mr. Amici talked about amenities of the marina, services for customers, and compared rates with other marinas in the area.

He also advised that fuel discounts would no longer be given to customers who are not in the marina, unless it is a vessel purchasing 1000 gallons or more at one time.

Mr. Amici also spoke of employee cuts, labor performed by our own employees and other methods of cutting costs.

Mr. Amici also advised he and Mr. Bate had met with Dennis Ziemba of the Yacht Club to discuss mooring inspections. These will now be done in the spring and customers will be given a \$100 credit for this year.

Jerry Gagliano Atlantic Highlands CFO addressed the Commission and members of the public. He advised that a municipal budget must be balanced. At the end of 2008 the Harbor utility had 1.2 million dollars in surplus which has been used over the years to balance the budget. As of today the surplus is \$12,000 and the Harbor is running at a deficit at this point in time. He advised this harbor is here for two reasons, to service the customers and to provide tax relief to the residents of the town.

Mr. Curry advised that the Mayor and Council of the Borough establish the amount of money the harbor will contribute to the town.

Mrs. Frotton asked if anyone from the public cared to address the Commission.

October 5, 2010

Alan Asher, 308 Portland Rd., Atlantic Highlands, Mooring RF1 has been a customer for 10 years. He advised he has met with Mr. Hubeny and obtained some financial information. He asked Mr. Gagliano about the \$400,000 deficit and if it was related to the recent storm damage. He asked if FEMA monies would be available and also our own insurance coverage. Mr. Gagliano advised no FEMA money has been guaranteed and our insurance company has denied our claim. Mr. Asher advised this should be appealed. Mr. Hubeny advised this is in process.

Jac Dowens, 42 Hamilton Drive, Red Bank, Pier 5 Slip 2, commented about an e-mail alluding to the fact that a mistake was made by Mrs. Cassese regarding rates. He spoke with Mr. Amici and realized that this was not true and thought Mrs. Cassese deserved an apology. Mr. Dowens also commented on improvements in security.

Al Herman, 4 Georgetown Rd. Colts Neck, Pier 4 Slip 4E, has been in the harbor for over fifteen years. His rate has gone up 54.64%. Storage has gone up 67%. Rate increases are well higher than the cost of living.

Bruce Goodrich, 131 Princeton Rd., Elizabeth, Pier 4 Slip 34 commented on the electric charges. He said he would be willing to pay to have a meter installed at his slip. Mr. Curry advised he would like to have meters at all slips.

Dan Ritter, 5 Finch Road, Howell addressed security issues from past years and commented that it has improved. He also commented on fees charged at other marinas for moorings. He also said that rate increases for slips and mooring should be considered separately, not the same increase for both.

Steve Jackson, 227 Denman rd., Cranford, Pier 4 Slip 20, said the Commission has done a great job with the harbor.

William Eaton, 84 Bay Ave., Atlantic Highlands, Mooring F-3, thanked the Commission and employees for the great job they are doing. He advised that a 3% raise in rates is fair reasonable and responsible.

Eileen Campbell, 11 Mercer St., Hazlet, Mooring W-1, asked that the channel be marked more clearly to prevent transients from anchoring there, and also have a boat to patrol the water.

Bill Phillips, Memorial Pkwy., Atlantic Highlands advised that boating is a luxury.

Bill Ressler, 24 Suffolk St., Port Monmouth, Mooring K-4, did not think any increase was justified.

October 5, 2010

Bruce Goodrich advised he spends at least \$3500.00 during the season for shopping and eating in restaurants in town.

Jim Bews, 246 Morris St., Summit, Mooring N-7, said the mooring field should be better protected.

Richard Herbst, 15 Renier Ct., Middletown, Mooring V-5, advised that the harbor is not designated as an official anchorage on his charts. Mr. Bate will check the current charts.

Steve Colitz, 35 Stonybrook Drive, Holmdel Mooring E-2, commented on the water and sewer utility deficit.

John Salisbury, Twin Lights, Highlands, Mooring C-2 said this is the most expensive harbor he has ever been in. He asked several questions pertaining to the Budget. Mr. Hubeny advised this information is available on line.

At 8:29 PM Mrs. Frotton advised the public portion would now be closed.

Mrs. Marchetti and Mr. Curry advised that the increase should be 1/5%.

Mrs. Frotton said she was disappointed that two of her colleagues felt that the increase should be less and they should have contacted her earlier with their concerns. Mr. Curry advised he had been on vacation and did not receive the information until recently.

Mr. Archibald advised that the rates are competitive and offered a motion to forward the rates to Mayor and Council for their approval, seconded by Mr. Hoffmann and was carried upon the following roll call vote:

AYES: Hoffmann, McDonald, Archibald, Frotton

NAYS: Marchetti, Curry

ABSENT: Thompson

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Mr. Archibald offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Marchetti and upon roll call was unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40PM.

Carol Cassese
Secretaty

April 14, 2009
EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following applicants for the Assistant Harbor Master's position were interviewed:
Jerry Vasto, Ken Lewis, Richard White and John Amici.

All candidates interviewed were asked the same set of questions. Each interview lasted
approximately a half hour

When the interviews were completed, discussion followed.

There being no further business to come before the Session, Mr. McDonald offered a
motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Eaton and upon roll call was unanimously carried.

Carol Cassese
Secretary