

**PORT OF ORCAS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2023**

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Commissioners Present: Robert Hamilton, Michael Triplett, Jason Laursen, Mia Kartiganer, Bea vonTobel

Staff Present: Kim Kimple

Public Present: Michael Durland, Chris Betcher, Tracy Betcher, Bruce Benton, Kyle Danielson, Scott Williams, Bob Long, Margaret Payn, Rick Christmas, Bob Waunch, Eric Gourley, Ed Andrews, Pierrette Guimond, Laura York et al not verified

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hamilton called the zoom and in-person meeting to order at 5:00pm, noting a quorum.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

No changes offered.

PUBLIC ACCESS

None at this time.

MONTHLY BUSINESS

1. Approval of Previous Minutes

Michael moved, Jason seconded approval of minutes of regular meeting of January 23, 2023 as presented, and the motion passed.

2. Approval of Vouchers Paid by Auditing Officer

Michael moved, Jason seconded approval of vouchers a.-f. as presented, and the motion passed.

- a. 01/24/2023 Payroll \$14,340.71
- b. 02/15/2023 Airport Operation \$7,437.60
- c. 02/15/2023 Airport Capital \$24,149.10
- d. 02/15/2023 Leasehold Tax \$1,475.99
- e. 02/22/2023 Excise Tax \$597.87
- f. 02/22/2023 Payroll \$14,637.92

Voucher c. was approved, with the airport manager to check on a possible double-billing of one item.

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. Manager's and Facilities Report

This report, already posted online, was expanded on by the airport manager, who asked Bruce Benton to fill in the status of the phase 1 application; that members of the Deer Harbor Yacht Club were present to expand on their request; that one of two wetland walks with Wetland Resources had been completed and method(s) of upkeep of plantings needed to be completed.

2. Financial Reports

These have been posted online.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Airlift Northwest Satellite Base Update and Requests

Discussion centered on the request for a tiedown location, which brought up windsweep concerns and competition. Michael asked that Airlift Northwest firm up their requests in writing in a more concise manner for presentation at the next regular meeting.

2. EV Charging Station Grant Application Update

Bruce Benton reported that the phase 1 submission was completed February 27; that if accepted phase 2 applications will be due April/May 2023; if approved, with July start date. Costs will run 250K, with the level 3

charger to be installed at the airport to service both land and air vehicles, and the need for a new transformer. Letters of support from SJC Council and legislators Lovett and Ramos have been requested. The mix of applicants has changed. Michael voiced concern about accepting site funding if the initial application is misrepresented.

2. Wetland Mitigation and Monitoring Update

A more detailed discussion will be scheduled for the April meeting, with information added after the second stroll of the wetlands by the airport manager with Wetlands Resources.

3. Eastsound Sewer and Water Use of Port Property

ESWU will be asked to attend the next regular meeting to answer questions and provide additional information on their request. Robert asked to table the in-process resolution revamping, which will be discussed at this meeting.

4. Property Issues: Airport Overlay

Bea reported on communications with the aviation division of WSDOT, who will be keeping an eye on possible changes in SJC Planning Dept revisions in the Eastsound Subarea Plan with regards to the airport overlay. Of concern is development of the Lavender Hollow Farm/McPeake property (Pea Patch) and changes in development density within the Subarea.

Mia added that she has been in contact with SJC Planning Department head David Williams regarding these concerns.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Marina Opportunities---Deer Harbor Yacht Club

Margaret Payne, representing other members of the DHYC, was present to inquire whether the port might be interested in gaining water access by helping with reconstruction of their now-derelect dock, and conversion to public use facility though collaboration with DHYC. Groundwork has already been completed, along with creation of an estimated budget of \$500k to undertake this project.

Ensuing discussion highlighted work already completed (including in-kind and gratis), and the appearance at this port meeting is the first in the club's outreach to help with the fundraising needed. A document outlining the design, estimated budget, draft schedule and fundraising plans was presented, and engineering plans were shared with commissioners.

The presentation was taken under advisement for future discussion.

PUBLIC ACCESS

Pierrette Guimond stated that she would be opposed to the use of taxpayer-generated funds for the proposed dock project. Re the Pea Patch property, she noted that there were already buildings on the property in question.

Bob Waunch strongly recommended that if hangars or other facilities were constructed on the westside property, the port should bid out that development, and be the leaseholder the constructed facilities.

Michael Durland inquired about development on the current saw shop property.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:00pm Monday March 27, 2023, zoom and in-person.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bea vonTobel, Secretary