

JAMESTOWN TOWN COUNCIL

February 6, 2003

A special meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was called to order at the Jamestown Philomenian Library, 26 North Road, at 7:10 PM by Town Council President Guy J. Settupane. The following members were present:

Kenneth G. Littman
Norma B. Willis
David Swain

Absent: David J. Long

Also present were:

Arlene D. Kalooski, Town Clerk
Bruce A. Leach, Town Solicitor
Thomas P. Tighe, Police Chief
James Archibald, Harbor Management Commission
Richard Condon, Harbor Management Commission
David Pritchard, Chairman, Harbor Management Commission
Julio DiGiando, Harbor Management Commission
Harrison Wright, Harbor Management Commission

Harbor Management Commission

- 1) 2003/2004 Marine Development Fund Budget, for approval

The Town Solicitor informed the Council that there has been an update to the budget, which was approved this evening by the Harbor Management Commission. The update relates to the reallocation of surplus funds in the amount of \$4,976.15.

Julio DiGiando gave a brief overview of the 2003/2004 Marine Development Fund Budget, as submitted by the Harbor Management Commission.

Mr. DiGiando noted that the surplus funds in the amount of \$4,976.15 would be placed in a new line item, Harbormaster's boat dockage on the on the Harbor Management side of the budget.

Mr. DiGiando stated that it is necessary to find a location for the Harbormaster's boat on the east side. Las Siegmund has provided the JHMC Facilities Committee with a plan for a municipal float which would provide dockage for the harbormaster's boat at the old ferry landing.

Councilor Willis commented that it was her understanding that dockage for the Harbormaster and Fire Department boats were to be provided for, within the Fort Wetherill Boat Owner's Association (FWBOA) lease.

David Pritchard noted that those spaces are available in the event of a storm. It would require two members of the FWBOA to relocate, as there are not two empty spaces available. It is the opinion of the JHMC Facilities Committee that Fort Wetherill is not the best place for the Harbormaster's boat. It would be more efficient to deploy from East Ferry because that is where most of the boats are located and most of the infractions take place.

There was considerable discussion on the proper location for the Harbormaster's boat. Included in the discussion was a review of the role of the Harbormaster.

Richard Condon stated that under the Harbor Ordinance, the Harbormaster's primary function is to insure that the Ordinance is enforced his secondary function is the maintenance of mooring fields.

Councilor Swain noted that it was his understand that the current Harbor Ordinance was written to manage the moorings first. Additionally, Councilor Swain stated that if the Harbormaster is to be policing the harbor, then perhaps it should be the taxpayer rather than the mooring holders that pays for the majority of the cost.

Council President Settupane noted that under State law, property rights stop at the mean high tide mark. The State has given us the right to manage the waterway; however, part of our responsibility is the public safety, health and welfare. Additionally, President Settupane stated that the State has passed a law relating to jet skis, which is to be enforced by local communities. President Settupane inquired if there has there been a decision as to where the Harbor Commission wants the new Harbormaster's dock. And, if not, could there be a line item for improvement for infrastructure for the Harbormaster.

Richard Condon indicated that it was the understanding of the Harbor Commission that Fort Wetherill is not an option. Additionally, Mr. Condon stated that it was determined by the Harbor Commission that the East Ferry would be the best location for the boat.

Following a Council discussion regarding the terms of the lease with the Fort Wetherill Boat Owner's Association, it was the consensus of the Council to request that the lease be reviewed by the Town Solicitor and the Town Administrator, along with a breakdown of the types of calls for the Harbormaster.

Council President Settupane read a letter presented on behalf of David Laurie, East Passage Riparian Representative, who was unable to attend the meeting.

James Archibald reviewed the Long Range Infrastructure/Harbor Plan, detailing changes in the look of the document to better show the revenue stream and planned projects.

Council President Settipane noted that that the budget reflects a Town contribution of \$40,000 which was not budgeted through the Town Government Budget; therefore, should be taken out of the Harbor budget revenue.

Council President Settipane reported that at a previous Town Council meeting it was voted to keep the mooring rates as previously adopted – no change in mooring rates for this budget cycle.

With Council concerns relating to the \$15,000 attributed to the dockage of the harbor boat at East Ferry Landing and the need for additional information, it was the consensus of the Council that the budget be reworked and presented to the Council for their consideration at the February 24, 2003 Town Council meeting.

Harbor Commission Chair, David Pritchard, suggested that he would forward Harbor Management Commission minutes regarding budget issues to the Council for their review.

There being no further business before the Council, it was moved by Council President Settipane, seconded by Councilor Swain to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. So unanimously voted.

Attest:

Arlene D. Kalooski
Town Clerk

cc: Town Council Members (5)
Town Administrator
Town Solicitor
Administrative Circulation