



# City of Racine

City Hall  
730 Washington Ave.  
Racine, WI 53403  
www.cityofracine.org

## Meeting Minutes - Final Board of Harbor Commission

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Thursday, March 19, 2015

4:00 PM

Fifth Street Yacht Club - 761 Marquette St.

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### 1. Call To Order

*The meeting was called to order at 4:03 P.M.*

Present: James Rooney, Mike Fox, Tom Ryan, Richard Hynek, Lynn Monroe, Tony Herrmann  
Excused: Sherman Foertsch, Jeff Raffini

Also Present: John Rooney, Sgt. Dan Hogan, Bill Halliday  
Excused: Tom Molbeck

### 2. Approval of Minutes for the February 19, 2015 Meeting

*The minutes of the February 19, 2015 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.*

### 3. [14-10841](#)

**Subject:** Communication from Mark Veenstra requesting slip use for the restroom and shower facilities along Gaslight Pointe.

**Recommendation of the Board of Harbor Commission on 02-19-15:** Defer

**Recommendation of the Board of Harbor Commission on 03-19-15:** Defer

*Mark Veenstra appeared before the Harbor Commission and was inquiring the use of slip space for bathroom and perhaps laundry facilities. He noted there are approximately 60 slips in the area of Gaslight Pointe that don't have access to toilet or bathroom facilities. He noted there was an arrangement in the past with the Radisson which has come to an end. He mentioned while Reef Point is available, it is too far away. He inquired about the possibility of using slip space to perhaps bring in a 48' x 24' barge with men and women's shower/bathrooms, washer and dryer for clothes and perhaps another space for a grill for these slips without that service.*

*Chairman Rooney and the Harbor Commission requested additional information from Mark Veenstra with how this facility may look like, how big it may be and asked for more information to be brought back to the Commission for consideration.*

*Secretary Rooney noted he could check with the City Attorney and the Building Inspector to see what may be required for such an installation, as far as zoning and permitting is concerned.*

*After further discussion, a motion was made by Fox, seconded by Hynek to defer the item. Passed unanimously.*

**Deferred****4. Racine County Sheriff's Department Water Patrol Report**

*Sgt. Hogan gave the cost estimate for additional lights and buoys. He noted these were for the area off the north breakwater.*

*Chairman Rooney asked for approval of the purchase and noted the Secretary could file for 1/2 reimbursement grant from the WisDNR.*

*Motion made by Fox, seconded by Hynek to approve the purchase.*

*Sgt. Hogan noted that April 23rd at 7:00 P.M. will be the start date for the Water Patrol administratively. He said boat No. 1 does have a fuel leak in it and they are looking at it getting repaired and available as soon as possible. He noted they would be scheduling the moving of floating docks into place in early to mid-April, depending on the status of boat No. 1.*

**5. Park, Recreation and Cultural Services Department Report**

*John Rooney noted there was nothing to report from the Parks Department.*

**6. 5th Street Boat Ramp/Basin Discussion**

*Secretary Rooney described the improvement for the 5th Street Boat Launch project and shared with the Harbor Commission plans for the replacement of the boat launch parking lot, the new bioswale and washdown station. He noted the entire cost of the parking lot improvement would be in excess of \$300,000. He noted the bioswale, itself, for the boat launch ramp was about \$80,000 with half of that reimbursable through an EPA Grant. He noted he will be applying to the Wisconsin Waterways Commission for additional funds for the overage and the parking lot.*

*Chairman Rooney wanted to remind the Commission that the City overseen Parks Department, the Harbor Commission and the Wisconsin Waterways Commission has contributed nearly \$800,000 to improving the boat launch ramp, the parking lot and other amenities in that area over the last 3 years.*

**7. Racine Recreational Harbor Dredge Project & Containment Structure**

*Chairman Rooney explained to the Harbor Commission members the letter he had sent to the Racine County Public Works Committee wishing to make an appearance to seek funding for harbor dredging. He noted there are funds available in the Fund for Lake Michigan that could be used to hire a consulting firm to do a bathometric survey of the harbor. He noted he would like to present to the Racine County Public Works Committee the idea of having the bathometric survey done and then, perhaps, creating more land out in the harbor inside the north breakwater to deposit accumulated sediment. He noted the idea would be to return the harbor to its depth from 1986 when Reef Point Marina was built. He noted he would be meeting with the Racine County Public Works Committee, along with Tony Herrmann, on Thursday, March 26, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. at the Ives Grove office.*

**8. U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Lake Level Bulletin for March 2015**

*Secretary Rooney distributed the report and noted this was information only and no action was required.*

**9. Chairman Rooney Submitting Resignation Letter from Commissioner Jeff Raffini**

*Chairman Rooney submitted a resignation letter from Commissioner Jeff Raffini.*

*Kurt Wentorf was present at the meeting and indicated he was trying to find members from the 5th Street Yacht Club that are City residents who would be interested in serving on the Harbor Commission.*

*Chairman Rooney asked Kurt Wentorf to try to give him names for the Mayor's consideration within the next month.*

*Secretary Rooney also distributed the letter notifying the Main Street Bridge Tender will be on duty at the end of the month and informed Harbor Commission members that the bridge will be undergoing repairs for the tip locks in mid-April to early May. He noted the bridge will be closed for approximately one week at that time and Tom Eeg, Assistant Commissioner of Public Works/Operations, will be working with the marinas and yacht clubs to see if the lift bridges can be operated on a less-frequent basis in order to get the work done in a timely manner.*

**10. Next Meeting Date - April 16, 2015 at 4:00 P.M. at the Harbor Lite Yacht Club, 559 State St.**

**Adjournment**

*The meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.*

**If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please contact the Department of Public Works, (262) 636-9122, at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.**