



# City of Racine

City Hall  
730 Washington Ave.  
Racine, WI 53403  
[www.cityofracine.org](http://www.cityofracine.org)

## Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Board of Harbor Commission

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Thursday, March 18, 2021

3:00 PM

Racine Yacht Club-1 Barker St.

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#### Call To Order

*The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.*

**PRESENT:** 4 - John Rooney, Sean Fox, Rick Hennig and Edwin Santiago Jr

Present: Tony Herrmann – Chair, James Rooney, Jim Rooney(new) - Vice Chair, Sean Fox(new), Sherman Foertsch, Tom Ryan, Rick Henning(new), Dan Strommen, Ald. Edwin Santiago(new), John Rooney, Ara Molitor

Excused: Lynn Monroe, Sgt. Dan Hogan, Tom Molbeck

Chairman Herrmann asked that we observe a moment of silence and reflection to honor the passing of long time board member Mike Fox.

Chairman Herrmann asked that we conduct introductions for everyone's benefit with all the new members.

#### Approval of Minutes for the November 19, 2020 Meeting

*The minutes for the June 16, 2020 meeting we approved as printed. Passed unanimously.*

Secretary Rooney Presentation, welcoming new members and an overview:

*Secretary Rooney welcomed the new members and presented an overview of the Harbor Commission detailing the Duties, Partnerships and the financials of the Board. (see attached)*

Chairman Herrmann proposed the appointment for a one year terms (2021) for himself as Chairman and Jim Rooney as Vice Chair. Motion was made/seconded and approved.

Chairman Herrmann Proposed two positions of Honor on the Board: Chairman Emeritus to James Rooney and Councilor to the Harbor Commission Emeritus to John Rooney for their years of service. Motion was made/seconded and approved.

Chairman Herrmann proposed that the Board recommend to Governor Tony Evers that James Rooney be nominated to the Wisconsin Waterways Commission as a Chairman Emeritus for his service to that board. Motion was made/seconded and approved. John Rooney and Chairman Herrmann will draft the letter to the Governor.

Racine County Sheriff's Department Water Patrol Report:

*Sargent Dan Hogan from the Racine County Sheriff's Department, was not present. Secretary Molitor stated that they will start deploying floating docks and surveying navigational needs as the weather permits very soon.*

Parks, Recreational and Cultural Services Department Report:

*Tom Molbeck did not appear before the Commission. Secretary Molitor went over the revenue report for the 2020 boat launch sales through December 31 of 2020. There has been \$44,367.15 of revenue from the 2020 season. The February lake level is reported to be 580.68 feet. (See attachments)*

Special Dock Usage:

Racine Yacht Club, requesting use of Rooney Park Public Dock Facilities and Pugh Recreational Area Public Docks for Friday, July 23, 2021.

*Racine Yacht Club requested the use of the Rooney Park Public Dock and the Pugh Recreational Area Public Dock for Friday July 23, 2021 to accommodate boaters for the Hook Race. After discussion it was amended to Wednesday 7/21 through Saturday 7/24/21 for the dock usage. Motion was made/seconded and approved.*

Update on Pump-Out Station (Clean Vessel Act Funding):

*Secretary Molitor updated the board on the status of the funding request for the WDNR for the replacement of the boat pump out station west of the Main Street bridge. The total cost is estimated for \$17,997.63 and we will no longer need to obtain the DNR permit since this is a maintenance issue and not a new station. However, the approval process for the WDNR funding (POSF) will still take 9 months and will likely mean that we will not have a functioning station in that location for the entire 2021 season.*

Congressional Update on Reef Lighthouse:

*Chairman Herrmann gave an update and description of the required reconstruction of the Lighthouse Base. The cost to replace the base which is well beyond the point of repair will be anywhere from \$6M to \$9.5M. Herrmann has received support communication from Senator Baldwin and Congressman Steils along with County Executive Delegrave. The recommended next step would be for Formal Communication to Federal and State legislators and a future meeting with the City Attorney to draft those letters. To accomplish this, we would need the City's Common Council approval. (See Attached)*

**Next Meeting Date: April 15, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.-Harbor Lite Yacht Club**

**Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.*