



# City of Racine

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Board of Harbor Commission

*Sherman Foertsch*  
*Tom Ryan*  
*Michael Fox*  
*Tony Herrmann*  
*Richard Hynek*  
*James Rooney*  
*Lynn Monroe*  
*Dan Strommen*  
*Alderman Tracey Larrin*

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Thursday, September 21, 2017

4:00 PM

Fifth St. Yacht Club - 761 Marquette St.

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#### Call To Order

**PRESENT:** 9 - Sherman Foertsch, Tom Ryan, Michael Fox, Tony Herrmann, Richard Hynek, James Rooney, Lynn Monroe, Dan Strommen and Tracey Larrin

Also Present: John Rooney, Sgt. Hogan, Monte Osterman, Jim Poplawski

#### Approval of Minutes for the August 17, 2017 Meeting

*The minutes of the August 17, 2017 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.*

#### Racine County Sheriff's Department Water Patrol Report

*Sgt. Hogan appeared before the Harbor Commission and informed them the Water Patrol was on the post-summer schedule which began Labor Day. He noted the fall hours consists of a 2-person shift. He noted some activities undertaken by the Water Patrol since the last meeting. One was a response to a suicide drowning near Myers Park, where they assisted in body recovery. He also noted a kayak rescue by a private citizen boater that occurred in the lake and there was also some response to some break-ins to approximately 12 boats along the Pugh dock area, near slips 190-215 by the State Street Bridge.*

#### Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department Report

*Secretary Rooney distributed the revenue report through the end of August. He noted to date, \$24,719.00 of revenue has been generated, of which \$14,928.00 was from the sale of daily passes at the kiosk.*

*Monte Osterman inquired whether or not the non-resident vs resident fees are accounted for. It was noted they appear on the Boat Launch Sales Report.*

#### Request from Bob Sample to do dock improvements for the Youth Sailing Program near Racine Yacht Club and Rooney Recreation Area

*Chairman Rooney asked that this item be deferred and not placed back on the agenda until it is requested by the Chair. He noted he has not yet heard from Bob Sample on this item.*

### **Azarian Site Repair**

*Secretary Rooney distributed the bids taken for the project to remove steel pilings and piers along City-owned properties downstream of Marquette Street Bridge to approximately 4th Street. He noted that the Public Works and Services Committee and Common Council entered into an agreement with Veit and Company out of New Berlin for the work at a bid total of \$191,975.00. He noted the bidders proposal was accepted to consider full extraction of pilings or cutoff of pilings where they are too difficult to be removed. He noted the intent is to go with full extraction as it is a cheaper alternative. He did note, however, the cutoff pricing may be used where extraction is not possible. He noted the project will begin the last week of September, starting with the mobilization and dock removal and the month of October will primarily be used for piling removal with the project expected to be wrapped up the beginning of November.*

### **Fund For Lake Michigan - Proposal for Racine County Harbor Monitoring**

*Chairman Rooney informed the Commission he had met with the County Executive. He had informed the Commission the work has been completed but no report has been published yet for the harbor or river. He expects to receive a copy of that and will share it with the Harbor Commission as soon as it is made available to him.*

### **Harbor Commission Improvements - ADA Kayak Launch at Pugh Recreational Area and ADA Lift Chair Improvements to 5th Street Boat Launch Pier**

*Secretary Rooney distributed a copy of a letter to the editor of The Journal Times thanking the Harbor Commission for undertaking the two projects of installing ADA upgrades at both Pugh Recreational Area and 5th Street Boat Launch. He also noted that his office had submitted for reimbursement of the RBF grants and checks have been received. He brought with him the signs from the WisDNR noting the funding source for the projects and noted that these would be installed at both locations.*

*Mike Fox noted that cleats had not been placed on the new ADA dock at the 5th Street Boat Launch Ramp and also inquired on indoor storage for the new chair lift.*

*Secretary Rooney indicated he would be working with the Parks Department on both of those items.*

### **Racine Harbor & Root River Water Quality Issues**

*Tony Herrmann distributed a mailer from the Health Department regarding water quality. He also discussed the damn project with the Commissioners. He mentioned the letter to the editor that he had drafted and sent to The Journal Times for publishing. He informed the Commission that Stephanie Jones from The Journal Times refused to publish the letter to the editor because they didn't feel Tony Herrmann was an expert in the subject matter or that personal attacks on the Mayor's change of direction on the Root River discharge was appropriate. He noted that he would be working with the Riverkeeper Group in Milwaukee with Chairman Rooney and retired judge Dennis Flynn to meet with The Journal Times Editorial Board to get this information, hopefully, published in the newspaper in the near future.*

1. Monte Osterman appeared before the Commission and informed them the County is considering eliminating the two-fee system for resident and non-city resident at the 5th Street Boat Launch Ramp. He noted there would be a first reading of the Resolution on Tuesday, the 26th with public comment on October 10th. He asked that the Harbor Commission attend and speak on behalf of this item.

Chairman Rooney and Mike Fox both noted that this is a City facility operated by the City, in which the County has no jurisdiction over.

Secretary Rooney noted the resident and non-resident fees are typically set by the WisDNR so they can be consistent for boat launches along Lake Michigan, within the same proximity.

Monte Osterman noted he would provide a copy of the proposed Resolution to the Secretary of the Harbor Commission for distribution with the minutes of this meeting.

2. Monte Osterman informed the Harbor Commission he was named to a land and water County Conservation Committee where he is representing Racine. He noted the Committee would be looking to fund water quality projects and asked that the Harbor Commission consider any type of projects that might be of interest to them as application materials may be available within the next 6 months for funding consideration.

#### **U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Lake Level Bulletin for September 2017**

Secretary Rooney distributed the Lake Level Bulletin. This was information only and no action was required.

**Next Meeting Date - October 19, 2017 at 4:00 P.M. - Harbor Lite Yacht Club, 559 State St.**

#### **Adjournment**

**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.**