

MINUTES  
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING  
MAY 16, 2006  
PORT OF ASTORIA COMMISSION CHAMBERS

Chairman Jim Bergeron called the regular meeting to order and took roll call.

Commissioners present: Jim Bergeron, Larry Pfund, Dan Hess, Don McDaniel, and Glenn Taggart.

Staff present: Peter Gearin, Ron Larsen, Esther Jones, and Port Attorney Heather Reynolds.

Others present: See sign in sheet.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA. Chairman Bergeron called for changes to the agenda, none was mentioned.

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Commissioner Glenn Taggart made the motion to approve the minutes mentioned. Motion seconded by commissioner Hess. The motion carried unanimously.

VOUCHERS: Commissioner Hess reviewed the vouchers for the month of April and moved to approve them. Don McDaniel seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. It was decided to hear from the person who was there to comment when the time came during an upcoming presentation. None other was given.

PRESENTATIONS:

O.D.O.T. Traffic Impact Study and Updated Port Circulation Plan. Valeria Grigg Devis (ODOT), Teresa Carr and Rick Kuehn (CH2MHill) detailed out the short (5-10 years) and long term plans (10-20 years). Valerie stated the presentation is "not to adopt" the plan but more for "informational". The plan will go to the City of Astoria for approval, though Peter Gearin, Executive Director, explained how it is important to adopt in turn allowing people to start planning funding for projects.

Plans would include emphasizing the entrance to the Port of Astoria through Portway Street, extending it all the way on to Pier One. Two lanes would be added on the way out of Portway Street onto Marine Drive. Industry Street in front of the Red Lion would be straightened out, while Basin Street and Bay Street would be connected.

Also recommended is closing off Taylor Avenue, intersecting at Hamburg Avenue, easing traffic. At the Bond Street intersection, the possibilities of turning the north parking lane into a turning lane may work better there. At the point where Highway 101 joins up with Marine at the base of the bridge, the roundabout is the best solution that keeps on coming back. Although, that plan would be more in to the "long term" improvements and depending on more funding coming in, would need further study.

Extending the Riverwalk trail and adding bike lanes along Marine Drive with improved pedestrian crossing areas are also planned.

Owners of the River Theater and the Columbia River Coffee were at the meeting to express their hopes to expand their leased area with the port to solve their parking problems. Plans were also discussed of the proposed expansion of the business.

Zone changes in the City of Astoria need to be considered before any adoption of the modifications are considered. Also, the public was invited to help rename the street currently named as Portway in front of the Port of Astoria administrative offices.

#### REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION

OECD LOAN, AIRPORT T-HANGARS – Commissioners authorized staff to apply for a loan to construct hangars at the Astoria Regional Airport in the total of \$700,000. The Port received an FAA Airport Improvement Program Grant for construction of 35' taxi lanes and fill for the new proposed t-hangars site. This new loan is to cover costs not included in the grant. Commissioner McDaniel moved to approve the application and Commissioner Hess seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### EASEMENT GRANT – CITY OF ASTORIA

Up for approval is a 20' wide easement for a storm water sewer pipe routing the pipe through port property to the City of Astoria's storm sewer pipe outlet. It would ease maintenance of for the city and also removes current outfall from underneath the Red Building that is leased by Union Fish, LLC. With agreement between the parties, the easement for the pipe was moved for approval by commissioner Taggart and seconded by Don McDaniel. The motion carried unanimously.

#### DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION

RENAME PORT OF ASTORIA STREET – The Port of Astoria is renaming the street in front of the administrative offices. The City of Astoria emergency dispatch department has recommended the change due to the confusion associated with calls of emergency and having two streets so close together with names that are the same. Plans are to take in possible names and vote on it at next months' regular meeting. Public is invited to help rename Portway.

CALENDAR. Thursday, May 18, 2006 the cruise ship Sapphire Princess will visit the Port of Astoria for the first time. Commissioners signed up to participate in the plaque exchange that day.

Friday, May 19, 10 a.m. is Englund Marine and Industrial Supply's grand opening. Public is invited to attend. Commissioner Pfund volunteered to make a short speech at the event.

Also, due in for an inaugural visit is the cruise ship Coral Princess on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. A plaque exchange is also planned.

## REPORTS

**FINANCE:** Peter Gearin reminded everyone the Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 24, 2006.

Mr. Gearin reported on the financial status, which was boosted some with cruise ship visits. With a couple of projects being finalized, progress is being made with billings. The billing on the Mooring Basin is progressing. Receivables are coming along, which is unfortunately slow.

Bornsteins Seafoods construction project is just about completed. Also, at the airport, the Lektro expansion project is also complete; finalizing bills.

Chuck Wickham, Director, Environmental and Contract Compliance reported on Pier 3 permits. Permits needed are from, the cities of Astoria and Warrenton, and DEQ. Storm water permit (1200-C) just received, approved. A letter of authorization is needed to utilize the end of Pier 3. Also need an exempt from a permit for placing the material at the airport for fill. Also, working on an expanded soil sampling survey. Results from the preliminary sampling from DEQ state it is being classified as clean fill with no conditions. Looking at the history of the testing could be helpful. A sampling plan is in the works.

Various projects were discussed. Asked about our dredge permit for next year, Chuck explained that he and Ron Larsen met with all the agencies involved last week. No permit is in hand for next year as of yet. Has a sampling plan in place.

One permit expired at the east and west basin and will not have any problem being renewed. Post sampling for the sediment at the face of pier 1 came back clean, and no more sampling is needed for the duration of the biological opinion through 2010. Concentrating on the slips of piers 1 and 2. Work ongoing. More discussion followed on the costs and paper work associated with one sampling.

Ron Larsen reported the new fuel tanks already have fuel. They've been filled and circulated; end of the project. May be able to start using the tanks soon.

Lektro project nearing end; only doing a check list of items. Going for last funding involved shortly. "Right on budget" was the final report by Mr. Larsen.

Coast Guard funds to assist with water/utility upgrades are also close to an end. Paperwork needs to be completed. Discussion followed on permits needed for projects at the airport. New T-Hangar rates were discussed also and the new rate could reach as high as \$230.

Mr. Gearin mentioned a tuna treaty with the United States and Canada. A meeting tomorrow at the Comfort Inn Suites, 7 p.m. is in the works for supporting continuation of the treaty with the fishermen.

#### COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner McDaniel reported on the SDDA meeting he attended. He also attended the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Seaside Convention Center. Heard good comments on port activity.

Glenn Taggart – none

Dan Hess – none

Jim Bergeron – none

Larry Pfund - none

OTHER REPORTS No other business was reported.

With no other business to discuss, the regular meeting was adjourned.