**NEW HAVEN PORT AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES**

**#189**

**SPECIAL MEETING – APRIL 20, 2023**

This was an entirely remote meeting.

Chairman Fabiani called the Special Meeting #189 of the New Haven Port Authority (NHPA) to order at 5:05 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Nick Fabiani, Chair; Sal Punzo\*\*, Vice-Chair; Gene Harris, Secretary; Tom Cavaliere, Treasurer; Katharine Goodbody; Giovanni Zinn

Staff Present: Sally Kruse

Counsel: Carolyn Kone - Brenner, Saltzman & Wallman, LLP

Public: Jim Dillman – Gateway, Tiffany Torrey – Torrey Enterprises, Daniel A. Rosales Roche\*

\*All members of the public left the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

AGENDA

Prior to entering Executive Session, Tiffany Torrey of Torrey Enterprises provided an overview of the Federal Department of Transportation’s Maritime Administration (MARAD) Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) grant process. Ms. Torrey reviewed the public/private partnerships under the PIDP grants and the responsibilities of each partner. NHPA as recipient of the grant would be responsible for grant management and reporting, such as financial reports and progress reports. Gateway would be managing the project and would provide the documentation for NHPA review and submittal, or the reports could be submitted on NHPA behalf.

In this review, Ms. Torrey detailed that the grants are reimbursement grants in which all receipts are submitted to MARAD, which then returns 75% of the costs as the local sponsor(s) are required to provide 25% of the costs for the project.

As an Authorized Organizational Representative, Ms. Torrey could manage the grant and submit reports after NHPA review. NHPA could sign an agreement with Torrey Enterprises and Ms. Torrey would be ethically bound to represent the best interests of both parties. Ms. Torrey is also willing to sign an agreement to work directly for NHPA should the grant be awarded.

If the project is funded by MARAD, MARAD’s grant managers will begin negotiations early in 2024, which can take up to a year and require certain milestones to be met. One of those requirements is the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review, which is often a long process, but of which Gateway has completed about 75%. A Section 106 review will go along with the NEPA review. There will also be an engineering risk assessment during the grant agreement negotiation phase during which MARAD will meet with the project engineers to review the project. Gateway would work with MARAD to provide a more detailed and accurate schedule and timeline for the project construction, as well as schedule for reimbursement. MARAD will help review the contractors for the project. During the grant negotiation, Gateway will not be allowed to break ground on the project.

NHPA and Gateway agreed to have another virtual meeting to discuss this at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Fabiani moved to go into Executive Session with all commissioners, Carolyn Kone and Sally Kruse to discuss the item below on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Goodbody and upon a unanimous vote by all commissioners present at the meeting, the Board moved into executive session at 5:59 p.m.

1. **Executive Session to Discuss Legal Opinion Regarding 2023 Port Infrastructure Development Program Application for Port Rail Access Improvement Project.**

\*\*Commissioner Punzo left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The Board moved out of Executive Session at 6:45 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT –** Upon a motionbyCommissioner Fabiani to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Goodbody, and approved by unanimous vote of all commissioners present at the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.