

**NEW HAVEN PORT AUTHORITY
MINUTES
#171
ANNUAL MEETING – February 3, 2022**

This was an entirely remote meeting.

Chairman Abbagnaro called the Annual Meeting of the New Haven Port Authority to order at 5:35 PM.

Commissioners Present: John Abbagnaro, Chair; Patricia Drax, Treasurer; Joey Wraithwall; Giovanni Zinn*

Staff Present: Sally Kruse; Judi Sheiffele

Counsel: Carolyn Kone - Brenner, Saltzman & Wallman

Public: Bill Gash - Connecticut Maritime Coalition; Al Paolillo – CT State Legislature; Sal Punzo – New Haven Board of Alders (Mr. Punzo left meeting early); Mark Augur - Gateway Terminal

AGENDA

MINUTES

1. **Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on January 13, 2022.** Commissioner Drax provided minor changes. The amended minutes of the January 13, 2022, Special Meeting were unanimously approved by all Commissioners present.

FINANCIAL REPORT

2. **Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for period ending December 31, 2021, and January 31, 2022.** 3. **Review of Bank Statements and Reconciliations for December 31, 2021, and January 31, 2022.** Treasurer Drax reported on interest activity for the Citizen's Bank money market account and the STIF account and noted the repayment to the Treasurer of the City of New Haven of the \$110,461.21 that had previously been incorrectly deposited in the NHPA checking account. Treasurer Drax reported being unable to review the Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss Statements prior to the meeting

4. **Expenditures requiring Board approval. There were 3 expenditures requiring Board approval, as follows:**

1. T.M. Byxbee - \$6558.00 for annual audit – final cost including electronic bank confirmation fees
2. Wellstone Insurance - \$3426.00 for Director/Manager Liability Insurance for the period 2/2022 - 2/2023 - representing an increase over previous year, primarily due to a hard market. Wellstone had provided information on other carriers contacted who could not match the coverage and price.
3. Connecticut Maritime Coalition - \$2500.00 - for annual dues – previously assessed later in the year.

Upon a motion to approve the charges by Commissioner Drax, seconded by Commissioner Wraithwall, the three above-referenced expenditures were approved by unanimous vote of all Commissioners present.

UPDATES

Connecticut Maritime Coalition- Mr. Gash reported that the CMC Board meeting would be held remotely on 2/8/22 and the next Pilot Commission meeting would in March.

Connecticut Port Authority – Ms. Sheiffele reported on status the State Pier Program

ACOE – Channel Deepening Project - Ms. Sheiffele reported that since Congresswoman DeLauro had secured \$63M funding for the entire project in the Appropriations Committee, the Federal Office of Management and Budget is not required to determine the consistency of the project with the overall Federal Program. The ACOE is now to close out the Feasibility Study and return the balance of the local sponsor fees to NHPA. NHPA will then transfer those fees to CPA, who will serve as local sponsor for the duration of the project. Craig Martin of the ACOE is expected to be the project manager.

New Haven Marine Group - Ms. Kruse stated that USCG representatives had discussed current USCG operations and plans for two active shooter/active threat security exercises in 2022. USCG is also looking for a contractor to update their Concept of Operations Manual.

*Commissioner Zinn left the meeting at 6:00 pm

OLD BUSINESS

5. 135 Fulton Terrace & 54 Edgemere Street – property sale - Interest in purchasing the property has been indicated by a third party having full knowledge of environmental conditions. Initial discussions between third party and NHPA staff as well as attorneys for both sides have taken place. A proposed terms sheet or land disposition/land development agreement will be presented to the Board at the March 2022 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

6. Warehouse Construction on Parcel C - A port operator has expressed interest in constructing a warehouse on Parcel C. Preliminary discussion was held regarding the basic type of building and planning issues; however, the Licensee for Parcel C is a different port operator who approves the project in concept but expressed has intention to remain Licensee. The Licensee must provide NHPA with written authorization to enter specific planning discussions with the other port operator. The two operators will discuss the potential project and get back to NHPA.

7. Approval of Renewal Policy for Directors and Officers Liability Insurance. Cost approved in Item #4 above.

8. Nomination of Officers – Nominations could not proceed due to the lack of a quorum.

9. New Board member selection and approval - After discussion, a plan was formulated to communicate vacant Board positions to the Mayor, the Board of Alders and other parties.

10. Procurement Policy Amendment - Ms. Kruse discussed potential updates. Ms. Kruse will develop a fact sheet and draft update for the March meeting.

11. Advisory Committee member interest - Mr. Augur of Gateway stated that he is preparing his submission for nomination to the Advisory Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

12. Annual Report - Ms. Kruse provided several updates to the Annual Report reporting on a debrief with MARAD concerning the Port Infrastructure Development Program grant that was not funded in 2021 scheduled for later in February, as well as the progress and next steps of the environmental investigations on Parcels 1, 4, 5, and 6.

Other items: Ms. Kruse reported that no progress had been made on the port signage, but that staff intends to work with the Executive Director of CPA on the issue. Ms. Kruse lastly reported that the SAMS renewal is in progress.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

13. To discuss strategy and negotiations regarding pending litigation to which the New Haven Port Authority is a party. An executive session was deemed unnecessary for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Abbagnaro adjourned the meeting at 6:40 pm