

# Sitka Port and Harbors Commission Minutes

Wednesday March 9, 2022, 6:00PM

Harrigan Centennial Hall

## **Port and Harbors Commission Members:**

Dave Gordon, Chris Ystad, Shauna Thornton,  
Tyler Green, Michael Nurco, Tamy Stevenson  
Kevin Knox (Assembly Liaison)

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Gordon called the meeting to order at approximately 6:07pm.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present:** Tyler Green, Dave Gordon, Shauna Thornton, Tamy Stevenson.  
Chris Ystad participated via video conference.

**Assembly Liaison:** Kevin Knox absent.

**Staff:** Harbormaster Stan Eliason, Deputy Harbormaster Jeremiah Johnson.  
Harbor Office Manager Alicia Soto participated via videoconference.

### **III. CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

### **IV. AGENDA CHANGES**

None.

### **V. PERSONS TO BE HEARD**

None.

### **VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **A. Approval of the February 9, 2022, meeting minutes.**

**M – Stevenson / S – Green motioned to approve the February 9, 2022, meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **VII. REPORTS**

**Harbormaster** – None

**City Staff** – None

**Chair** – None

**Assembly Liaison** – None

**Other (s)** – None

### **VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**B.** None.

### **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **C. Harbor Fund Financial update/rate discussion.**

Finance Director Melissa Haley presented a Harbor fund financial update. Haley spoke on key considerations which included high inflation rates, accuracy of projects, moving forward with the new harbor master plan, cost of condition assessments, lack of state grant funding and revenue streams not covering future asset replacement costs. Haley noted that

revenue was up in the first half of the year, and raw fish tax revenues came in higher than expected and an additional \$333,000 was added from pandemic relief funds in FY22. Haley outlined current capital projects and their costs. Hayley noted that timing of meetings resulted in the Assembly discussing a harbor rate increase before the Port and Harbor Commission had an opportunity to weigh in. Haley presented three proposed harbor rate increase options, with the Assembly favoring option 2 which included a 6.3% rate increase in FY23, followed by an 8.3% rate increase in FY24 and FY25.

Considering the information provided by Haley, the commission held a discussion regarding a recommended harbor rate increase which resulted in the following motion:

**M - Green / S - Thornton motioned for the Port and Harbor Commission to recommend option 1, an 8.3% harbor rate increase in FY23, followed by a 7.3% rate increase in FY24 and FY25. Roll call vote as follows: Green-yes, Gordon-yes, Thornton-yes, Stevenson-yes, Ystad-no. Motion passed 4/1.**

**D. Nomination of Chair and Vice-Chair.**

**M - Stevenson / S - Gordon motioned to nominate Shauna Thornton as chairman of the Port and Harbor Commission. Roll call vote as follows: Green-yes, Gordon-yes, Stevenson-yes, Ystad-yes. Motion passed 4/0 (Thornton not voting).**

**M - Gordon / S - Stevenson motioned to nominate Chris Ystad as Vice-Chairman of the Port and Harbor Commission. Roll call vote as follows: Green-yes, Gordon-yes, Thornton-yes, Stevenson-yes. Motion passed 4/0 (Ystad not voting).**

**X. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS**

1. The next regular scheduled meeting would take place on April 13, 2022, at 6:00pm.
2. Vessel insurance requirements (unfinished business)
3. Starrigavan launch ramp.
4. Harbor trash.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Chairman Gordon adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:15pm.**

Attest: Jeremiah Johnson, Deputy Harbormaster.