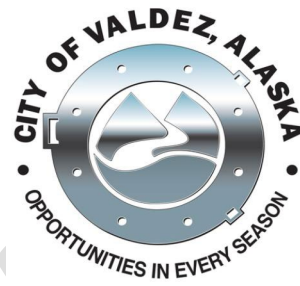


City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.
Valdez, AK 99686



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, February 7, 2022

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Council Chambers

Ports and Harbor Commission

REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Pro Temp Stephens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Valdez City Council Chambers.

II. ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Chair Pro Tempore Colleen Stephens
Commission Member Mark Swanson (Go-To-Meeting)
Commission Member Alan Steed
Commission Member Tim Bouchard
Commission Member Ryan Sontag
Commission Member Monty Morgan

Excused 1 - Chair Stu Hirsch

Also Present 3 - Director Ports and Harbor Jeremy Talbott
Harbor Master Sarah Von Bargaen
Office Manager Karisa Friend

III. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Chair Pro Temp Stephens called for any public business from the floor. Ms. Nikki Newcome, Valdez Harbors live-aboard, asked that an agenda item for the next Port and Harbor Commission meeting be added to revisit live-aboard fees. Mr. Jared Van Putten, also a Valdez Harbors live-aboard, agrees that he would like the \$75.00 fee discussed at the next Commission meeting and that he is opposed to it. Chair Pro Temp said that this topic would be scheduled to discuss.

IV. NEW BUSINESS**1. Replacement Design of H-K Floats and the Tour Float**

Chair Pro Temp Stephens introduced Nate Duval, Capital Facilities Director. Mr. Duval stated this project is being brought back to the Commission for review and he is looking for feedback about the reconfiguration. He said a big piece of the puzzle is adding float L. This will help with the waitlist and getting customers into slips. Another reconfiguration is H float and the transient moorage side. Also, there will be T's at the end of each float for additional transient moorage. Mr. Duval confirmed there would be no displacement of vessels with the reconfiguration. Ms. Von Bargaen added that with the H float reconfiguration the larger size boats would be moved to another location in either basin, there is space available, so no one will lose a slip, would just be moved. Mr. Duval asked for any questions. There being none, he continued.

Mr. Duval stated material costs have increased adding about a \$1 million to the project. The scope for launch ramps was included in the design, so it is H-K replacements, Tour Dock replacement, utilities on A-G floats and the launch ramps were all a part of the design scope of work. Mr. Duval said the plan is to go for Fish and Game grant money to help with the launch ramp which is on a different timeframe. Tour dock is on the same timeframe and a few options have been explored, also added a 110' ADA gangway. Also replacing a 55' gangway with an existing 65' gangway. Overall trying to be efficient with resources and funds. Mr. Duval

continued by saying a conversation was had with Crowley about the fuel float and they have operational decisions to make. He paused for questions about the Tour Dock.

Commission Member Steed asked about the tour dock floats, clarification on finger extensions and width. Overall decision is for snow removal efforts along with ADA specifications on the extended gangway.

Commission Member Swanson says the diagram shows an 86' gangway, but will actually be a repurposed 65' gangway. Mr. Duval confirmed that the diagram is not entirely up-to-date. Chair Pro Temp Stephens mentioned a staging platform at the top of the 65' gangway. Mr. Duval confirmed correct.

Chair Pro Temp Stephens asked for any additional comments or questions.

Mr. Duval said another area that has been discussed is height of floats off of the water. He said it is currently designed to match what is in the South Harbor, which is 18". It has been mentioned to drop Tour Dock to 15", they are weighing the options on leaving it at 18". More are in favor of taller floats. Mr. Talbott said with snow load, taller is better. Mr. Duval said PND Engineers calculated about a 3" loss over the life span of the floats.

Chair Pro Temp Stephens asked about a cover over the staging area at the top of Tour Dock for customer considering many people gather there. She said it is a service issue. Mr. Duval said at this point nothing is designed, there is more of an evaluation needed of that pier to make sure it is structurally capable.

Ms. Von Barga asked Chair Pro Temp Stephens if the change in dock height would have an impact on the stair and ramp set-up onto their vessels. She deferred to an employee that is present that stated it would.

Commission Member Swanson said that he would like to hear the perspective from Chair Pro Temp Stephens and Commission Member Steed on the extension of the floats. Commission Member Steed said he is happy with just the pilings, he said it would make it nice to have more of an angle. He said it is not really a problem, in the winter it would just add snow removal. Chair Pro Temp Stephens said it is about safety for the line handlers and gives more access to the boat safely. Commission Member Steed said the finger where the pilot boat is at, the finger is not wide enough for the bobcat to get down for the snow removal efforts.

Commission Member Sontag asked about a new sewer pump out. Mr. Talbott stated staff has requested a new deluxe machine. The topic is in discussion.

Mr. Duval stated currently the price tag is about \$13 million, there is \$6 million in a reserve account for this project, and if awarded additional funding that would be about \$5 million, so overall it would still be short a few dollars. Mr. Duval thinks the overall improvements are worthwhile. He wants to make sure it is functional and useable.

Chair Pro Temp Stephens opened the floor for public comment concerning the Tour Dock.

Mr. Tim Duffy, Owner of Pangaea Adventures, commented on the finger dock/slips where they keep kayaks in the water. He mentioned the wooden dock along the sea wall and avoiding raised wooden sections on the side where they get in and out of kayaks. Mr. Duval said it is going to be segmented bull rail sections not continuous. Mr. Talbott said the Engineers can be asked to look at the options, just cannot have cleats on top of bull rails. Mr. Duffy said from the water taxi side, the bull rails are beneficial.

Ms. Amanda Bauer, operator at Stan Stephens Cruises commented on the metal steps that on the floor of the gangway, the Customers like them and its added security when going up and down.

Chair Pro Temp Stephens opened the floor for public comment concerning H – K docks.

No comments made from the public.

Commission Member Swanson commented on elevation of H through L floats, if there is going to be a different height for them. Mr. Duval said they will be higher, at 18" like South Harbor, with a segmented bull rail.

Ms. Von Barga mentioned she had heard about having a step in between the boat and bull rail to help with the transition of getting on to the dock.

Mr. Duval said procedurally it is at about 50% design phase and once it reaches 65% design phase it is not ideal to be changing options. It then has cost impacts and it becomes greater. It is currently still on paper so some updates can be made.

Mr. Duval said the last part of this is that there will be a lot of disruption. The hope is to send to bid this summer, so materials can arrive before winter and most work can happen in the late fall, winter into early spring timeframe, but there will be a fair amount of displacement and disruption. Making an effort to get the project going and will provide updates on what to expect and when to expect it. Also still looking for other grant opportunities and it is up to Council on whether to pay cash or not. Pushing forward as though to start next winter.

Chair Pro Temp Stephens stated if anyone online or present has questions or additional comments to email Ms. Von Barga, Harbormaster. Mr. Duval said they looking for any major comments or concerns within the next 2 to 3 weeks.

Mr. Talbott stated the Waterfront Master Plan calls for a sheet pile behind the H – K area. Which is a long term item, not a short term item.

Chair Pro Temp Stephens asked for any additional comments or questions from Commissioners, there being none she closed the new business item.

V. REPORTS

1. Directors Report

Chair Pro Temp Stephens commented that Mr. Talbott's report is attached to the agenda and asked if there were any questions or comments concerning his report. There were none.

VI. COMMISSION BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Chair Pro Temp Stephens opened the floor for business from Commissioners.

Commission Members Swanson, Steed, Sontag and Bouchard stated no business.

Commission Member Morgan was curious about the topic from last work session and doing something for Linda Brandenburg and Diane Kinney, he asked if anything was decided. Mr. Talbott said the Clerk has been out of town and is the one that spearheads the process. Regardless of what the City does, Port and Harbor will still do something for them. Mr. Duval

spoke up and mentioned there is something in the works for a proclamation during the Celebration of Life.

Chair Pro Temp Stephens had no business.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Pro Temp Stephens adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

DRAFT