

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 9, 2023

A Special Meeting of the Harbor Management Commission (HMC) of the Town of Fairfield was held on Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. in the First Floor Conference Room of Sullivan Independence Hall, 611 Old Post Road, Fairfield, CT, and via teleconference.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kim Taylor, Chairwoman; Jacob Herschler; Doug Metchick; Bill Perugini; Don Hyman; Jeff Warren; George Harris, and Dave Henry. **ABSENT:** Eric Sundman. **ALSO PRESENT:** Geoff Steadman, HMC Consultant; Bryan LeClerc, Harbor Master; and John Dean, Deputy Harbor Master, and Jeff Engborg, Manager PYC.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chairwoman Taylor.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Proposed Budget for FY 2024 – 2025:** The HMC discussed the proposed FY24-25 Operating budget at length. Chairwoman Taylor noted that the proposed \$1,000.00 increase for the sign at the Lower Wharf is required by the Risk Management Department and the deed of acquisition of the Harbor Road parcel (land swap for 1101 Harbor Road). Because the HMC has had a flat budget for several years, there were no funds without this increase to cover the estimated cost of the sign. Any money not used for it would revert to the general fund. It was noted that erecting the sign is a legal obligation of the HMC. Because the Lower Wharf green is utilized by people from all over town, many of whom are “non-mooring holders”, it did not seem appropriate to utilize mooring fees to pay for the sign. Those fees are intended for the harbor management/mooring improvements and equipment replacement. Following considerable discussion, Doug Metchick *moved* and Bill Perugini *seconded* to approve the proposed draft FY24-25 budget request as presented, and the draft budget message with the omission of the word “late” in the second to last sentence. *Motion passed unanimously.*

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Bill Perugini *moved* and Jac Herschler *seconded* to adjourn at 4:45 p.m. *Motion passed unanimously.*

The audio recording can be found here: [11/9/23 Harbor Management Commission - YouTube](#)

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Gabriel