



# Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive  
Petersburg, AK 99833

## Meeting Minutes Harbors and Ports Board

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Thursday, February 09, 2023

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

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### 1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

#### PRESENT

Board Chair Bob Martin  
Board Member Casey Knight  
Board Member John Murgas  
Board Member Don Spigelmyre  
Board Member Jim Stromdahl  
Board Member Scott Roberge

#### EXCUSED

Board Member Daniel Cardenas

### 2. Approval of Minutes

#### A. April 15, 2022 Harbors and Ports Advisory Board Minutes

The April 15, 2022 Harbors and Ports Advisory Board meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

### 3. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The meeting agenda was approved as submitted.

### 4. Persons to be Heard Related to the Agenda

Persons with views to share on any item on today's agenda may do so at this time.

No views were shared.

### 5. Persons to be Heard Unrelated to the Agenda

Persons with views to share on subjects not on today's agenda may do so at this time.

Scott Pullar requested funds be added to the Scow Bay Facility Maintenance budget for more frequent surface grading.

### 6. Harbormaster Report

#### A. January 2023 Harbormaster Report

Harbormaster Wollen reviewed her written report, which is attached and made a permanent part of these minutes.

## **7. Unfinished Business**

## **8. New Business**

### **A. Wake Zone Request**

Member Spigelmyre explained the wake issue he feels has gotten worse in the last few years. Members each spoke to the hazards of the issue and suggested increased education targeting boaters transiting the area. Board members suggested increased signage that includes specific code references as part of the post. Motion to advise Borough Assembly to increase the current \$50.00 fine to \$200.00 per incident was passed unanimously.

### **B. Capping Live Aboard Customers**

Harbormaster Wollen proposes a 10% cap on Live-Aboard status per stall length be added to Chapter 14.20.125 Live-Aboard Policy in Borough Code. Member Knight made a motion to clarify the Live-Aboard status as "A vessel with at least one person living aboard for 15 consecutive days within a 30 day billing cycle and moored in the Petersburg Harbor is considered a live aboard", Member Roberge seconded and the motion was passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Board Member Knight, Seconded by Board Member Roberge.

Voting Yea: Board Chair Martin, Board Member Knight, Board Member Murgas, Board Member Spigelmyre, Board Member Stromdahl, Board Member Roberge

Discussion continued with audience members commenting on various sources of concern for making the changes. Board Member Murgas would like more public involvement prior to the Assembly decision. A motion was made to support the proposed change to the Borough Code "During the months of May through October of each year, no more than ten percent (10%) of the moorage spaces within each category of stall length may be utilized at any one time" and passed by a vote of 5-1.

Motion made by Board Member Knight, Seconded by Board Member Spigelmyre.

Voting Yea: Board Chair Martin, Board Member Knight, Board Member Spigelmyre, Board Member Stromdahl, Board Member Roberge

Voting Nay: Board Member Murgas

### **C. Clarifying Prohibited Acts**

Harbormaster Wollen proposed clarifying language in the Borough Code to specifically add "float houses" to the prohibited acts listed in 14.20.250(B). The board discussed needing a description before voting to support the request, therefore no action was taken. Member Spigelmyre made a motion, seconded by Member Murgas, to support

adding "Commercial use of the harbor facilities for rental of vessels for residential purposes, either on a short-term rental (e.g., vacation rental or bed & breakfast) or long-term rental basis is prohibited. This does not preclude short-term moorage of a marine passenger ship providing overnight lodging as part of a cruise, as that term is defined in PMC 4.80.020.", and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Board Member Spigelmyre, Seconded by Board Member Murgas.

Voting Yea: Board Chair Martin, Board Member Knight, Board Member Murgas, Board Member Spigelmyre, Board Member Stromdahl, Board Member Roberge

## **9. Communication**

## **10. Discussion Items**

Member Murgas presented his request of the Borough's Water Department for installation of a private water meter at the Scow Bay Turnaround Launch Ramp location and asked the members for comment. Discussion occurred concerning project funding source and Mr. Murgas reported that his company, Petersburg Marine, will be paying for the installation. The Board was supportive of the project.

Member Spigelmyre asked about water quality testing after the South Harbor Dredge Project completion and the availability of testing results. Harbormaster Wollen affirmed the USACE monitors a variety of environmental concerns throughout the project and makes those available to the public.

## **11. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.