

PAGE 1 OF 3

City of Norwalk Shellfish Commission Meeting November 1, 2018 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 7:15 PM

ATTENDANCE

Commission: Steve Bartush, Pete Johnson, Pat DeVito, Nick Sacchinelli

Staff: Thomas Closter

Police:

Advisory: Capt. Dave Hopp

Guests: Joe Schnierlein, Geoff Steadman, Chris Samorajczyk, John Hanifin, Christian Brown, Lauren DiGiovanni, Denise Young, Sue Prosi, Chet Muckenhirn, Tim Pramer, Rob Norrholm Jr, Jimmy Bloom, Norm Bloom, John Pinto, Tony Mobilia, John Hilts, Julie Georges, Deb Goldstein, Jeff Roig, Brian Watson, Diane Lauricella

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

October Minutes approved with no corrections by Comm. Bartush, 2nd by Comm. DeVito.

Unanimous Vote.

TREASURER

Comm. DeVito reports:

	NAME	DATE	AMOUNT	REASON
BALANCE		8/31/18	\$24,564.02	
DEPOSIT	Bell's Shellfish	09/07/18	\$200.00	Seed Oyster
	Town of Westport	10/16/18	\$71.78	Phone
INTEREST		August	\$ 8.00	
		September	\$42.00	
EXPENSES	Frontier	9/18 to 10/19	(\$71.78)	Phone
		10/19 to		
	Frontier	11/20	(\$72.84)	Phone
BALANCE		10/31/18		\$24,741.18
	Last Year	10/31/17		\$21,392.83
	Two Years Ago	10/31/16		\$17,858.53

SECRETARY

Commissioner Johnson reports Commission review of a Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Permit Consultation Form submitted by Mr. John Hilts on behalf of Mr. Ralph Peluso to construct a 4' by 74' piling-supported timber pier; install a 3' by 40'

PAGE 2 OF 3

aluminum ramp, 10' by 16' timber floating dock, and two timber float anchor pilings at 30 Shorefront Park, Norwalk. After discussion, the Commission will schedule a site visit and discuss application at December Shellfish Meeting.

COMMITTEES

HEALTH DEPT

Mr. Closter reports:

7.25 inches of rain in October. Average since 1987 is 4.27 inches of rain for October.

There were 675 calls in October. There were three closures for Cooke's Ground for over .5 inch on October 2, 11 & 27, 2018. There were two closures in the CAA (1-1.49 inches) on and the CAA1DN (over 1.5 inches) on October 2 & 11, 2018.

There was one report of a bypass for October 27, 2018

WASTEWATER

No Report.

WATER QUALITY

Chairman Schnierlein discussed that Aquarion is filing a permit to take water from a well that was first drilled in 1982 in Cannondale next to the Norwalk River and they want to draw up to 1 million gallons per day. This will impact the level of the water table, the flow of the river, area wetlands, nearby private wells and the dissolved oxygen and salinity levels in the harbor. The water will go to Southwest Fairfield County towns to improve drought resiliency. Other concerns is when water tables are drawn down it causes the soil to compress which then causes more water to run off during rain events and increased flooding from the runoff. With a lower water table, the river itself will be lower, and that could impact people who have well water. One solution is that Aquarion, during periods of drought, should dig their reservoirs deeper and wider so they can hold more water. The Water Quality Committee would like to make a recommendation to the Mayor to have the City Attorneys and the Conservation office review the permit.

PERMITS

Commissioner DeVito reports permits are very slow due to the recent rain events.

POLICE

Sgt. LaPak absent, no report.

ADVISORY

Water temperature reported at 59 degrees.

HARBOR MANAGEMENT

No Report

Motion to accept committee reports by Commissioner Bartush, second by Commissioner Sacchinelli. Unanimous Vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Representatives from CTDOT and HNTB John Hanifin, Christian Brown, Chris Samorajczyk, Lauren DiGiovanni and Chet Muckenhirn gave an update on the Walk Bridge Project. The anticipated duration of the project will be 4-5 years and will include a

PAGE 3 OF 3

240 foot vertical lift span and will have an improved alignment with the Stroppolino Bridge. Construction activity overview included temporary work platforms, pier construction, dredging, vessel relocation, MNR ductbank and submarine cables and wetland recreation. Explanation of pier construction included work platforms, pier removal, marine enclosures, wetland restorations and mitigation measures. Shellfish Commission Members, Shellfish Harvesters, Harbor Management and the Public had concerns regarding barge mooring locations, dredging activities, mitigation measures and work only to be performed during incoming tides. Permit plates were delivered to the Shellfish Commission and Harbor Management for review. CTDOT will attend next Shellfish Commission meeting on December 6, 2018 for next update.

NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 6, 2018 @7:00pm Health Department Library.

**ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner DeVito, second by Commissioner Bartush,
Vote Unanimous 9:03 PM**

Minutes by Thomas Closter