

**City of Norwalk
Shellfish Commission Meeting
October 3, 2019
Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER 7:07 PM

ATTENDANCE

Commission: Steve Bartush, Pete Johnson, Tom Mattera, Nick Sacchinelli

Staff: Thomas Closter

Police: Sgt. Pete LaPak

Advisory: None

Guests: Tony Mobilia, Geoff Steadman, Deborah Goldstein, Joe Schnierlein

PUBLIC COMMENT

Andy Fesenmeyer, Adam Fox, & Chris Samorajczyk from Connecticut DOT and Justine Ziobron from BL Companies talked about State Project No. 102-295for I-95 Resurfacing and Median Reconstruction. Items discussed were:

- Environmental Investigations – soil samples
- Stormwater Compliance
- DOT MS4 Permit overview
- Existing stormwater conditions
- Proposed stormwater improvements
- Wetland mitigation & plantings
- Soil staging & stockpiling
- Handling contaminated sediments
- Project status and schedule

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

September Minutes approved with no corrections by Comm. Mattera, 2nd by Comm. Sacchinelli. Unanimous Vote.

TREASURER

Commissioner Mattera reports:

	NAME	DATE	AMOUNT	REASON
BALANCE		8/31/19	\$22,748.70	
DEPOSIT			\$	
INTEREST			\$	
EXPENSES	Frontier	9/1/19	\$ (86.04)	Phone
	Rex Marine		\$ (271.67)	Boat
	Water Quality		\$ (3,000.)	Maintenance
				Interns
BALANCE		8/31/19		\$19,390.99
	Last Year	8/31/18		\$24,700.24
	Two Years Ago	8/31/17		\$21,189.83

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SECRETARY

Chairman Johnson has no report.

COMMITTEES

HEALTH DEPT

Mr. Closter reports:

1.16 inches of rain in September. Average since 1987 is 4.98 inches of rain for September. There were 281 calls in September. There were no closures for Cooke's Ground for over 0.5 inch in September. There were no closures in the CAA (1-1.49 inches) in September and no closures in the CAA1DN (over 1.5 inches) in September. There were no reports of a bypass for September.

WASTEWATER

No Report.

WATER QUALITY

- 1) Chairman Schnierlein gave an update on Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). He explained what the State of CT is doing to address PFAS and the Governor's Task Force draft report. Chairman Schnierlein has sent his comments to the Task Force. His concerns are:

- How can PFAS be removed at the user end using charcoal filters or a reverse osmosis filter system?
- With construction beginning on the Walk Bridge, PFAS could be in sediments and there should be a sampling and remediation protocol in place.
- PFAS compounds in water supplies could impact real estate.
- There needs to be a study of the incidences of cancer and other PFAS related health issues
- Task Force set up a list of goals with no timelines attached to them.
- The establishment of multiple test sites in Connecticut for PFAS.

The Committee also talked about the Norwalk River Watershed Initiative and how a meeting of the representatives from the watershed towns and the State and Federal agencies can be convened to re-establish the initiative.

Geoff Steadman and Chairman Schnierlein discussed a study that was done by Dr. Peter Pellegrino in the late 1970's regarding an environmental monitoring program for the management of Norwalk Harbor. Chairman Schnierlein pointed out the high and diverse number of species mentioned in the study.

PERMITS

Commissioner Mattera will give a year ending report in December.

POLICE

Sgt LaPak reports 10 hours of patrol and not a lot of clamming.

ADVISORY

No Report.

HARBOR MANAGEMENT

Bridge drainage plans upgraded to improve what is entering the Norwalk River from I95. Geoff Steadman said Harbor Management worked with DOT and they are pleased with the new drainage plans.

Shellfish Commission and Harbor Management Commission are awaiting a response from Anthony Carr, Chief of Operations & Public Works, regarding an email sent to discuss what information has Eversource provided to the City regarding integration of their plans to relocate their transmission cables with those aligned with the City's infrastructure requirements.

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

OLD BUSINESS

26 Shorefront Park – Harbormaster performed an investigation and discussed a violation with the Marine Division regarding a boat sitting on the bottom at low tide.

A letter was sent to the homeowners from Susan L. Bailey, Senior Environmental Analyst for the Land & Water Resources Division after a review was made of the Certificate of Permission Application with the following concerns:

- Existing footprint extends beyond the previously existing footprint of the groin.
- List the volume and area of stone removed.
- Discuss why work conducted were both necessary and unavoidable.
- Submit photographs to document the installation of the required float stops.
- Need to modify plans to show superimposed the contours and footprint of the groin and walkway.
- Indicate if the groin was removed or show the groin on the plans.

Department of Transportation submitted documentation to DEEP for Walk Bridge Project without Harbor Management and Shellfish Commission sign offs. Shellfish Commission's outstanding items include: work barge stationing, Eversource's final plan, final dredging spoils haulout locations, telemetry or data reporting format and timing, written post turbidity exceedance investigation and action plans, final low salt marsh remediation plans, initial and pre construction sentinel stations data and allowable NTUs and/or % over turbidity background. There has been no communication from Eversource.

NEW BUSINESS

Site inspections needed at 12 Shorehaven Rd, 67 Bluff Ave, & 38 Shorefront Park

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commission went in to Executive Session at 8:23pm to discuss a Personnel issue.
Executive Session ended at 8:33pm

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 7, 2019 @7:00pm Health Department.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Bartush, second by Commissioner Sacchinelli, Vote Unanimous 8:45 PM