

**CITY OF NORWALK
NORWALK SHELLFISH COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING - MAY 7, 2026
VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

ATTENDANCE: Steve Bartush (Chair), Jonathan Pageler, Nick Sacchinelli.

STAFF: Bill Mooney, Assistant Director of Health.

OTHERS: Sgt. Justin Bisceglie, Geoff Steadman (Consultant), Jeff Mangels (Harbor Management Commission).

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bartush called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. A quorum was present.

II. ROLL CALL

A roll call of those present was performed.

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. REGULAR MEETING: APRIL 2, 2026

****MR. SACCHINELLI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.**

****MR. PAGELER SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

V. REPORTS

A. TREASURER

Mr. Mooney reported there were no expenditures this month; the balance remains at \$31,997.

B. SECRETARY

Mr. Bartush advised he would hold off until Permits to discuss further.

C. HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Mr. Mooney reported that April rainfall totaled 2.30 inches. He noted one closure on April 26 for Cook's Ground and CAA due to rainfall; there were no bypasses.

D. WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

There was no report.

E. WATER QUALITY

There was no report.

F. PERMITS

Mr. Mooney reported that he delivered permits to All American Bait Shop and explained the permitting process. He also stated that Fishman's World continues to encourage applicants to provide their email addresses on permit applications.

G. POLICE

Mr. Bisceglie reported that two minor complaints were received in April. One involved shellfishing in a prohibited area near the sailing school, and the other was determined to involve sandworms. He noted that activity is beginning to increase for the season.

H. ADVISORY

Mr. Steadman reported on the pending update to the Norwalk River Watershed Plan, expressing concern that the draft does not adequately address Norwalk Harbor and the estuary. He also discussed the potential impacts of the Merritt 7 project on water quality, ongoing efforts to strengthen harbor management legislation, and regional environmental and remediation initiatives. Mr. Bartush asked Mr. Steadman to provide written comments on the Watershed Plan for distribution to the Commission.

I. HARBOR MANAGEMENT

Mr. Mangels reported that he is awaiting an update on the Water Quality Committee. He also noted that the Harbor Management Commission tabled its review of the application for 9 Shorehaven Road pending additional information from the applicant.

****MR. SACCHINELLI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

****MR. PAGELER SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Cost sharing for emergency lights/siren for the new Harbormaster boat with Harbor Management Commission.

Mr. Mangels requested that the Commission approve contributing approximately \$2,060, representing half the cost of installing a blue light and siren on the new Harbormaster boat. He noted that the Commission would have access to the vessel for its work.

****MR. PAGELER MOVED TO APPROVE COST SHARING FOR
EMERGENCY LIGHTS/SIREN FOR THE NEW HARBORMASTER BOAT.
**MR. SACCHINELLI SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

VIII. DISCUSSION

Mr. Bartush thanked the Mayor and the Council for approving two reappointments to the Commission.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

****MR. SACCHINELLI MOVED TO ADJOURN.
**MR. PAGELER SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

June 4, 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.