

MINUTES
Ad Hoc Committee on Town Docks
Tuesday, September 26, 2017
Town Hall Annex Conference Room

Vice-Chairman Bob Tougher convened the meeting at 8:32 AM with the following additional Committee members in attendance: Linda Murray, Steve Durgin, Paul O'Brien, Adam Tasker, John Thurston, and Justin Chaffee. Members not present were Dave Senecal and Mary DeVries. Also in attendance were Dave Owen, Dave Ford, and Matt Sullivan from Town staff. [Note: Dave Senecal had a conflicting meeting to attend, but arrived at and participated in the Town Docks Committee meeting toward the end of the meeting.]

The minutes of the last Committee meeting on May 24, 2017 were taken up. **It was moved by Linda Murray to approve the minutes as written, and John Thurston seconded the motion. The motion was then approved, with John Thurston abstaining.**

Dave Ford then discussed his memorandum dated September 19, 2017 on the subject of the Dockside Project—Funding & Schedule, and the engineering report of Tighe & Bond titled “Town Docks Inspection, Assessment, & Asset Management Study”. Dave Ford explained that he has increased the budget for the public bathrooms at Dockside project to \$150,000 due to concerns about the foundation. He also reported that the Town Docks have been posted with weight limits due to concerns raised by the engineers’ report, and that he is recommending \$40,000 for emergency dock repairs to strengthen the cross-bracing under the docks. He is recommending that expansion of the Town Docks take place at the same time as major repairs at Dockside in 2019.

Paul O'Brien inquired about which projects have the highest priority for public safety. Dave Ford responded that the public restrooms are the highest priority, and the second highest priority is the emergency repairs of the docks, including cross bracing and commercial dock repairs. But Dave Ford said that there is no eminent danger to public safety at the Town Docks. Dave Ford said that he is now recommending that the Dockside parking lot improvements be moved back and put at the end of the other improvements being made at Dockside, but that he will have a skim coat of pavement put on the parking lot this fall after the boat ramp and sewer line construction takes place.

After Dave Ford’s presentation, **John Thurston moved that the Committee support the plan for the emergency repairs on the Town Docks. Linda Murray seconded the motion.** During discussion of the motion, Steve Durgan stated that he felt that the motion was premature. He said that the whole town is clamoring for the expansion of the Town Docks, and he feels that the engineering report is an obstacle to getting that done. Adam Tasker reminded the Committee that he had told the Committee last year that the docks had problems and needed repairs. Paul O'Brien questioned whether we have the dock-related projects in the right sequence. Dave Owen pointed out that the engineering report does not change the planned timeline for the expansion of the Town Docks. After considerable discussion along these lines, **the motion was approved by a vote of 5-2**, with Steve Durgan and Paul O'Brien opposed.

Dave Senecal arrived at the meeting in progress at 9:35 AM. The Committee expressed a desire to have a reputable marine contractor review the engineers' report to see if its recommendations make sense to him and to see if the proposed scope of repairs and improvements are reasonable and appropriate. It was decided to request Luke Freudenberg to undertake such a review.

Relative to setting another meeting date, it was decided that it will be left to the call of the Committee's Chairman, and that it would likely be sometime in November when the Town Budget and the warrant articles are being considered.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM

Respectfully submitted,
David Owen