



Harbor Development Committee Minutes

January 11, 2021

A joint meeting with the full Hingham Conservation Commission

HDC Members: W. Reardon (Chair), P. Branagan, S. Darby, K. Doran, P. Gannon, M. Boer

Others: JR Frey, Town Engineer, Joe Fisher for BOS, Dan Gagne from Beals & Thomas and members of the public via ZOOM

1. **Call to order:** Mr. Reardon convened a meeting of the Harbor Development Committee at ~9:10pm (within the CONCOM meeting convened at 7:00PM)
2. --CONCOM Chairwoman Freeman summarized the earlier meeting on Dec. 7 and described correspondence to HDC from Conservation Agent Loni Fournier, dated December 16, posing a number of questions raised by Commissioners since that meeting.

--Mr. Reardon, for the HDC; made a further brief presentation of the Harbor Wharf Reconstruction/Resiliency Projects since the prior meeting, describing HDC and Jr Frey's actions in the interim.

--JR Frey walked CONCOM through his responses to questions raised in Ms. Fournier's memorandum addressing several of the issues raised. He mentioned that he has requested a proposal from Kleinfelder/Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute to update the tidal data from their 2015 Vulnerability Assessment and to conduct certain modeling to compare wave action effects before and after the HDC-proposed reconstruction/resiliency work at Town Pier, as requested by CONCOM.

--Members of the CONCOM posed further questions to Mr. Reardon, Mr. Frey and Mr Gagne, with particular focus on the question of fresh water flows brought on by a major storm from the land side of the Town Brook tidal gate and with concerns about whether the HDC proposal would be effective in meeting the Town's needs to address sea level rise.

--Commissioner Hidell articulated his view that CONCOM needed to address changes to their Hingham Waterways Regulations that would allow, under certain circumstances, elevation of the existing harbor wharf walls



--There was consensus that CONCOM and HDC, as two independent Town bodies both performing their perspective responsibilities, needed to continue working together to reconcile the Town's needs for reconstruction/resiliency work at Town Pier and the other wharves with CONCOM's mandate to protect the coastal environment. It was noted that CONCOM's next meetings were scheduled for February 1 and 22.

3. Adjournment of HDC meeting 10:40PM