# Friday Harbor Port District

Port Commission Meeting San Juan Island Yacht Club Friday August 23, 2024 at 10:00 AM

Regular Meeting Minutes

**Commissioners Present:** 

Graham Black

Barbara Marrett Richard Goodhart

**Port Staff Present:** 

Todd Nicholson, Executive Director

Phyllis Johnson, Port Auditor Mike Roling, IT Administrator

**Public Present:** 

Jill Belcovson, LWVS# J

Andrew Flemming, Saltwater Farms

Leon Wolf, Photon Marine

Marcelino Alvarez, Photon Marine

**Citizen comments/requests**: Citizens can make a brief comment or may ask the Commission to schedule a topic for further discussion at a future meeting.

None

**Presentation:** Andrew Flemming from Saltwater Farms made a presentation adjusting the use of their existing lease area to build a set of pickleball courts and a small restaurant. They also requested an adjustment to increase the size of the leased area to help ease site planning. The expanded area does not impact plans of the southwest development area.

The tent cabins that were planned would be relocated to the opposite corner of the existing leased area. Further information will be gathered before making a final decision.

**Presentation:** Marcelino Alvarez from Photon Marine made a presentation on port electrification. He discussed his company's efforts to build electric outboard motors for commercial use. He highlighted different designs that match the Port's uses.

A discussion of grant funding included \$7M being awarded from WSDOT to fund projects including electric work boats, a solar canopy, an electric boat lift, upgraded marina pedestals, marine DC fast chargers, workforce development, and community benefits planning. An additional EPA grant is still pending.

Photon Marine sees itself as a partner with the Port in creating a decarbonized, and highly productive area for tourism and economic development in the San Juan Islands. The Port will be the first of many of the 'Marine Super Charger Network' of the Pacific Northwest.

Leon provided an estimated timeline for the project, which is dependent on the Washington Department of Transportation's funding and contracting process. The first boats are expected to be on the water in 2026, with community engagement and a grand opening planned for the start of the 2026 summer season. Leon also suggested presenting the project at the Washington Public Ports Association's annual meeting and the New Orleans workboat show. The Port expressed optimism about the project's progress and mentioned an additional grant for electrification and solar panel installation.

## **Consent Agenda:**

A. Payroll & Vouchers 5086-5100 in the amount of \$347,342.97

Commissioner Black moved to approve the Payroll and Vouchers; Commissioner Marrett seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

**B.** Approval of Minutes for June 28<sup>th</sup> 2024, July 12<sup>th</sup> 2024, and August 13<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Commissioner Marrett moved to approve the Minutes; Commissioner Black seconded. The motion was approved unanimously

### **Action Items:**

**A.** Consider approving a Separation Agreement

Commissioner Marrett moved to approve the separation agreement; Commissioner Black seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. Consider approving assignment of San Juan Canvas Lease

The remainder of the existing lease is being assigned to the new owner of the business. Commissioner Marret moved to approve, Commissioner Black seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Discussion Items:**

A. Discuss current Lease Policy provisions and lessee requested modifications

The recommendation is to stick to the existing policy. Regarding the net zero language there is an option of buying in to the Port's solar fund instead. Reroof and skin of the hangar would still be required unless they have some other treatment that is approved by the commission.

B. Discuss potential Directory Maps for public and/or nonprofit facilities

Commission Goodhart gave a presentation with mock-ups of some potential directory maps to be posted on Port grounds. Several spots were looked at as potential locations to display the map. It was also suggested that people already use their phones. It was discussed that maybe using the map as a handout, making available on the website and in the bulletin boards.

### **Staff Reports:**

None

**New Business:** Commissioners May Share Information or Introduce Topics for Discussion at a Future Meeting.

Topics for the next newsletter were discussed including electrification and the covered moorage at Jensen's.

**Citizen comments/requests**: Citizens can make a brief comment or may ask the Commission to schedule a topic for further discussion at a future meeting.

Rich Goodhart commented as a citizen thanking Jill Belcovson for her actions after he tripped down the stairs.

Adjourn: 12:40 PM

Barbara Marrett, Commissioner

Graham Black, Commissioner

Rich Goodhart, Commissioner