

HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026, 5:00 PM
Norwich City Hall, Room 319, In Person/ Turbo Bridge

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Tucker Braddock, Vice Chair Bob Phoenix, David Bishop, Stacy Gould, Mark Sicuso (via Turbo Bridge), Peter Nystrom (via Turbo Bridge)

OTHERS PRESENT: Coastal Area Planning Consultant Geoff Steadman (via Turbo Bridge), Brittany Dwyer (via Turbo Bridge), Kevin Brown (Turbo Bridge), Kaitlyn Griffiths Recording Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Salomone, Michael Richardson, Zato Kadambaya

CITIZENS PRESENT: None

1. Call to Order: Chair Tucker Braddock called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM.
2. Introduction of New Council Members: Chair Tucker Braddock announces the two new Council Members welcomed into the Harbor Commission- Peter Nystrom & Zato Kadambaya.
3. Determination of Quorum: It was determined a quorum was present.
4. Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Bob Phoenix, seconded by Stacy Gould the November 25, 2025, meeting minutes of the Harbor Management Commission (HMC) as is with no corrections was unanimously approved by roll call vote.
5. Harbor Master Report: Nothing to Report.
6. Correspondence: None
7. Financial Report: On a motion by Bob Phoenix, seconded by Stacy Gould the November 1st-30th 2025, December 1st-31st 2025 and January 1st-31st 2026 Financial Reports to be Summnerized and presented to HMC members was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Report was reviewed for revenue, expenses, and balances of the combined reports. Stated was the expenditure of \$75.40 for the commission's share of the Harbor Cam and \$80.00 for professional services (recording secretary).

On a motion by Bob Phoenix seconded by Stacy Gould, the Summarized Financial Reports for Harbor Management Commission were unanimously accepted by roll call vote.

Kevin Brown entered the meeting via Turbo Bridge.

8. Old Business:

Peter Nystrom entered the meeting via Turbo Bridge.

Consultant Geoff Steadman – Updates & New Invoice Needed: Geoff Steadman stated that over the last month there's been advance legislations, upholding the municipals opinions for HMCs. Originally DEEP thought to veto the decision, they felt as though HMCs were trying to take on DEEP's authority, this is not the case. HMCs representatives would like to meet with DEEP and express that the bill is to have DEEP listen to recommendations from the HMCs but not to diminish DEEP's authority in any way. Mr. Steadman states that the issue at hand is that this session of legislation is a short one and may not be able to get the bill submitted and passed because of it.

Mr. Steadman will give an up-to-date invoice to HMC by next meeting.

b) Heritage Walkway & Howard T. Brown Park Projects: It was stated that the Heritage Walkway is getting finished up under the scope of work in the RFP. Howard T. Brown Park is also being worked on- there is a crane there currently finishing up the aspects of the docks.

Kevin Brown mentions that the S.L.R. has their bi-weekly meetings- next one is Tuesday March 13th at 1PM at the Foundry. At this meeting they are hoping to have a DEEP representative there to discuss the current issues of the flood elevations.

9. Old Business:

a) Round 5 SHIPP Grant- \$600,000 application submission to CT Port Authority- Design & Creation of New and Improved Boat Launch (Special Thank you to Bob Phoenix & Scott Lassard): Chair Braddock states a HUGE thank you to both Bob Phoenix and Scott Lassard as well as Kevin Brown for the creation and submission of a application for the Round 5 SHIPP grant. This was submitted on time and by the deadline of February 20th, 2026. The total project is approx. \$600,000 - this is approx. \$300,000 asked for from the SHIPP grant and a matching approx. \$300,000 from funds (approx. \$230,000 from NCDC).

b) Monies Given by State Congressman- Joe Courtney- \$600,000 (Go towards project submitted in round 5 SHIPP grant – in conjunction with S.L.R. & NCDC) : It is stated that these monies that were by State Congressman- Joe Courtney- may be used in not only HMC projects, but others as well, including SLR and NCDC.

It was stated that Port Authority, NCDC and HMC had a meeting and was informed of the possibility of another round of SHIPP grants this year, if there's not enough applications submitted this round and/or monies are not exhausted.

c) Thames River Heritage Park Idea Session Review – January 21st, 2026: There was a meeting at the Marina on January 21st, 2026, on the principals of our waterfront with a representative from TRHP (Thames River Heritage Park). The idea of running a 3rd boat into Norwich was discussed for excursions and historical purposes. More information to come.

d) 2026 Vision of HMC programs & involvement & Goals- Development/Marketing/Promotions/Activities: This is tabled until the next meeting.

Kevin Brown left the meeting.

10. Citizen Comment: None

11. Other: Discussion started about the current HMP. It was stated that the last approved HMP was 2011 and 2011 & 2025 submittance of Waterfront Vision Statements (documents). HMP needs to be an approved document, and the Waterfront Vision Statements do not need approvals.

Bob Phoenix would like to have 2 items placed on the next agenda- 1. Subcommittee for HMP annual review. 2. Subcommittee for development of Derelict Boat Policy on Local Level.

11. Adjournment: On a motion to adjourn by Stacy Gould, seconded by Bob Phoenix, the Harbor Management Commission meeting adjourned at 5:52PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kaitlyn Griffiths
Recording Secretary*