

Harbor Commission 2025

Meeting Minutes- Monday September 22, 2025, 7:00 P.M.



Members Present

Gerald Gruen, Sue Knauer, Chad Biersach, and Tim Motel

Others Present

Harbormaster Dennis Cherny

Secretary, Assistant Harbormaster Lisa Rathke

Ald. Dan Benning

1. **Roll Call:** Members Jordan Schwanz & Ald. Mike Gasper were absent and excused.
2. **Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting**
Member Motel made a motion to approve minutes as written, and Member Biersach seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.
3. **Public Comments/ Appearances** *Your comments are welcome. Please limit comments to (3) minutes.*
No Comments.
4. **Monthly Financial Report**
Secretary Rathke presented the Monthly Financial Report to the Commission for information only.
5. **Consideration and Possible Action on Marina Slip Rates and Transient Fees for 2026**
Harbormaster Cherny presented the proposed slip rates and transient rates for 2026. Based on current rates at competing marinas to the north and the south, Harbormaster Cherny recommended that the transient rates remain the same for 2026, keeping us in line with our biggest competitors Milwaukee and Sheboygan and increasing the slip rates by 2% for 2026, keeping us in line with marinas to the south and slightly higher than our competitors to the north. Discussion was held.
Member Motel made a motion to keep the Transient Rates the same for 2026 member Knauer seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Member Motel made a motion to increase Slip Fee rates by 2% for 2026 and Member Knauer seconded the motion. All in favor: Members Gruen, Knauer, and Motel. No: Member Biersach. Ayes have it, Motion Carried.
6. **Consideration and Possible Action on Daily and Seasonal Launch Fee Rates for 2026**
Harbormaster Cherny presented the proposed daily and seasonal launch rates for 2026. Harbormaster Cherny is recommending that daily launches be raised from \$11 to \$12 and seasonal launches be raised from \$95 to \$100 for 2026. Discussion was held.
Member Motel made a motion to approve increasing the Daily Launch Rate to \$12.00, and the Season Launch Rate to ten times the daily rate allowed by the DNR to \$120.00 for the 2026 boating season, further discussion was held.
Member Motel amended his motion to approve increasing the Daily Launch Rate to the recommended \$12.00 and the Season Launch Rate to the recommended \$100.00 for the 2026 boating season and Member Knauer seconded. Motion Carried unanimously.

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7. Forthcoming Events

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that there are no immediate forthcoming events. Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that the Cardboard Boat Regatta that was held earlier in the month had a low turnout with only 3 boats, however, those kids put on a great show for all the spectators and Mayor Ted did a great job emceeding the event again this year! The Venetian Boat Parade had a great turnout as well.

8. Chairman's Business

No business.

9. Members/Liaisons' Business

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that over the last weekend we ran over 800 feet of cable from the Control Building to the North Building for the Wi-Fi upgrade for the Main Marina.

The Marina went through the Wisconsin Clean Marina recertification process on September 16th.

Member Biersach mentioned that he noticed several vehicles with boats and trailers parked in the trailer lot overnight. Secretary Rathke mentioned that they do pay an additional fee to stay in the lot overnight. Oftentimes those staying at the hotel pay to do this as they are not allowed to park their vehicles and trailers in hotel's lot.

Member Knauer mentioned her concerns regarding the number of fishermen that are fishing in the gap of the harbor during the fall fishing season making it difficult to maneuver in and out of the harbor.

10. Public Comments/ Appearances *Your comments are welcome. Please limit comments to (3) minutes.*

No Comments

11. Adjournment

Member Motel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39pm and Member Biersach seconded. Motion Carried unanimously.