



Minutes of the Truro Pamet Harbor Commission Meeting

Thursday, March 16th, 2023, 3:30 PM ET
24 Town Hall Road, Select Board Chambers, Truro MA 02666

Attending Members:

Tim Silva, Chairman

John Donahue
Scott Donnelly
Eric Morea

Participating Guests:

Tony Jackett, Harbormaster/Shellfish Warden

Cynthia Conroy, Truro resident

Order of Business:

1. Bringing the Meeting to Order

Chairman Silva called the meeting to order at 3:37 PM and declared that a quorum of full-time members was present.

2. Report from the DPW Director:

Prior to the session, Truro DPW Director, Jarrod Cabral, kindly submitted a status summary of the current Harbor-related initiatives DPW is leading. The report was reviewed and discussed by the Commission and is attached to these minutes as an exhibit.

3. Update on Dredging

Timmy and Tony described the dilemma we face with this year's annual harbor dredging initiative. The Barnstable County dredge (Cod Fish II), after multiple weather-related and other delays, surprisingly left Dennis and proceeded over to Mashpee. The latest understanding is it will operate in that harbor until no later than April 1, 2023. We are being guided by the County that the dredge will arrive in Pamet Harbor sometime in April to perform 1 day of dredging operations, following the survey they developed in December 2022.

Commission members expressed frustration and concern that inadequate, or perhaps even no, dredging this season could dramatically impair safe navigability through the channel and approach, especially around low tide.

4. Latest on the North Jetty Breach

Current ongoing initiatives to implement short term erosion mitigators, as described in Jarrod's DPW report, were thoroughly vetted. Members highlighted the compounded gravity that this accelerating breach, coupled with insufficient harbor dredging, presents to safety and navigability.

Once again, John urged that the Town engage a qualified Marine Hydrologist, with proven experience in permanently mitigating ocean current/wind-driven erosion and successfully protecting harbors. It was pointed out that the Army Corp. of Engineers deploys these skilled resources here in the Commonwealth to implement severe erosion mitigation solutions.

After extensive dialogue, Chairman Silva suggested that we once again present the Town with PHC's counsel on this matter and reformulated a **Motion** to accelerate deploying the coir roll/dune build-up as an initial erosion mitigator, while the Town comprehensively study, with the help of expert consultants (e.g., Marine Hydrologists), creating a North Jetty extension into the Corn Hill Beach Dune as a permanent, sustainable solution. The motion was seconded by Scott, unanimously approved by the Commission Members and **Granted**.

5. Review and Approval of previous meeting's minutes

The Commission reviewed and discussed the 2/16/2023 meeting minutes. After thoroughly assessing, Chairman Silva proposed a **Motion** to approve them, it was seconded by Eric, unanimously approved by the Commission Members and **Granted**.

6. Pamet Harbor Recommendation on the Mill Pond Project

The Commission engaged in multiple reviews of the Mill Pond initiative options over the last several months and rigorously evaluated the supporting scientific and engineering studies. The Commission also heard testimony at the last three meetings from the Town DPW Director and Truro residents whose properties are in proximity of the proposed construction area.

A fulsome dialogue around the various pros and cons of the project ensued among Members. Chairman Silva suggested that this matter was of substantial importance to Pamet Harbor's safety and operations. He also noted that the Commission fully endorses the many environmental enhancements this initiative targets.

He polled Member opinions and then proposed a **Motion** asserting to the Select Board that it is imperative to continue keeping Mill Pond Road open to automobile and emergency vehicle access, and that only either of the two culvert options (8' by 8' or 10' by 10') would be acceptable to this Commission and viewed as in the best interest of Pamet Harbor's safety and operations. It was seconded by Eric, unanimously approved by the Commission Members, and **Granted**.

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7. Adjournment

After determining that all Commission business had been carried out, Chairman Silva proposed a **Motion** to adjourn the meeting at 4:27 PM, it was seconded by Eric, unanimously approved by the Commission Members and **Granted**.

Approved 4-0
Town Clerk phc chair

4/20/23

