

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
May 30, 2008

A special meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was called to order at the Jamestown Town Hall, 93 Narragansett Avenue at 3:30 p.m. by Council President Julio J. DiGiando. The following members were present:

Michael G. White, Vice President
Robert W. Sutton, Jr.
Barbara A. Szepatowski

William A. Kelly arrived at 3:40 p.m.

also present:

Bruce R. Keiser, Town Administrator
Peter D. Ruggiero, Town Solicitor
Arlene D. Petit, Town Clerk

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1) Dutch Harbor Boat Yard

Council President DiGiando announced that the special meeting was called in order to discuss any new information relating to the status of the Dutch Harbor Boat Yard and the Town's potential interest in the property.

The Town Administrator stated that the bidding process through the Court is scheduled to continue.

The Town Administrator referenced the previous suggestion that the Town institute a sailing center at the property. Because there is no funding for the Town to purchase the property, the Town Administrator suggested that a letter be sent to the Special Master assigned to sell the property indicating that as the abutting property owner, the Town would request that the property continue to be used for public access to the waterfront.

The Town Solicitor noted that the Town has the right to review any new lessee to determine if they have the capability of meeting the terms of the lease with the Town. However, the Town Solicitor noted, it would be necessary to have a very compelling reason to deny the lease assignment.

Councilor Sutton asked that wording be added to the letter to the Special Master stating that the Town fully intends to retain all its rights relative to the leasing of the Town-owned property.

There was comment from audience members opposing the locating of a sailing center at Dutch Harbor.

Mary Meagher, Chair of the Fort Getty Master Plan Committee, noted that the Master Plan specifically mentions plans for a sailing center at Fort Getty.

There was also audience comment reflecting concerns about the lack of parking at the West Ferry / Dutch Harbor area. Also mentioned was the timeframe allowed for the storage of boats on the Town-owned property.

The Town Solicitor stated that the Court will make a decision based on “the best interest of the creditors.” This is considered a transaction between the creditors of the Dutch Harbor Boat Yard and the Court.

It was the consensus of the Council that they would like to insure that the public continues to have access to the waterfront from Dutch Harbor.

The Town Solicitor stated that he would report back to the Council.

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Attest:

Arlene D. Petit
Town Clerk

c: Town Council Members (5)
Town Administrator
Town Solicitor
Administrative Circulation