

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE

Walworth County, WI

Lakefront and Harbor Committee

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

(Final Minutes)

The meeting of the Lakefront and Harbor Committee was called to order at 4:00 pm on January 31, 2024 by Chairman Pappas.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Rick Pappas, Don Holst, Ed Snyder, Trustee Tom Marek, Joel Bikowski

Committee Members Absent: Bob Chanson, Steve Beers

Also Present: Liz Baumann, Darrell Fredrick (Austin Pier Service Inc.) Theresa Loomer, Drew Lussow, Mary Jo Munson (Munson Ski & Marine Team)

Visitors Heard

Ed Snyder and Tom Marek requested to give a brief presentation on behalf of Fontana Shores of an idea they would like to bring to next month's meeting. Snyder and Marek brought out a map of where one of their ramps is currently located and are asking to flip it to the other side of the pier. They have reviewed any setbacks that would be in place and the ramp would still follow the Village code if moved to the other side. They stated they wanted to give the Committee a preview before it is addressed fully on the agenda for next month's meeting.

General Business

Approval of July 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Snyder/Bikowski 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes for the July 26, 2023 meeting, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Commercial Launch Fees

Chairman Trustee Pappas explained to the Committee that this agenda topic is based on eliminating the discount for commercial launches. Based on his conversation with the DNR all residents should be paying the same fee depending on the size of their boats with the option to have non-residents depending on the size of their boats pay up to 50% more for their fee based off the resident's fee. The reason for the commercial discount in the first place was for the person who resides near the lake and lives in the area who is launching their boat for the season, not for a business conducting an in/out service. Member Snyder then gave a brief history of about 15-20 years ago while this change was put in place due to these boaters not using the parking lots and to try and make the process more efficient at the time. Member Holst asked a question regarding how these fees would be read in the fee schedule and ordinance. Chairman Trustee Pappas stated that we could direct staff or the Village Attorney to strike or remove the language necessary to make the code read the way as suggested. Darrell Fredrick raised a question how his company at Austin Pier Service would be charged. Chairman Trustee Pappas stated that they are not launching any boats so they wouldn't apply and that he has seen other municipalities along the lake set a fee for the service Mr. Fredrick and similar companies provide and that the Village could consider something similar.

Holst/Trustee Marek 2nd made a MOTION to recommend village board approval of making the commercial launch fees the same for all Fontana residents based on the boat sizes and non-residents based on their boat sizes, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote. Member Bikowski abstained due to a conflict of interest.

Discussion or Action on Commercial Launches, Procedures, & Traffic

Chairman Trustee Pappas mentioned that the last time this topic was discussed that there was some issue

with traffic from the launch that is waiting and potentially causing blockages in the street. As a way to alleviate these blockages Chairman Trustee Pappas stated that he believes it would be a good idea to direct staff to not allow boats and trailers to wait along High Street. Member Trustee Marek and Member Snyder asked a question regarding those who park in these spots to quickly stage their boats and then leave. Chairman Trustee Pappas stated that if done in a reasonable time it might not be an issue but it's the vehicles that overstay past the few minutes it might take to stage the boat that we are trying to limit from the area.

Trustee Marek/Holst 2nd made a MOTION to direct launch staff to not allow parking or staging in front of the street to limit traffic issues occurring, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Request for Beach Ramp for ADA Access

Chairman Trustee Pappas asked the Committee if anyone had any feedback regarding the agenda topic. Member Snyder asked about potential costs associated with installing and maintenance of the beach ramp. Administrator Loomer and Chairman Trustee Pappas did not have that information available. Member Snyder also asked if this is something that will be mandated in the future to have something that is ADA compliant. Darrell Fredrick, who was present on behalf of Austin Pier Service made a comment that due to the east winds of the lake it will cause sand to cover the ramp and create an issue for staff to have to clean regularly. He also raised a concern that the ramp would have to be removed and installed each year similar to the piers to allow for staff to properly clean up the beach and do its normal winterization procedures that the Village's Public Works staff maintains for the beach. Which then could raise concerns about where the ramp would be stored as well. Chairman Trustee Pappas stated that based on all these questions and potential obstacles to overcome it might be in the Committee's best interest to ask the person who submitted the request to come to next month's Committee meeting to address the concerns.

Discussion or Action on Removal of Resident on Boat Slip List Due to Non-Payment of Fees

Chairman Trustee Pappas stated that this matter has come before the Committee due to a resident's failure to pay their boat slip fees. Administrator Loomer mentioned that included in the meeting packet are two letters that have been sent and mentioned that emails have also been sent to the resident and no response or payment of fees has been made at this time. Chairman Trustee Pappas stated the Village Board will need to make a final decision on this matter, however we should give the resident a deadline up until the Village Board meeting to become compliant with fees as well as send one more certified/registered letter and email regarding this decision. Chairman Trustee Pappas directed staff to send these communications out to the resident as soon as possible.

Snyder/Trustee Marek 2nd made a MOTION to send certified/registered letter and email to resident explaining the deadline to become compliant with fees or face potential removal from Boat Slip List at the next Village Board meeting, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Boat Lift Storage at Duck Pond

Chairman Trustee Pappas addressed the committee that he has noticed that there seems to be an excess of lifts stored up at the Duck Pond. Chairman Trustee Pappas asked Darrell Fredrick who was in attendance if he had any information regarding these lifts or if they all belong to Austin. Mr. Fredrick explained that he does not store any of his lifts in the area Chairman Trustee Pappas described and only stores his where the Village has agreed to let him store his lifts. Chairman Trustee Pappas stated that we need to further investigate this issue and see if permission was given to whoever the lifts belong to and if not see what action needs to be taken to correct it. Chairman Trustee Pappas directed Village Staff to further look into the matter.

Discussion or Action on Austin Pier Service Invoice for Pier Repairs - \$27,978.90

Chairman Trustee Pappas asked if anyone had any comments or issues with the invoice presented regarding the pier repairs. Member Snyder made a comment that the prices seem to keep increasing but that seems to be the case for anything nowadays and had no issue with the work being done and that the

invoice should be recommended for approval.

Snyder/Trustee Marek 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Austin Pier Service Invoice for pier repairs in the amount of \$27,978.90 as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Austin Pier Service Invoice for Pier Removals - \$30,915.00

Chairman Trustee Pappas made a comment that based on the invoice he has noticed that the costs continue to increase each year and soon the Village might struggle to break even with the piers. Chairman Trustee Pappas advised that we might want to consider taking a closer look at the fees and costs in the future to assess our options. In the meantime, Chairman Trustee Pappas agrees that the invoice should be recommend for approval.

Snyder/Trustee Marek 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Austin Pier Service Invoice for the pier removals in the amount of \$30,915.00 as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 4:00 pm.

Adjournment

Trustee Marek/Bikowski 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Drew Lussow, Village Clerk

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Lakefront and Harbor Committee, the official minutes will be kept on file at the Village Hall.

APPROVED: 02/21/2024