

**DEEPHAVEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 20, 2009
MINUTES**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor Paul Skrede called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Paul Skrede, Councilmembers Steve Adams, Keith Kask and Kim Crockett

ABSENT: Councilmember John Wheaton

STAFF: Police Chief Cory Johnson and City Administrator Dana Young

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. APPROVE JULY 6, 2009 MINUTES

Motion by Councilmember Kask to approve the July 6, 2009 Council minutes. Seconded by Councilmember Adams. Councilmember Crockett abstained. Motion carried 3-0-1.

4. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

CenterPoint Energy Grant - CenterPoint Energy representative Susana Robinson was present to present the city of Deephaven with a grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the purchase of portable radios as part of the CenterPoint Energy Community Partnership Grant Program. Mayor Skrede thanked CenterPoint Energy for their generous contribution towards the public safety efforts of the City.

Use of the Breakwater Dock as a Fishing Pier - Mayor Skrede stated that there appears to be a number of residents present to discuss the use of the Breakwater Dock as a fishing pier. He stated that the City obtained approval from the LMCD last year for the construction of a dock to cover the breakwater structure and specifically did not request that it be used as a fishing pier. He stated that the Council would like to hear comments from residents and discuss the matter but would likely not make a decision this evening.

John Obermiller, 3680 Northome Avenue, stated that he is glad to have a place to fish and requested that the Council remove the No Fishing sign and allow fishing from the Breakwater Dock.

Marc Gross, 18985 Azure Road, stated that he had requested a fishing pier last year from the Mayor and was informed that fishing was permitted in the Back Bay of Carson's Bay and at the Carson's Bay launch. He stated that neither is a viable location due to the amount of weeds in the Back Bay and the launch area is much too busy. He stated that the Breakwater Dock is an ideal place to fish.

Christian Erhard, 20660 Linwood Road, stated that the Breakwater Dock is a good place to fish; it has very few lily pads and good fishing.

Clayton Erhard, 20660 Linwood Road, stated that he loves to fish next to Deephaven Beach.

Eric Schneider, 5000 Suburban Road, stated that the Breakwater Dock provides a great meeting spot and a good place to fish.

Alex Gross, 18985 Azure Road, stated that it is a nice dock to fish and a good fishing spot.

Pete Onstad, 17975 Highland Avenue, stated that he also felt that residents should have an opportunity to fish and suggested that fishing could be limited to after 6:00 p.m. in the evening or after Labor Day and before Memorial Day when Deephaven Beach isn't open.

Kim Obermiller, 3680 Northome Avenue, stated that she sees kids doing things that are destructive and would like to see an opportunity for kids to fish. She thanked the Council for considering their request.

Heidi Drumm, 4162 Hillcrest lane, stated that she agreed with the suggestion to take the No Fishing sign down and would like to see it used as a fishing pier. She stated that it would be one option for kids who don't swim.

Mayor Skrede thanked everyone for their comments. He stated that he felt that the Police Department would have to be brought into the discussion since you simply couldn't allow fishing for Deephaven residents only and there might be more people down there than would be desirable. He stated that the dock wasn't designed to be a fishing pier and only has a rope instead of the more typical railing support that is used for a fishing pier. He stated that he was also concerned with fishing lures that might come loose and end up in the swimming area. He stated that the Back Bay has a dock that could be further extended that would make it more suitable as a fishing pier.

Councilmember Crockett stated that she has been talking with a number of people about this and, while mindful of all the concerns stated by the Mayor, stated that she would be willing to give it a season or two to see if it works. She cautioned that the fishing would have to be conducted in an appropriate manner or the Council might have to consider setting hours.

Councilmember Kask stated that the City operates St. Louis Bay as our premier swimming beach. He stated that he had served on the Planning Commission when the breakwater structure had been installed and the Commission had the same discussion that we are having this evening about whether it would be appropriate to install a fishing pier over the breakwater structure. He stated that we know, with the need to install the breakwater structure, that the general water current is heading towards the beach. He stated that he doesn't want to compromise the safety of those using the beach. He stated that there might be an opportunity for fishing before or after the swimming season. He added that other fishing areas are littered with discarded or lost fishing lures lying around. He stated that he would have to be convinced of the necessity of creating a fishing pier so close to the beach.

Councilmember Crockett suggested eliminating one shorespace to enable fishing at the south end of the shorespace area.

Mayor Skrede stated that he would love to look into the possibility of taking over the shorespace area and construct a city-owned dock that could include a proper structure for fishing that would be far enough away from the beach. He stated that he was sorry to hear that the Back Bay was too weedy for fishing and suggested that the current dock could be extended further out. He stated that extending the existing dock could be done fairly quickly. He stated that he needs to keep the safety of everyone in mind.

Councilmember Crockett stated that the Council needs to consider the issues discussed this evening and attempt to balance a number of concerns. She noted that the Breakwater Dock is also a nice place to just sit, relax and watch the lake.

Councilmember Adams stated that he felt fishing is a legitimate use for the Breakwater Dock and a great way for kids to spend their time. He stated that he personally doesn't have a problem with fishing from this dock.

Mayor Skrede stated that the Council will continue their discussion of this issue at their August 3rd Council meeting.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Authorize the Purchase of Pier Caps for St. Louis Bay Docks

Administrator Young stated that following the installation of the St. Louis Bay Docks and Breakwater Dock, both contractors recommended the installation of pier caps on top of the pilings in order to prevent water penetration into the wood pilings, causing premature rotting of the wood. He stated that due to a preference for a less obtrusive color than the typical black or white pier caps, City Staff asked Dock & Lift to contact their vendors to try to find a less intrusive color. Unfortunately, according to Dock & Lift, they have been unable to find a vendor that makes any other colored pier cap but black or white. He stated that the cost of purchasing 172 pier caps is estimated at approximately \$2,580.00 to \$3,500.00.

He stated that at their regular meeting on July 8th, the Boat Committee expressed their concern regarding the delay in installing pier caps and recommended the purchase of white pier caps for the new St. Louis Bay dock piers in order to preserve the new dock piers.

He added that as an alternative to pier caps, Dock & Lift also suggested that Anchor Seal could be applied to the top of the piers, which should serve to properly seal the piers. He stated Dock & Lift stated that the Anchor Seal would have to be applied once every two years but would be a relatively inexpensive option.

Boat Committee Chairman Pete Onstad was present to represent the Committee in their request and to answer any questions from the Council.

Councilmember Kask stated that he could point to many docks that don't have pier caps that have been around for over 30 years. He stated that pier caps are mainly used to keep birds from roosting on the pilings.

Mayor Skrede stated that the 12" pilings are going to last 30 years and felt it would be more appropriate to use funding for the repair of Carson's Bay launch rather than installing pier caps. He added that he has received many positive comments regarding the current appearance of the pilings.

Pete Onstad stated that the Boat Committee feels strongly that we should do something to preserve the pilings. He stated that he has already seen bird droppings on the pilings and felt that the life of the pilings could be extended 15 years with pier caps. He stated that Anchor Seal would have to be applied every two years, which could turn out to be a more expensive alternative over the life of the pilings.

Mayor Skrede stated that from an appearance standpoint, the pilings wouldn't look uniform once the pier caps are installed.

Councilmember Kask stated that prior to pier caps, the typical technique was to install a lead coating on the top of the piers. He stated that this eventually evolved into pier caps to prevent roosting.

Councilmember Adams stated that he presumed that the cost of the pier caps would be funded from the Marina Fund and asked if the purchase of pier caps would jeopardize the financing of other more essential projects or require a rate increase.

Administrator Young stated that while there have been significant expenditures from the Marina Fund for the construction of the St. Louis Bay Dock, installation of rub rails, dock lighting and construction of the Breakwater Dock, more than sufficient funds remained in the Marina Fund for the purchase of pier caps.

Mayor Skrede stated that he would prefer to postpone a decision until final prices could be obtained on the costs of a sealant and on the pier caps.

B. Review Goose Survey by Canada Goose Management Inc.

Administrator Young stated that the City of Deephaven has contracted with Canada Goose Management Inc. the last six years to conduct an annual survey of the goose population at Carson's Bay, St. Louis Bay, Lake Louise, Thorpe Park and Robinson's Bay in order to assess the need to implement a full-blown goose removal program.

He stated that Canada Goose Management Inc. surveyed Deephaven in June 2009 with the following results:

Location	# of Geese
Carson's Bay	0
St. Louis Bay	0
Lake Louise	0
Thorpe Park	0
Robinson's Bay	16*

* 12 adults / 4 goslings were located on the shoreline between Robinson's & Carson's.

He stated that Tom Keefe, Director of Canada Goose Management Inc., stated that the 2009 survey results indicate that the City is in generally very good shape but would like to know if we would like them to remove the geese sited in Robinson's Bay.

The Council agreed that the City didn't seem to have an overabundance of geese this year nesting on public property and decided that this would be a good year to pass on contracting for goose removal.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Other

There was no New Business this evening.

7. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Public Works Committee

Administrator Young presented a review of the Public Works Committee meeting held on July 1, 2009 on the following items:

- A request to trim the Maple Trees at the Parkway that was denied by the Committee
- Reviewed traffic monitor results on Northome Road and on Heathcote Road
- Reviewed Chowen's Corner Lighting System proposals
- Reviewed 2010 Park Capital Projects & Equipment
- Discussed Haralson Park Drainage Improvements
- Recommended approval of a \$5,000.00 contribution towards storm water improvements at 4880 Highcrest Drive
- Recommended approval of Emerald Ash Bore treatment for 25 Ash trees in Thorpe Park in the amount of \$1,317.00

B. Boat Committee

Administrator Young presented a review of the Public Works Committee meeting held on July 8, 2009 on the following items:

- Established guidelines on the use of electrical outlets on municipal docks
- Recommended that the Committee review requests to "trade down" from a dock slip to a B2 Slide Space on a case-by-case basis
- Recommended the purchase of pier caps

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Council meeting by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Crockett. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

9. SPECIAL COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSESSION

Mayor Paul Skrede called the meeting to order at 8:23 p.m.

Administrator Young presented the 2010 General Fund Budget and 2010 Capital Improvement Fund Budget for Council review.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Special Council Budget Worksession by Councilmember Kask, seconded by Mayor Skrede. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana H. Young
City Administrator