



OBSERVER REPORT

HARBORS AND WATERS BOARD

March 6, 2023, at the Harbormaster's Office

LWVM Observer: Kathy Breslin

Meeting posted 48 hours in advance: yes

Meeting held in a handicapped accessible location: yes

Public allowed to participate: yes

AGENDA

Meeting called to order and February minutes approved.

Commercial fishermen's State St Conveyor belt repairs discussion

The commercial fishermen take care of the maintenance of the conveyer belt. This year a mounting pin needs replacing, and the Town will assist.

FY 24 budget updates

Nothing to report as the Town Finance Dept has not finalized their budget.

Harbormaster report

Parker's boatyard: the two new floats are complete. Craig Smith and the Marblehead harbormaster's crew built them. The State St. gangway had a snapped bridle plate, tearing the eyebolts off. It was sent back to Gloucester where it was built and repaired at no charge.

State St. bathroom: a meeting is planned with the Harbormaster, Select Board, and resident Phil Blaisdell. Another Federal grant may be available to completely replace the bathroom. If it is state of the art it will be easier to transfer to another department. Currently the plumbing leaks, there is no insulation, and heating pipes can freeze. It needs a new roof. The cost to heat the building in the cold season is \$500 per month.

Moorings: there will be 5 boats in the harbor in the 50-60 ft long range. DockWay opens March 15. There are usually 200 requests for the season. There is a 3-day minimum for the July 4 holiday. Moorings are \$50/night, \$6/ft per night.

Busy sailing season: From May 1-Oct 31 there is a regatta every weekend, in addition to the Halifax race. The Beringer Bowl regatta is not likely to happen but may be replaced by a 1-day race to Scituate and back. There will be another Lindsay Smith regatta. Salem Harbor has 200 transient moorings. Hawthorne Cove in Salem has a launch service.