

# Stamford Harbor Master's Report 03/15/2016

## Moorings.

- Renewals are now coming in. Mooring status (as of 3/15/2016);
  - Approved - 55 (incl. 2x new permittees)
  - Awaiting inspection - 06
  - Renewal not yet received - 31
  - Not being renewed - 03 (incl. 1x transfer)
- Buchanan Marine were amongst the first to pay fees this year, and the invoice has gone out to Stamford YC.
- 4 reminder e-mails have been sent to each permit holder that has not yet applied for renewal.
- I am attaching a copy of the 'violation' notices for errant moorings which I failed to attach to last month's report.

## Application to become Mooring Service Provider

- Dolphin Yacht Service/Dolphin LLC. has applied to become an approved mooring service provider to enable them to deploy and service moorings in Stamford Harbor. I have details and have made some enquiries of their operation. I have found nothing that indicates it would be inappropriate for them to be approved.

## Docks adrift in harbor.

- On February 18<sup>th</sup>, the 'Young Mariner' docks in the West Branch were damaged and broken adrift due to high winds. A section in excess of 40' was eventually corralled and secured by Hansen Marine, a local marine contractor, with the assistance of the Marine Police and Deputy Harbor Master.

## Barges adrift.

- On February 25<sup>th</sup> I received a report from SYC dock master of a laden barge having broken free from the mooring and now aground on Jack Island. I contacted Buchanan Marine who tasked their nearest tug *Mr. T* which attended from the East River NY, in the vicinity of the Whitestone Bridge. There were no immediately available Harbor Master or Marine Police units available, but the Deputy Harbor Master attended from home and the Marine Police Supervisor also attended from off-duty. A local commercial fishing vessel, *Kittyhawk* also attended and assisted in the eventual recovery of the barge. The initial cause seems to have been mooring lines between this and another barge chaffing through in storm force winds whilst attached to the Nurse Buoy. There was no injury, pollution or damage as a result of this incident but it does highlight the potential dangers of not having resources immediately available year round in the harbor.

## Commercial fishing activity

- There have been recent incidents of commercial oyster boats working in areas that they should not, and causing damage (to winterized moorings). Two fleets of boats have been involved, one from Norwalk, and the second was local to the harbor. Hopefully an agreement has been brokered between the parties by myself, Sgt. Monck and Ray Redniss who has been working further on this and may have more detail.

## Fireworks display.

- I have been working with the Marine Police, the Fire Marshall and other in City government with regards to marine safety aspects of this year's events. There were concerns at last year's event concerning the towing vessel engaged in moving the fireworks barge. This matter is ongoing but there seems to be a reluctance in some quarters to communicate and address the potential issue. I will keep the commission updated.

## Hurricane plan.

- I have been working with the safety committee to revise and update the hurricane plan and the committee report will detail this further.

# Stamford Harbor Master's Report 03/15/2016

## Police Harbor Unit

- As a result of the recent city budget, the Police harbor unit has had a 25% reduction of assigned personnel for the coming season. (Sgt. Monck may have further details). As commissioners become aware of any particular coverage needs for events or other circumstances, please contact Sgt. Monck (or myself) so that appropriate presence on the water case be arranged if possible.

## Harbor Commission boat.

- During the barge recovery evolution, extreme difficulty was had engaging ahead clutch on the engine. A local marine engineer attended and found that the control linkages has slipped *w - a - y* out of adjustment. This was rectified along with a couple of related issues. The boat remains fully in-service and available for use but will require the gearbox to be drained of oil, flushed and refilled. We will do this soon during a spring short-haul for cleaning and bottom paint. (Estimated cost \$950.00 US).
- I request authorization from the commission to carry out this essential maintenance work on the boat.

## Garbage and effluent

- Debris continues to accumulate in the harbor. It is particularly bad at the Ponus YC ramp and Czeszik Marina, which was not helped by the recent 'discharge' from the water treatment plant following recent heavy rains.
- For those that are not already aware, there was also a recent (3/8/2016) release of approximately 30 gallons of raw untreated sewage in the area of 315 Ocean Drive West, Shippan.
- The Stamford Advocate has recently run several short articles and letters regarding the build-up and the city's apparent unwillingness to address the matter. With the proposed budget cuts, the Commission may not presently have the resources to continue to consider the clean-up' boat, and it would appear that the city has no intention of so doing either.

## Harbor activity

- With the summer-like weather, harbor activity can be expected to increase in the coming weeks. With the recent high winds and resulting damage *we know about*, it is probable that someone will hit debris that we do *not know of*. If anyone becomes aware of such, please ensure that Sgt. Monck, the Deputy Harbor Master or myself are aware so that we can address the situation.

## Expenses outstanding

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| • fuel                                   | \$ 139.95               |
| • Stamford 421 equipment/repair          | \$ 240.00               |
| • Harbor Master cellphone + miscellanies | \$ <u>108.90</u>        |
|  | \$ <u><u>488.85</u></u> |

## Harbor Master – Running Costs

- Finally, in light of the withdrawal of funding to the Harbor Commission, I attach a spread sheet of contemporaneous running costs for the Harbor Master office which includes the Commission boat Coast Guard designation *Stamford 421* to assist the Commission in challenging the budget cut and moving forwards with other harbor fiscal policy that may develop.

Respectfully submitted

Captain Eric Knott

Harbor Master

Captain Yale Greenman

Deputy Harbor Master

**City of Stamford  
Harbor Commission  
Unpermitted Mooring  
Scheduled for Removal**

**Contact Harbor Master  
1-203 219 2334**



**State Harbor Master - Stamford CT**

**Accounting 2016**

Item	Detail	2015					2016 (Jan-1 to Mar-15 )				
		Jan - Dec	boat running costs	annual expences (admin)	other boat expences	other expences (admin)	Jan - Dec	boat running costs	annual expences (admin)	other boat expences	other expences (admin)
<b>Boat</b>	<i>Stamford 421</i>										
Days in use		101									
Engine hours		182									
Fuel used	gasoline gals. US	207	\$ 703.81					\$ 139.95			
	2-stroke oil gals. US	1.75	\$ 270.09								
<b>Maintenance</b>	annual short haul, clean and bottom paint			\$ 566.50							
	running maintenance		\$ 34.35					\$ 240.00			
	refit and up-grade of safety and electronic equipment approved by HMC in meeti ng dated 6/16/2015 (note-\$399 under budget)				\$ 3,605.21						
	replace c/c enclosure for use protection during inclement weather approved by HMC in meeting 10/20/2015				\$ 1,850.00						
<b>Administration</b>											
Harbor Master public cellphone	203 219 2334			\$ 144.03					\$ 32.91		
Harbor Master/Deputy 'uniform'	polo shirts and hat as req. by SHMP					\$ 104.86					\$ 75.99
			<u>\$ 1,008.25</u>	<u>\$ 710.53</u>	<u>\$ 5,455.21</u>	<u>\$ 104.86</u>		<u>\$ 379.95</u>	<u>\$ 32.91</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 75.99</u>

City operating cost, State Harbor Master Office

\$7,278.85

\$488.85

<b>State Stipend</b>	
Harbor Master	<u>\$600.00</u>
Deputy Harbor Master	<u>\$300.00</u>
	<u>\$900.00</u>
	<u>\$900.00</u>