

The Portsmouth Port and Industrial Commission

May 23, 2023

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Angelia Allen – Chairman
Arnette McSwain – Treasurer
Ronald Peterman
Benjamin Foster

ALSO PRESENT:

Brian Donahue – Secretary
Jeff Miller – Deputy City Attorney
Kelsey Swieringa – Assistant City Attorney
Chris Gullickson – Port of Virginia
Mark Hugel – City Council Liaison

GUEST:

Stephen Edwards – City Assessor’s Office
Wayne Hines – City Assessor’s Office
Mikiela Grassley – City Assessor’s Office

ABSENT:

Sarah Rogers Garner – Vice Chairman
Roniqua Jackson – Commissioner
Mimi Terry – Interim City Manager
De’Andre Barnes – City Council Liaison
Flora Berisha – Finance
Kyera Pope – Finance

Welcome & Call to Order

- The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Roll Call

- Mr. Donahue called roll. A quorum was present.

Minutes

- The minutes from the April 25, 2023, Regular Minutes were reviewed.

Action: On a motion by Ms. McSwain and seconded by Mr. Peterman, the Commissioners approved the minutes from the April 25, 2023, Regular Minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterman – yes; Ms. McSwain – yes; Ms. Rogers Garner – absent; Mr. Foster – yes; Ms. Jackson – absent; Ms. Allen – yes. Approved 4 – 0 vote.

Old Business

- **Port of Virginia Update**

Mr. Gullickson provided a brief update on Port of Virginia activities and advised that they continue to see volumes normalize and return to pre-pandemic levels. Mr. Gullickson also presented a summary of a recently released FY22 economic impact study completed by William & Mary that details the Port of Virginia’s impact on the Commonwealth’s economy.

New Business

- **Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project:**

Michael Lewis, Sr. Project Construction Manager with Dominion Energy provided an overview of the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind project and what to expect for the future of offshore wind in Portsmouth as well as the East Coast.

- **FY24 Budget:**

Ms. McSwain provided the Board with an overview of the PPIC's proposed FY24 Budget and presented it for approval.

Action: On a motion by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Foster, the Commissioners approved adoption of the FY24 Budget.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterman – yes; Ms. McSwain – yes; Ms. Rogers Garner – absent; Mr. Foster – yes; Ms. Jackson – absent; Ms. Allen – yes. Approved 4 – 0 vote.

- **NNSY South Gate Annex:**

Mr. Donahue provided the Board with an update on the Norfolk Naval Shipyard South Gate Annex site located near the PPIC's property at 3920-3930 Burtons Point Rd. He stated that the U.S. Navy has completed an environmental study and there are ongoing discussions regarding future use of the South Gate Annex site. There was additional discussion regarding the nearby Wheelabrator waste-to-energy facility and plans for the property following its future closure.

- **VMA International Trade Symposium Sponsorship:**

Mr. Donahue advised the Board that the Virginia Maritime Association's International Trade Symposium will be held on October 4-6, 2023 in Norfolk. Mr. Donahue reminded the Board that they sponsored the Symposium in 2022. Mr. Donahue inquired if the Board would like to participate as a sponsor again in 2023 as a Banquet table sponsor.

Action: On a consent motion the Commissioners approved a sponsorship of the 2023 VMA International Trade Symposium

Consent Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterman – yes; Ms. McSwain – yes; Ms. Rogers Garner – absent; Mr. Foster – yes; Ms. Jackson – absent; Ms. Allen – yes. Approved 4 – 0 vote.

Closed Meeting

There was no Closed Meeting.

Open Meeting

Items Submitted by Commissioners

There were no items submitted by Commissioners.

Report Backs

- **3920-3930 Burtons Point Rd.**

Mr. Donahue proposed that the Board consider having a wetlands study and jurisdictional confirmation from the Army Corps of Engineers completed for the property at 3930 Burtons Point Rd. to effectively market and sell the property.

Action: The Commissioners moved to approve the procurement of an updated wetlands study and jurisdictional confirmation by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Consent Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterman – yes; Ms. McSwain – yes; Ms. Rogers Garner – absent; Mr. Foster – yes; Ms. Jackson – absent; Ms. Allen – yes. Approved 4 – 0 vote.

- Mr. Donahue proposed that the Board consider the procurement of conceptual development layouts for the PPIC property at 3920 and 3930 Burtons Point Rd. that will assist in marketing the property for redevelopment.

Action: The Commissioners moved to approve the procurement of an updated wetlands study and jurisdictional confirmation by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Consent Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterman – yes; Ms. McSwain – yes; Ms. Rogers Garner – absent; Mr. Foster – yes; Ms. Jackson – absent; Ms. Allen – yes. Approved 4 – 0 vote.

- **Port & Industrial Sites Tour**

Mr. Donahue proposed that the Board consider choosing a date for a waterfront Port and Industrial Sites tour for the PPIC to take place in the near future. The Board will be polled to determine a date and time.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Donahue
Secretary

Angelia Allen
Chair