

**The Portsmouth Port and Industrial Commission**

**March 26, 2024**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Ronald Peterman – Vice Chair  
Arnette McSwain – Treasurer  
Benjamin Foster – Commissioner  
Keith Rice – Commissioner

**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:** Steve Edwards-Interim City Assessor

**ABSENT:** Angelia Allen – Chair  
Edward Barham, III - Commissioner  
Peter Hansen – Commissioner  
Flora Berisha – Finance  
Kyera Pope - Finance  
Dr. L. Pettis Patton – Interim City Manager  
De’Andre Barnes – City Council Liaison

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**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 February 27, 2024, Regular Minutes were reviewed.

**Action:** On a motion by Ms. McSwain and seconded by Mr. Foster, the Commissioners approved the minutes from the February 27, 2024, Regular Meeting.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Peterman - yes; Ms. McSwain - yes; Mr. Hansen - absent; Ms. Allen-absent; Mr. Foster – yes; Mr. Rice – yes; Mr. Barham - absent. Approved 4-0 vote.

**Financials**

- **FY2025 Proposed Budget**
  - Ms. McSwain presented the proposed FY2025 PPIC Budget. Mr. Donahue answered questions related to the budget proposal. The plan is to present a finalized budget at the PPIC’s April meeting for adoption.

### **Old Business**

- **Port of Virginia Update:**

Mr. Chris Gullickson of the Port of Virginia provided an update on the Port's activities. The widening of the harbor channel has been completed enabling for two-way transit and time savings for ultra large container vessels. The Army Corps of Engineers continues to make strides on the channel deepening project. Improvements at Portsmouth Marine Terminal are more than 65% complete to support Dominion's Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) project. The CVOW project and installation work is on schedule.

- **3920-3930 Burtons Point Road:**

Mr. Donahue provided an update on the PPIC's property at 3920-3930 Burton's Point Road. A contract is being negotiated with Stonemont Financial Group for the sale and development of the property for industrial warehousing. Stonemont is moving forward with their due diligence work to include the environmental review and geotechnical assessments of the property. A finalized agreement and executed contract are anticipated soon.

- **NNSY South Gate Annex:**

Mr. Donahue stated that Portsmouth businesses have expressed interested in the use of the NNSY South Gate Annex should it become available. Mr. Donahue has provided this information to the NNSY and discussions are ongoing regarding the future use.

- **Port Host Community Grant Report:**

Mr. Donahue provided updates on the Port Host Community Revitalization Fund (PHCRF) program. The FY22 PHCRF Grant award to JSSY, owner and operator of the 3301 Shipwright St. property totaled \$856,000. JSSY has requested a change to the scope of work that was included in their application and has proposed the installation of a Trestle Pier for lift operations in place of planned bulkhead improvements. The state of Virginia has approved the change in the scope of work and has also provided an extension of the completion deadline by 18 months to June 2025.

Mr. Donahue also provided an update on the FY23 PHCRF Grant award for Crofton Industries. Crofton received \$415,000 for the replacement of 276 feet of bulkhead on Scott's Creek. The project has been completed and the grant disbursement is currently being processed.

- **0 Sixth Street:**

Mr. Donahue stated that 0 Sixth St. and 1603 Seventh St are being transferred to the EDA from the Portsmouth Redevelopment Housing Authority. The property transfer will require a survey to be completed.

### **New Business**

- There was no New Business.

### **Closed Meeting**

- There was no Closed Meeting.

### **Open Meeting**

- There was no Open Meeting.

**Items Submitted by Commissioners**

- Mr. Peterman inquired about Craney Island, current usage, and future usage by the Port. He would like the PPIC to be involved with the long-term vision.

**Report Backs**

- Mr. Donahue stated he has contacted an Avangrid Renewable Energies representative to request their attendance at a future meeting to provide updates on its Kity Hawk Wind Project.
- The Portsmouth State of the City event is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:00pm at Rivers Casino Portsmouth. The PPIC will have a table at the event.

**Adjourn**

- The meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Donahue  
Secretary

Ron Peterman  
Vice-Chair