



# SALEM HARBOR PORT AUTHORITY

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## MEETING MINUTES: December 2, 2021

A public meeting of the Salem Harbor Port Authority was convened at 5:00 pm via Zoom web conference.

**Members present:** Michael Rutstein (Chairman), Councilor Bob McCarthy - Ward 1, Fred Atkins

**Members absent:** Mayor Kimberley Driscoll

**Others Present:** Capt. Bill McHugh – Harbormaster, Seth Lattrell – Port Authority Deputy/Planner, Jeff Cohen - Ward 5 Councilor-Elect, Hannah Morri – Sen Lovely’s Office

Chairman Rutstein called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm and outlined the format for the meeting, indicating that members of the public may provide comments during the period of the meeting designated for public comment.

A discussion was had as to whether the Port Authority would continue to meet remote or transition to a hybrid format. The members agreed that they would prefer to remain remote for the time being.

Mr. Lattrell provided an update on offshore wind. The city is awaiting the state’s 83C-III decision which is due December 17. The Crowley/Vineyard team continue to make progress on the purchase and sale agreement and on developing an RFP for permitting, design, and engineering services. Community engagement has been initiated with certain groups, including the neighborhood improvement advisory council, Salem Partnership, and upcoming the North Shore Chamber of Commerce. Weekly meetings with the Crowley/Vineyard team continue to advance in anticipation of the Commonwealth Wind award in the coming weeks.

Mr. Lattrell provided an update on the grants being pursued. The MARAD grant is still under review and supplement information was recently submitted. Mr. Lattrell is drafting an application with EDA tourism grant for a ferry terminal building. That grant application is due at the end of January and has a \$10M cap for award. Lastly Mr. Lattrell shared that the city recently executed an agreement to accept a previously awarded grant for \$85k to support the design of a second ferry.

Mr. McHugh shared that the North Berth work is ongoing and continues to be held up by supply chain challenges and may not be complete until the spring. In the meantime, the facility is useable for tie up, but not for passenger access, and held up well during recent storm events.

Mr. Lattrell shared that the website is ready to publish pending resolution of the URL/hosting. He is hopeful that will be completed, and the website will go live prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Lattrell shared that the MHP and DPA Master Plan are ongoing. The consultant team continues to make progress on the draft of the document while the state is reviewing individual sections as they are complete.

Mr. McHugh provided the Harbormasters report. American Cruise Lines is interested in establishing a contract with the City of Salem for expanded cruise access, largely through the North Berth. Mr. McHugh is awaiting a proposal and expects to have something to share with the Port Authority members within the next two months. Mr. McHugh also shared that he and Mr. Lattrell continue to coordinate with BHC on the upcoming overhaul, and to identify goals for next season to improve service.

The meeting was opened for public comment. No comments were received.

Meeting minutes from the November 4 meeting were unanimously approved by all members present, subject to a correction to the attendees.

Salem Harbor Port Authority adjourned @ 5:38 pm.