

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE

There was no quorum for the Regular Scheduled Port Commission Meeting. An informal meeting of the Port Commission was held in the DSJ Lower Level Conference Room.

Commission members present were:

Mr. Ron Tracy  
Mr. Fred Elvsaa

Commission members not present were:

Mr. Rob Brown                      Mr. Dane Crowley  
Mr. Bryan Scoresby

Staff in attendance were:

Mr. Mike Brown, Borough Manager  
Mr. Dave Griffin, Port Operations Manager  
Mr. Joe Metzger, Asset Manager  
Ms. Sandy Lockett, Port Administrative Specialist

There were no Assembly Members in attendance.

DISCUSSION:

A. Mr. Dave Griffin, Port Operations Manager

- Reported on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ms. Mary Ann Pease and Mr. Keith Myer brought 7 businessmen from the Japanese E-Fuel company ENEOS to Port MacKenzie to tour the facility. The Mayor, Manager, Mr. Joe Metzger and Mr. Stefan Hinman were all present to provide information on the Port and answer questions. The meeting was very well received.
- Stated on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, several members of the Governor's office staff, Senator McCabe and others met at Port MacKenzie to discuss the future of the rail/road project from the Port to Houston and other opportunities for the port.
- Stated three barges are due in October: the final salt barge of the year and two barges to offload from Cruz Construction Marine Division.
- Reported the Assembly recently appropriated an additional \$1 million grant from the Economic Development Association (EDA) for the Pile Sleeve project and \$4.7 million from The American Rescue Plan for the Barge Ramp project.
- Stated we were awarded a \$1 million grant from the US Marine Highway Program (USMHP) to purchase a 75-ton crawler crane and are still waiting on word from the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) grant application.
- Commented on upcoming projects: new bathymetry will be done this fall; sheet pile face inspection will go out to bid soon; and the \$10 million pile sleeve project bid opens soon.
- Advised we anticipate the next salt ship to arrive in April of 2024 and a cement ship in May of 2024. We also plan for several barges during the year.

- Commented the Pile Sleeve project could span 2 seasons due to the tidal range and belugas.
- Advised as soon as the barge ramp design is complete, an RFP will go out for construction-possibly in 2025.
- Reported the Port Mast Plan update is in process with our in-house staff.

Discussion followed on marketing strategies for the port, natural gas supplies, and mineral companies interested in the port. Mr. Griffin commented that he has been actively working with many businesses and has reached out to various shipping companies and will continue to do so.

B. Mr. Joe Metzger, Asset Manager

- Stated we have a new permit for 1 acre of the 5-acre paved pad with North Star Supply to store salt in a covered shelter.

Discussion followed on how well our port is positioned for barge traffic, reaching out to the barge and other shipping companies via mailer and phone contact, Seward port will have a lot of renovation work done this year-Port MacKenzie can be used as an alternative, cruise ship traffic, pros and cons of the impress system vs anodes for cathodic protection, military interest in the port for Arctic Edge training and munitions shipment, solar farm energy companies interest in the Port District and the Alaska Railroad's interest or lack thereof in completing the Port MacKenzie Rail Extension.

Mr. Tracy and Mr. Elvsaaas stated they will get Mr. Griffin contact information for the various companies they have worked with.

Ms. Luckett will send a link to the September 13, 2023 Assembly meeting on the rail to the Commissioners.

The informal meeting ended at 5:00pm.