

**Harbor Committee Public Hearing
Bristol Town Hall
February 14, 2019**

*Committee members present: Robert Ball, Troy Benner, David Caron, Steve Hope, Rick Poland
Also present: B. Belknap, S. Belknap, S. Davis, B. Fogg, J. Lord, N. Phinney, T. Phinney,
J. Rice, R. Rice*

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:04pm

Public Comments:

*The owner of a local lobster wharf was concerned if the change would affect the usage of the four moorings he owns as part of his business.

*A commercial fisherman inquired as to why the amendment was being proposed. Hope explained the amendment was first proposed due to space issues in New Harbor.

*It was brought up that in the 1980/90s many large fishing vessels used the harbor.

*Hope mentioned two solutions: everybody in the harbor could move their mooring east and/or use two moorings per vessel, bow and aft.

*Benner said that other mooring holders must be able to move around a bigger boat if a mooring holder upgrades to a bigger vessel.

*Ball pointed out that the current mooring application indicates "Mooring limited to boat described below" and if there's a change in boat information then an approval must be sought from the Harbormaster. He also pointed out that this has always been a requirement on the permit and the committee wanted to add it to the ordinance.

*There was an inquiry about having the name and length of boat on the mooring ball. This practice had been seen in use in other harbors.

*A recreational boater borrows a mooring for a night or two when launching/hauling the boat each year. She inquired if this would be a problem with the amendment. Ball assured her that he was aware of the mooring she was using and it was okay to continue that practice. Ball also pointed out that its good for the Harbormasters to know when another boat is borrowing a mooring in case they need to contact the vessel owner.

*There was inquiry about the use of floats in New Harbor. Hope replied that any floats being used before 3/19/19 would be grandfathered. He does not want more floats in the harbor due to a waiting list and space.

After making certain there were no more public comments, Caron made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Poland seconded it and it passed unanimously.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:24pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Bizarro
Harbor Committee Secretary