Harbormaster's Report to the Village Council

February 2026

Things happening at the Marina:

1. **Current Status of Marina –** Bubblers have been running lots this winter. They're keeping up around most of the pilings, but we obviously have ice in the marina. With the low water levels, the gangways leading to the floating docks look more like ladders than steps.
2. **Seasonal Slip Agreements –** We will have four new members of the marina family this summer. I placed three 32-foot slips and one 42-foot slip. It took some effort to find three people to take the 32-foot slips. I had four boaters take their first pass, so I was digging down into the list to fill the slips. Unusual.
3. **Waiting List Renewals –** Waiting list renewals went out on February 2nd and are filtering in.
4. **Lowering Finger Piers –** We received an estimate of $23,486.00 from 45th Parallel Marine to lower 32 of the 32-foot finger piers (none of the 42-foot or 60-foot finger piers will be lowered). The estimate is included in your packet for action.
5. **Dock Post Replacement –** We have not received this estimate yet.
6. **Water Levels and Dredging –** We're going to have to deal with water levels without dredging this season. There simply is no time to have soundings made, engineering estimates done, permitting completed, and then contracting for the dredging. The preliminary engineering and permitting work alone could easily cost in the neighborhood of $25-$30,000. My suggestion is that we get an estimate for that preliminary work and try to get that done over the summer so we're prepared in the event we need to dredge. We should also consider having a maintenance dredging permit in place, regardless.
7. **Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum –** Way back in 2022, the marina was approached by Stef Staley of the Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum about keeping a restored 26' USCG launch in the marina to provide shipwreck tours around Northport Bay. The Waterfront Committee and the Village Council approved a slip (gratis). In December 2022 we received variance approval from the Michigan Waterways Commission.

   However, there were many delays in launching the boat. It finally hit the water at the very end of last season for sea trials. They are ready to begin tours this season! I'm excited to finally have them in the marina and hope this is a successful venture.

8. **Incidents –** There were no incidents this past month.

Bill Rosemurgy, Harbormaster