



City and Borough of Wrangell
Port Commission
AGENDA

Thursday, June 04, 2026
6:00 PM

Location: Borough Assembly Chambers
City Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (*MOTION* - Move to approve the Minutes, as presented)

a. 5/7/26 Port Commission Minutes

4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

5. CORRESPONDENCE

6. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

7. HARBORMASTER'S REPORT

a. Harbormaster Report June 2026

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 14.13.075 PERSONAL OBLIGATION AND IMPOSITION OF LEINS.

11. NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

12. ADJOURN

**Minutes of the Regular Wrangell Port Commission Meeting
Held May 7, 2026**

Item a.

Chairman John Yeager called the Regular Port Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on May 7, 2026.

PRESENT: Commissioners Yeager, Yancey, Bunes
Harbormaster Steve Miller was also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approval of minutes from the regular meeting held on April 2, 2026.

M/S: Bunes/Yancey to approve the minutes as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA – none.

CORRESPONDENCE/PERSONS TO BE HEARD – none.

HARBORMASTER’S REPORT

- Harbormaster Miller provided a verbal report about his recent visit to Jacksonville BAE Systems Shipyard. Explained how their yard was set up and details about how their lift works.
- Entire harbor crew has been very busy as the summer season approaches.
- Cul-de-sac Vendor Leases have begun for the summer season.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Bunes – none.
- Davies – absent
- Yeager – Relayed complaints about vessels sitting in the Reliance loading zone longer than the posted four-hour limit, including harbor skiff. Miller said it will be resolved.
- Yancey – Heard comments from the public that it looked like there’s a good traffic plan in place at the cruise ship dock. Commented on Commissioner Yeager’s loading zone issue and recommended potentially sectioning off a portion of dock at the bottom of the ramp designated for 30-minute loading and unloading.
- Silva – absent

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none.

NEW BUSINESS – none.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS: - Title 14 Resolution item

The next Regular meeting will be held on June 4, 2026.

The Regular Port Commission meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

City & Borough of Wrangell
PORTS & HARBORS DEPARTMENT
Administrative Report



To: Wrangell Port Commission

Cc: Wrangell Assembly

From: Steve Miller

Subject: Harbormaster Report

Date: June 4, 2026

Overview

May was an extremely busy and productive month for the department as cruise ship activity, harbor operations, and Marine Service Center use significantly increased with the arrival of the summer season. Staff focused heavily on facility maintenance, cruise ship security operations, seasonal infrastructure installation, and supporting commercial fishing and public harbor activity throughout the community.

Operations & Maintenance:

Harbor staff completed a wide range of maintenance and operational projects throughout the harbor system:

- City Dock security infrastructure setup and operational preparations completed for the 2026 cruise season
- City Dock summer float installation completed
- City Dock bumper logs installed
- City Dock cleanup and general facility preparation completed
- City Dock railing repairs performed
- Transition plates for the summer float rebuilt and reinforced
- North platform at City Dock stabilized
- New skirting constructed around the north platform at City Dock
- Obstructions removed from turning dolphin to improve vessel operations
- Rust removal and galvanizing work completed on dolphins
- New loading zone signage installed at Heritage Harbor
- Bull rail repairs completed on Heritage Harbor transient float
- Harbor skiffs washed, serviced, and prepared for summer operations
- Started pothole repairs within the Heritage Harbor parking area
- General maintenance continued throughout all harbor facilities, including:
 - Pressure washing transient floats
 - Replacing broken and missing cleats
 - Replacing decking and fascia boards
 - Ongoing float and upland repairs

Cruise Season Operations:



- May cruise activity concluded with 18 scheduled cruise ship stops
- June and July are expected to be significantly busier with increased vessel traffic and passenger volumes
- Staff coordinated closely with vessel security officers and cruise operators to ensure SOLAS compliance and safe passenger operations
- Port security staffing and scheduling systems continued to be refined as vessel traffic increased
- City Dock operations experienced increased activity associated with cruise operations, passenger movement, and shore excursion coordination

Marine Service Center (MSC):

The Marine Service Center remained extremely active throughout May as commercial fishing vessels prepared for summer fisheries:

- Haul-out activity increased substantially as commercial fishermen prepared vessels for the season
- Heavy use of the Travelift, hydraulic trailer, and washdown facilities continued throughout the month
- Ongoing maintenance and organization of the yard and blocking systems
- Continued SWPPP compliance work and stormwater management efforts
- MSC vendors remained very active performing mechanical, welding, paint, fiberglass, and fabrication work

The MSC continues to support approximately 37 independent marine service vendors providing a wide range of repair and support services for the regional fleet.

Harbor Activity:

- Harbor cranes experienced heavy seasonal use throughout the month
- Large volumes of shrimp gear were loaded and unloaded as fisheries ramped up
- Increased freight movement included building materials and supplies destined for spring and summer cabin projects throughout the region
- Transient vessel traffic increased steadily as seasonal recreational and commercial boating activity intensified

Administration & Projects:

Staff and administration continued work on several ongoing projects and operational priorities:

- Ongoing coordination regarding deep-water port redevelopment planning and waterfront improvement efforts
- Continued coordination with consultants and project partners regarding capital improvement projects
- Ongoing work associated with harbor security planning and operational readiness for the busy cruise season
- Office staff continued customer service, billing, moorage agreement processing, and support for increased summer harbor activity

Looking Ahead

As we move further into the summer season, focus will remain on:

- Supporting peak cruise ship activity and security operations
- Managing increased transient and commercial harbor traffic
- Continued Marine Service Center haul-out operations and seasonal workload
- Ongoing harbor facility maintenance and repairs during peak use periods
- Continued advancement of waterfront and deep-water port development planning efforts

Summary

May was a very active and productive month for Ports & Harbors as the department fully transitioned into summer operations. Staff successfully managed increased cruise ship activity, high harbor utilization, and a busy Marine Service Center schedule while continuing major maintenance and infrastructure improvement efforts throughout the harbor system. The department remains well positioned for the peak summer operational season ahead.



City Dock North Ramp Up grades



Culdesac Vendors



Harbor cranes experienced heavy seasonal use throughout the month.

**CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA
PORT COMMISSION AGENDA STATEMENT**

<u>AGENDA ITEM TITLE:</u>	<u>DATE:</u>	June 4, 2026
	<u>Agenda Section</u>	10

WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 14.13.075 PERSONAL OBLIGATION AND IMPOSITION OF LEINS.

SUBMITTED BY:

STEVE MILLER

FISCAL NOTE:

Expenditure Required: \$XXX Total	
Fiscal Year (FY):	Amount: \$
Amount Budgeted:	
	FY: \$
Account Number(s):	
	XXXXX XXX XXXX
Account Name(s):	
	Enter Text Here
Unencumbered Balance(s) (prior to expenditure):	
	\$XXX

Reviews/Approvals/Recommendations

<input type="checkbox"/>	Commission, Board or Committee
Name(s)	
Name(s)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attorney
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Copy of Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION MOTION:
Move to Approve Adding 14.13.075 Personal Obligation and Imposition of Leins to Wrangell Municipal code title 14 Ports and Harbors

SUMMARY STATEMENT: The proposed ordinance would strengthen the City and Borough of Wrangell’s ability to recover costs associated with abandoned, impounded, derelict, or disposed vessels. The amendment adds a new section to Title 14 authorizing the Borough Assembly to

impose personal liability on vessel owners and persons entitled to possession for costs incurred during impoundment, storage, removal, sale, destruction, or disposal of vessels.

The ordinance also provides the Borough the ability, when necessary, to place liens against real property owned by responsible parties to secure unpaid costs. The proposed language includes due process protections requiring reasonable notice and an opportunity for affected property owners to object prior to the recording of any lien. Enforcement procedures would follow applicable Alaska Statutes governing liens.

Adoption of this ordinance would provide an additional enforcement and cost-recovery mechanism to help protect harbor users and Borough taxpayers from bearing the financial burden associated with abandoned or derelict vessels. The amendment aligns with the Borough's ongoing efforts to improve harbor management, strengthen compliance with municipal code provisions, and ensure responsible parties remain accountable for costs incurred by the public.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA

ORDINANCE NO. [REDACTED]

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, ADDING A NEW SECTION 14.13.075, PERSONAL OBLIGATION AND IMPOSITION OF LIENS, TO TITLE 14, HARBOR AND PORT FACILITIES, OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA:

[The changes to the existing code are shown as follows: the words that are underlined are to be added and the words that are in ~~strikethrough~~ are to be deleted.]

SEC. 1. Action. The purpose of this ordinance is to add a new Section 14.13.075, Personal Obligation and Imposition of Liens, to Title 14, Harbor and Port Facilities, of the Wrangell Municipal Code.

SEC. 2. New Section. A new Section 14.13.075, Personal Obligation and Liens, is added to Title 14, Harbor and Port Facilities, of the Wrangell Municipal Code to read:

§ 14.13.075 Personal Obligation and Imposition of Liens.

A. General. Upon the sale, disposal, or destruction of a vessel pursuant to WMC § 14.13.035 or WMC § 14.13.040, the borough assembly may order that all costs incurred by the borough arising, arisen, or to arise out of or referring or relating in any way to the impoundment, storage, removal, sale, destruction, or disposal of the vessel be made the personal obligation, jointly and severally, of the owner of the vessel and any person entitled to its possession. Alternatively, or in combination, the borough may impose a lien against any real property located in the borough owned by such persons to secure said costs.

B. Personal Obligation. If the borough orders that the costs shall be a personal obligation of the vessel owners or persons entitled to possession, it shall direct the borough attorney or his or her designee to collect the same on behalf of the borough by use of all appropriate legal remedies.

C. Notice and Opportunity to Object. Prior to the creation, recording, and notice of a lien on real property under this section, the borough shall provide reasonable notice under the circumstances to the property owner and any interested parties such that they are afforded the opportunity to present objections regarding the property interest affected.

D. Lien. If the borough orders that the cost shall be imposed as a lien upon the real property of the owners or person entitled to possession, the lien shall be recorded and may be enforced as provided in Alaska Stat. §§ 34.35.005–34.35.045.

SEC. 3. Classification. This ordinance is of a permanent nature and shall be codified in the Wrangell Municipal Code.

SEC. 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective upon adoption.

PASSED IN FIRST READING: _____, 2026

PASSED IN SECOND READING: _____, 2026.

Patricia Gilbert, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk