

BOOTHBAY HARBOR
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
September 11, 2023

In addition to these typed minutes, video recordings of all Selectmen's meetings can be viewed at BRCTV, and audio recordings at the Boothbay Harbor Town Office.

ATTENDING: Michael Tomko - Chair
Kenneth Rayle - Vice Chair
Mark Gimbel
Mark Osborn
Alyssa Allen

Julia Latter, Town Manager

TOWN MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The first installment of taxes is due September 13, 2023, with interest beginning September 14, 2023. The second installment is due March 13, 2023, with interest beginning on March 14, 2023.
2. Beginning September 12, 2023, the town will continue the Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project—the next area to be completed will be on McKown Street, beginning at Goldsmith Gallery down to Tigger Leather. The parking spots in front of these businesses will be closed during construction, and McKown Street will be limited to one-way traffic to allow for a safe workplace and pedestrian traffic along the route.
3. Town Manager Latter has done a final review of the footbridge, and on September 12, 2023, she will meet with the Maine Department of Transportation for the final inspection.
4. On October 9th, the office will be closed for Indigenous Peoples' Day. The select board meeting will be moved to Tuesday, October 10th.
5. Tomko asks Town Manager Latter for updates on Shri Verrill. Latter says that she has met with Lenore Imhof and done the self-evaluation, which she will follow up on. There is a board in the lobby of the town office for the public to view regarding climate resiliency priority items.

SELECTMEN REPORTS:

1. Allen mentions she will send an email soon asking the board to consider moving meetings earlier.
2. Osborn says it has come to his attention multiple select board members will not be able to attend the workshop with the planning board scheduled for September 13, 2023, and suggests it be rescheduled.
 - Allen endorses this motion and believes that as we advance, board members should be allowed time to check for availability before setting a date and time.
 - Tomko expresses concern about rescheduling to avoid inconveniencing the planning board and their schedules.

- Osborn states that he would like this workshop to be a productive use of time, and with multiple members absent, he believes there are better times than this.
 - Allen recommends putting an agenda together for the public to see what is intended to be discussed and for board members to be fully prepared.
 - Rayle believes this will be an important meeting, and we should ensure everyone is prepared and ready to move into action.
 - Motion to reschedule the September 13, 2023 workshop, as soon as practical, when all members of the select board who want to attend can attend and that all members receive a draft of the agenda at least two weeks before the workshop to make suggestions and have the final agenda one week before the workshop; approved 5-0.
3. Tomko says there is another round of ASK grants from the state for up to \$2500. Town Manager Latter is currently working with an existing grant, which is being used to look into the possibility of bringing solar power to municipal buildings.
 4. Tomko adds that on September 19th at 1:00 p.m., MCOG and the LCRCP are having a planning board workshop on subdivision law open to the public in person or by Zoom. There will also be a workshop in November on FEMA funding of grants.

FINANCIALS:

1. Taxes are at 39% collection, with bills due on Wednesday, September 13, 2023.

MINUTES:

1. Osborn would like the last sentence to read, “Morley expresses frustration with some of the interactions that had taken place with a member of the select board and would like to avoid conflict with the town officials going forward. The select board thanked Andrew Morley for bringing his concerns to the board's attention and for his efforts on behalf of the Fisherman’s Memorial Fund.” Motion to approve the amendment; approved 4-0, with Tomko abstaining as the sentence is regarding him directly.
2. Rayle asks for a correction in the minutes to read “Motion to approve August 14, 2023, minutes as written; approved 3-0 with two abstentions.” Motion to approve the amendment; approved 5-0.
3. Motion to approve the minutes as amended; approved 5-0.

LICENSES:

1. Town Manager Latter makes the board aware that the first liquor license application on the agenda for Wharf Street Restaurant & Bar, 16B Wharf Street, Malt, Wine, and Spirits, has been advertised; however, the board is not to act on this particular liquor license at this point as it is withdrawn. Latter asks the board to sign an order to revoke the victualers license for Rock 2 BBH LLC doing business as Wharf Street & Bar, according to Chapter 162 of the Town of Boothbay Harbor subsection 162-5. The reason for revocation of the current victualer’s license is holders need to meet the outlined requirements in subsection 162-7. Rock 2 BBH does not currently hold the State of Maine’s Health Inspection Program license through the Department of Health and Human Services.

- a) Motion to sign the order of revocation, a victualer's license for Rock 2 BBH LLC, DBA Wharf Street & Bar, pursuant to Chapter 162 of the Code of the Town of Boothbay Harbor, subsection 162-5. The reason for revocation is that the current victualers license holder has not met the requirement outlined in subsection 162-7. More specifically, Rock 2 BBH LLC does not currently hold the state's health inspection program license through the Department of Health and Human Services; approved 4-0 with Gimbel to abstain as he does not feel confident the information he has heard or read so would like to remain "neutral."
2. Motion to approve the renewal application for a liquor license, Malt, Wine, and Spirits, Captain Sawyers Bed & Breakfast, 55 Commercial Street; approved 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Public Health & Safety:** Gimbel inquires about Hurricane Lee heading towards Lincoln County and what we have regarding emergency preparedness. Latter, says we have a Regional Emergency Management director she can pass the reports on from. There is further discussion regarding instances of greater threat and ways to keep the community prepared, as well as the Emergency Preparedness Plan the community currently has in place.

PUBLIC FORUM:

1. Boothbay Harbor resident Denise Griffin discusses statistics regarding the school board referendum. She breaks down what the effects will roughly look like for each option the town may vote on. Griffin also discusses the funding formula for the school district and how it is not equally divided among the towns. She points out that Boothbay Harbor residents make up 17% of the middle and 25% of the high schools but are paying 40% of enrollment for both. Town Manager Latter will meet with the Boothbay Town Manager and Boothbay Harbor resident Laurie Perkins for an initial meeting on Thursday. Allen agrees that the funding formula is inequitable and believes the town should start discussing with state representatives to find a better solution.
2. Boothbay Harbor resident Steve Carbone is concerned that "illegal aliens" in town are going to be using taxpayer's dollars.
3. Boothbay Harbor resident Tom Minerich thanks the fire department and first responders for their work.

WARRANTS: Motion to approve the warrants upon review; approved 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM; approved 5-0.

