

BOOTHBAY HARBOR SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 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
Mark Osborn
Alyssa Allen

Julia Latter, Town Manager

TOWN MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Sidewalks have been replaced up to Tigger Leather and should be completed up to Sweet Bay sometime next week. At that point, the project will conclude for the winter season.
2. Field work for the annual financial audit will begin the week of the 23rd.
3. The harbor master boat and pump-out operation will end on Monday, October 16th.
4. Deputy Harbor Master Kevin Voight has received lots of positive feedback this year, however, he will not join us next year. Latter thanks Voight for his hard work this season.
5. Jason Maddocks has taken a survey regarding the pump-out operation and how it was run that will be sent out this week to marinas. Tomko adds that he would like to collaborate with Latter to conduct a letter of thanks to the state and marinas for making funds available to support the pump-out boat operation.
6. The Maddocks and Barrett's Park restrooms will be closed by the end of the month for the winter season. Whale Park restrooms will remain open seven days a week, 8 AM to 8 PM, until after the Boothbay Lights and closed until mid-April when renovations are done.
7. The town office lobby and restrooms will be open as a shuttle bus stop for Boothbay Lights this winter. A schedule will be available by the next meeting.
8. Absentee Ballots are available for the November 7th State of Maine and Boothbay-Boothbay Harbor referendum election—the deadline to request a ballot will be at 4:30 Thursday, November 2nd, and the deadline to return a ballot will be 8:00 PM November 7th.
9. On October 25th at 6:00 PM, the CSD will conduct a public hearing regarding the School Board Referendum questions for Boothbay Harbor in the town hall.
10. Nick Livingston has been hired as a full-time public works employee starting November 1st. Livingston has worked for Boothbay Harbor and returns with 13 years of experience.
11. The budget and port committees have positions available, and the board of appeals has one alternate member position available. Applications are available online and in the town office.
12. The Water District will be holding a public meeting on October 23rd at 6:00 PM; the same time as the next regularly scheduled select board meeting. After contacting absent board members, a decision will be made whether or not to move the Selectman's meeting to 7:00 PM.
13. A tour of school facilities will be held tomorrow at 4:30 for Boothbay and Boothbay Harbor municipal officials.

14. 2024 dog licenses will be available as of October 15th. State law requires you to register your dog in the municipal clerk's office by December 31st each year. You may also register online between October 15th and January 31st.

TOWN DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Chief Snyder gives a parking program overview for the summer season that ends today.
 - This season, there was one parking attendant, Carolyn Potter. Potter issued 150 parking tickets for approximately \$3750 total, and \$2040 of that has been collected so far.
 - Administrative Assistant for the Police Department, Diane Joyal, managed mailings and collection of parking tickets.
 - Revenue is at \$157,943.08, a decrease from previous years. Revenue for the 2022 season was approximately \$207,000. Snyder believes this decrease is due to multiple factors: there was no parking available in the Footbridge lot for almost if not all of June, the rainy weather, and because this is his first year being involved in parking.
 - Snyder adds that he will continue to work to improve the parking program for the town and community. Currently, he is looking into parking ordinances to find areas that could be improved.
2. Officer Barry will be going to the academy in January, which imposes a problem with staffing; however, Snyder is working on the issue. Chief says he met with two applicants today for officer positions.

FINANCIALS: The warrant this evening includes the county tax commitment bill, the largest bill of the year, in the amount of \$1,266,196. Expenses are lower this month than last.

MINUTES: Motion to approve the September 25, 2023 minutes as written; approved 3-0.

PUBLIC FORUM:

1. Tom Perkins, a Boothbay Harbor resident, states that 40 Boothbay Harbor students are in the high school. The town will be responsible for 40% of construction costs if the school board questions pass. Osborn adds that the \$89,000,000 bond with interest will amount to roughly \$135,000,000. Both Osborn and Perkins make it clear that this information is not intended to sway the vote one way or another; the interest is that people have all of the information before making a decision.
2. Laurie Perkins, Boothbay Harbor resident, says the school has been comparing this bond to the Wiscasset school bond in 2021. She stresses that Boothbay Harbor is unlike Wiscasset and encourages everyone to ask questions.
3. Steve Carbone, Boothbay Harbor resident, expresses his concern for the large tax jump, especially for those with fixed incomes, if the school board referendum is passed.

WARRANTS: Motion to approve the warrants upon review; approved 3-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. Motion to enter executive session under MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13 §405 6(A), Personnel at 6:57 PM; approved 3-0.
 - The executive session ended at 7:50 PM. No decisions were made.
2. Motion to enter executive session under MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13 §405 6(C), Discussion of Real Property at 7:51 PM; approved 3-0.
 - The executive session ended at 8:21 PM. No decisions were made.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 8:24 PM; approved 3-0.