

BOOTHBAY HARBOR
SELECTMEN’S MEETING MINUTES
VIA ZOOM
December 13, 2021

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

ATTENDING: Michael Tomko - Chair
 Tricia Warren – Vice Chair
 Alyssa Allen
 Denise Griffin
 Kenneth Rayle

Julia Latter, Town Manager
Kathleen Pearce, Finance Officer

Chairman Tomko called the Board of Selectmen’s Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Introductions of the Board of Selectmen.

TOWN MANAGER’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The Town Office will be closing at noon on Thursday, December 23rd and we will be closed on Friday, December 24th in observance of the Christmas Holiday. The office will also be closing at noon on Thursday, December 30th, and closed on Friday, December 31st in observance of the New Year.
2. The first 2022-2023 budget meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 5th at 4:30 p.m.
3. Due to the holidays and attendance, Latter asked the board about changing the regularly scheduled board meeting for December 27th to either the 28th or 29th. The board decided to change the meeting to Tuesday, December 28th. A workshop discussing capital items will also be held on December 28th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 via zoom. Latter will schedule both of them and put out the agenda.
4. The town has been chosen to receive funds from the Mildred H. McEvoy Foundation. The police department received \$25,000 for the electronic fingerprinting station and cell phone analysis equipment. This means we will not have to budget for the additional \$10,000 regularly scheduled for next year. Latter thanked the Mildred H. McEvoy Foundation for the donation.
5. An advertisement has been placed for a new harbormaster. The ad will be run for the next couple of weeks. The deadline is January 6th.
6. The full-time Heavy Equipment Operator/Laborer position for public works has been offered to Robert Fallon on a conditional hire depending on pre-employment test results.
7. Latter shared a quick update on Public Works – all equipment is ready to go for the winter season, they have purchased a snowblower attachment for the back of the Kubota and are waiting for the snow to fall.
8. The 2022 dog licenses are due by December 31st and a \$25 late fee will be assessed as of February 1st.

TOWN DEPARTMENT REPORTS: NONE

SELECTMEN REPORTS: Tomko gave an update on the Boothbay Lights festivities. He stated how proud he is of all public support services from the town. He mentioned how nice it was to see the town so busy at this time of year.

FINANCIALS: Overview of financials given by Finance Officer Kathleen Pearce.

MINUTES: Approval of November 22, 2021, meeting minutes. Approved 5-0.

LICENSES: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Selectperson Rayle and Vice-Chair Warren presented their section review for the comprehensive plan:

Rayle presented the Population and Demographics and Economy chapters.

For the Population and Demographics chapter Rayle mentioned three overall statistics:

- Population changes;
- school enrollment decreasing;
- and aging population.

Highlights on the Economy chapter included:

- Promoting economic climate;
- strategies to promote growth;
- housing;
- revised land code uses;
- tourism;
- and construction and trades.

Warren presented the Transportation chapter. Looking into planning for the future with population growth etc. Highlights included:

- Public transportation;
- parking;
- walkability;
- and bike safety.

2. Covid discussion – Selectperson Griffin reiterated the importance of being vaccinated and getting your booster with numbers rising daily.
3. Footbridge Renovation Project update – an update was given on the onsite visit/workshop held earlier this month with the representative from Gartley and Dorskey. Topics discussed to be included in the bid package were:
 - Esthetics;
 - width;
 - height;
 - scenic overlook (bump out);
 - railing styles;
 - the possibilities of mechanical and plumbing and conduit.

PUBLIC FORUM: Boothbay Harbor resident, Wendy Wolf gave an update on her points on fluoridation discussion. Wolf mentioned Boothbay and Boothbay had voted to add fluoride to the water a few years ago. Some reasons she feels fluoridation is important are;

- public health measure on tooth decay;
- Maine having issues with children having access to dental care;
- prevents cavities in our children and elderly;
- she feels the Water District employees are well trained on regulating the amount put in drinking water;
- and it is a cost-effective way to ensure our children get fluoride treatment needed to help with tooth decay.

WARRANTS: Motion was made to approve the warrants upon review. Motion seconded and unanimously approved. Approved 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. An executive session was held under MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13, §405 6 (A), Personnel.

The board came out of the executive session at 8:49 p.m. under MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13, §405 6 (A), Personnel. No decisions were made.

2. An executive session was held under MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13, §405 6 (E), Legal Consultation. Selectperson Griffin recused herself and left the meeting due to a conflict of interest.

The board came out of the executive session at 9:57 p.m. under MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13, §405 6 (E), Legal Consultation. No decisions were made.

MOVE TO ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m. after unanimous approval. Approved 4-0.