MINUTES

BOOTHBAY HARBOR

SELECTMEN’S MEETING

 JANUARY 9, 2017

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

ATTENDING: Denise Griffin, Chairman

Russ Hoffman, Vice Chairman

Mike Tomko

Trisha Warren

 Wendy Wolf

 Tom Woodin, Town Manager

 Julia Latter, Financial Officer

**Chairman Griffin called the Board of Selectmen’s meeting to order at 7:00 pm.**

Pledge of Allegiance: The Board of Selectmen and members of the audience.

TOWN MANAGER’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. There was a wrap up of the Festival of Lights and Gardens Aglow at the Opera House on January 4th which had been well attended. Green Tree Events received mostly positive responses when they asked the participants what they felt had gone well or not so well.

Selectman Hoffman praised the town for their community spirit and willingness to participate in the Festival of Lights.

Selectman Wolf reminded everyone that the two towns had allocated funding for economic development, some of which was used to engage Green Tree Events as consultants to spearhead the festival. Selectman Wolf added that the Joint Economic Development Committee had nominated the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens for their “Gardens Aglow” to the Governor’s Award for Tourism Excellence with letters of support from the town managers as well as a number of businesses.

1. The first budget committee meeting for the next fiscal year will be held on Wednesday, January 11th at 4:30 pm.

01/09/17

1. The footbridge repair is on schedule and on budget so will be open by February 15th. However, the full replacement of the swing span will take longer than anticipated (not until the fall-winter of 2017/18) due to design delays and other commitments that Barney Baker Associates has going on at the same time. [Manager Woodin pointed out the new construction is going to make the older sections look worse in comparison, so they might want to think about eventually upgrading all of it and was getting ideas from Barney Baker’s firm.]
2. There is going to be a meeting at the Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission in Wiscasset on Wednesday, January 25th from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm, to discuss issues concerning the recent legalization of marijuana.

SELECTMEN REPORTS:

1. Selectman Wolf stated the JEDC had a comprehensive retreat to kick off their second year and talked not only about how to set the stage for economic development but about how to convince the people of the four towns on the peninsula to think of themselves as “one community” to come together for a common cause.

Selectman Wolf described the new subgroups of the JEDC.

* Infrastructure (anything that goes in the ground and updating ordinances)
* Communication and marketing (oversees the Festival of Lights) plus Wayfinding (figuring out the next step to enhance the visitor experience)
* Work force housing (expanded and affordable housing)
* Downtown (parking, long-range planning and whatever is necessary to insure the business are surviving and vibrant)

[The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 7th at the YMCA at 5:30 pm.]

1. Selectman Hoffman stated the next Ambulance Service board meeting will be on Monday, January 16th focusing on developing their budget.

FINANCIALS:

Finance Officer Latter reviewed the financial totals with the Board.

MINUTES:

Selectman Wolf **motioned** to approve the minutes of the November 28th meeting. Selectman Tomko **seconded**. **Unanimous approval.**

01/09/17

LICENSES:

(None)

ONGOING BUSINESS:

1. Manager Woodin asked the Board if they would authorize the replacement of both engines for the Harbor Master’s boat after he explained how it did not make sense to try to replace just the one that had failed, since they were seventeen years old. They could easily convert the boat to four stroke engines (from two stroke engines) at the same time. Manager Woodin suggested using $25,000.56 (total for these engines) of the $71,000 that is in the Harbor Master’s boat replacement fund at this time. Selectman Wolf **motioned** to do this. Selectman Hoffman **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

2. Manager Woodin stated there was also a bill for $23, 283.07 from Chesterfield Associates for the materials and work that had been done to date on the repair of the footbridge. Selectman Wolf **motioned** to pay this bill. Selectman Warren **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Selectman Wolf **motione**d to appoint Bill Hamblen to the Budget Committee. Selectman Tomko **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

2. Selectman Wolf **motioned** to reappoint Michelle Farnham as Registrar (as of January 1st). Selectman Hoffman **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

3. Selectman Hoffman **motione**d to reappoint Trish Fallon as Deputy Registrar (as of January 1st). Selectmen Wolf **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

4. Selectman Tomko **motioned** to appoint Ronnie Campbell as Trustee of the Boothbay-Boothbay Harbor CSD until the election in May. Selectman Hoffman **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

PUBLIC FORUM:

1. Palmer Payne had questions about the cost of tickets to “Gardens Aglow” as well as having the Ambulance Service meet their budget deadline.

2. Tomko complimented Nick Upham and Public Works on their swift response to clean up of a downed tree on Land’s End during the recent snow event.

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WARRANTS:

Selectman Wolf **motioned** the warrants be approved upon careful review. Selectman Warren **seconded**. **Unanimous approval.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(None)

MOVE TO ADJOURN:

The meeting was **adjourned** at 7:37 pm.

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