MINUTES

BOOTHBAY HARBOR

SELECTMEN’S MEETING

JUNE 11, 2018

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, Vice Chair

Russ Hoffman

Mike Tomko

Wendy Wolf, Chair

Tom Woodin, Town Manager

Julia Latter, Finance Officer

**Chair Wolf 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. Reminder that at the next meeting on Monday, 6/25th, the municipal appointments and fee schedule will be presented.

2. Reminder that tomorrow is the day to vote at the fire station from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. [Democrats and Republicans will vote by their party; those registered as Independents will only be able to vote on the rank choice voting question.]

3. On Thursday, July 12th, Dan Bannon from Barney Baker Associates will present concepts of the renovated Foot Bridge using aerial photos taken by drone.

4. There are some open slots on the various committees.

* Budget Committee
* Board of Appeals (3)
* Port Committee (2)

Applications available at town hall.

FINANCIALS:

Finance Officer Latter reviewed the financial totals with the Board.

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MINUTES:

Selectman Hoffman **motioned** to approve the May 29th minutes. Selectman Tomko **seconded**. **Motion passed 3 - 1 Abstention**. (Chair Wolf did not attend the meeting.).

SELECTMEN REPORTS:

1. **JEDC**: Chair Wolf stated at the last meeting of the Joint Economic Development Committee they spent time discussing the meeting they had with the Board of Selectmen from Boothbay Harbor and Boothbay to present the economic development report and action plan. The report was over 70 pages long so more discussion between the two towns would be needed but they had come away with a couple of agreements.

* There are good benefits to continue to work together.
* There are different ideas about how to implement.

The Boothbay Harbor Region Chamber of Commerce also gave a report on the work they are doing on work force development with a broad consortium of partners and the schools.

The JEDC would be asking each Select Board to have their own workshop to look at the economic development plan to dive into it in a deeper way to identify priorities that would be most important.

There was a meeting on Thursday, 6/7th to discuss affordable housing for workers (both year-round and seasonal) as well as people living with lower incomes.

Selectman Tomko stated he was encouraged that the Selectmen from Southport and Edgecomb also wanted to work with Boothbay and Boothbay Harbor which reinforces the message that we are stronger as a community acting as a region.

Chair Wolf praised JEDC for their commitment.

LICENSES:

1. Vice Chairman Griffin **motioned** to approve an application for a **new** Victualer license from Pinkham's Gourmet Market (Class B). Selectman Tomko **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair Wolf stated there had been a Wharves and Weirs on-site hearing that afternoon at 4:00 p.m. The application is from Eugenia Shepard, represented by Andrew Shepard at 102 Samoset Road, Map #25, Lot #19. The application is proposing to construct one piling and a 10'x20' float.

Andrew Shepard explained the application was basically to add a third float to accommodate need by Eugenia's growing family.

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The Board of Selectmen used the following review criteria to base their judgment upon, along with discoveries made during the on-site hearing and testimony from abutters and/or affected parties:

1. Does the proposed application interfere with or cause an obstruction to navigation?

**The consensus of the Board was that it did not.**

2. Does the proposed application cause injury to the rights of others?

**The consensus of the Board was that it did not.**

3. Has the applicant included all necessary approvals from other agencies such as the Maine State Department of Environmental Protection, the Army Corp of Engineers and the State of Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands?

**The consensus of the Board was that they had.**

Chair Wolf **motioned** to approve the application. Vice Chair Griffin **seconded**. The application was **approved unanimously**.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

1. Chair Wolf stated she had requested having a TIF district put on the agenda. A TIF district might help produce funds for the town to move forward. At the last meeting the Board discussed thinking and dreamer bigger. It is a challenge to understand the tools at their disposal to make these bigger things happen. Having a TIF district might be one possibility to have more flexibility and available funding. Any use of TIF funds have to be approved by the voters. It is the due diligence of the Select Board to determine the benefits or non-benefits of bringing a TIF district to the Harbor. A TIF district can change the evaluation of a property. It is broader than the east side.

Vice Chair Griffin reminded the Board that Shana Mueller of Bernstein Shur had already conducted a TIF district 101 workshop for them and was not convinced it would be worth the amount of work involved to have one.

Selectman Tomko felt while the benefits may be limited it should be explored.

Manager Woodin estimated the benefits of having a TIF district when the Rocktide was purchased to give them an idea and it amounted to very little.

Chair Wolf responded she still felt they should do a TIF district analysis.

2. Chair Wolf reminded the Board that as re-elected members, they were required to go to the MMA Elected Official Workshop for training certification to understand their role as public officials.

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PUBLIC FORUM:

1. John Seitzer expressed concern about some personal email communication he'd had with Paul Coulombe.

2. Steve Lorrain stated there were a series of workshops planned to address necessary repairs at the elementary and high school that their Board of Trustees felt the Select Board might be interested in, mentioning a constant clogged run-off water drain as a problem in particular.

3. Jean McKay wondered how Paul Coulombe became aware that John Seitzer had emailed a personal email from him to the Select Board.

[Chair Wolf responded the email exchange was unfortunate and uncalled for; that any email sent to the Select Board becomes a public document.]

4. Dave Racicot did not like the phrase "**my** zoning changes" in the email John Seitzer had received from Paul Coulombe.

5. Lynne Seitzer stated she was happy for an opportunity to have free speech.

6. Selectman Tomko stated he appreciated the words of the people who had spoken who seemed to be at odds with economic development and conservation.

[Chair Wolf encouraged people to express their thoughts because it was their town to share together.]

WARRANTS:

Vice Chair Griffin **motioned** to approve the warrants upon careful review. Selectman Hoffman **seconded**. **Unanimous approval.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:16 p.m. under MRSA Title 1, 405, 6 (A) - Personnel discussion.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:47 p.m. No decisions were made.

MOVE TO ADJOURN:

The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:48 p.m.

KB