BOOTHBAY HARBOR
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
July 13th, 2026, 5:00 PM
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.

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT
- Michael Tomko – Chair
- Ken Rayle – Vice Chair
- Mark Gimbel
- Alyssa Allen
- Evan Hepburn
- Julia Latter – Town Manager

TOWN MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS
1. There are several employment opportunities available, the applications and job descriptions can be found on the town's website.
2. Fiscal year 2026 has begun as of July 1st as well as a 12-month process to start rebuilding the town's website. Julia has received a contract for this and will share it with the board.
3. Next month there will be a sidewalk project update. The bidding process for this is ongoing.
4. A paving schedule will be made available to the public next month. The projects included in the schedule will occur in the fall.
5. On July 21st at 3 P.M. There will be a remembrance ceremony for fisherman lost as sea at the Fisherman's Memorial on Atlantic Avenue. This ceremony is open to the public.
6. Julia and Chair Tomko noted the success of the Fourth of July festivities in the harbor.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS
No Department Reports.

SELECTMEN REPORTS
1. **Mark Gimbel:** On July 29th at Bigelow Labs, the Declaration of Independence will be displayed for public viewing. Tickets will be available online for this event.
2. **Mark Gimbel:** On July 18th at 9:30 P.M. a drone show will be put on from McKown Point. McKown Point will be closed to public traffic beginning at 3 P.M. on that day. Mark stated that the Footbridge will be a great spot for spectators.

3. **Ken Rayle:** The Fire Department is putting on their annual lobster bake on August 1st from 12 P.M. – 4 P.M. at the high school football field. The proceeds directly benefit the Minnehaha Fire Company.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Town Manager, Julia Latter: As the fiscal year has just begun and taxes have not been committed, the YTD tax collection is at $50. As of June 30th, fiscal year 2025 YTD tax collection was at 98.5%.

MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of June 8, 2026 and June 22, 2026 as presented; **approved 5-0.**

LICENSE APPROVALS

a. Liquor License(s)
   i. Lafayette Boothbay Harbor, LLC, dba Boothbay Harbor Inn, 31 Atlantic Avenue, Beer, Wine & Spirits, renewal; **approved 5-0.**
   ii. Balmy Days Cruises, 42 Commercial Street, Beer & Wine, renewal; **approved 5-0.**
   iii. Mine Oyster Inc., dba Mine Oyster Raw Bar & Gathering Place, 16 B & A Wharf Street, Beer, Wine & Spirits, renewal; **approved 5-0.**
   iv. The Opera House at Boothbay Harbor, 86 Townsend Avenue, Beer, Wine & Spirits, renewal; **approved 5-0.**
   v. Carousel Music Theater, 196 Townsend Avenue, Beer, Wine & Spirits, new; **approved 5-0.**

b. Special Amusement License(s)
   i. Mine Oyster Inc., dba Mine Oyster Raw Bar & Gathering Place, 16 A&B Wharf Street, renewal; **approved 5-0.**
   ii. Lafayette Boothbay Harbor, dba Boothbay Harbor Inn, 31 Atlantic Avenue, renewal; **approved 5-0.**
   iii. Lafayette Boothbay, Inc., dba Tugboat Inn, 80 Commercial Street, renewal; **approved 5-0.**
   iv. The Opera House, 86 Townsend Avenue, renewal; **approved 5-0.**
   v. Carousel Music Theater, 196 Townsend Avenue, new; **approved 5-0.**

NEW BUSINESS

a. RISE – Planning Process Next Steps
   Alex Zipparo, Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission: Introduced the RISE program, himself and Elyse Oliver. He explained that his role under Elyse is to provide help in connecting her and the program with community members. He briefly went over why they were there and that they would be presenting several

development projects that could be provided to Boothbay Harbor as a free service from RISE.

Elyse Oliver: Presented 5 development projects for the Select Board to choose from as part of the RISE planning program. The first potential project involves expanding vocational programs, the next program would be the creation of an interactive map of local trails ways to tie them into discussions of active transportation. The third option would work on affordable housing. The fourth option would be a project to make codes and ordinances more cohesive between surrounding municipalities and the fifth option would be a informational PDF guide for aspiring business owners. Elyse mentioned that at their presentation in Boothbay, Boothbay chose option five.

Allysa Allen: Expressed interest in option four as discussions have been brought up in the past to possibly have this done.

Alex Zipparo: Added that option four could tie into option five and that option five is more focused on economic development.

Chair, Michael Tomko: Stated that some options could be helpful towards the on-going update of the comprehensive plan.

The board came to a consensus to focus on option four and five and Julia will reach out to Elyse next week.

b. Footbridge Celebration Concepts

Chair, Michael Tomko: Briefly introduced the topic, as a discussion on ideas for a Footbridge Celebration.

Lisa Matthews and Kate Sullivan: Approached the podium and introduced themselves. They proceeded to pass out reports to the audience and the Select Board. They discussed plans and ideas surrounding hosting a celebration to take place at the footbridge. They explained that their ideal timeframe for this celebration would be late October and that it would be a family-friendly and local event. There is no current budget in place yet, but they will be hosting a meeting on July 27th at P.M. in the meeting room at the town office. They invite anyone within the community interested in the event to come and provide input and ideas.

Allyssa Allen: Suggested that they could partner with an organization to help execute their plan.

Vice Chair, Ken Rayle: Expressed gratitude to Kate and Lisa for beginning the process of planning the event.

OLD BUSINESS

Comprehensive Plan Committee (CPC) Project Update

Chair, Michael Tomko: Explained that the next meeting will be on Thursday, July 23, in the meeting room from 5 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. They will be going over their second set of strategies and recommendations. The committee is still planning to wrap up in early November.

PUBLIC FORUM

Joe and Jill Doyle: Introduced themselves at the podium as abutters of the Eastside Waterfront Park. Joe explained that he believes that Select Board has been misled about Planning Board activities. He also referenced a meeting within the Town Office, attended by Chair Michael Tomko, the interim Code Enforcement Officer and the attorney for the waterfront park. He

alleged that they had no knowledge that the meeting would be taking place and he deemed this meeting to be inappropriate, as his representation was not there to speak on their behalf. Doyle requested that the Select Board take a vote to remove Chair Michael Tomko or for Chair Tomko to recuse himself.
Anthony Muri: Muri came to the podium and stated that he is the attorney for the park/Waterfront Preservation. He stated that he disagreed with the statements made by the Doyles and explained that the meeting took place as a request by the Code Officer to catch him up on the on-going processes between all parties. He wished to explain that the meeting was simply an explanation of proceedings.
Jill Doyle: Came back to the podium to express her frustrations that their own lawyer was not invited to said meeting. She then asked Chair Tomko to clarify whether he had been there or not.
Chair, Michael Tomko: Stated he had been at the meeting and that he had been invited by the Code Officer.
John O'Connell: Introduced himself as the President of the Waterfront Preservation and explained that he was disappointed in public attacks on the town staff and officials.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Executive Session under MRS Title 1, Chapter 13 § 405 (6)(D), Labor Contracts
Motion to enter Executive Session under MRS Title 1, Chapter 13 § 405 (6)(D), Labor Contracts, at 6:17 P.M.; **approved 5-0.**
Motion to come out of Executive Session at 6:37 P.M.; **approved 5-0.**
No decisions were made.
The board made a motion to authorize the town manager to sign the collective bargaining agreement for the administrative unit; effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029; **approved 5-0.**

Executive Session under MRS Title 1, Chapter 13, § 405(6)(A), Personnel
Motion to enter Executive Session under MRS Title 1, Chapter 13, § 405(6)(A), Personnel, at 6:38 P.M.; **approved 5-0.**
Motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:18 P.M.; **approved 5-0.**
No decisions were made.
The board made a motion to direct the Town Manager to have consultation with the town attorney regarding legal issues and concerns brought before the Select Board; **approved 5-0.**

ADJOURNMENT
Motion to adjourn at 8:19 P.M.; **approved 5-0.**