

BOOTHBAY HARBOR SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

October 28, 2024

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

Alyssa Allen

Ken Rayle

Mark Osborn

Mark Gimbel

Julia Latter, Town Manager

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

TOWN MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next meeting has been rescheduled to November 12th due to Veterans Day.
2. The Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project has concluded for the fall, with Merritt Grover praising the town for the quality and efficiency of the work. Future work will extend from Tiger Leather past Sherman's.
3. Additional crosswalks will be implemented in spring due to recent project completions from MDOT.
4. Efficiency Maine has approved the town for 9 EV chargers, along with an incentive award of \$100,335.20. The chargers are expected to be operational by next spring.
5. The deadline for absentee ballot requests for the November 5th election is October 31st.
6. Halloween road closures will occur around Kenny Field Drive from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM for safe trick-or-treating.
7. The Halloween community parade will commence at 4:00 PM on October 31st.

TOWN DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Chief Snyder provided a parking overview, noting an increase in revenue attributed to fewer enforcement officers the previous year. A total of 481 parking tickets were issued this year, with 165 voided. Signage issues were highlighted, with plans for improvements next season.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS:

1. Mark Gimbel says that in the spring Friends of Windjammer Days was looking at Boothbay Harbor becoming an official Coast Guard city, noting that the extensive process will require a committee if it is decided to continue the process over the next year. The US Coast Guard will be honored at the upcoming Windjammer Days.
2. Mike Tomko reported that he and Julia Latter are in contact with Lamb Partners, a Boston-based lighting design firm, to restore the lighting on the footbridge.

MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes of September 23, 2024, as presented; approved 5-0.

LICENSING:

1. Motion to approve the renewal application of a liquor license, Fisherman's Wharf Inn, 22 Commercial St., Malt, Wine & Spirits; approved 5-0.
2. Motion to approve the renewal application of a liquor license, Cabbage Island Clambakes/Argo Cruises, Bennie Alice - 22 Commercial St., Malt, Wine & Spirits; approved 5-0.
3. Motion to approve the renewal application of a special amusement license, Fisherman's Wharf Inn, 22 Commercial St; approved 5-0.
4. Motion to approve the renewal application of a special amusement license, Anchor Restaurant, 204 Townsend Ave; approved 5-0.
5. Motion to approve the renewal application of a special amusement license, Pier 1 Pizza, Inc., 15 Wharf St.; approved 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion to approve Jeff Lowell as Harbor Master for Boothbay Harbor for a term expiring June 30, 2025; approved 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. LD-2003 Discussion: A workshop was held October 8th. Recommendations from the town council have been sent to North Star Planning for updates.

PUBLIC FORUM:

1. Resident Betsy Wildes expressed concerns regarding parking costs for residents working in town, noting she pays \$50 weekly for parking.
2. Local business owner Jenny Mitchell stressed the need for parking permits for residents and employees, highlighting comparable practices in other towns.
3. Employee William Smith advocated for parking permits to alleviate issues in the downtown business district.
4. Winter Page reflected on challenges for locals, emphasizing the need for solutions such as shuttle services to promote parking outside of town.
5. Cliff Kane raised concerns about the lack of signage regarding parking hours.
6. Annette Nager noted confusion over regular parking changes and suggested the return of coin-operated meters for those preferring cash.
7. Business owner Bill Campbell inquired about long-term parking options for overnight visitors.
8. Mike Tomko recommended that Julia Latter organize a Doodle Pole to schedule a workshop.
9. Cliff Kane asked about improving meeting ad enticements to increase public attendance.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. Motion to enter executive session under MRS Title 1, Chapter 13, § 405 (6)(A), Personnel at 7:11 PM; approved 5-0.

Budget Committee Appointment: Motion to appoint Hristo Ivanov as a member of the Budget Committee for a term expiring June 30, 2027; approved 5-0.

2. Motion to enter executive session under MRS Title 1, Chapter 13, § 405 (6)(C), Discussion of Real Property at 7:58; approved 5-0.

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ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 8:11 PM; approved 5-0.