

**BOOTHBAY HARBOR**  
**SELECTMEN'S WORKSHOP MINUTES**  
December 17, 2024 6:00 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.

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ATTENDING: Michael Tomko - Chair  
Mark Gimbel  
Ken Rayle  
Mark Osborn  
Alyssa Allen

Julia Latter, Town Manager

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Overview:**

This workshop addressed parking issues raised by various town members, particularly business owners and residents.

**Key Points Discussed:**

**1. Business Owner/Community Concerns:**

- Ralph Smith reported increased complaints about parking frustrations during the summer. Customers feel rushed due to parking limitations, and employees struggle to find parking without leaving their shifts.
- Bill Campbell highlighted concerns about high visitor overnight parking fees, suggesting this drives business away.
- Clifton Cane submitted a document with additional suggestions for addressing parking issues.
- Kathy Stephenson recommended against hiring more community service officers or investing in new kiosks until a comprehensive solution is found.

**2. Employee Parking Solutions:**

- John Seitzer proposed using the high school parking lot for employee parking with a shuttle service into town. He also suggested increasing metered parking on streets and enforcing parking regulations for vacation rentals.
- Tom Churchill emphasized the need to differentiate between employee and customer parking, advocating for remote parking options with shuttle services to alleviate congestion.

**3. Next Steps:**

- Chief Snyder mentioned the cost of parking kiosks (\$9,000 each) and suggested exploring more affordable alternatives like a mobile app with QR code payment options where your time may be controlled remotely.
- Discussion on changing parking time limits (currently 2 and 4 hours) on residents versus patrons in street parking.

- Osborn proposed considering stricter regulations for future commuter parking lots in the downtown business zone to prevent additional loss of parking spaces for residents, employees, and visitors.
- Parking discussion will be added to the agenda for regular meetings in the future.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn at 6:15 PM