MINUTES

BOOTHBAY HARBOR

SELECTMEN’S MEETING

 NOVEMBER 27, 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, Vice Chair

 Russ Hoffman

 Mike Tomko

Trisha Warren

Wendy Wolf, Chair

 Tom Woodin, Town Manager

**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. The Board of Selectmen might want to cancel their regular meeting on Monday, December 25th since it is Christmas. The Board was in **unanimous agreement**.

2. The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13th at 7:00 p.m.

3. There will be a Lincoln County Coastal Planning workshop on Wednesday, November 29th from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission offices located at 297 Bath Road in Wiscasset. This will provide an opportunity for those interested in coastal issues to learn more about past and current coastal work activities and a chance to provide input on projects the Commission should be pursuing in the future. [Chair Wolf stated Selectmen Tomko and she would be attending this workshop.]

4. Chair Wolf thanked the Boothbay Region Garden Club for donating the wreaths that are at the town offices and Bob and Kitty Boyd of the Boothbay Region Greenhouses for the wreath that is decorating the building for the Festival of Lights. Chair Wolf also thanked the fire department and public works, plus everyone else who helped with the lights.

FINANCIALS:

Finance Officer Latter reviewed the financial totals with the Board.

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[Chair Wolf pointed out to the audience that a tracking graphic is provided so they can compare revenue and expenses with the figures from last year.]

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Selectman Tomko **motioned** to approve the minutes of the November 13th meeting as amended. Vice Chair Griffin **seconded**. **Unanimous approval.**

LICENSES:

1. Vice Chair Griffin **motioned** to approve the Liquor license **renewal** application from the Russell House. Selectman Warren **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

2. Selectman Tomko **motioned** to approve the **new** Class 1 - Victualer license application from the Harbor Theater. Vice Chairman Griffin **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

Robert Devine, President/Owner of the Harbor Theater, stated that Theater is spelled with an "er" instead of an "re" ending as it appeared on the agenda of the meeting.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

(None)

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair Wolf introduced Cody Mitchell, new station manager for Boothbay Region Community Television, who was there to give a presentation about renovations soon to be completed at BRCTV.

Cody stated his father Win Mitchell (there with him) was on the BRCTV Board as well as Selectman Tomko.

 Cody showed a series of slides of their renovated space at the YMCA beginning with the way it used to look to the way it looks now. All of the work and wiring was done in house. There will be three work stations for students from the high school. The studio will be climate controlled.

Cody explained that Channel 7 will become Channel 1301 (which should be available to everyone) when they "go live" on December 5th at 7:00 p.m. during an Open House.

Win Mitchell provided additional information about the fundraising efforts which raised the money for the renovations as well as the new broadcasting equipment instead of using any of their standard operating funds.

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[Cody and Win conducted a little experiment to demonstrate the benefits of utilizing cable TV and how instantaneous it is.]

SELECTMEN REPORTS:

1. Chair Wolf stated she was pleased at the turn out that evening which she assumed was in response to some news articles that appeared in the Boothbay Register about development on the east side of the Harbor. Chair Wolf thanked those who planned to share their opinions during Public Forum because they care about their community. Vice Chair Griffin and Selectman Tomko had attended the Planning Board workshop with Paul Coulombe on Wednesday, November 15th to keep up with what is being discussed about this.

Selectman Tomko stated some ideas and conceptual thoughts were presented by Paul Coulombe. It was nothing more than what they had been working on when they were rewriting the Comprehensive Plan in 2015, which looks at zoning ordinances and opportunities for economic development in a collaborative manner to benefit the community.

Vice Chair Griffin reiterated she liked some of Paul Coulombe's concepts such as condos on the east side but reminded everyone they were just concepts...not something that was being reviewed and voted on, so was surprised when she read that Mr. Coulombe was pulling out of the project. She did not feel the Selectmen had said anything negative against it. However, Vice Chair Griffin stated she felt any changes should be thought through carefully then voted on by the people in the community.

Selectman Hoffman stated the Board was open minded to discussing zoning changes that will foster and enhance economic development, growth of businesses, attracting visitors and augmenting employment opportunity but it's something that should be done carefully, citing his work as an example.

Selectman Warren felt the community should be involved as much as possible and at a cautious pace.

PUBLIC FORUM:

1. John O'Connell stated he was glad a judicious process was going to be used but felt they should take the time to get it right.

2. Tom Churchill, Chairman of the Planning Board, stated the Planning Board has an advisory role in this issue. The Planning Board will look at other communities as well as consult with Bob Faunce, a process that will take time.

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3. Chair Wolf stated based on their discussions that the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board, as well as Mr. Coulombe, all agree that the working water front should be preserved because it is vital to the character of the community and a priority. The other thing the Board of Selectmen had talked about was to look at the harbor in its entirety so any zoning changes would be beneficial to a multitude of existing businesses and future investment.

4. Tom Churchill added that the Planning Board is somewhat driven by the Comprehensive Plan which was approved and adopted by the community.

WARRANTS:

Selectman Tomko **motioned** to approve the warrants upon careful review. Selectman Warren **seconded**. **Unanimous approval.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(None)

MOVE TO ADJOURN:

The meeting was **adjourned** at 7:54 p.m.

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