MINUTES

BOOTHBAY HARBOR

SELECTMEN’S MEETING

OCTOBER 9, 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

Trisha Warren

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. Lake View Road, Reed Road and William Street are in the process of being prepped for paving between now and November 15th. [Will try not to inconvenience motorists any more than necessary.]

2. The Board had a chance to look at a prototype of the revised website last week and gave Jeremy Usher of Firefly suggestions for some tweaks. The new website promises to be easier to navigate and will contain additional features.

3. Manager Woodin offered to schedule an informational workshop for the Budget Committee to review the revenue section of the budget that had been requested, at their first meeting in February. Chair Wolf felt that it should be scheduled for an earlier date so they would also be able to revisit capital expenditures. [Manager Woodin will look for a date at the end of November or early December.]

FINANCIALS:

Finance Officer Latter reviewed the financial totals with the Board and stated the graph would level out in a few months.

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MINUTES:

Vice Chair Griffin **motioned** to approve the minutes of the September 24th meeting. Selectman Tomko **seconded**. The **motion passed 4 - 1 Abstention**. (Selectman Hoffman was not present.)

SELECTMEN REPORTS:

1. **JEDC**: Chair Wolf stated there were two items to report on from the Joint Economic Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday, October 2nd.

Economic and Community Development Director, Mary Ellen Barnes, had attended and shared information on how the Lincoln County Region Planning Commission might be able to assist with the affordable workforce housing issue as well as promotion of broadband on the peninsula.

Boothbay Selectman Kristina Ford has been working on a grant for $15,000 from the Maine Community Foundation, due on October 15th, that would fund research to obtained Broadband. If the two towns (Boothbay and Boothbay Harbor) each contributed a matching grant amount of $5,000 there would be $10,000 to add to the $15,000.

The Boothbay Memorial Library is also very interested in helping with Broadband because they have expanded their focus as a local source of community internet access for students or people who can't afford it at home.

Selectman Tomko added that Broadband was recognized as a priority on the Camoin master report and thought the grant would be a good first step but regretted they didn't have a finalized application ready.

Manager Woodin had the same concern plus having enough funds left for other organizations that might approach them.

Chair Wolf recited a number of expenses that the funds would cover and clarified that the activities would be shared by both Boothbay and Boothbay Harbor.

Vice Chair Griffin stated she felt the work makes sense but was reluctant to agree with a plan that is not yet fully developed.

Selectman Hoffman **motioned** to approve $5,000 from Boothbay Harbor's economic development funds be used for the match share with Boothbay. Selectman Tomko **seconded**. **Motion passed 4 - 1**. (Vice Chair Griffin was opposed.)

2. **CSD:** Vice Chair Griffin stated on Friday, October 5th, they had gotten a request from Boothbay Town Manager, Dan Bryer, to see when the representatives from the two Select Board representatives could meet to discuss the school charter.

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3. **LCRPC:** Selectman Tomko, as Vice President of the Lincoln County Region Planning Commission, announced there would be a county budget planning meeting this Thursday, October 11th at 6:00 p.m. if anyone would like to attend to hear about how county dollars are being used locally. It will be held at the Lincoln County Communications building near the court house in Wiscasset.

LICENSES:

1. Vice Chair Griffin **motioned** to approve the application from Brady's for a **new** Victualer license. Selectman Tomko **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

2. Vice Chair Griffin **motioned** to approve the application from Brady's for a **new** Liquor license. Selectman Hoffman **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

3. Vice Chair Griffin **motioned** to approve the application from Mama D's Cafe for a Liquor license **renewal**.Selectman Tomko **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A discussion with Jon Ziegra about water district rates has been postponed until the next Selectmen's meeting on October 22nd due to a scheduling conflict.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

(None)

PUBLIC FORUM:

1. Jean McKay asked about the LCRPC meeting on Thursday and was told it would be videoed but not live streamed.

2. Bob McKay asked if there was money in the budget for a town planner to look at what they need and what would be an attraction to the town.

Chair Wolf responded there was money to hire consultants for brief periods of time but not for hiring a full-time staff person. Lincoln County Regional Planner, Bob Faunce, had been paid out of that fund to perform a particular task.

Vice Chair Griffin added that hiring someone in such a capacity (in particular for the Downtown Business zone) had been discussed during the budget planning.

3. Jean McKay questioned Chair Wolf's sentence, "...the need to get through this zoning first."

Chair Wolf explained the east side zoning was on the table of the Planning Board at the moment which has to be resolved before they can focus on other issues.

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Selectman Tomko stated he appreciated Jean's comments and mentioned there had been no work done on a request for the Board to pursue town access of public lands made by someone at a previous meeting, so professional assistance would be his choice.

Vice Chair Griffin stated it made sense to start thinking about a town planner for professional advice.

Selectman Hoffman asked Bob McKay if he was asking for a full-time planner. Bob McKay answered, "No, someone to give another opinion on the east side."

Jean McKay asked if the town could raise money to pay for a town planner.

Manager Woodin pointed out when the proposed zoning changes get finalized and go to vote, etc., changes can still be made down the road as well as obtaining a town planner. It cannot be considered until there is a specific description for a harbor management planner such as whether the harbor as well as the land should be considered? If it is about land use codes, then it is the Planning Board's responsibility. And if it includes both sides of the harbor, that would affect the parameters as well. Therefore, donations of money to the town to pay for a town planner is a separate issue.

Selectman Warren stated a professional would be needed to make decisions down the road.

Jean McKay responded they should have had one before now, that Dan Bacon had been hired by Paul Coulombe (the developer) and Bob Faunce was not a "visionary" so did not have a vision for the town.

Chair Wolf called Jean McKay's comments on Bob Faunce out of order.

4. Sue Toscher stated it looks like the east side proposal is a major zoning change which would require amending the Comprehensive Plan. They are just asking for more options than that of one person.

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wondered if a town planner makes suggestions about businesses to be brought into the community.

Chair Wolf responded not typically. For example planner Bob Faunce is currently helping them with a Shoreland grant to make upgrades to the town Fish Pier and the work is very specific. An economic development specialist that she is referring to might be charged to identify and attract businesses that could be beneficial to the community.

6. Dorothy Ferrell stated like the McKays, she also felt the need for a town planner.

7. Steve Toscher stated after the last workshop by the Planning Board he did not believe the general public trusted them anymore.

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Selectman Hoffman stated he uses the Comprehensive Plan as a guide post. "It is not as if we're starting from nothing."

8. Julie Roberts reminded everyone that this was not a vote for the developer but to improve business on the east side. Julie repeated what Attorney John Cunningham had said previously, "That the Comprehensive Plan is a living, breathing document and should change with the times."

Selectman Tomko felt the Select Board should provide a response to the comments being made (in favor of getting another planner).

Chair Wolf stated she did not think anyone would disagree but her only comment was the need for the people charged with looking at some of these issues, such as the Planning Board and the Select Board as well as some interested community members, to try to have a beginning discussion about what this actually means.

Vice Chair Griffin stated she did not think it is just up to the Planning Board.

9. Darrell Gudroe stated another town planner would probably not be someone that everyone will agree with.

Selectman Tomko responded there are a number of outstanding planners available.

10. Dave Racicot claimed the proposed plan for the east side, while protecting the working waterfront, doesn't address the issue of public access to the waterfront.

Chair Wolf responded this would apply to the whole town, not just the east side.

11. Sonia Bissell stated we can't lose sight that we are a working waterfront.

12. Bob McKay clarified his wife's criticism of Bob Faunce was not intended to demean Bob Faunce' credentials.

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 8:09 p.m. under MRSA Title 1, 405, 6 (A) - Personnel Matters.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:54 p.m. No decisions were made.

MOVE TO ADJOURN:

The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:55 p.m. KB