

Board of Selectmen

Charles R. Cunningham - Chairman
Steven Lewis – Vice Chairman
Dale Harmon
Kristina Ford
Michael Tomacelli

Town Manager

Daniel Bryer Jr.



**Town of Boothbay
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday, August 22, 2018
7:00 PM
M I N U T E S**

Present: Steven Lewis, Dale Harmon, Michael Tomacelli, Chuck Cunningham, Kristina Ford, Town Manager Dan Bryer and Secretary Sherry Tibbetts

Pledge of Allegiance:

Public Hearing: None scheduled

Public Comment: Frank Fasset said the grass around the monument is looking good.

Approve Minutes: Steve Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of July 25th, 2018 as presented and Mike Tomacelli seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

New Business, item 1: Mike O'Donnell from O'Donnell and Associates to discuss revaluation process. (This item was taken out of order to allow Mr. O'Donnell, who has a long ride home to leave the meeting early) Mr. O'Donnell talked about the reevaluation that was recently finished, he said that the new tax bills that were recently sent out were based on the new reevaluation. He has met with a lot of people who have questions and concerns and is still meeting with people.

He answered the question of why a reevaluation had to be done. According to the Maine Constitution Article IX Section 7 says that while the public expenses shall be assessed on estates, a general valuation shall be taken at least once in 10 years. It was 12 years ago when Boothbay last did a reevaluation, so it was time. The new mil rate is \$9.30/1000, this rate is 10 cents higher than last years. Without the reevaluation the rate would have been 20 cents higher than last years. The total valuation for the town went up which was a surprise, it was expected that it would go down.

The tax records are now available in detail on the JEODONNELL website and a link is provided on the Town of Boothbay website. It is under Departments/Assessing/links section.

Reports:

Town Office Reports –

The Business office is very busy, they are starting to collect taxes.

Code Enforcement Office – They are busy with a lot of various types of permits. There is one permit for the Planning Board next month.

Public Works – They are busy with ditching, mowing, culvert work and tree work, this is the time of year where they work on their ongoing list of projects

BOS Action Items –

The landscaping for Rt. 27 – There is work still to be done with the weeds and that is scheduled for later in the year. Conley's worked on the monument and it is looking good and is being constantly watered to help it grow.

The Clifford Park equipment – this is in place.

The Umaine Aqua Ventus project – nothing new here to report.

MDOT Park and Ride Facility – Bids have been sent out for this project but a bid has not been awarded yet.

Land and Water Grant – Dan Bryer has met with Doug Beck to take a look at Clifford Park and they believe this is viable for a Land and Water grant. This is not an easy grant to apply for but Dan Bryer is moving forward with the application and is going to ask for the most money possible.

Clifford Park Committee – so far there are two members for this committee, a new ad asking for committee members will go out. It was discussed that 5 would be a good number for a committee.

Pending BOS Action Items- Broadband, the JEDC met last night and believe it is a good idea to try and pursue a potential grant. Kristina Ford talked about two people who might be willing to talk to the group and help with this process. Kristina Ford will try to set up a meeting in September with the Selectmen, other towns and the JEDC.

JEDC – The JEDC identified as an action item to align the ordinances of the two towns in regards to housing. The suggestion is to have the two planners who worked on the comp plans for the two towns to review the ordinances and draft new ones for the towns. Both towns feel that their Planning Boards are currently stretched to their limits. The cost of this would have a cap of \$8,000-\$10,000 and be paid from JEDC finances.

Lincoln County Sheriff Satellite location – This is up and running. There is a lock box outside for the deputies to use and their IT department set up their computer today.

BOS meeting with School Board Trustees – It was discussed that there is an evolution taking place. There needs to be discussions about the amount of money that needs to go into the schools and does it make sense with the declining number of children attending the schools, does the charter need to be opened it and changed. There are many questions and the new Superintendent wants to have discussions with the towns. No one wants to see any of the local schools close.

Public Works Back hoe – Two quotes have been gotten for a new back hoe for the Public Works. Dan Bryer said he needs time to review the Capital Reserve Account and plans to see if there is money there for this. The consensus was if there is money to do this then move forward on it.

Old Business:

Banner Pole Policy – Dan Bryer shared with the board the policies from Lisbon and Camden, most other towns he talked with only use the poles for municipal business. Steve Lewis suggested the policy should be kept simple. Discussed were items such as the time frame for putting them up and taking them down, the cost of putting them up (public works would do this and would need to rent a lift each time), the cost to the organization wishing to use them, who should be allowed to use them, all community events, only non-profits, etc., should the town keep their eye out for a used lift to buy for themselves. It was stated that this policy will be a work in process for a while before it is all worked out.

Fire Station Utility Truck – Two bids have been received for a new Fire Station Utility Truck, The firemen have weighed in with their opinion on which one they would prefer. They have decided they do not want a plow on the truck which had been discussed at an earlier meeting. Steve Lewis made a motion to award

the bid to Newcastle Chrysler Dodge Ram for a Ram Truck at a cost of \$46,991 and Mike Tomacelli seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

Dan Bryer reported that the Woodchucks are looking for a new truck to haul a piece of equipment and have asked if the Town, Water District, etc. had a truck come up for bid if they would consider donating it to the Woodchucks instead. Chuck Cunningham said he would like the request to come from the parent organization that the Woodchucks fall under.

Flood Plan – Kristina Ford said she has read the information provided by Bob Faunce at a recent meeting on the Flood Plan and she has written to him. She was talking about a simple brochure called Rebuild by Design and thinks it should be available to everyone who owns near the water. She would like to explore with Mr. Faunce the idea of providing free to a lot of people general information on preventive measures they could be taking.

New Business:

Paving Bids – Three bids have been received: Pike for \$95,220 – Hager for \$82,200 and Crooker for \$87,900. The bids were based on 1200 tons, Dan Bryer said he is not sure yet what will be needed to do the rest of the paving at the Fire Station after the Park and Ride is done so the amount needed and price may change. There was a discussion about the board taking into account other things besides cost when they evaluate which bid to accept. The Public works foreman likes working with Crooker and Chuck Cunningham said the town has had good luck working with Crooker in the past, Mike Tomacelli said since Crooker makes their own mix unlike the others, you only have one person to deal with if there is a problem. After the discussion Steve Lewis made a motion to award the paving bid to Crooker and Dale Harmon seconded the bid. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

Public Comment:

Frank Fasset told everyone that the first day of school was next Wednesday the 29th of August.

Frank Fasset also had questions about extra money if the valuation is up and was told that simple math does not apply in this case and that the mil rate is based on the cost of the bills.

Kristina Ford said she had an idea for two new agenda items, the first would be Money Matters. Under this items they could discuss the budget items, how to help people recycle and save money, she mentioned a brochure to tell people what to recycle and how and Chuck Cunningham suggested that was a good idea but wrong venue, it should go to the BRRDD board. Kristina Ford also mentioned this would be a good place to talk about the TIF's. Steve Lewis suggested the board should get a treasures report at the beginning of each month.

The other agenda item Kristina Ford suggested was Odds & Ends, where they could discuss things that have been brought up in the past, such as the Sea & Science Centers request for a cross-walk in East Boothbay, Fred Brewer and the Audit and the missing minutes of 03/28/2018.

Review Warrants and sign: Dale Harmon made a motion to review the warrants and sign them and Kristina Ford seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

Adjourn meeting: At 9:00PM Dale Harmon made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Kristina Ford seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.