

**Board of Selectmen**

Chuck Cunningham - Chairman  
Steven Lewis - Vice Chairman  
Dale Harmon  
Russell Pinkham  
Julie Roberts

**Town Manager**

Daniel Bryer Jr.



**Town of Boothbay  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Wednesday, August 23, 2023  
6:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Recorded meetings located at <https://townhallstreams.com/towns/boothbay> for more in depth discussions.**

**Present:** Chuck Cunningham, Steve Lewis, Dale Harmon, Julie Roberts and Town Manager, Dan Bryer Jr.

**Chuck called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Hearings:** Kelly Farrin has applied for a renewal of a Restaurant Liquor License, Class I, II, III and IV for the Carriage House Restaurant, located at Map U12- Lot 14, 388 Ocean Point Road, East Boothbay. No outstanding notice of violations and taxes are paid. Dale makes the motion to approve, Chuck seconded. 4-0 in favor.

**Public Comment:** Tom and Laura Perkins were invited by Jean Latter to approach the Board of Selectmen about creating an ad hoc committee involving the Town Manager, informed citizens and local school representatives to study other potential options for the future of education in the area. Chuck asked if they have discussed this with other boards. They will be meeting with Boothbay Harbor next week. The school representatives they have may or may not be active board members they haven't gotten that far yet. Julie asked if it's the group talking about regionalization that the AOS Committee announced back in June or do they want to work with a different group? He said with the AOS group the public wasn't allowed to speak and the Boothbay and Boothbay Harbor residents asked were too busy to be on the committee. The co-chairmen are from Georgetown and Edgecomb and he is afraid Boothbay and Boothbay Harbor wouldn't be well represented. Julie asked if they aren't willing to work with the AOS Committee and he said they are wanting to work with them. They just feel that Boothbay and Boothbay Harbor didn't have great representation. Troy Lewis had zoomed in but wasn't allowed to speak during their meeting and they have taken too long to get anything done. They want to focus on really crunching the numbers since Boothbay and Boothbay Harbor will be paying the largest amounts. Julie is interested in seeing who is involved with the committee already formed. Julie had attended the last School Trustee Meeting and Peggy Splaine did mention that at the next meeting they would be finding out if other towns are even interested in regionalization. Chuck believes the tuition issue we have makes regionalization the better way to go but other towns pay so little for tuition that they would be foolish to look at regionalization with us. Steve said the cost for Boothbay is \$28,000.00 per student and they pay a lot less than that. Steve thinks a meeting with both the Boothbay Harbor and Boothbay Selectmen together would be a good choice. The discussion continues on why we need a new school or an addition. Dale agrees the best thing to do is to have both boards meet together to come up with an answer. Dan suggests if we could put a notice out for a workshop with all three entities, Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor Selectmen and the School Trustees and also a notice for a meeting two or three days later where you can actually make decisions. Dale mentioned he should see if it's possible to have both the workshop and meeting the same night. Dan believes they can do that. Dan said the cleanest way forward is to get everyone together. Dan will reach out to the Superintendent and other entities.

**Approve Minutes:** The minutes for October 28, 2022 and November 9, 2022 need to be approved. Chuck noticed under new business in the November 9<sup>th</sup> minutes it should be corrected to say Nell Tharpe, an East Boothbay resident. Steve motions to approve the minutes as amended. Dale seconded and Julie abstained because she wasn't at those meetings. 3-0 in favor.

**Reports:** Dan has an update on the Camden Bank properties potentially going to bid. The State of Maine Legislature has passed a new law that says you have to give parties the opportunity to put property at market value and we would get back the taxes. It's a ninety day process that started the day before. Boothbay has never put properties above market anyway. Chuck brings up that we may need to amend the administrative code because of this. Dan clarifies the town puts a lien on a property for unpaid taxes after the lien process goes through with no payment the town acquires the property but now the prior owners can put the property up for market value even though it's tax acquired. The town wouldn't go behind but it will limit our flexibility. Dan explained we are going to be contracting with Lincoln County Regional Planning. The planner will be working with the Planning Board to specifically help with LD2003 which was the act to increase density in housing. There is a lot of information and it came quickly. We will have to take that piece of legislature and see where it fits in our ordinance. There are also density bonuses that can go beyond what your ordinance will allow. The town will have to pay for this but there is a grant opportunity Dan can apply for to cover the cost. They did come in and do a presentation and they sent down a synopsis of what the potential impact is going to be free of charge. The Boothbay Region Development Corporation did receive a \$300,000.00 grant from Lincoln County. The Boothbay Region Development Corporation is the biggest by far in Lincoln County and even in the Midcoast. Chuck points out that Erin Cooperrider, Steve Malcolm and Greg Pomerleau have all volunteered their time for this Corporation. When the funding is secured they will get paid. This is the closest we have ever been to getting something going.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Review Warrants and Sign:**

Chuck made a motion to review the warrants and sign them upon review. Dale seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor

**Adjourn Meeting:** Chuck made a motion at 6:37 PM to adjourn the meeting. Steve seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.