

**Board of Selectmen**

Dale Harmon- Chairman  
Chuck Cunningham - Vice Chairman  
Michael Tomacelli  
Steven Lewis  
Desiree Scorgia

**Town Manager**

Daniel Bryer Jr.



**Town of Boothbay  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Wednesday, February 23, 2022  
6:00 PM (special start time)  
MINUTES**

**Present:** Dale Harmon, Chuck Cunningham, Mike Tomacelli, Desiree Scorgia and Town Manager, Dan Bryer Jr.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**6:00 Early Start Time to Continue Discussion on the Use of the Common:**

Dan Bryer talked with other towns regarding the use of their town owned lands and asked for their applications and rules for the use of that land. Dan supplied the documents to The Board prior to the meeting for review and ideas regarding the use of Town of Boothbay's owned land.

Chuck Cunningham added that Brunswick has on their website, an application for the use of their "mall" area and they do not allow for-profit entities to use this space.

Desiree Scorgia adds that the Bangor Waterfront Pavilion must allow for-profit with the music concerts they have.

Much discussion continues regarding the vision of the common. Consensus is that the historic non-profit uses for 3 consecutive days or less and not charging admission are what is to be continued.

Dan Sortwell speaks in favor of the Farmers Market. A farmers' market is part of a town's culture. Historically, farmers would gather weekly in the town square to sell their goods. The Boothbay Farmers Market is continuing this tradition.

Dawn Gilbert speaks in favor of the Boothbay Civic Association and its history in town and the purpose of the BCA is to raise money to benefit townspeople through the improvements of town property and events.

Gail McPhee asks that the following be considered when drafting the new application: Any events that lasts more than a week should be advertised giving residents the opportunity to comment. The agenda should be run in the register for 2 weeks prior to the meeting and include a short article indicating what is proposed. There needs to be adequate rental charges for use of the common as well as signage and clean up/removal guidelines with the stipulation of fees for items not removed in a specified timeframe. Gail also feels there should be a maximum number of consecutive days an event can occupy the common equal to one week.

Shannon Schmelzer took part in the Winter Festival as a vendor and was grateful for the opportunity to keep her employees working for an extended period of time. Her vision of the area is to create opportunities for all people in the community, including those with differing opinions of fun and beauty.

Sarah Brewer speaks in favor of the Winter Festival she was also part of it as a vendor and said that in her opinion it was a great success. She said besides the two complaints she had by festival goers regarding the signage all comments were good. She asked if there are fines in the future for slow clean up after an event that something be put in the wording to allow for unforeseen weather conditions.

Lester Spear speaks of the Winter Festival. He feels his event is being targeted and asks what the actual problems were, what were the legitimate complaints.

Mike, Chuck and Dale have heard many comments regarding the Winter Festival. Dale thinks the comments he heard were about 50% good and 50% bad. The complaints they all heard were regarding the admission fee, signage, traffic control, the "look" of the food trucks and the slow process of cleaning out all the equipment after the event was over.

Lester feels these complaints are minimal and wants to focus on the future of the common and not the past.

Desiree moves that anyone who used the common in 2021, except the Winter Festival and the Antique Fair can apply for time on the common. There was no second made.

Desiree, Joe Scordia and Lester feel that Lester's event is being targeted.

Chuck points out that The Board said the event would be allowed to take place (in 2021) and would be reviewed to make the needed revisions after the event was over.

Dale – We are not trying to make an application that is unattainable for Lester, we are trying to make a document that will work for everyone.

Lester has two applications in. One for the Winter Festival and one for a one day a week event throughout the summer but isn't able to move forward with plans for either at this point due to the moratorium.

Desiree moved to lift the moratorium for any event that is 3 days or less and does not charge a fee. Mike seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

### **Public Hearings:**

#### **Municipal Warrant and Budget Drafts**

#### **Outside Organizations Requesting Budget Increases:**

Boothbay Region Health Center represented by Patty Sebod – Chuck Cunningham, member, recused himself from this discussion as he is the Vice President of the Organization. The health center strives to provide local convenient primary care. They saw an increase of Boothbay Residents from 620 to 832 in one year and want to continue to provide great care.

Boothbay/Boothbay Harbor Cemetery District represented by Kim Pinkham – there are 11 Public Cemeteries in the region. The reason for the increase is due to an increase in the mowing contracts.

Boothbay Region Ambulance Service represented by Rob Ham – BRAS had a number of employees leave because they were able to get better pay and benefits from other places. Other employees left due to the pandemic. Most of the increase is to increase wages and improve benefits so they can keep the employees they have and draw new ones to replace those who left. The Director of Operations left. They will be advertising for that position as well as Assistant Director. BRAS received 2 payroll protection loans and a grant from FEMA for supplies. The Payroll Protection loans have been forgiven so they will not have to pay those back. There are new regulations regarding PPE; they now have to keep on hand enough PPE for 3 months and they were paying more for supplies at the beginning of the pandemic because they were hard to get and had to be purchased wherever they could find them regardless of the cost.

They are currently offering the following pay and benefits:

Maine Municipal for health insurance and they are paying 100% of the employee's share. If they want to add any family the employee would have to pay for that.

EMT \$21/hr.; AEMT \$24/hr.; Paramedic \$28/hr.

Desiree asks if there are any ideas for savings in the future or if the budget is going to continue to ask for a \$200,000 increase per year.

They have taken measures to save money in the long run but had to spend it in big chunks up front. They have switched over to a smaller truck model and they are gas powered which is less expensive than diesel. They are waiting on one more new truck. It was supposed to be delivered in 2021, but due to the chip shortage, it is now due to be delivered in April.

Unfortunately, emergency medical service is not considered an essential service therefore they can't receive any federal funding. Rob says there are a number of new bills in front of the legislature that will help them out regarding funding. One is to make emergency medical services essential then they will be able to collect federal funding.

Mike Tomacelli made a motion to approve the Municipal Warrant and Budget as written. Chuck Cunningham seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

### **Public Comment: None**

**Approve Minutes: *February 9, 2022:***

Mike Tomacelli made a motion to approve the February 9, 2022, meeting minutes as written. Chuck Cunningham seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

**Reports: None**

**Old Business: None**

**New Business: Wharf and Weir –**

- a) Applicant: Stockwell Environmental Consulting, Inc.
  - Representing: Kevin French & Edna Miller
  - i) Mailing Address: 581 School St., Rumney, NH 03266
  - ii) Tax Map/Lot: U16/20
  - iii) Property Location: 39 School St. East Boothbay, ME 04544
  - iv) Zone: East Boothbay Village, Shoreland Overlay District
  - v) Application Review: Construct a 40'x6' pier with a seasonal 40'x3' runway to a 20'x10' float perpendicular to the shore.

Chuck Cunningham made a motion to approve the Wharf & Weir application. Mike Tomacelli seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor

**Use of the Common:** March 9, 2022 meeting will start at 6:00 to further discuss the moratorium and how to proceed.

**Public Comment: None**

**Review Warrants and Sign:**

Desiree Scorgia made a motion to review and sign warrants. Mike Tomacelli seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor

**Adjourn Meeting:**

Desiree Scorgia made a motion at 7:44 PM to adjourn the meeting and Mike Tomacelli seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.