



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, February 13, 2019
7:00 PM
MINUTES**

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Public Hearing: None

Public Comment: None

Approve Minutes: Chuck Cunningham makes a motion to approve the minutes from the January 30, 2019 meeting. Steve Lewis approves it. Michael Tomacelli seconds it. There are two abstentions from the vote because they didn't attend the meeting. It is approved 3-0.

Reports: Dan Bryer reports that the Public Works is busy with snow removal equipment repair. We seem to have had more ice this year due to the weather fluctuations, so they have been layering with sand and salt. The Planning Board has 3 applications and 2 pre-applications. The Code Enforcement Office has 2 Building Permits, 3 Indoor Plumbing Permits, 2 Vegetation Removal Permits and 1 Occupancy Permit.

BOS Action Items:

1. The landscaping around rte. 27 – Dormant

2. The Common Project – Current

3. The Umaine Aqua Ventus Project – Dormant

4. MDOT Park and Ride Facility – Dormant

5. Potential grant for electric vehicle charging station – Ongoing

Dan Bryer states that all Action Items are dormant and waiting for information or they are ongoing and the process that needs to happen is proceeding.

Pending BOS Action Items:

1. Broadband – Ongoing

2. The housing group is continuing to discuss elder housing options – Ongoing

3. BOS Meeting Board of Trustees- Ongoing

Old Business: None

New Business: Chuck Cunningham requests to address the Fire Department Light Equipment quote first.

Timothy Pinkham tells the Board the quote is for lighting on the new truck that will be coming in a few weeks. The lighting package is made to NFPA standards. It has been quoted by Coastal Electronics, they handle most of the Sherriff's vehicles and smaller Fire Engines. Steven Lewis asks which truck the equipment is for. Timothy Pinkham states it is for the 4 door one ton with the utility body that they haven't

gotten yet. Dan Bryer had him come in to speak because the lighting is extra on top of the original cost of the truck. Chuck Cunningham asked about two handwritten amounts on the back page. They are quotes to letter the new vehicle at \$1,000.00 and for the radio and charger installation at \$1,500.00. Those amounts are not included in the \$12,451.00.

Steven Lewis makes a motion to approve as long as it doesn't exceed \$15,000.00. Michael Tomacelli seconds it. It is approved 5-0.

Release Deed: Chuck Cunningham states they have a Release Deed to sign. Dan Bryer states this is fairly common. Once the individual's health issues were resolved they were able to pay them all off. There are two properties. They owed for three years on each property.

Steven Lewis makes a motion to approve and sign the Release Deed. Dale Harmon seconds it. It is approved 5-0.

Outside Organization Funding: Dan Bryer explains he has only asked the Organizations that have had a change or increase in the amount they are asking for to have a representative speak.

The Boothbay Harbor Memorial Library is the first to present to the Board. Joanna Breen, the Executive Director handed out copies of their budget to the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager, Dan Bryer. She explains that their Budget is different because they recently changed it to a calendar year. They are asking for \$54,000.00 this year, an increase from the \$52,500.00 that they received last year. The increase is to cover personnel expenses. This is the first year since 2017 that the library will be fully staffed. They hired a full time person in February of 2018. They have three full time, one half time employees. The Children's Librarian is now in 38 hours a week. They have a lot of more programs, they have the Scamper Campers and The Lighthouse Learning Center come in for reading. They started an Earth Day program to raise awareness for environmental issues. They now have a Mine Craft Club that is very popular on Wednesday afternoons, they host Math Counts for the School and they have PJ Story Time on Wednesday nights. Steven Lewis asks if they charge for the use of the library lawn. The Crafters give a donation to use it. They are looking into changing that. Kristina asks if they are asking the same amount from Boothbay Harbor and they are. They also do grant writing and fundraising to raise the rest

they need. Joanna Breen states that they have had a drop off for donations in the last couple of years so they have a very aggressive fundraising committee this year. Steven Lewis mentions it is nice to see their management out in the public a lot more.

The Boothbay Region Ambulance Service is the next presenter. Robbie Ham is the representative for them. Steven Lewis stays out of the discussion because he is on the Board of Directors. They have increased their request to \$268,639.86 for 2020, up from the amount of \$208,734.00 they received for 2019. Robbie Ham states that the major reason for the increase is they have been carrying a line item of \$50,000.00 and it is no longer sustainable. The fundraising has fell short and they recently replaced two older trucks with Mini Mods, which are smaller ambulances that go for around \$140,000.00. In the next few years they will also need to replace two full sized trucks that go for around \$200,000.00 each.

Benefits increases are a huge cost as well. They have had trouble finding people because there is such high demand for the people who have the skills they need. It is becoming highly competitive and salaries have been raised and a retirement account has been started for employees with a 1% match to try to retain employees. They find they are needing to hire full time because the people have to travel from so far away and have second jobs that are they have a commitment to as well. They need to have the guarantee that someone will be available when needed. They now have 3 full time Medics, 1 Non Medic and an Assistant Operation Manager. To be fully staffed 7-9 employees would be ideal. The water and sewer bills are higher as well. Kristina Ford asks how many calls are made from the Botanical Gardens. He estimated maybe 10-12 go directly to that address. Three calls were made during the Gardens A Glow this winter. Robbie Ham explains that detailed reports are no longer done in house and where they are getting the reports from has had such a high turnover of employees it is very difficult to get those reports.

The Boothbay Region Community Resource Council is next to present. They are asking for \$6000.00 this year, up from the \$5000.00 given to them last year. Holly Stover is presenting without the financials because Katie Spencer White could not make the meeting. Holly Stover comments on how great the relationship has been between The Town of Boothbay and the BRCRC over the years. It was started 15 years ago and has serviced hundreds of residents of Boothbay. The BRCRC has grown a lot in those 15

years they have the Woodchucks, Food for Thought, The Boothbay Region Fuel Fund, The Community Clothing Closet, the Addiction Program and the Community Navigator.

Food for Thought delivers meals to children of low income families over the weekends and vacations. 1 in 5 children go to bed hungry and this program helps prevent that. The Addiction Program is the newest addition and it is partnered with the Boothbay Harbor Police Department, The Boothbay Region Ambulance Service and Lincoln Health. They provide medication management and they are purchasing Narcan so that will be available to the emergency personnel in the region. The Community Navigator program is offered for free to residents in need of help. They teach resume writing, offer economic security programs to help prepare people for employment. They have helped 81 people from Boothbay Harbor and 80 from Boothbay. There has been 1135 hours of support given to people in need, staff time equivalent to over \$26,000.00. The best thing is they do not bill insurances so their services aren't limited. Katie Spencer White will be presenting the financial at the next BOS meeting on February 27, 2019.

The Boothbay Region Health Center is next. Patricia Seybold, the Board President is presenting for them. They just finished their first year of operation and are requesting \$5000.00 from the Town of Boothbay. They started out with 776 patients when they took over the practice for Dr. Nancy Oliphant and they now have 1200 patients. They have had more patients in this past month than they had in the month of July. They lost \$300,000.00 this past year, plan to lose another \$100,000.00 this year and hope to break even by year three. They provide walk in service as well as appointments and have been able to manage it very well. They have two doctors, Dr. Stephen Cook and Dr. Allen Teele and they have 3 almost full time nurse practitioners, Susan Lord, Rebecca Traquair and Brett Auclair. They also have 4 Health Coordinators that handle the reception area and health calls and they work very well as a team. They have a suboxone clinic to treat people suffering from addiction. Unlike methadone it is not addictive and just keeps cravings at bay. They offer chronic care management for diabetes, respiratory issues and cardiac issues. They help the patients with nutrition and exercise education. They are striving to get patients engaged in their own health care. Steven Lewis asked what the difference is between them and

Lincoln Health and she explained they are not part of a bigger system like Maine Medical. They are community backed and community run. It gives the local people convenience and affordability. Steven Lewis asks what they do if someone doesn't have insurance. She explained they will barter for the care needed. Patients also get help from the Free Bed Fund. They do fundraising and grants. They will be applying to Boothbay Harbor and Southport for support as well.

There is discussion about outside funding requests in the past years. The fireworks have been shifted to a warrant article because they no longer have a point person. Dan Bryer believes it is the Town of Boothbay Harbor that handles it now.

Chuck Cunningham opens a discussion on the budget. There is an increase due to the cost of the hydrants rate increasing, the water service rate increasing and postage has gone up \$400.00.

Updating the common is discussed they are looking for outside funding for mowing and weeding. Trying to decide if they want to do contract pricing to start or if it would be better to hire a 6th man on the Public Works crew. They got a bid from Farley for \$23,000.00 which Steven Lewis thinks was just for weeding. They think Michael Alley should come in to discuss adding a 6th person to his crew. They could do grounds maintenance as well as plowing in the winter. Most likely this first year they will contract it out to see what is involved.

Dan Bryer states the Warrant needs to be finalized by the 1st meeting in March.

JEDC Update: Dan Bryer states that the JEDC has broken up into smaller sub committees and they are actively working on their tasks. The Boothbay Lights is working to become its own organization and they hope to be fully self-funded next year or the year after. Broadband and Elderly Housing have separate sub committees as well.

Kristina Ford wants to go ahead with a survey to see what residents have for internet speed in certain areas. She wants to make a map to show where broadband is available.

Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor School District Charter: Dan Bryer states he went to the latest meeting and they decided the \$250,000.00 bond issue should go to the voters. It will be a referendum vote that is secret ballot. Once it is approved at the local level it then goes to the legislature. They also want to remove the cap on the contributions to the capital reserve. Boothbay Harbor has approved it.

Steven Lewis motions to approve the proposed changes to the Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor School District Charter to move it forward to Augusta. Dale Harmon seconds it. It is approved 5-0.

Public Comment: None

Review Warrants and Sign: Chuck Cunningham makes a motion to review and sign warrants. Kristina Ford approves, Dale Harmon seconds it. It is approved 5-0.

Motion to enter Executive Session (MRSA 405(6) (a) Personnel Discussion): Chuck Cunningham makes a motion to go into an Executive Session to discuss personnel. Michael Tomacelli seconds it. Motion passed 5-0.

