

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, January 9, 2018
7:00 PM
MINUTES**

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Public Hearing: None scheduled

Public Comment: Bill Pearson asked questions about the School Trustees and an upcoming meeting and about the bond issue.

Approve Minutes: Steve Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of 12 12 2018 as presented and Mike Tomacelli seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Reports:

Town Office Reports – The Business Office is slowing down a little, there was one tax acquired property. The Public Works has been busy with storm management, they have also removed the lights from the Common and the Banners from the poles, and it took less than one day with a ladder to remove the banners. One of the town trucks recently hit a pole on Butler Road but the employee and the equipment are both OK. Credit was given to the Public Works crew for the great job that they do. The Code Enforcement Office is busy with a variety of permits.

BOS Action Items – nothing new to report on tonight

Pending BOS Action Items – Dan Bryer said the housing group has had a lot happening, there is a main group and a sub-group. The main group has been doing inventory of what is available, what the costs and needs are, the sub-group is talking to developers.

Kristina Ford asked if there had been any progress on the conservation easement and Dan Bryer said that yes, there is much happening behind the scene and there has been input from the DOT.

Chuck Cunningham reported that 113,000 people went to the Gardens Aglow in 2018. It was discussed that this number was greater than expected and there were times on the weekends when the number of people in the Region resembled July. Steve Lewis said some people he talked to said there were a lot of new people who had not been to the area before.

Old Business:

Landscape Committee preliminary discussion – Linda Redman and Susan Whitehouse co-chairs of the landscape committee were present to discuss what they are working on. Linda Redman talked about the Common project and that the committee had invited several groups who use the common to come to meetings so they could make sure and address the needs and concerns of the groups. The committee has no plans to shut the common down for a season. Linda Redman also talked about maintenance of

the plantings done last year. The committee put out an RFP for a maintenance contract and did not receive any responses. The committee has put together a maintenance plan but does not have any idea what the cost would be. Ms. Redman said the trees especially need a lot of care and water the first few years.

Susan Whitehouse talked about what they think needs to be done to the common, she said the committee has Rob Wylie (from the Golf Club) as a consultant. He has a lot of knowledge and experience to bring to the committee. Ms. Whitehouse said there needs to be irrigation, over seeding, aerating, fertilizing, weed control and some regrading of the entrance to the common done. The cost for all of this is just under \$44,000 plus there will also need to be maintenance down on the common as well as the plantings.

Steve Lewis and Chuck Cunningham expressed their concerns with drainage and how that will affect the common.

Steve Lewis suggested that maybe it was time to add a 6th employee to the Public Works Department who would do nothing but grounds keeping during the summer and be the extra plow person for the winter months. Mike Tomacelli said it would be interesting to see what the cost of contracted services for the job would be as compared to an employee.

The whole board expressed the good work done by this committee and the amount of work that they have been able to get done.

There was a discussion about funding, private donations for the project as well as the possibility of using TIF money for this project.

Discussion re: Broadband Committee – Kristina Ford said since the grant has been approved she has been working on an application for committee members. Ms. Ford would like to put out an application to anyone who is interested in serving on the committee vs. appointing members. Ms. Ford said the committee would also need a facilitator. Ms. Ford offered to go meet with the Boothbay Harbor Selectmen as this committee would be for both towns.

Mike Tomacelli expressed his concerns if you get too large of a committee, it is hard to get things done with a larger group. This led to a discussion of the right number of members for such a committee, the number from each town and who to facilitate.

Chuck Cunningham expressed his concerns about leaving the number open ended.

Discussion regarding Warrant and Budget presentation – Kristina Ford talked about the Dept. Heads coming before the board to talk about what they do, any problems, ideas to solve the problems, etc. She would like a public hearing where people can offer ideas and suggestions. Kristina Ford talked about the town of Brewer and their policy about replacing mailboxes that have been damaged and that Boothbay may want to have such a policy. Ms. Ford expressed her feelings that there are line items that the public might be interested in hearing more about.

Ms. Ford also talked about outside organizations requesting funds and that they should all have to come before the board. Ms. Ford also suggested they should think about a fund for emergency storm assistance.

New Business: none scheduled

Public Comment: none

Review Warrants and sign: Steve Lewis made a motion to review the warrants and sign them and Mike Tomacelli seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Adjourn meeting: At 8:30PM Steve Lewis made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Kristina Ford seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.