

**Board of  
Selectmen**

Steven Lewis –  
Chairman  
Dale Harmon –



**Town of Boothbay  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Wednesday, July 24, 2019  
7:00 PM  
MINUTES**

**Present:** Steven Lewis, Dale Harmon, Michael Tomacelli, Desiree Scorgia, Kristina Ford, Town Manager Dan Bryer and Secretary Sherry Tibbetts

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Public Hearing:** A wedding reception held at the home of Hoyt Walbridge, Map/lot U15/011 located at 102 Murray Hill Road, Boothbay, ME for a Special Amusement permit for band playing, dancing and fireworks on August 10, 2019.

Dan Bryer reported that there were no outstanding violations on this property and the taxes have been paid in full. The reception would run from 5PM until midnight with the fireworks at 9PM or close to that time. The property is close to others and Mr. Walbridge said he has not spoken with neighbors about this. After a brief discussion about the time of fireworks and that the music and dancing will mostly be in the boat shed Dale Harmon made a motion to approve the application as presented and Mike Tomacelli seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

**Public Comment:** None

**Approve Minutes:** May 22, 2019 – Kristina Ford recommended some changes, mostly typing errors. Steve Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendments and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

June 12, 2019 – Kristina Ford recommended some changes, mostly typing errors. Kristina Ford made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendments and Mike Tomacelli seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

July 10, 2019 – Kristina Ford recommended some changes, mostly typing errors. Dale Harmon made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendments and Kristina Ford seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor. Steve Lewis did not vote as he did not attend that meeting.

**Reports:**

**Town Office Reports** – Dan Bryer reported that the PWD has been busy with roadside mowing, ditching, patching and lots of garbage removal. The Code Enforcement Office has many various applications pending. There are two applications for the Planning Board. The Board of Appeals met last week on an administrative appeal and upheld the CEO's position. There is another upcoming BOA application for August 12<sup>th</sup>. The Business Office has been extremely busy with a lot of car and boat registrations.

Dan Bryer also reported that Habitat for Humanity broke ground on Campbell Street in Boothbay Harbor for a house for a young couple. Steve Lewis said that Boothbay is lucky that their Town Manager, Dan Bryer has been very active in Housing in the region and wanted to thank him for the good job he is doing. Steve Lewis asked about reviving the administrative code committee. Dan Bryer said he is putting another ad in the newspaper for committee members. Steve Lewis said the BOA DE Novo reviews are

costly and he thinks they should be changed. Mike Tomacelli said that needs to be changed in the ordinance and not the administrative code and is being worked on. Steve Lewis said the Administrative Code needs to be updated to be consistent with the ordinance.

#### **BOS Action Items –**

#### **Pending BOS Action Items -**

**Old Business: Broadband Discussion** – Kristina Ford talked briefly about a piece of legislature #1371 that will make it so that providers will have to provide service if there are at least 15 house in 1 mile.

Brian Lipphold with Casco Advisors gave a presentation. Mr. Lipphold said he had read Tom Myette's report and it was good. He went on to say he was not sure what Boothbay's goals were, the Region is more well served than a lot of areas in the State. He talked about universal availability, everyone having the capacity to subscribe at the same level of service, competitive options, and user problems.

Mr. Lipphold said the first thing Boothbay needs to do is define their goals, find out where the unserved areas are, define the gaps, determine how many subscribers then sit down with providers and try to negotiate. The best bet may be to negotiate with the cable company as this would be the quickest and cheapest thing to do. Other options were talked about as well including creating own public utility company.

Kristina Ford said she has seen a hot spot demonstration and that is something that could be done in months.

Steve Lewis had questions about the cable contract and the fact that it has expired. Mr. Lipphold said over 300 communities have expired contracts with the cable company. He suggested starting by making them uphold what is currently in the contract.

There was a discussion about mapping users and how what is currently available is not good and varies by who provides the information.

Mike Tomacelli asked how to determine who is underserved and Mr. Lipphold said you could hire a company like Casco Advisors to collect the data. The time frame for this could be 4 to 6 months and cost \$12,000 to \$15,000, less for each town if more than one town in region banded together.

There was a discussion about Connect Maine and the possibility of grants.

Desiree Scorgia questioned how long a long term goal should be and Mr. Lipphold said there many variable in trying to determine this.

There was also a discussion about the need and purpose of a broadband committee.

**New Business:** Wharf and weir hearing for 65 Rice Road, map/lot U17/08. This application has been approved by the Planning Board, the Army Corps, DEP, the Indian Nations and the Harbor Master. Steve Lewis questioned if this was legal if the owners name or address was not on the agenda and Dan Bryer said it could be added in the future. Mike Tomacelli made a motion to approve this application as presented and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

**Public Comment:** None

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

**Adjourn meeting:** At 8:25PM Kristina Ford made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.