

**Board of Selectmen**

Steven Lewis, Chairman  
Dale Harmon, Vice Chair  
Douglas Burnham  
Charles R. Cunningham  
Stephen W. Ham

**Town Manager**

James D. Chaousis II



**Town of Boothbay  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Wednesday February 12, 2013  
7:00 PM  
MINUTES**

**Present:** Steven Lewis, Dale Harmon, Douglas Burnham, Stephen Ham and Town Manager Jim Chaousis **Absent:** Chuck Cunningham

1. **Executive Session:** At 6:00 pm Steve Lewis called the meeting to order. Steve Ham made a motion to enter into executive session pursuant 1 MRSA §405(6)(C) Discussion of disposition of publicly held property with the Boothbay Region Land trust regarding the "Cross River" property. Dale Harmon seconded the motion. **Vote: 4-0**  
The selectmen returned to public session at 7:00 pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:**
3. **Public Comment:** Andy Hamblett from the YMCA said the Y was partnering with 3C Race Productions to have two road races on May 4, 2014 and he would like the support of the Selectmen. There will be a Half Marathon and a 5K race. He said they would have volunteers at road intersections to help with the race and traffic; no roads would need to be closed. Dale Harmon made a motion that the town should work with this group and give authority to the road commissioner to close and/or post roads as needed. Doug Burnham seconded the motion. **Vote: 4-0 in favor.**
4. **Approve minutes:** Steve Ham made a motion to approve the minutes of the 01/22/2014 meeting as presented and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. **Vote: 4-0 in favor.**
5. **FY 2015 Budget:**
  - a. **Budget schedule – BRRDD, BRAS, the Library and the Cemetery District** will come to the 02/26/2014 meeting. A new request has come in from the Red Cross, they have not been funded in the past and the board said they did not want to put them on the warrant this year. A new request was also received from New Hope for Women, they are asking for the same amount they received last year of \$915, the Selectmen said to put them on the warrant.
  - b. **Public Works –** Mike Alley was present to answer any questions about this department. The budget is up 1.7% over last year, mostly because of supplies and maintenance. Fuel and snow removal are up slightly. Steve Lewis asked why they were asking for the new truck to be four wheel drive vs. two wheel drive. The department is planning on replacing a truck this year. They were scheduled to replace the

International but would like to replace the GMC 5500 instead, it is newer but in worse shape. Steve Lewis praised the job the road crew has done on the roads this year.

- c. **Code Enforcement** – Dan Bryer Jr. was present to answer any questions about the budget for this department. Their budget is up 4.2% which really isn't that much considering that last year they were down 23%. There is some cost share with the Water District. The Assessing contract is what made the budget go up. Assessing is still under Code Enforcement. Dale Harmon asked why it was here and if it should be moved out of here. Jim Chaousis said it should be and next year plans on moving it out. Dale Harmon said he has only heard positive comments about this department.
- d. **Harbor Master** – Pete Ripley was present to answer any questions about this budget item. It is a flat budget this year. Mr. Ripley said one of their challenges is the abandoned boats and floats, he is checking with other towns to see what they do in these situations. Next year they may expand the floats at Knickerbocker, the PWD could build the float. This led to a brief discussion about how much could be expanded in that area. Mr. Chaousis said that Harbor Master isn't talked about much because Pete Ripley does such a good job taking care of business in this area.
- e. **Fire Department** – Dick Spofford and Lt. Pinkham were present to answer any questions the board might have about this department's budget. It is a flat budget this year. \$30,000 could be taken out of capital improvement for turn out gear this year and next year they plan to replace the tanker in East Boothbay. They have just ordered 10 sets of pants/coats for new members at a cost of \$2,000 each. They have applied for some grants and are waiting to hear about some. Steve Lewis said that 20 firefighters recently turned out for a house fire and it says a lot about the leadership of this department that they have such a large group.

#### 6. Reports:

- a. **Edgecomb Selectmen** – a reminder that the two boards will meet on 2/26/2014 at 6PM
- b. **Lincoln County Commissioners** – a reminder that Commissioner Meserve and Lincoln County Administrator O'Connell will be at the 2/26/2014 meeting. Steve Lewis said he mentioned this meeting to a Boothbay Harbor Selectman and invited them to attend. Mr. Chaousis said the staff is gathering information from other counties and will get the information to the board members before that meeting.
- c. **BOA decision** – The Board of Appeals denied the Mariner Tower II application to place a cell tower in East Boothbay. The BOA has received a letter asking them to consider reconsideration of their decision. A meeting has been set for 03/04/2014.

- d. **Country Club** – as part of their DEP application the Boothbay Harbor Country Club held a public hearing and some good information was given out.
- e. **Department Reports** – The Public works has been busy doing repairs and dealing with the weather. The CEO is busy; they have had a lot of realtors calling for information. There was a staff meeting today about the change in health care, everyone is signed up and the change will begin on 03/01/2014. The new effective date will save the town \$1,200- \$1,400 in this fiscal year. A new benefit is that the staff can get more life insurance if they want and there will be no cost to the town. Mr. Chaousis has been in touch with Lincoln County Health and is waiting for them to get back in touch. Nomination papers are now available for town positions. Mr. Chaousis reviewed the foreclosed property list, it contains 11 properties.
- f. **Wharves and Weirs Public Hearing** – this is postponed until 02/14/2014.

**7. Old Business:**

- a. **Cross River Property** – This was discussed earlier this evening in Executive Session. The Executive Director of the Land Trust and Mr. Chaousis are going to work on a purchase and sales agreement that could then be taken to the voters.
- b. **Tax Increment Financing Development Plan** – Mr. Chaousis gave the Selectmen a final draft of this plan. There are no projects or Credit Enhancements attached to this plan although it was suggested to talk with Freedom Auto to see if they are interested in a Credit Enhancement. Everyone feels the information is out there now; this will not be a surprise like it was in November. Steve Lewis suggested voting on this at the next meeting and then scheduling the Public Hearings

**8. New Business:**

- a. **Quit-Claim deed** – There was a lien on this property in 1987 that was never released. The property has been through several owners since. Mrs. Frydrych said she had a title search done and there was not a problem so she put a house on the property, then the bank did a title search and found this lien, now she cannot use this house until it is cleared up. Dale Harmon made a motion to sign a quit-claim deed and to release this property and Doug Burnham seconded the motion. **Vote: 4-0 in favor.** Mrs. Frederick said that Dan Bryer has done a good job helping her through the process. Doug Burnham said it is nice to hear from the public praise of the staff.
- b. **Annual Town Meeting** – Mr. Chaousis gave the Selectmen the proposed zoning ordinances in draft form and they were asked to review and discuss at next meeting. Mr. Chaousis next reviewed a draft of the Town Meeting Warrant. He discussed the questions that will be referendum questions and then the ones that will be discussed in open town meeting. Mr. Chaousis is planning on asking Chip Griffin

to be the moderator. It will be a large warrant. The meeting will be held at the old Town Hall at the Railway Museum.

9. **Public Comment** - Steve Lewis asked where Mr. Chaousis was with the video/website project. Mr. Chaousis said it is moving along. He is working with the Falmouth IT person who has the same website.

Steve Lewis mentioned that Chuck Cunningham was not present tonight because his father is ill and wished him well.

10. **Review Warrants and sign** - Dale Harmon made a motion to review the warrants and sign them and Doug Burnham seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.
11. **Adjourn meeting** – Dale Harmon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10PM and Doug Burnham seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.