

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, March 26, 2014
6:00 PM
MINUTES**

1. **Call Meeting to order:** Chairman, Steve Lewis called the Meeting and Public Hearing to order at 6:00PM.

Present: Steven Lewis, Dale Harmon, Charles Cunningham, Stephen Ham, James Chaousis II (Town Manager), Dan Bryer Jr. (CEO) Several members of the Planning Board were also present for the Public Hearing of Warrant articles.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:**
3. **Public Hearing:** Warrant articles 3, 4 and 25-35. Mr. Chaousis said there are two large binders available in the Town Office for anyone to view that contain the warrant articles and the budget information that pertain to the May 5th Town Meeting.

Mr. Chaousis presented a power point presentation on articles #3 and #4

Dan Bryer presented a power point presentation on articles #25-#35.

Mike Hall asked questions about the signs and what this would mean for non-conforming signs such as his.

It was explained that the various proposed changes are all broken out into separate articles and not lumped together as one question.

4. **Approve minutes:** Chuck Cunningham made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2014 meeting as presented and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.
5. **Reports:**
 - a. **Workers Comp Audit** – The town received almost \$1,500 back because of the good experience rating.
 - b. **Coast Flood Insurance Rate Maps** – The CEO has the plans and Laurie will be going to the meeting on 04/01/2014.
 - c. **Franchise Agreement Payment** – A check has been received for \$28,729 this is more than last year. Chuck Cunningham said he would like

to put pressure on Time Warner to stop the merger. He thinks it is time to renegotiate with them. Many towns do not get franchise fees. It was suggested to invite them to a meeting to discuss merger and if they could get them to provide more to Channel 7.

- d. **BOA applicants** – Interviews have been set up with the two candidates for April 9, 2014 at 6:00PM.
 - e. **Tax Sale Bid Process** – An Ad has gone to the newspaper. One owner has paid and one is working on it. The Selectmen have a received a letter from the one property that has been difficult and was discussed at the last meeting. Chuck Cunningham made a motion for Jim Chaousis to draft a letter that Steve Lewis would sign on behalf of the board. The letter would say that they need to pay in full and the property needs to meet standards set by the CEO before the sale date or the property will be sold. Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.
 - f. **Department Reports** – The PWD is still working on floats, they are extending floats at Knickerbane, and this is being worked on with the Harbor Master. The CEO is busy with applications, a consent agreement was recently worked on with the YMCA and a triple Planning Board fee was paid. The Front Office recently sent out 400 reminder notices about the 2014 taxes. Heidi is working on the Town Report. Mr. Chaousis has created new performance evaluations. He also has created a new evaluation process for the Town Manager he is proposing to the Selectmen for review. Mr. Johnson has been invited to the 04/09/2014 meeting to talk about LD369. The town will be getting the speed trailer for a time this summer.
6. **Public Hearing:** Phillip J. and Annette Main, Dover Used Car Parts, Map R2 lots 24A & 24B at 76 Dover Road, renewal of a junkyard permit. This application has been received in full. The only concern is the fencing. There have been no complaints but the fence looks like winter has taken a toll on it. Steve Ham made a motion to approve this application as presented as long as they fix the fence when weather permits and Chuck Cunningham seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.
7. **Eileen King, AOS 98 School Superintendent, FY 2015 School Budget:** Ms. King talked about the tax assessment, the projected revenues and expenditures. The budget is higher than last year, the towns cost is 2.84% higher than last year. Salaries and benefits is higher, Transportation costs are higher because they need a new bus. Steve Lewis suggested they should put so much money each year into a capital reserve account so they would not need to borrow money to do this as well as other large purchases. Ms. King explained that according to their charter they are only allowed to have \$12,500 in capital reserves and the State limits the amount they can have as well. It was suggested the school could change their charter and a member of the school board said he was not sure they wanted to open that up, it could become a can of worms and it was a good document for the most part and is working good. Steve Lewis had

questions about declining enrollment as costs are going up and at what point do things have to change. Ms. King is predicting 50 tuition students next year, most of them in the High School. Chuck Cunningham said it seems as if the amount of tuition paid per student is lower than the cost to educate each student. There was a brief discussion on how things could change if Wiscasset voted to join the AOS and the biggest effect would be on the Central Office, it would reduce the cost share to each town. Ms. King said they look at every opening and carefully decide if it needs to be filled or how can things be shifted to not fill it. Steve Lewis talked briefly about the fact that Andrew Morley would like to create a track and do it strictly with fundraising and if this happens would like to make sure the public can use it as well. There was a brief comment about the Tennis courts opening. Fran McBrearty asked about the Vocational training that was brought back to the school and how it was working out.

8. **Old Business:**

- a. **Document Scanning Quote** – Mr. Chaousis said he thinks there is money that can be found in this year’s budget to do this. He suggested paying half from this year’s budget and half from next year’s budget. This would require the company taking the files to Bangor to scan and then returning them. This is only for Zoning and planning files. The Board was nervous about the files leaving the office and asked Mr. Chaousis to get a quote for doing them in house.
- b. **Lincoln county Correspondence** – Mr. Chaousis drafted a letter for Steve Lewis to sign on behalf of the board but Steve wanted the whole board’s approval of the letter before he signed. The Board felt it was OK.
- c. **Fire Department Mutual Aid Agreement** – Fire Chief Dick Spofford did not see any reason for the board not to sign this, the town’s legal counsel said it was OK to sign. Chuck Cunningham said the board only has the authority to sign any agreement for 1 year. Chuck Cunningham made a motion to sign the agreement for 1 year and then to explore the options and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

9. **New Business:**

- a. **Boothbay Region Baseball funding request** – The board members were willing to fund this request but it is late to add it to the warrant. Chuck Cunningham made a motion to fund this request from the contingency fund and ask them to get the request in earlier next year and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.
- b. **Quit Claim Deeds** – Chuck Cunningham made a motion to sign quit claim deeds for three pieces of property that have been paid in full, they were referred to by their book and page (book 4536 page 17, book 4535 page 217 and book 4530 page 14) and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.
- c. **Annual Town Meeting Warrant** – Mr. Chaousis asked the Selectmen to consider putting one more article on the warrant. Article #37 would allow the transfer of funds from one department that might be under budget to

another department that might be over budget (such as snow removal this year) on an as needed basis.

Chuck Cunningham made a motion to approve articles 1-3 as presented to be on the annual town meeting warrant and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Dale Harmon made a motion to approve article 4 as presented to be on the annual town meeting warrant and Steve Ham seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0 in favor. Chuck Cunningham abstained from voting as he now owns the property that abuts the property in question on the north side.

Dale Harmon made a motion to approve articles #5-37 as presented to be on the annual town meeting warrant and Steve Ham seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0 in favor.

10. Review Warrants and sign: Chuck Cunningham made a motion to review the warrants and sign them and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

11. Adjourn meeting: Chuck Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.