

Board of Selectmen

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

Town Manager

Daniel Bryer Jr.



**Town of Boothbay
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday September 14, 2016
7:00 PM
MINUTES**

Present: Doug Burnham, Steve Lewis, Chuck Cunningham and Town Manager Dan Bryer

Public Hearing: Telephone pole replacement permit: Back River Road – place new pole 3 ¼ from approximately 1081 Southwesterly of Wendell's Way, one pole.

Steve Lewis made a motion to approve the permit on the condition that the old pole be removed as soon as possible and Chuck Cunningham seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

There was a discussion about the old pole and that the Utility Companies are not responsive to being asked to remove them. Chuck Cunningham suggested that Dan ask the Public Works crew as they are out and about to make a list of all the old poles and then that list can then be given to CMP/Fairpoint. It was also suggested that maybe the town's attorney should be contacted and asked what can be done about the old poles.

Minutes: Chuck Cunningham made a motion to approve the minutes of August 10th and Steve Lewis seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Reports: Dan said the paving has been postponed by Crooker until October 3rd. The Public works crew is getting ready to roof the Post Office at the end of the month. The CEO is busy with 4 building permits, 3 Plumbing permits, 3 subsurface permits and 2 applications to go before the Planning Board this month. The Business Office has finished closing out taxes; it has been a strong year.

Review Warrant Articles: Steve Lewis made a motion to approve all six articles as presented and Chuck Cunningham seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Dan said the articles had been reviewed by Sally Dagget and she had approved them all.

Dan said there will be a map available on Voting Day showing the final Route 27 proposal, it will also be on the website and available as an attachment for absentee voting. Because of comments made, small changes have been made to the plans and are still being made but they will be ready by the public hearing.

There will be a public hearing on the warrant articles on September 28th, most likely at the YMCA.

Rhoda Weyr asked if the Helming plan was being looked at. Dan replied that it had been looked at but was not viable because it would need to take too much land. To have a State road requires a larger setback than a town road.

Rhoda Weyr also discussed problems with County Club Road and what she considers a dangerous left turn from Back River Road which led to a discussion about the Back River Road entrance and the options available. There was also a discussion about the speed limit on Back River Road and a couple of residents who think it is too high.

Chuck Cunningham made a motion to have Dan check with MDOT and see if it is possible to lower the speed limit on Back River Road and Steve Lewis seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

The question was asked from the audience – what is the back up if this plan is voted down. The Selectmen responded saying that is the end of it, the plan simply goes away.

A member of the audience complained about the construction mess this summer near the Common and said it is not necessary.

Appointments to Planning Board: Chuck Cunningham made a motion to appoint Rob Ham and Tim Utley to the Planning Board and Steve Lewis seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Boothbay Festival of Lights: Dan talked about the JEDC and that they are working on a five year master plan. They want to take baby steps, doing things small and work up. They would like to work with CMBG and their Gardens Aglow and make it a project for the whole region called Festival of lights. Boothbay, for its part would decorate the common with lights and Boothbay Harbor would concentrate on the Footbridge and the Library. Homeowners would also be encouraged to participate and there would be prizes. They would like to work with Business owners and have them excited about the plan and be involved. It would be a way for some seasonal businesses to stay open a little extra and make some extra money.

Annual Municipal Audit with Fred Brewer: Fred Brewer went through the audit with the Selectmen page by page. He said there a couple of things that might want to be changed such as consolidating the Capital Improvement Funds into one fund. The Town has a 96% collection rate on Real Estate taxes which is very good.

The Town came in under budget this year. Dan Thanked Tracy Hodgdon-Hyson for her good work, he said it would not have happened if it had not been for her, her knowledge and dedication.

Steve Lewis said it was a breath of fresh air to have an auditor who is willing to work with the Town and staff.

Chuck Cunningham said he appreciates that the auditor tells it to them straight.

Warrants: Chuck Cunningham made a motion to review the warrants and sign them and Steve Lewis seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Adjourn: Chuck Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00PM and Steve Lewis seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor.