



Town of Boothbay
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Monday, September 24, 2012
7:00 PM
MINUTES

1. **Call Meeting to order:** Vice Chair, Steve Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. **Present:** Dale Harmon, Steven Lewis, Doug Burnham and Jim Chaousis II, Town Manager

2. **Public Hearing BRWD - Town of Southport Merger** – Jon Ziegra, BRWD Manager, gave an overview of how the merger initiative started and how as a regulated utility the district is required to revise their charter every 2 years. In LD1834, an act to amend the BRWD charter, including the town of Southport to the BRWD is part of that charter. A vote of ratification is required for LD1834 to pass, and will appear on local ballots in Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor and Southport on November 6, 2012.

Jon Ziegra explained why this merger would be beneficial to all of the communities they serve and illustrated what changes are forecasted if LD1834 passes and mentioned that this merger complies with initiatives by Gov. Le Page and Gov. Baldacci to regionalize and consolidate.

Mr. Chaousis called for a motion to sign the warrant for the Referendum Election. **Dale Harmon made a motion and Doug Burnham seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor**

3. **Approve minutes: Dale Harmon made a motion to approve the minutes of the 09/10/2012 meeting, Doug Burnham seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor.**

4. **Public Comment:** None.

5. **Reports:**

- a. **Woodchucks** – A letter of agreement to use the \$600 appropriation at the fuel depot.
- b. **Columbus Day Meeting** – BOS meeting will take place on the Holiday October 8, 2012.
- c. **Assessing contract** – John O'Donnell emailed expressing willingness to continue.

- d. **Audit** – A draft audit was received and it will be an estimated 6 weeks before the Audit is available.
- e. **Depart Head Reports** – No Department Head Meeting took place, however Public Works is ahead of schedule and in the Business Office many residents have come to vote Absentee but the ballots have not yet arrived.
- f. **Memo from the Planning Board to the Board of Selectmen** - The Planning Board members were surprised to discover that the BOS were in favor of conducting a review of the Zoning Ordinance facilitated by Art Dunlap. Michael Pander made the suggestion that everyone meet and collectively make this review and suggestions for changes in the ordinance. Jeanne Fuller echoed the effectiveness of a group process for making Zoning Ordinance changes and added that the "intent of the ordinance" deserves scrutiny, particularly if "business friendly" practices are the goal. To that end, the Planning Board has already created a list of issues to address. Nancy Cunningham stressed the need for better communication and again a group meeting was suggested.

Mr. Chaousis explained that the Planning Board amendments to the Zoning Ordinance did not make it to the floor at Town Meeting last May due to the Industrial Park and how a review with Art Dunlap would play out over the winter months, which would be a process that incorporated a comparison of zoning ordinances from other towns.

- g. **St Andrews Taskforce** - The Task Force is having some victories, particularly with fundraising.

6. Old Business:

- h. **Sawyers Island Road property** – The Sawyers Island Road property is a deeded property of the Town's, which is held to different rules from a tax-acquired property. Town Meeting authority is required to sell it. Currently Mr. Chaousis is working with assessing to make a comprehensive list of the Town's properties. Henry Rowe brought up the Smith property, and that its value should be reviewed.
- i. **Accounting Service with Osman Page** – Mr. Chaousis gave highlights of his proposal for financing the \$43,000 for the contracting of their services. It was suggested the cost could be offset by taking it out of \$ appropriated for the Salt Shed, and that the restructuring of the Code Enforcement has also resulted in a savings for the town and offsets this cost. A favorable testimony of Osman Pages services was given by Jon Ziegra. **A vote was tabled until the Audit was complete.**

7. New Business:

- j. **Ulmer Fund** – Applicant Myron Hahn was approved for his request of \$2,000.00 towards his marine study. **Dale Harmon made a motion to approve his application, Doug Burnham seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor.**

8. **Public Comment:** David Stimson asked why Mr. Chaousis recommended that the Board not have access to all of the information available about his case. Mr. Chaousis explained that standard protocol kept the Board of Selectmen free of influence before the time to make decisions on the case came to their purview. David then asked how one instigates an ordinance change and it was agreed upon, that there are the three ways, through the BOS, PB or by petition.

9. **Review Warrants and sign:**

10. **Adjourn Meeting:** At 8:37PM Doug Burnham made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. **Vote: 4-0 in favor.**

Respectfully submitted
James D Chaousis II, Town Manager