

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 September 24, 2013
7:00 PM
MINUTES**

1. **Call Meeting to order:** Chairman Steve Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. **Present:** Steven Lewis, Dale Harmon, Charles Cunningham, Douglas Burnham and Town Manager, James Chaousis II
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:**
3. **Public Comment:** Mr. Chaousis said the Town has been working with the Boothbay Region Art Foundation and art work by local artists is now displayed on the walls in the Town Office.
4. **Approve Minutes:** Chuck Cunningham made a motion to approve the minutes of the 8/13/2014 meeting as presented and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor. Steve Lewis abstained as he was not at that meeting.

Chuck Cunningham made a motion to approve the minutes of the 09/10/2014 meeting as presented and Doug Burnham seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0 in favor. Dale Harmon abstained as he was not at that meeting

5. **Reports:** Mr. Chaousis said he submitted a written report that is available on the website. Mr. Chaousis said there will be no through traffic on Back Narrows Road next week as they will be replacing a culvert. You can see on the website just where the culvert work is being done and people will be able to access the road from each end.
6. **Old Business:**
 - a. **BBY-BBH CSD Trustees Meeting** – Jim Chaousis, Tom Wooden and Eileen King will meet on 10/07/2014 to go over the charter and make suggestions to take to a larger group.
 - b. **BBH Economic Development Meeting** – The second meeting of this group was held last night. They have discovered a lot of mutual things to work on. A memorandum of understanding is being worked on for a joint economic development committee. Dale Harmon mentioned that they all want the same goals and the committee is working nicely together. Mr. Chaousis suggested that as the Selectmen work on putting together a list of their goals and objectives for next year, they could take some of them to

the next meeting. Steve Lewis suggested they work on the goals and objectives at the end of the next meeting if there is time and if not reschedule it for another meeting.

c. **BOA/Mariner Tower II**

Mr. Chaousis said there is a meeting on 10/08/2014 at 5:30 with the town's attorney to discuss last night's BOA meeting.

7. **New Business:**

- a. **Post Office Right of First Refusal** – In 2010 the Town entered into a Right of First Refusal with Paul Weaver who currently owns the Post Office property. Mr. Weaver would now like to sell the property and has approached the town on their interest in purchasing the property. There is 2 years left to go on the lease, it expires 10/31/2017. Mr. Chaousis said he spoke with a Christopher Madden from the Post Office about the possibility of extending the lease and he said he did not see any reason not to renew it for another 5 year term. If the Town wanted to move the Post Office to another location, the Post Office would have to put it out to bid and it would be a more complicated procedure. The original plan was to maybe move the Post Office to the old vet site. The assessed value of the property is \$130,000 and the Post Office is currently paying a little over \$17,000 per year for their lease. If the Town owned the property they could perhaps make the entrance through the road that currently goes to the town office and thus make the congestion easier on Corey Lane. Chuck Cunningham asked if the money to purchase the property could possible come out of TIF money. The right of refusal has set time limits for the Selectmen to act (45 days) and for the Town to vote on it (90 days) but the clock has not started ticking yet. The Selectmen decided there needs to be a conversation with Mr. Weaver to see if this could wait until the May Town Meeting and if he will give them a copy of the lease with the Post Office. There also needs to be a conversation with the Post Office to see if they will renew for 5 years when the current lease expires. After discussing the possibilities the Selectmen are non-committal on this until they get more answers but if the answers are positive they are leaning towards going ahead. This would be a great Economic Development project, could ease a traffic problem and would not cost the tax payers money. Also discussed were the old Vet property and the land behind it. There are no covenants or restrictions on those properties.
- b. **Budget timeline and Calendar** – Mr. Chaousis said it is that time of year to start working on this. This year the timeline, calendar and all budget information will be available on the website.

8. **Public Comment:** Frank Fassett talked about intelligent economic development and how working together was good for both towns. He also talked about supporting local business and how it is good for the towns and the people in the

towns. He said that economic development does not happen overnight, it takes a while to happen and you need patience.

Steve Lewis said he wanted to thank Eileen King for trying to work with the board and for letting them know what is happening, keeping them in the loop now.

9. **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.

10. **Executive Session:** Chuck Cunningham made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant 1 MRSA § 405(6)(A) Personnel Performance Evaluations and not to return to Open Session and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

11. **Adjourn Meeting:**