

Board of Selectmen

Chuck Cunningham - Chairman
Steven Lewis - Vice Chairman
Dale Harmon
Russell Pinkham
Julie Roberts

Town Manager

Daniel Bryer Jr.



**Town of Boothbay
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday, January 08, 2025
6:00 PM**

MINUTES

Recorded meetings located at <https://townhallstreams.com/towns/boothbay> for more in depth discussions.

Present: Steve Lewis, Russell Pinkham, Chuck Cunningham, Julie Roberts and Town Manager, Dan Bryer Jr.

Chuck called the meeting to order AT 6:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearings: None

Public Comment: Fred Lewis from Boothbay received a letter from the Town Manager, Dan Bryer and he would like him to read the letter so it is recorded in the town minutes for this meeting. He has had a lot of problems with the written records in regards to his property in the Town of Boothbay and this is another way for him to preserve the record of what has happened. Dan has put a copy of the letter in Fred's file. A copy will be included in these minutes. Fred said he is happy with the decisions and he thanks the Board for their patience. Dan said when he started working for the town they found that some of the plumbing and septic Information were missing for some properties. When Code Enforcement fills the filing cabinet they will call a company to come get the files and scan them. We will be doing that again very soon. This letter will go into that scan session so it will not show up in the file now. Once they are scanned they are returned to us and stored up in the attic. The hard copies are kept as well.

Approve Minutes: None to approve.

Chuck asked when they will start seeing minutes again. Dan is going to try software that is AI. He's going to put it on his phone and hold the phone to the speaker as you play the meeting and it will write up the minutes for the meeting. Because it's AI it will recognize voices. You would have to read it over for mistakes. It is around \$14.00 a month so it would save the town money. Julie said Lisa uses it at the Chamber of Commerce. Dan went down to the Superintendent's Office to test it. He had his phone on while they had a conversation, he asked questions about mil rates and it recorded everything accurately. He hopes it's an easy way to get caught up.

Reports: Dan has a replica of the Boston Post Cane to show the Board that Boothbay Harbor gives to their recipients to have. They keep the original in their office on display. It costs around \$30.00 and it can be engraved with our information. It's a very awkward conversation to have when you have to get the cane back from the family after the person passes. The Board agrees it's a good option. Dan would like to have a display case made for the original. He would like to find someone local who does woodworking that may volunteer to make us one. Chuck suggested maybe Tim Hodgdon would have someone at his company that would be interested.

Dan is looking at Maine State Retirement because the Water District, Sewer District and Boothbay Harbor All have it as well as the 457. He wants to see what the costs would be and if there is any interest. Steve said with Maine State Retirement if you retire after 25 years you are guaranteed a check for life, with the 457 when the money is gone it's gone. Dan feels to remain competitive it's something they should look

into. It could attract younger people and also help with retention. Hiring and Keeping people is very difficult. He is just exploring options.

Nicole is doing a great job with the Facebook page.

Old Business: None

New Business – Two Municipal Appointments – Shri Verrill to the Lincoln County Regional Planning and Tracey Hyson as Registrar of Voters.

Chuck is wondering why the Registrar appointment can't be done when all of the other appointments are done. Dan thinks it is going by when she did her initial appointment. The appointment is for two years as well.

Dan will check into it.

Russ made a motion to approve the appointments of Shri Verrill to the Lincoln County Planning and Tracey Hyson as Registrar of Voters for the Town of Boothbay.

Julie seconded. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Preliminary Budget- Dan said things are looking really good, we are under 4%. Tracey is still looking things over. There is one thing, the irrigation numbers are going to need to be looked at. Farley told Dan that he has golf courses and they don't use as much water as us so something is not right. It needs to be tested for leaks. Dan can control the water on his phone, the app looks at weather patterns and adjusts for them. It would be in the Building and Grounds line under Water Service. Russ said they definitely need to have it pressure tested so see if there are any leaks.

Under Elections Dan had lowered the amount but Tracey thought it should be put up to \$2,000.00 to anticipate something happening in June. Dues and Subscriptions is coming in a little higher around \$1,000.00. Health Insurance went up 9% and there was another person added this year. Steve thinks the paving should be increased every year. He feels \$197,000.00 isn't much. They have a discussion regarding the paving amount. Steve suggests they set a goal and get to the goal over a few years. He is thinking \$250,000.00 would be a better amount. Steve is wondering if at the May Town Meeting they can vote to take TIF funds to fix the Country Club Road. Dan said the funds are there. They all agreed it should be on the ballot and they need to get it done.

Outside Organizations- Dan said we still haven't heard from some of them. Steve thinks they should stick to what they have done in the past and only have them come in to present to the Board if they are asking for more money. At one time the town asked for petitions to ask for money. They would have to get 25 signatures to be able to request any money, make them do a little work. Next month there will be two Public Hearings and at the second meeting the Board will decide what goes on the warrant for Town Meeting. They will need to have their applications in by the first BOS meeting in February.

Wharves and Weirs- Luke's Boatyard Inc., Map U7, Lot 17, located at 15 Luke's Gulch in East Boothbay. Application for replacement of an existing pier with a request to raise it an additional 2 feet, 4 inches and an addition of two additional braces. It has been approved by the Planning Board, Army Corps, Dep and the Harbormaster letter is there. Russ motions to approve the application. Julie seconded.

Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Public Comment – None

Review Warrants and Sign:

Russ made a motion to review the warrants and sign them upon review. Julie seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Adjourn Meeting:

Russ made a motion to adjourn. Julie seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 in favor.



Town of Boothbay
Office of the Town Manager
Daniel G. Bryer

November 20th, 2024

Dear Mr. Lewis,

I am writing this letter in regard to the recent findings regarding your property on Barters Island, Map-R01, Lot-19. Having located the approved septic variance from the state as well as the approved building permit your property is in good standing with the Town of Boothbay and no violations exist. Further no certificate of occupancy is required as none existed at the date of issuance for the original approved building permit, as well the notice of refusal to allow electric connection on the property dated June 6, 2024 is officially rescinded.

Please call or email if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Daniel G. Bryer