

Board of Selectmen

Charles R. Cunningham -
Chairman
Steven Lewis – Vice Chairman
Dale Harmon
Kristina Ford
Michael Tomacelli

Town Manager

Daniel Bryer Jr.



**Town of Boothbay
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday, January 24, 2018
7:00 PM
MINUTES**

Present: Steven Lewis, Dale Harmon, Michael Tomacelli, Chuck Cunningham, Kristina Ford, Town Manager Dan Bryer and Secretary Sherry Tibbetts

Pledge of Allegiance:

Public Hearing: None scheduled

Public Comment: None

Approve Minutes: Dale Harmon made a motion to accept the minutes of 01/10/18 as presented and Kristina Ford seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

Reports: Dan Bryer reported that the Public Works is busy with the winter weather and drainage problems, a large amount of sand has been used this year due to the excessive icing. The Code Enforcement Office has several various permits pending, the Planning Board has two permits for this month and their meeting was postponed from the 17th to the 31st because of weather problems, the Board of Appeals has one application relating to a Notice of Violation. The Board of Appeals last week upheld the Stop Work Order issued to CMBG by the CEO. The due date for taxes is 02/16/2018, and \$74,000 in taxes has already been pre-paid for the next fiscal year.

Kristina Ford asked about the Landscape Committee and Dan Bryer reported that they have been meeting every other Friday at noon and the public is welcome at meetings. The Committee has identified vegetation they would like used, using lots of hardy plants that require low maintenance. The Committee should be ready to give an update to the board within a month.

Old Business: None

New Business:

(1) Update on Wayfinding presentation by Wendy Wolf – Wendy Wolf co-chair of the JEDC gave an update on Wayfinding. Ms. Wolf said there is going to be a meeting at the Boothbay Fire Station on 02/01/18 to present information on Wayfinding but as seating was limited everyone was asked to RSVP. Kristina Ford and Chuck Cunningham both expressed their concerns for the limited space and felt the meeting should have been scheduled in a large enough venue that an RSVP was not necessary and all interested persons could attend.

Ms. Wolf thanked the members of the committee for their help. She had a power point presentation and talked about signs from large ones to small, from regional signs to signs for individual locations. She talked about where signs may want to be placed, places that would want to be highlighted and working with MDOT since a lot of the signs would be on State highways. She talked about a large regional sign at the intersection of Rt. 27 and Rt. 1 in Edgcomb announcing the Boothbay Region and listing all four

towns. One idea she presented is to have all the signs similar but with a different color stripe on each one to spotlight the different towns. Ms. Wolf stressed these would be directional signs not business signs.

The board expressed their concern that all four towns involved share the cost of all Regional signs.

(2) Wind Farm initiative presented by U Maine and Power Engineers – Professor Dagher from the University of Maine gave a presentation on a Wind Farm research project off Monhegan Island. Mr. Dagher said the university has been working on the project for about 10 years, it would be 14 miles off the coast near Monhegan Island.

Ms. Dagher reviewed various composite projects the university has been involved in, including some with Tim Hodgdon and his business. Mr. Dagher said that Maine has the best wind resource on the East Coast. He talked about a sample floating turbine that was tested in Castine.

Currently he is looking for a community to host the cable coming from the turbines to shore. The cable needs to be buried and currently they are looking at two different possible routes, one to the East and one to Boothbay. A survey needs to be done to see if possible to bury the cable along the identified routes and as the surveys are expensive the University would prefer to only do one. They would like to do the survey in March when there are less fishermen on the waters and they promised the fishermen they would give them a 30 day notice before doing the survey so the direction of the cable laying to be surveyed needs to be decided soon.

The residents of Monhegan voted in favor of the project and there have been meetings held with fishermen about the survey and the project.

Tom Mayotte talked about the positive impacts that a project such as this could have on the region.

The Selectmen said they would like to send a letter to the PUC in favor of this research project. Mr. Dagher will work on a draft letter and send it to Dan Bryer.

(3) Preliminary budget – Dan Bryer gave the board a preliminary budget to review before the next meeting.

Public Comment:

Kristina Ford talked about the recent lawsuits and said she would like to make sure all the Selectmen read all the information before their executive session with the town's attorney and not just wait for the attorney to tell them what to do. She does not want the public to get the impression the board is not doing anything except what they are told to do.

Wendy Wolf said she would ask the Boothbay Harbor Selectboard about sending a letter to the PUC in support of the proposed wind project as well. She suggested a joint trip between JEDC members and Selectmen of both towns to the University Lab to see the research on the wind project.

Review Warrants and sign: Dale Harmon made a motion to review the warrants and sign them and Kristina Ford seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

Adjourn meeting: At 9:30 PM Dale Harmon made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Kristina Ford seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.