



**Town of Boothbay
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday, November 8, 2017
7:00 PM
MINUTES**

Board of Selectmen

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

Town Manager

Daniel Bryer Jr.

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Public Hearing: None scheduled

Public Comment: None

Approve Minutes: Kristina Ford suggested two changes to the minutes of 10/25/2017, she suggested Pam from the BCA be changed to Pam Wiley from the BCA and on the back page she suggested the word ideas be changed to idea. Steve Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of 10/25/2017 as amended and Kristina Ford seconded the motion. Vote 5-0 in favor. Chuck Cunningham although not at that meeting, had watched the video of it and voted on the minutes.

Reports: Dan Bryer reported the Business Office was busy this week with the election, 1057 citizens voted and both of the town articles passed. There was a problem with the voting machine and the State had to come and get it running. Dan presented a drawing of proposed parking and costs on the north side of the Common as suggested by Steve Lewis at the last meeting. The Selectmen felt the best way to handle this was to turn it over to the Landscape Committee to work with. Dan Bryer reported that the CEO is busy with several various permits, this is the time of year where they get a small hike in permit requests. The Planning Board will not have a regular meeting this month but they will be moving to holding two workshops a month to work on the new ordinance changes. The BOA will hold a meeting tomorrow night at 6:00PM to make a decision on the Anthony appeal of the CMBG permit. Dan Bryer also said the Public Works is busy still with clean up from the storm.

Kristina Ford said she is still getting notes from the open house, she read a part of one that was asking for more community involvement in Town decisions.

Kristina Ford also asked the Selectmen if they would consider a Thanksgiving Proclamation thanking all the people who stood up and helped others during the recent storm. She said she felt this could be a real healing action. The other Selectmen were all for recognizing people but Steve Lewis suggested that maybe it should be a blanket thank you and leave out names as he would not want someone to be left off the list who should be there and it would be impossible to get every name. Dan Bryer will work on writing something up.

Dan Bryer talked about the Street lights for the sidewalks that should have been in place weeks ago. There has been a problem with the supplier but now there is hope that they will be up and working by the 30th of November.

Chuck Cunningham asked questions about Fair Point and where they are with removing wires so poles can be removed. Dan said he is calling them on a regular basis and doing all he can to get them on it.

Old Business: Philip J. and Annette Maine, Dover Used Car Parts/Junkyard, Map R2 lots 24A & 24B at 76 Dover Road in Boothbay, renewal of Junkyard license.

Dan Bryer said this is a renewal permit, the taxes are paid, there are no Notices of Violation and everything is as it should be, nothing has changes since it began in this location in 1968.

Kristina Ford said she drove by and felt that maybe it could be better in compliance with the ordinances. The rest of the board said it has always been this way and there have not been any complaints from abutters and they felt it was OK as is.

Steve Lewis made a motion to approve the permit application as presented and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

New Business:

Cable Franchise Agreement discussion with Cody Mitchell and Michael Edgecomb – Cody Mitchell talked briefly representing Channel 7 which will be moving to Channel 15.1, he explained about the cable franchise, he said he wanted to bring awareness to this issue, he feels it is critical to look at this and to nail down a new contract. Mr. Mitchell said he is not a cable engineer and he feels that is why an consultant is needed.

Mike Edgecomb from James W. Sewall Company said he worked for Time Warner for many years and worked on the franchise agreements from that side. He is trying to bring several towns together as a consortium to negotiate a better franchise agreement for the town. The cost depends on the number of towns involved. Mr. Edgecomb said he would do surveys, audit fees and negotiate a new contract for the town.

The Selectmen said they would like to talk to a town that he has already done this for as a reference. Mr. Edgecomb suggested they talk with Alna or North Yarmouth who he has worked with on this.

Steve Lewis asked how many other towns to date have agreed to be in this consortium and Mr. Edgecomb said no other towns have signed on yet.

Chuck Cunningham said he feels the Cable fees are already too high and fears if franchise fees are raised subscribers may be asked to pay more fees.

Steve Lewis suggested this topic be tabled until references can be checked out and the rest of the board agreed.

Thermal Imaging cameras for the Fire Department – Dick Spofford said the Fire Department needs two new thermal imaging cameras. He said that one of the old ones is 30 years old and needs to be put to rest and the other one is almost as old. He said they are used all the time and two is the minimum number needed. Mr. Spofford had a quote for two medium grade cameras at \$12, 680. Mr. Spofford suggested taking the money made selling the old fire truck plus the Fire Department would be willing to put in \$2,500 they made from the convention and the rest of the money to come from the Capital reserve account. Mr. Spofford there are no yearly maintenance costs associated with the cameras.

Dale Harmon made a motion to buy two new thermal imaging cameras for the Fire Department using the approximately \$6,700 received from the sale of the old truck, plus \$2,500 from the Fire Department and the rest, approximately \$3,480 coming from the Capital Improvement Fund with the total spent not to exceed \$12,680 and Steve Lewis seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

Generator for the Fuel Depot – The Boothbay Fuel Depot is used by many in the Region, the ambulance, town crews, water district, woodchucks and others. The Depot gets its electricity from the Public Works building, neither of which has a generator. Steve Lewis said this past storm showed that there is a real need for this to have a generator and he showed a quote for the cost of a generator. After a discussion Steve Lewis made a motion to purchase a generator and warranty from Sam's Electric for a cost of \$8,205 and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor. The users of the Depot will be asked to pay a surcharge until the cost is recouped.

Landscape committee – Dan Bryer presented the Selectmen with the applications received to be on the Landscape committee. Steve Lewis made a motion to appoint Tom Nickerson, Kathleen Marty, Susan Whitehouse, Eliza Jones, Lauren Bradley and Abbie Levine to the Landscape Committee and Kristina Ford seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

Public Comment: Dan Bryer said he hopes to have the Town's Holiday lights up by 11/16/2017.

Kristina Ford said that since traditionally business is slow for the Selectmen during the winter months she would like to see the Selectmen work on some housekeeping ideas. She would like to see a few more rules in place. Ms. Ford also said there is confusion about when on a warrant it says the Selectmen recommend. Does this mean the Selectmen recommend the item be on the warrant or does it mean the Selectmen suggest a favorable vote? She would like to research this and discuss. Ms. Ford also suggested putting out bids for attorneys instead of just keeping with the current one. Ms. Ford said she also feels they need better reports from the CEO and is wondering if the right computer system is being used to generate the best information. She feels the value of construction should be of great importance to the board.

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

Adjourn meeting: At 8:30PM Steve Lewis made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dale Harmon seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 in favor.