

**DECEMBER 10, 2015
JOINT BOARD AND
COMMISSION MEETING**

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE JOINT BOARD AND
BOYNE CITY COMMISSION MEETING DULY CALLED AND HELD AT
THE DPW FACILITIES, 1031 ROBINSON STREET, ON THURSDAY
DECEMBER 10, 2015 AT 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tom Neidhamer called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Tom Neidhamer, Mayor Pro-Tem Gene Towne, Commissioners Hugh Conklin, Laura Sansom and Ron Grunch

Staff: Michael Cain, Cindy Grice, Patrick Kilkenny, Jeff Gaither, Andy Kovolski, Mark Fowler, Lori Meeder, Barb Brooks, and Scott McPherson

Others: There were 7 citizens in attendance,

**Economic Development
Corporation/Local
Development Finance
Authority**

Kelly Bellant discussed the 2015 projects, including the drainage improvements to the Business Park, the walkway and the continuing support of growing our kids with the Fab Lab. There are concerns about affordable housing and daycare in Boyne City for workers in this area. There is growth at Precision Edge, Lexamar's staffing level is at 800, IMI is adding on to their facility. Lexamar is the largest employer in Charlevoix County.

Election Commission

Clerk / Treasurer Cindy Grice discussed the roll of the 3 members of the election commission. They meet prior to each election to approve that election's inspectors. There are at least 3 elections in 2016, possible 4.

**Historical District
Commission**

Planning Director Scott McPherson said there is currently one vacant seat on the Commission. The Planning Commission works closely with this board and has formally adopted the plan of action. The current big project is the White House that is being renovated.

Historic Commission

Commissioner Sansom, a member of this Commission said they currently have four vacant seats. There is a lot of work to be done getting the current museum packed and moved. If anyone knows of anyone who can volunteer and help, please contact us. The 100th Anniversary of the LaFrance Fire Truck is in 2017. The board continues to assist with school tours throughout the year.

**Boyne City Housing
Commission**

City Manager Mike Cain said the Housing Commission is doing quite well under Jane MacKenzie's leadership. They have recently been confirmed as a premier status agency. The units are full throughout and there is a waiting list on all projects.

Main Street Board

Lori Meeder explained the current Brownfield Redevelopment projects currently underway – the Dilworth and the Lake Street Redevelopment project. There are lots of exciting new retailers in town. The events over this past year were well attended. A new event, entitled Boyne Appetit! is scheduled to kick off this winter.

Team Boyne

Jim Baumann discussed this group that is the Economic Restructuring Committee of Boyne City Main Street. The group has had recruiting businesses on the agenda and the problem now is there are no vacant buildings. This group will work closely with Main Street and their volunteers.

Jim Baumann said he will be retiring this year. He will be working remotely for three months this winter.

Boyne Area Chamber

Mike Sheean said the board works closely with DPW Superintendent Andy Kovolski. In 2015, the Ridge Run Dog Park was further developed. The Archery Group is starting to have events at Avalanche. The BC to Charlevoix trail phase is being rebid. City Manager Cain discussed the new signage in Old City Park. Also discussed was the possible Pavilion project and thoughts of how we deal with that issue. Boyne On the Water also affects City Parks.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Planning Director Scott McPherson discussed the Catt Lake Street Redevelopment Project and the changes made to the project throughout the process. The Boyne City Master Plan has been updated. We recently received the Redevelopment Ready Communities certification this past week. The Safe Routes to Schools project should be done during the Summer of 2016.

Planning Commission

Assistant Planning & Zoning Director Patrick Kilkenny said this board deals with zoning variance requests. There were four official variance requests in 2015.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Richard Bouters said the Labor Day drag race is still going strong. There is a great turnout and it provides good income for the Airport. We participate in the Business Expo every year. Most airports offer courtesy cars and now Boyne City has one. It is a vehicle that was donated by Harbor House Publishers. Between May 5 and November 8, we had 39 people use the vehicle, 62% of those uses were to go downtown Boyne City to shop or have a meal.

Airport Advisory Board

Oral Sutliff discussed the role of this Board. The number of appeals heard has dropped significantly in recent years, mostly due to having Assessor Deb Chavez more easily accessible and working directly for the City.

Board of Review

Cindy Grice spoke for this Commissioner. They meet every odd numbered year to discuss and recommend possible changes to the City Commissioner's annual compensation. This year, the board chose to keep the compensation the same as the 2013 levels, which were increased for the first time since 2001. All members of the Compensation Commissioner expressed gratitude to the Commissioner's for their hard work and all agree that the compensation is not nearly enough for what they do.

Compensation Commission

Cliff Carey discussed the shared circulation services our library offers. This years, there were 60,000 visits. Downloadable music is now offered. The library is open 54 hours per week. Kindles and iPads are offered to be checked out. The library has purchased a 3D printer. Mr. Carey provided an example of an item printed out by the printer.

Boyne District Library

Commissioner Hugh Conklin said with good leadership, there is nothing we can't do. Commissioner Sansom said it is an exciting time right now with the new facilities construction coming up. Mayor Pro-Tem Towne thanked all volunteers that work on the various boards. It wouldn't be the City that it is without these individuals. There are many projects to look forward to. Commissioner Grunch said this is a collaboration of all the supporting groups. There are a lot of cities that are trying to model after

City Commissioners

us. It's been a fun ride. Mayor Neidhamer said there are over 9 projects starting in the Spring of 2016.

Staff Comments

Public Works Superintendent Andy Kovolski said he is happy to have the new DPW building on time, on budget. It speaks volumes of the City's commitment to take care of what we have.

Assistant Planning & Zoning Director Patrick Kilkenny said he has been here for 6 months and everyone including the Boards and Commissioner work well together.

Planning Director Scott McPherson discussed the great partnerships we share with Evangeline and Wilson Townships as well.

Harbormaster Barb Brooks said the marina has been self-funded for the past 10 years and been building up a fund balance for capital projects such as replacing the shoppers dock. We are working towards a possible expansion and taking a close look at the right size for our needs.

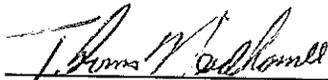
Water / Wastewater Superintendent Mark Fowler said it is great working with everyone. The recent Sommerset Point sewer extension project is nearing completion.

Police Chief Jeff Gaither discussed the new policy regarding body cameras used by officers. The small cost is the camera. Video storage is the higher cost. It's a great tool for the department. The department works well with the schools and critical incident training. Officers have random visits with schools, having lunch with student and positive contact with students. Officers volunteered their time to assist with building a soccer wall at Rotary Park. One more officer has been trained on a bicycle. We received a grant to send an officer to search and rescue school and the skills learned have been used to assist other departments already. Kyle Smith has been sent to Evidence Tech School while Dan Mercer has gone to a higher level at the Evidence Tech School. Chief Gaither also provided the list of Core Values that the Police Department is expected to live by, reflecting the Department's core values.

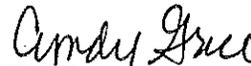
City Manager Cain said there is a common vision in Boyne City. It is everybody working together towards it.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mayor Neidhamer, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Towne to adjourn the Joint Board and City Commission meeting of December 10, 2015 at 8:25 p.m.



Tom Neidhamer
Mayor



Cindy Grice
Clerk / Treasurer