

**FEBRUARY 8, 2018
JOINT BOARD AND
COMMISSION MEETING**

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE JOINT BOARD AND BOYNE CITY COMMISSION MEETING DULY CALLED AND HELD AT CITY HALL, 319 NORTH LAKE STREET, ON THURSDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2018 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 Ron Grunch, Commissioners Hugh Conklin, Sally Page and Dean Solomon

Staff: Cindy Grice, Michael Cain, Scott McPherson, Andy Kovolski, Patrick Kilkenny, Mark Fowler, Barb Brooks and Kelsie King-Duff

Others: There were 20 citizens in attendance, including a representative from the Boyne Gazette.

**Review of City Goal Setting
for 2018**

City Manager Cain and Mayor Neidhamer welcomed those in attendance. The process for the 2018 Goal Setting was explained. Commissioner Solomon said we stand to get a greater number of people involved this year, looking for goals with more depth and direction.

**Housing
Opportunities/Challenges**

City Manager Cain discussed housing opportunities and challenges. Michael Sheean said he doesn't think people understand the need for housing in this community. Michelle Cortright said the City of Holland has a new committee and have appointed a "Housing Next Director" and are developing a policy that reflects today's world, not yesterday's world. Laura Sansom said we need short term, seasonal housing, boarding houses and guest rooms.

City Manager Cain provided a map of City owned properties, for possible opportunities. Jeff Wellman said younger, professional people don't need as much space. They want small apartments right downtown and to be within walking distance to downtown. John Cool said he thinks the answer is more multi-family housing. Boyne City School Superintendent Pat Little said the Char-Em school population has been decreasing. They are finding that more people are moving to Gaylord, due to supportive industry and transportation. The housing situation does affect the schools. Charlevoix County Transit Director Jill Drury said they see a lot of activity transit activity to the Boyne Schools. Ralph Gillette asked if there has been any discussion of tax credits to downtown building owners to renovate/create second floor housing.

Commissioner Conklin asked if anyone would be willing to serve on a housing committee. City Manager Cain said if anyone willing to serve on such a committee, they should contact him, or Clerk/Treasurer Grice.

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

Ralph Gillette reported the renewal for the LDFA TIF plan was completed. They are discussing marketing the vacant lots.

Election Commission

Clerk/Treasurer Grice discussed the role of the Election Commission. There will be three elections in 2018.

**Historical District
Commission**

Jeff Wellman said there have been no new applications discussed recently, thus the board has not met.

Laura Sansom said it has been a very exciting and productive year. A museum planner was hired for the new museum, the 100th anniversary celebration for the LaFrance fire truck was held. The new museum will try to encompass the Boyne Area.

Historic Commission

Monica Kroondyk, member of the new board complimented the great job the Historic Commission has done in the past. Gow Litzenburger added that the new board has huge shoes to fill and is honored. They will do everything to make sure the community is proud of the museum. They are currently working extra hard to set timelines.

Heritage Center Board

John Drury said they are at full capacity with a waiting list for Section 8 vouchers. HUD still rates the Housing Commission very highly, with an almost perfect grade. They are still looking at the seven acre parcel. They will be holding public input sessions before they go forward with anything. They are also not sure of implications of the new tax code.

Housing Commission

Michelle Cortright said this is the 15th anniversary for the Main Street. The National Main Street meeting will be held in Boyne City in June. A new Farm Market Manager has been hired. Main Street would also like to engage in housing discussions.

Main Street Board

John Cool said the board assists with work plans, business recruitment, business retention and expansion.

Team Boyne

Mike Sheean said many of the parks have citizen groups to provide assistance. The board is developing a plan for the space and also looking at continuing the marina expansion.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Planning Director Scott McPherson said they are looking at barriers in current ordinances. For example, lot sizes for daycares have been adjusted. The board will continue on the track of looking at barriers to perhaps address some issues in the ordinance.

Planning Commission

Pat Kubesh said the board only meets on demand. There were three meetings in 2017. Requirements to grant variances are looked at stringently.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Richard Bouters discussed the accomplishments and projects of the board. They are currently moving forward with their goal setting.

Airport Advisory Board

Clerk / Treasurer Grice said the number of petitions heard in 2017 was the lowest in her history working with the Board. This could be due to the stabilization of values.

Board of Review

Clerk / Treasurer Grice said when the board met this year, they recommended an increase in the Mayor's salary from \$3,000 / year to \$3,250 and the Commission salary from \$2,500 to \$2,700. The City Commission approved the board's recommendation. The board will meet again in 2019.

Compensation Commission

- Boyne District Library** New director Monica Kroondyk said the Boyne Reads for April 16 will be The Art of Racing in the Rain. This year marks the 100th Birthday of the Library. There is a 100 book reading challenge taking place. A bookmobile is going to be launched.
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- Boyne City Public Schools** Superintendent Pat Little offered thanks to the City and community for being partners with the schools. They are currently discussing the possibility of working with Great Lakes Energy on a lineman/utility program.
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- Boyne Area Chamber of Commerce** Director Ashley Cousens said a new office manager has been hired. Lisa Luebke will be starting next week. The board is undergoing strategic planning. They are working on upcoming community events.
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- Charlevoix County Transit** Director Jill Drury said they are offering evening service on weekends. They are also using smaller vehicles. The bigger busses are used only during peak hours. They are looking at propane powered vehicles vs gas or diesel. Their biggest hurdle right now is drivers.
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- City Commission** Mayor Neidhamer discussed the many accomplishments of the past years, including moving into our new facilities, the fishing pier, marina extension, new trails, the Dog Park walkway and tennis court upgrades.
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- ADJOURNMENT** Moved by Mayor Neidhamer, seconded by Commissioner Page to adjourn the Joint Board and City Commission meeting of February 8, 2018 at 8:03 p.m.



 Tom Neidhamer
 Mayor



 Cindy Glice
 Clerk / Treasurer