

MINUTES  
Town of Bowdoinham  
Select Board & Board of Assessors Meeting  
August 28, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

1. Call the Meeting to Order & Establish a Quorum

The meeting was called to order and quorum established by Board-Chair Peter Lewis at 5:30 p.m. Select Board members Peter Lewis, Jeremy Cluchey, Thomas Walling, and Judy Gray, were present. Board Member David Engler was not in attendance. Staff present was Town Manager William Post. Also in attendance was Guy Lebida, who is running for State Representative.

2. Amendments to the Agenda – Item 4.F

3. Approve Consent Calendar

A. Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2018

B. Warrants and Financial Reports:

1. Treasurer's Warrant #15 for \$60,354.61

2. July Expense Report

C. Reports and Communications

1. Town Clerk & Registrar of Voters July Activity Report

2. Intern Project Report

D. Quit Claim Deed(s)

1. Patricia and Allen Huntington

**On motion of Cluchey/Walling, the Board voted 3-0-1, with Board Chair Peter Lewis abstaining, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.**

4. Action Items

A. Act on Sagadahoc County Assessors Return for FY2019

The Manager stated that this is the assessors return for the county tax commitment that must be approved by the Board each year.

**On motion of Gray/Cluchey, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the Sagadahoc County Assessors Return as presented.**

B. Act on Citizen of the Year

The Manager stated that he would like to keep this confidential until the award is presented at the upcoming Celebrate Bowdoinham event. Included in the materials, for the Board's review, is a list of citizens who were nominated. The Manager also included the supporting documentation for those nominations. The Manager asked that the Board vote by number as to keep the winner's name confidential.

**On motion of Cluchey/Walling, the Board voted 4-0 to award the 2018 Citizen of the Year to candidate number 6.**

C. Act on Public Works Light-Duty Truck Purchase

The Manager informed the Board that the Town received several bids to replace the 2008 GMC 5500 truck. This purchase was approved at Town Meeting in June with a budgeted amount of \$100,000. Included in the material for the Board's review are the two bids that meet the Town's timeline. There were several other bids received, but included a delivery time of four to six months. This does not work for the Town as the truck is needed for this winter. The Manager and the Public Works Foreman both recommend the Town purchase the 2018 Ford F550 with HP Fairfield equipment as specified for a cost of \$96,528. The Manager is also not recommending that our current vehicle be traded as the Town was only offered \$10,000 for the trade and feels that it could be sold outright for more.

**On motion of Cluchey/Walling, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the purchase of a 2018 Ford F550 with HP Fairfield equipment for a cost of \$96,528 as recommended.**

D. Act of Support Letter for Merrymeeting Community Center Grant

The Manager stated that the Bowdoinham Historical Society is applying for a grant for the rehabilitation of the former grange hall. The Manager has written a letter of support for the Board to consider for the Historical Society. Board Member Gray suggested some language changes. The Board members discussed possible edits to the verbiage and came up with added verbiage to which they all agreed.

**On motion of Cluchey/Gray, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the support letter as edited for the Merrymeeting Community Center grant application.**

E. Set Tax Rate for FY2019

The Manager informed the Board that he is still waiting on further information from CMP on their declared valuation. The Manager and the Assessors' Agent had questions for CMP due to a decrease in their declared valuation of approximately \$1.5 million. Based on the current information available from CMP the Manager prepared a list of possible tax rates. If the valuation from CMP changes before the next meeting, the Manager stated that he would update the rates and provide a new list of possible rates to the Board. He is recommending a tax rate of \$17.20 per \$1,000 of valuation resulting in an overlay of approximately \$25,000. This results in an increase of 2.08%. The school assessment increased by 4.3% and inflation was 1.7% last year. The Manager and the Board agreed to table the discussion on the setting of the tax rate and discussed possible meeting times for the following week at which time they will finalize the tax rate for FY2019.

F. Act on Sale of Surplus Fire Truck

The Manager contacted several island communities about purchasing our Town's surplus fire truck. Monhegan Island expressed interest in purchasing the 1988 Ford F350 and has offered to buy it for \$4,000. The Manager and the Fire Chief are recommending that the Town sell this truck to Monhegan Island for \$4,000. This would help out the community of Monhegan Island and would replace their 1964 fire truck.

**On motion of Cluchey/Walling, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the sale of the surplus fire truck to Monhegan Island for the price of \$4,000.**

5. Town Manager's Report

The Town received a dividend check back from the Maine Municipal Association Property and Casualty Risk Pool, which is our insurance carrier, in the amount of \$1,183.00. This was returned to us because the risk pool did well over the previous year.

The ledge has been removed from the new Public Works Facility site. The Town has been using the ledge on the Carding Machine Road project for bank stabilization. In addition, the arches for the sand and salt shed should be going up tomorrow.

A resident brought a mattress to the recycling barn that was infested with bed bugs. They also brought in linens for the Thrift Shop. Both the mattress and the linens were removed. An exterminator was called and will be coming next Thursday to decide on a course of action.

The Manager will potentially be attending a national conference the week of September 25<sup>th</sup> which conflicts with the Select Board Meeting scheduled for that evening. He informed the Board that they could meet without him if necessary or possibly re-schedule the meeting for the following week.

7. Select Board Member's Request for Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Due to Board Member Engler not being present at the meeting tonight there are two discussion items that will be placed on the agenda for the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting when the full Board is present.

8. Announce Future Select Board Meetings

A. September 11<sup>th</sup> – Regular Meeting

B. September 25<sup>th</sup> – Regular Meeting

9. Comments from Select Board Members

Board Member Walling asked about the assessment for the Town Hall Building. The Manager stated that the architect had finished the assessment and is now working on the design phase. The Manager expects to hear something from him by mid-to-end of September.

Board Chair Lewis asked about the timeline for the Waterfront Redevelopment Project. The Manager stated that he attended a kick off meeting several weeks ago and will forward the information from that meeting to the Board.

Vice-Chair Cluchey commented on the work that our intern, Rodger Heidgerken, had completed during his internship. He was very pleased with the amount of work Rodger accomplished and that the Town acquired an immense value from having Rodger here this summer. The Manager agreed and added that not only did Rodger complete many

projects for the Town he was very thorough as well. The Manager added it was a very valuable experience for the Town.

10. Comments from the Public

Guy Lebida, a resident of Bowdoin, is running for State Representative for the Towns of Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, and Richmond. He stated to the Board that he is preparing and gathering information from the Towns in the event he is elected. He explained he is reaching out to understand what the areas of concern are for our Town and how he can help. Town Manager Post explained to Mr. Lebida that there are many areas of concern beginning with revenue sharing and restoring it to previous levels. Increasing property taxes are also of concern. The Manager pointed out that if revenue sharing were restored to the previous level of 5% rather than the current 2% the Town would gain approximately \$300,000 which would make a considerable decrease on the tax rate for the residents. Uncontrolled costs coming from the school budget as a result of a lack of state funding is another area of concern. Mr. Lebida asked what percentage of our budget is applied to the School Budget. Vice-Chair Cluchey responded it was 67%. Mr. Lebida stated he is looking forward to getting together with the Manager after the election to discuss these issues.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 6:12 p.m.

Select Board  
Town of Bowdoinham, Maine

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Peter Lewis, Chair

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Jeremy Cluchey, Vice-Chair

Absent  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Engler

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judith Gray

\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas Walling

Respectfully Submitted,

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Patricia Frederick, Administrative Assistant