

MINUTES
Town of Bowdoinham
Special Select Board Meeting
September 4, 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 David Engler were present. Board Member Judy Gray was not in attendance. Staff present was Town Manager William Post.

2. Action Items

A. Set Tax Rate for FY2019

The Manager stated that the Town has finalized the assessment numbers and has received the necessary information from CMP regarding their declared valuation. The minimum tax rate has to be \$17.08 and the maximum allowed can be \$17.93. The reason for the range is that the Town is allowed by state statute to have up to a 5% overlay. This community uses the overlay to cover abatements throughout the year. Historically, the Town is in the \$25,000 range for overlay funding. Last year the Town used \$57,000 to fund the overlay.

Board Member Engler inquired as what would happen if the overlay fund came up short. The Manager stated that there would need to be a special Town meeting called, in order for the residents to approve the use of funds from the undesignated fund balance to cover the shortage. He also stated that the \$8,000 in the Town's contingency fund could be used if that were to happen.

The Manager is comfortable with recommending a tax rate of \$17.15. Chair Lewis asked the Manager if the school budget increase of 4.2% was the main reason for the increase in the tax rate. The Manager responded that essentially it was but mentioned there was also an increase in the municipality budget of 6%. However, he mentioned that the Town's revenue increased 8%, which means that the net the Town needs to collect in taxes is up 2.5% overall for municipal expenses. This equates to approximately \$40,000. In looking ahead to next year, the Manager is expecting an increase in valuations which should offset the school budget increase somewhat.

On motion of Cluchey/Engler, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the tax rate of \$17.15 for FY2019.

3. Comments from Select Board Members

Board Member Engler wanted to note for the record that the Town lost a really good man with the passing of Dave Acker last month. Engler went on to say that he was a generous man that helped many people and he will be greatly missed.

Board Member Engler also suggested that the Board present Intern Rodger Heidgerken with a letter of thanks to express appreciation for the good work he did. The Manager

stated he would put that letter together for the Board to sign. The Manager informed the Board that the Town did present Rodger with some parting gifts.

4. Comments from the Public- None

5. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 5:43 p.m.

Select Board
Town of Bowdoinham, Maine

Peter Lewis, Chair

Jeremy Cluchey, Vice-Chair

David Engler

Absent

Judith Gray

Thomas Walling

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Frederick, Administrative Assistant