

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM

SELECT BOARD MEETING

MINUTES



Date: October 10, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm

I. **Call Meeting to Order and Establish a Quorum**

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established by Select Board Chair, Peter Lewis, at 6:30 p.m. Select Board members participating were Peter Lewis, Mark Favreau, Deb Smith, Allen Acker, Peter Feeney and Nicole Briand, Town Manager.

II. **Amendments to the Agenda**

Lewis asked for a moment of silence for the bombings in Israel.

III. **Comments from the Public- None**

IV. **Approval of Consent Calendar**

A. Meeting Minutes

1. September 26, 2023

B. Warrants & Financial Reports

1. Treasurer's Warrant #7
2. September's Financial Reports

C. Reports and Communications

1. Sagadahoc Sheriff's September Incident Report

Favreau moved the Board approve the Consent Calendar, as presented; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

V. **Public Hearing**

A. Recycling Facility Reports

Convened 6:50 pm. Adjourned 7:00 pm.

- Nora Bishop told the Board she was not able to download the reports from home due to technical difficulties. Favreau gave her his copy. Lewis told her that after she looked at if she had questions, she could ask Briand.
- Hank Ogilby asked what the objective of this public hearing was and how the Board will proceed. Lewis said currently the Board did not have a specific plan. Ogilby said the reports are quite extensive and asked if there would be a summary available to the public. He said his understanding from looking at the reports is that Pond Road was about 2 million and the barn around 3 million with 50-80,000 of maintenance. Lewis stated that they previously have had 2 meetings with B & L who gave summaries of their findings in the reports. Ogilby said he wasn't talking about their presentations he was asking if there would be a digestible snapshot made available to the public. Not

everyone will read all the reports or understand them. He wants to make sure this information gets out to a broader audience so that the citizens will be informed.

- Melinda Norko expressed how she grew up in Bowdoinham and remembers going to the Barn with her father and her father telling her it wasn't safe. As a town she feels we have put enough money into investigations, the reports all come back with the same conclusions. As a person who has spent her whole life in town and has been to both sites, she feels we have lost sight. It is about the recycling program not the location. She knows the town loves to hold on to history but what we have today on Pond Road meets the needs but admits it needs growth. She felt that the Town could incorporate some of the suggestions in the report. She said she feels we need to move forward without the fancy bells and whistles on Pond Road because we own that property, and it will provide us with what we need with room for growth.
- Miguel Betancourt said that the environmental reports on Post Road concerned him and asked the Board what the towns current commitment was on that property? Lewis told him that currently the town has no commitment to the Post Road property. Mr. Betancourt then asked where does the town go from here and if they were getting feed back from other citizens and what was the Boards next task? Lewis said that the next task will be determined after the public hearing and to make sure the expectation of services for the town are met. Betancourt asked what the cost per square foot would be and that he did not feel that Pond Road needed to be as big as recommended. Favreau replied that they don't have the cost per square foot, but Pond Road could be done in stages with small improvements, or we could vote as the Board and continue as we are.
- Susan Drucker said she liked the idea of improving Pond Road in stages but was concerned about the wetlands that border the property. Briand explained that the town has storm water permits and if they proceeded the town would have to apply for additional permits. She added that there are uplands where they could develop. Ms. Drucker thanked her and hoped that protecting the wetlands would be a priority.
- Nora Bishop asked about trash pickup and if current party stopped doing it would they find someone else. Also, she felt the town needed to provide trash and recycling. If it could be one location or picked up roadside.

VI. Discussion Items

A. North East Mobile Health Services Quarterly Report

A representative from North East Mobile along with a representative from Lisbon joined the Board to answer questions they had regarding the last quarter's ambulance service.

Favreau directed a question to Lisbon. Stating that 90% of the time their response time was good but there were a few times the response time was longer. He wanted to know the reason why this happens, besides weather conditions, so that as the Town moves forward there are areas they should look to possible address and improve upon.

The Lisbon rep did not know the specific situations but explained that if they were coming from the hospital when the call came in it would take longer than if they were coming from their headquarters.

The North East rep explained how they rank calls by the emergency type. A sprained ankle would not be as critical as a heart attack.

Favreau thanked them and said it was good information to know moving forward.

Acker asked how they paid alternate responders, like Lisbon and Topsham.

North East explained that Lisbon is in contract with them and they get a paid monthly and then so much per call. Other towns like Topsham bill them per call.

Favreau explained that he looked at North East as the administrative party for the town. They handle calls, bill insurance and work with Lisbon and other towns on Bowdoinham's behalf until there is a better solution.

B. Town Hall Request for Proposals

Feeney was concerned that the scope of the proposal was too general. He felt they needed to decide what they were going to do first. He also went on to say that he had brought other contractors to look at the building because of the limited access to see the extent of what is going on underneath they really need to open part of the floor to get a better view.

Briand explained the purpose of the proposal was to give the Town options and answer the community's question on what the options will cost. This is what the town folks wanted to know.

Favreau agreed that opening part of the floor so contractors could see what they would be dealing with was a good idea. He felt it would also give a better chance for bids.

Briand said she would see about getting a section of floor opened and add some more structure to the proposal.

VII. Action Items

A. Act on Acceptance of Community Resilience Grant

Our Community Resilience Partnership Community Action Grant application for \$50,000 for a portion of the waterfront project. This is a non-matching grant which is rare.

Favreau moved the Board accept the Community Resilience Partnership Community Action Grant and authorize the Town Manager to sign the grant contract for \$50,000; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

B. Act on Committee and Board Appointments

Favreau moved the Board appoint Melinda Norko to the: Board of Appeals for a term of office of October 10, 2023 to June 30, 2028, and Emergency Medical Services Committee for a term of office of October 10, 2023, to June 30, 2025; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

C. Act on FY2024 Abatements

Favreau moved the Board approve the Certificate of Abatement for FY24 Property Tax Abatement #1 in the amount of \$6440.85, as presented; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

Favreau moved the Board approve the Certificate of Abatement for FY24 Property Tax Abatement #2 in the amount of \$76.05, as presented; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

Favreau moved the Board approve the Certificate of Abatement for FY24 Property Tax Abatement #3 in the amount of \$2080.65, as amended; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

Favreau moved the Board approve the Certificate of Abatement for FY24 Property Tax Abatement #4 in the amount of \$117.00, as amended; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

Favreau moved the Board approve the Certificate of Abatement for FY24 Property Tax Abatement #5 in the amount of \$832.75, as presented; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

Favreau moved the Board approve the Certificate of Abatement for FY24 Property Tax Abatement #6 in the amount of \$25.35, as presented; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

Favreau moved the Board approve the Certificate of Abatement for FY24 Property Tax Abatement #7 in the amount of \$900.70, as presented; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

Favreau moved the Board approve the Certificate of Abatement for FY24 Property Tax Abatement #8 in the amount of \$1563.90, as amended; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

D. Act on FY2024 Supplement

Favreau moved the Board approve FY2024 Supplemental Assessment #1 for in the amount of \$2614.00 as presented; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

VIII. Town Manager's Report

- We have two new full-time public works employees that started today.
- We've also removed our request for proposals for winter maintenance.
- We've advertised for the harbor master position and a request for trash hauling services proposals.
- We'll be advertising for audit services this week.
- We've completed the purchase of our streetlights from CMP, and once we have CMP's approval for the streetlight changes, Affinity will be able to complete the project.
- We've requested two additional proposals from Affinity, one to address the lighting in the stairways and the second to address our outside lighting.
- The heat pump installation is currently scheduled for October 19th and 20th.
- Bedard Excavation should be back to complete the waterfront next week, this phase of construction should be completed by November 1st. Paving is scheduled for this Friday.

IX. Announce Future Select Board Meetings

A. October 24, 2023 – Regular Meeting

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

- Recycling Facility action item
- Discussion on moving the June Town Meeting.

XI. Comments from the Select Board Members - None

XII. Adjourn

Adjournment was at 7:41 p.m.

Select Board
Town of Bowdoinham, Maine


Peter Lewis, Chair


Mark Favreau, Vice-Chair



Debra Smith



Allen Acker

Peter Feeney

Respectfully Submitted,



Lisa-Marie Curtis, Administrative Assistant