

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: April 29, 2025
Time: 5:30 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, Joanne Joy, at 5:30 p.m. Select Board members participating were Joanne Joy, Mark Favreau, Allen Acker, Peter Feeney, Jason Hodde and Nicole Briand, Town Manager.

II. Amendments to the Agenda- None

III. Comments from the Public - None

IV. Action Items

A. Act on Land Use Ordinance Amendment – Automobile Service Station

Acker moved the Board approve, “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Revise Automobile Service Station Use-Specific Performance Standards” be placed on the June 11, 2025 Town Meeting Warrant: seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.

Favreau moved the Board recommend Land Use Ordinance to Revise Automobile Service Station Use-Specific Performance Standards to pass: seconded by Feeney. No vote was taken.

The Board discussed their concerns with this revision. They agreed that they felt this revision should be on the Town Warrant for the citizens to discuss and decide but they were undecided. Hodde felt that there are other places in the ordinance to prevent gas plazas. An amended motion was made.

Favreau moved the Board make no recommendation for the Land Use Ordinance to Revise Automobile Service Station Use-Specific Performance Standards: seconded by Feeney. Vote was 5-0.

B. Act on June 11, 2025 Town Meeting Warrant

Acker moved the Board approve the Town Meeting Warrant for June 11, 2025, as adjusted by the Board; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.

V. Comments from the Public

Sally Cluchey, State Representative, addressed the Board to explain the People’s Veto Effort. She said the State passed a budget on March 18th, so that Towns and Schools would know that they would still be receiving funding. One of the Representatives was not happy with the Budget and initiated a Peoples Veto. He has 90 days to collect apx. 68,000 signatures. If the required signatures are gathered by June 18th, it will halt the budget and shut down State government until the November election. She added that the effort had little funding and that she did not feel they would collect the required signatures in time for it to happen.

Joy thanked Cluchey for sharing the information with the Board. She then asked the board members if this information affected their recommendation on the Fire Department Solar Project.

Acker expressed that this did not change his mind about the situation. If enough signatures are collected the Town needs to be able to continue operating without State funding. Though he supports the project he does not feel tapping into the Undesignated Fund at this time is a good idea. Favreau added that it is not just State funding that could be affected, there are unknowns in Federal funds also which he feels makes this an inconvenient time to be taking from the Fund to use on other projects. Hodde agreed with Acker and Favreau.

Feeney asked if they could change their previous motion to no recommendation.

Briand told the Board that they could add language that if approved could allow the Board to wait to sign a contract until funding issues were addressed. She also reminded the Board that the project would be paid in stages not all at once.

David Asmussen of the Comprehensive Planning Committee addressed the Board. He said that the committee recommended that this project pass. It supports the Town's Vision statement.


Favreau asked him as a citizen if this were not being funded by the Undesignated Fund and \$100,000 was added to the budget causing an increase in his taxes would he still be in support of the project? Asmussen said the Committee was looking to the future and the project would supply future savings. As a person who has a solar array and has seen the benefits, he would still support it.

Feeney moved the Board to change their recommendation for Article 12 to no recommendation; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 3-2. Favreau & Acker opposed.


VI. Adjourn

Adjournment was at 6:06 p.m.

Select Board
Town of Bowdoinham, Maine



Joanne Joy, Chair



Mark Favreau, Vice-Chair

Jason Hodde


Allen Acker

Peter Feeney

Respectfully Submitted,



Lisa-Marie Curtis, Administrative Assistant