

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: September 23, 2025

Time: 6:00 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 6:00 pm. Select Board members participating were Joanne Joy, Mark Favreau, Jason Hodde, Allen Acker, and Nicole Briand, Town Manager. Pete Feeny was absent.

II. Amendments to the Agenda

Action Item E. Application for Tree Subcommittee Member

III. Comments from the Public - None

IV. Approval of Consent Calendar

A. Meeting Minutes

1. September 9, 2025
2. September 16, 2025

B. Warrants & Financial Reports

1. FY26 Treasurer's Warrant #6

C. Reports and Communications

1. Lisbon Emergency, Inc. August Report
2. School Board's Community Use of School Facilities Update Letter

Favreau moved the Board approve the Consent Calendar, as presented; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

V. Public Hearing

Convened 6:03 pm. Adjourned 6:16 pm.

A. General Assistance Ordinance Appendices

Briand explained to the Board that the State requires towns to administer GA programs. They create a model ordinance that the Town then adopts. The Town is required to have a public hearing before adopting.

There were no comments from the public regarding this matter.

B. Municipal Officers' Order for Pratt Road Maintenance Warrant Article

- James Marciano asked what the plan for Pratt Road was after the November election, stating his desire to see the question to maintain the road on the Town Meeting ballot. Briand explained that after the November election the Board needs to discuss the future of Pratt Road. She went on to say that she had sent letters to property owners asking what they desired to do moving forward. Marciano asked what was being done to educate people on what they were voting for this time. Acker said that there was an explanation on the ballot for November.

- Joy read the question as worded on the November ballot.
- Scott Connley asked the Board the difference between abandoned and discontinued roads. He stated that his house has been on the road for over 30 years and asked if that nullified the discontinuance. Acker responded that it was discontinued in 1978 and activity on the road since then does not null and void that status.
- Kelly Weaver was concerned with the wording; she said that she believed there are more residents than previously stated by the Board. She also asked the Board where the law was written about maintaining the road.
- Rebbecca Connley asked the Board if it was ok for them to put up signs to inform people about the vote? Joy told her that it was legitimate for them to educate people.
- Joy informed those in attendance and those watching that this issue as well as other issues that are discussed at Select Board meetings are posted prior to meetings on the Town's Website. She encouraged folks to view the materials prior to the meetings whenever there is an issue on the agenda they have interest in.
- Acker read the State of Maine Statute pertaining to maintenance of discontinued roads.

VI. Action Items

A. Act on General Assistance Ordinance Appendices

Favreau moved the Board approve the General Assistance Ordinance Appendices, as presented; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

B. Act on Municipal Officers' Order for Pratt Road Maintenance Warrant Article Public Hearing

Favreau moved the Board held a public hearing pursuant to 30-A M.R.S. § 2528(5) on Tuesday, September 23th at 6:00 pm to hear public comment on the following November 4th Warrant Article: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to conduct winter maintenance for the 2025-2026 winter season on a 0.19-mile section of Pratt Road that is currently discontinued?

The public notice was posted seven days prior to the public hearing at the Town Hall, Public Library and on the Town's website; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

C. Act on Cemetery Reserve Request – Volunteer Appreciation Event

The Committee is requesting up to \$400 from the reserve for their volunteer appreciation event.

Favreau moved the Board approve expending up to \$400 from the Cemetery Reserve for our Cemetery Volunteers Appreciation Event; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

D. Act on Town Meeting Date

Favreau moved the Board set the FY26-27 Town Meeting for Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 6:00 pm; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

E. Act on Committee Appointment

Favreau moved the Board appoint Carl Roland to the Tree Plan Ad Hoc Committee for a term of September 23, 2025, to June 30, 2026; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

VII. **Town Manager's Report**

- Bulky Waste Day is Saturday October 4th.
- Tax bills have been sent to the printers; we expect property owners to receive them next week.
- The Town will be working with RJD Appraisal to determine the revaluation process so that we can provide updates to residents.
- Legal has strongly advised against providing additional information regarding the write-in voting process.
- The Finance Advisory Committee had their first meeting for the FY26-27 budget season on September 17th. The Committee needs two new members.
- The flooring installation has been scheduled for September 29th, 30th and October 1st.
- Dingley Road construction is scheduled for November.
- The retaining wall work is also scheduled for November.
- We have reissued the Riverview (Yellow) House Mitigation Assessment & Design project proposals are due Monday, September 29, 2025.
- Town Hall is continuing to move along. New wiring has been installed; the new lighting fixtures will be installed after the interior is painted. To be completed: heat pumps, trim work, painting, plumbing, door installation, new access deck with ramp and back deck with stairs, pathway paving, kitchenette (counters with a sink, refrigerator and a microwave), attic work, chair racks, chairs/tables, and supply orders.
- Public Work's two part-time employees, Jim and Stacey, will be done for the season. They started in May and worked through September.

VIII. **Comments from Select Board Members**

Acker stated that before they spoke to RJD Appraisal to determine the revaluation process he would like a detailed explanation of how the error occurred regarding the incorrect information they were given to set the mil rate. He felt that this was a process they do all the time and should not have happened. Other Board members expressed their desire to know how the error happened and what steps RJD have taken to change their processes to ensure such mistakes do not happen in the future. Joy suggested something in writing would be helpful before they were here on other business. Briand said she would talk to them.

IX. **Announce Future Select Board Meetings**

- A. October 14, 2025, at 6:30 pm – Regular Meeting
- B. October 28, 2025, at 6:30 pm - Regular Meeting

X. **Comments from the Public**

- James Marciano let the Board know of his disapproval with MSAD 75 wanting to charge the Town for use of the facilities. He felt that the Town paid enough in taxes to the schools that they should not be trying to charge the Town additional funds. He commented that the Town has had to learn to do more with less and that the school needed to learn to do the same. Joy suggested Marciano contact Bowdoinham's two school representatives and let them know how he felt. Acker told Marciano he would be attending the next School Board meeting to address this issue and invited him to join him. He also shared with him the letter the Board was sending to the School Board addressing their disapproval of the additional charges.

- Shelly said the School Board meeting was on September 25th at 6:30 pm and the Facilities meeting was at 5 pm.

XI. Executive Session

- A. Convene in Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(E) to consult with Town Attorney regarding the Land Use Ordinance violations at 1441 River Road.

Convened 6:45 pm. Adjourned 6:58 pm.

Favreau moved the Board enter Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6) (E) to consult with the Town Attorney regarding the Land Use Ordinance violations at 1441 River Road; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

Favreau moved the Board leave executive session; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

Acker moved the Board authorize the Code Enforcement Officer to work with the Town's Attorney to commence 80K Court Proceedings to address the Land Use Ordinance Violations at 1441 River Road; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0.

- B. Convene in Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(E) to consult with Town Attorney regarding the Land Use Ordinance violations at 780 Ridge Road.

Convened 6:59 pm. Adjourned 7:20 pm.

Acker moved the Board enter Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6) (E) to consult with the Town Attorney regarding Land Use Ordinance violations at 780 Ridge Road; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0.

Acker moved the Board leave executive session; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0.

Acker moved the Board authorize the Code Enforcement Officer to work with the Town's Attorney to commence 80K Court Proceedings to address the Land Use Ordinance Violations at 780 Ridge Road; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

- C. Convene in Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(E) to consult with Town Attorney regarding the Public Works Facility.

Convened 7:21 pm. Adjourned 7:46 pm.

Acker moved the Board enter Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6) (E) to consult with Town Attorney regarding the Public Works Facility; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0.

Acker moved the Board leave executive session; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0.

No action was taken.

- D. Convene in Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(E) to consult with Town Attorney regarding the discontinuance of the old Hatch Road (access road to landfill).

Convened 7:47 pm. Adjourned 8:03 pm.

Hodde moved the Board enter Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6) (E) to consult with Town Attorney regarding the discontinuance of the old Hatch Road; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0.

Hodde moved the Board leave executive session; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0.

Favreau moved the Board authorize the Town Manager to work with the Town's Attorney to initiate the road discontinuance process for Hatch Road, with keeping a public easement; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

E. Convene in Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(E) to consult with Town Attorney regarding pending Gallant court proceedings.

Convened 8:04 pm. Adjourned 8:12 pm.

Acker moved the Board enter Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6) (E) to consult with Town Attorney regarding Gallant court proceedings; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0.

Acker moved the Board leave executive session; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0.

No action was taken.

F. Convene in Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(C) to discuss the acquisition of property of interest.

Convened 8:13 pm. Adjourned 8:16 pm.

Acker moved the Board enter Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6) (C) to discuss the acquisition of property of interest; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0.

Favreau moved the Board leave executive session; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0.

No action was taken.

XII. Adjourn

Adjournment was at 8:17 p.m.

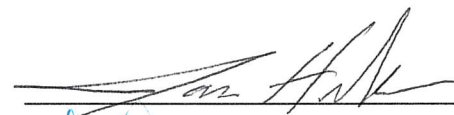
Select Board
Town of Bowdoinham, Maine



Joanne Joy, Chair



Mark Favreau, Vice Chair



Jason Hodde



Allen Acker

Peter Feeney

Respectfully Submitted,



Lisa-Marie Curtis, Administrative Assistant