

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM

SELECT BOARD MEETING

MINUTES



Date: October 22, 2024

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, Joanne Joy, at 6:30 pm. Select Board members participating were Joanne Joy, Deb Smith, Mark Favreau, Allen Acker, Peter Feeney and Nicole Briand, Town Manager.

II. Amendments to the Agenda

5.H Act on Holiday Festival

5.I Act on Pine Tree Engineering Contract for 2025 Road Work

III. Comments from the Public

Will Waldron told the Board about his code violations, and he thought the Board previously voting to move to the Town Attorney was unjust. He felt that the Board did not have all the facts and said that all the boats on his property belonged to him, not a business.

Joy told Mr. Waldron that the Board had already voted on this issue. The Town Attorney will sort out the definitions and any other information he has should be given to the attorney for review.

Justin Schlawn expressed his concerns with cutting trees in the cemetery and asked if the action item could be tabled until they held a public hearing on the matter.

Scott McFarland introduced himself as an environmental historian. He expressed his concerns about cutting the trees as they are a part of the Town's history.

IV. Approval of Consent Calendar

A. Meeting Minutes

1. October 8, 2024

B. Warrants & Financial Reports

1. Treasurer's Warrant #8

C. Reports and Communications

1. Maine Revenue Services- Proposed 2025 State Valuation

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

V. Action Items

A. Act on Notice of Violation

The Code Enforcement Officer informed the Board that this issue had been resolved and no action is required by the Board.

B. Act on Property Tax Abatement 1, 2 & 3

Acker moved the Board approve Property Tax Abatements 1, 2 and 3; seconded by Feeney. Vote was 5-0.

C. Act on Debt Service Budget

Acker moved the Board approve the proposed Debt Service budget changes and authorize the Town Manager to pay off both the excavator and Camden National Bond; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.

D. Act on Village Cemetery Trees

There was a lot of discussion from the Board and the public concerning the cemetery trees marked for removal.

Elaine Diaz, a member of the Cemetery Committee and Historical Society, said that the trees are at the end of their life and causing damage to monuments in the cemetery. She said she understands the sentiment of legacy trees, but these have reached the end of their life and are rotting. She feels they should be taken down before they cause more damage.

Feeney said he had looked at the trees and some of them are in bad shape. He asked Briand about pruning. She responded that pruning was not recommended and that trees 1-4 were in the worst condition.

Smith said that she understood honoring the trees, but they needed to look at the potential damage to stones and the cost to replace them. The stones honor those buried there. She also felt that the Town should put together a plan to maintain and evaluate other legacy trees and preserve them as long as they could.

Favreau said he trusted the arborist and that these trees should be taken down.

Acker said he was torn but believed they should do a public walk though.

Acker moved the Board table Acting on Village Cemetery Trees until a public hearing/site plan walk through is scheduled; seconded by Smith. Vote was 5-0.

E. Act on Town Office Electrical Work

Acker moved the Board approve funding from the Town Office/Town Hall Reserve for electrical improvements at the Town Office; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.

F. Act on Town Hall Electrical Work

Acker moved the Board contract with Frederick Electric, LLC to install the new electric service at Town Hall; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.

G. Act on Cocktail Mary Catering Permit

Cocktail Mary, LLC is requesting approval of their catering permit for a private event at Dandelion Spring Farm for Dandelion Spring's Dark Days Winter Carnival.

Acker moved the Board approve the application for a catering permit for Cocktail Mary, LLC, as presented; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.

H. **Act on Holiday Festival**

Acker moved the Board approve the Holiday Festival event; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.

I. **Act on Pine Tree Engineering Contract for 2025 Road Work**

The Board reviewed a proposed contract amendment for Pine Tree Engineering to assist the Town with its 2025 Road Paving projects, including planning, bidding, and construction administration.

Acker moved the Board authorize funding from the Public Works Reserve and approve Pine Tree Engineering's Contract Amendment No. 3 in the amount of \$23,000 for the Town's 2025 Paving projects and authorize the Town Manager to sign the contract; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.

VI. **Town Manager's Report**

Town Office Closures:

- Elections – Tuesday, November 5th
- Parking Lot Paving – November 5th-7th
- Veterans' Day – Monday, November 11th
- Thanksgiving – Noon on Wednesday, November 27th thru Friday, November 29th
(The Office will open at 8 am on Wednesday November 27th.)

Elections are Tuesday, November 5th at the Bowdoinham Community School from 8am to 8pm. The last day to request an absentee ballot, without exception, is October 31st.

Absentee ballots must be received by the close of the polls (8pm on November 5th).

The Town Hall project – Town Hall is on its new foundation. Now, the foundation can be sprayed Tourtelotte Excavating will complete their site work, and the infill concrete work will be done. The sill and floor replacement will happen in the spring. The Town is developing the scope of work for the roof and siding.

Maine-ly Paving has completed their road paving. The subcontractor will complete the gravel shoulders and driveway transitions next week.

Four Town employees attended a 30-hour OSHA training last week.

VII. **Announce Future Select Board Meetings**

- A. November 5, 2024 at 4pm – Village Cemetery Meeting
- B. November 12, 2024 – Regular Meeting
- C. November 26, 2024 – Regular Meeting

VIII. **Comments & Agenda Request from Select Board Members**

Joy and the Board members thanked Deb Smith for her service on the Board.

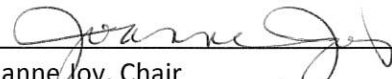
Smith said her goodbyes, thanked the Board members and gave a special thank you to Favreau and Briand for all the help they gave her navigating the position when she started.

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

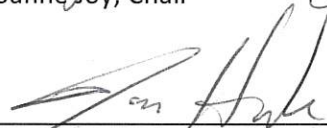
X. **Adjourn**

Adjournment was at 7:36 pm.

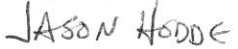
Select Board
Town of Bowdoinham, Maine



Joanne Joy, Chair




Debra Smith, Vice-Chair

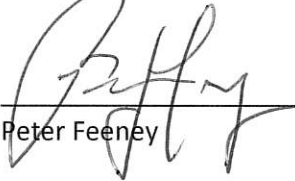

JASON HODDE



Mark Favreau

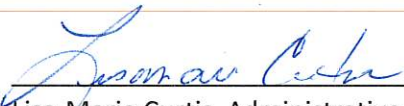


Allen Acker



Peter Feeney

Respectfully Submitted,



Lisa-Marie Curtis, Administrative Assistant