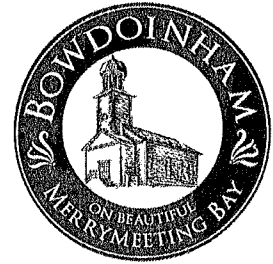


# TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM

## SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: March 24, 2026

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, Mark Favreau, Jason Hodde, Allen Acker, Shelley Hooper and Nicole Briand, Town Manager.

### II. Amendments to the Agenda

6.E. Personal Property Tax Abatements

### III. Comments from the Public

Chris Vonderweidt (White Road) addressed the Board regarding the policy for citizen emails sent to the Select Board. He expressed concern for not receiving notification that his email would be part of the meeting. Joy explained that Select Board members cannot discuss or respond to such communications outside of a posted meeting, as emails involving two or more members constitutes a meeting. Mr. Vonderweidt stated that this policy should be made clear on the Town website. Joy indicated the Town would investigate adding guidance on contacting Select Board members. Communications are included in the Consent Calendar and are not always discussed unless specifically brought forward.

### IV. Approval of Consent Calendar

#### A. Meeting Minutes

1. March 10, 2026

#### B. Warrants & Financial Reports

1. Treasurer's Warrant #18

#### C. Reports and Communications

1. Lisbon Emergency Medical Services

2. Citizen Communication

Acker asked if March 10, 2026, Minutes could be revised stating he was in error at the last meeting discussion of Blanchard Road, he should have abstained not voted. "I should not have voted at all. I was not against the Blanchard Road which my vote indicated. I was against our vote having any authority to approve that authority. I should have correctly abstained from the vote instead of voting against the motion." Joy said that the March 10<sup>th</sup> Minutes could not be changed but that his statement could be added to this meetings minutes. Acker asked for it to be so.

Chris Vonderweidt addressed the Board regarding his email concerning the paving of the Maily Park parking area. Joy thanked him for raising his concerns and stated that some confusion appeared to stem from the wording of the prior week's memo. She clarified that the Board was not proposing changes to the parking layout but only paving the existing parking area.

Vonderweidt stated that paving the lot was not supported by the community and contended that the project was misrepresented in the grant application. He referenced the March 31, 2025, public hearing noting that concerns were expressed to paving the lot and concerns about paving near the bay. He further stated that he felt public feedback and a consultant study were being disregarded.

Acker asked Briand "Was that grant was written by us or was it written by MDOT? Because I know the question was if we vote to support the grant that MDOT was submitting on our behalf. So .. did we construct the verbiage included in that as a town saying opposite of what was previously noted in public hearing in comment or was that written by MDOT? "

Briand responded that the Town wrote the support letter for the project, MDOT wrote the grant. She went on to say that they had discussed at the meeting that they were not proposing any changes to lower Main Street, or the layout of the parking lot. Due to maintenance issues, they were just asking for it to be paved not for other changes in layout.

Favreau added that the Board had previously voted to support aligning entrances for crosswalks and paving the lot. He stated that the Board had discussed paving for at least six years due to ongoing maintenance costs and that no changes to traffic flow or parking were proposed.

Hodde stated that his understanding from the public meeting was that residents opposed changing the layout and adding raised crosswalks, not paving alone, and felt the Board had listened to public input. Joy noted that the discussion relied on recollection, as no materials were available at the time. Hooper stated that she was new to the Board and apologized that Vonderweidt felt his concerns were not being heard.

Vonderweidt responded that while Public Works' recommendation to pave for maintenance purposes was understandable, it was separate from the concerns raised at the public meeting. He stated that the recollections shared by Favreau and Hodde were not consistent with the meeting summary, which expressed concerns about reduced parking and limiting paving near the bay.

Joy stated that there were differing interpretations of the prior discussion and thanked Vonderweidt for bringing the issue forward. She stated that no changes would be made at this time. Nicole noted that MDOT did not include paving the parking lot in the grant request.

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

## V. Presentations

### A. Lisbon Emergency Medical Services

Chief Amy Cailler presented the Board with the annual report for Lisbon Emergency Medical Services, providing an overview of the organization, its services, goals for the coming year, and grants received during the past year.

Deputy Chief John Cordts reviewed the proposed annual budget, noting that modest increases reflected inflation and would result in an increased cost to Bowdoinham of \$14,454. He discussed the statewide shortage of EMS personnel and reported that LEMS has maintained its full-time staffing levels. Cordts also explained that, to minimize the budget increase, a \$26,000 retirement line item was removed. Acker expressed concern about that

reduction, stating that staff deserve the benefit, and other Board members voiced agreement.

Joy stated that she had heard that Lisbon Emergency Medical Services could benefit from a longer-term contract among the three participating towns—Lisbon, Bowdoin, and Bowdoinham—and indicated that the Town would be interested in exploring that option. Cordts replied that the matter would need to be discussed among the towns and invited the Board to attend the LEMS meeting scheduled for April 9. Several Board members expressed interest in attending and requested that Cordts provide the meeting information to Briand for distribution.

#### B. FY2026-2027 Municipal Budget

Marc Babcock of the Finance Advisory Committee joined the Board to review the proposed budget. Mr. Babcock informed the Board that the proposed budget reflects an overall decrease of \$202,814. While the expense budget increased by \$155,278, this increase is offset by a projected \$358,092 increase in estimated revenue.

Joy expressed concern regarding the proposed funding for the Cemetery, stating that significant work is needed. Favreau added that the Town is losing ground at one of the cemeteries and that \$5,000 would not be sufficient to address the issue. Briand informed the Board that reserves are available to cover additional expenses if necessary and could be used for smaller maintenance needs.

Acker voiced his opposition to the proposed \$75,000 allocation for Legal Services, noting that based on the unused portion of the current year's budget, he felt the increase was unnecessary. Briand explained that the Town currently has four ongoing legal cases, and once those cases proceed to trial, the funds will be needed. Acker stated that he believed the cases were simply awaiting judgment and did not agree with Briand's explanation.

Hodde thanked Briand for providing historical expense data, which he felt demonstrated consistent spending over the last five years. He stated he was comfortable with the proposed figures and complimented staff on their work. Briand responded that departments are careful budget managers and often aim to end the year with modest surpluses that can be placed into reserves for unexpected future expenditures.

Briand explained that over the past three years, the Town has been working to retain employees by adjusting wages to be closer to median levels for their respective positions and responsibilities. The proposed budget includes a 3% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and a 2% merit increase.

The Board discussed proposed funding for Merrymeeting Hall, noting that the Town does not own the facility and that Town Hall space is now available.

During further review of the proposed budget, Acker noted a reduction in funding for Public Works ditching. He stated that since the Town now has the equipment and a significant amount of work remains, the funding reduction should be restored. Acker also expressed opposition to moving toward a year-round transfer station, stating that he believed a twice-yearly collection was more efficient. Other Board members disagreed.

Acker opposed the title Community Services Director, stating that he felt Recreation and Parks Director would be more appropriate. Other Board members disagreed, noting that the position also oversees Age-Friendly initiatives and other community services.

The Board next reviewed Organizational Requests. There were mixed opinions regarding financial support for Kennebec Behavioral Health and Spectrum Generations. Favreau noted that Sweetser provides mental health services in Bowdoinham and expressed concern that Kennebec Behavioral Health is not part of the service district and may be less likely to serve Town residents. He also noted that the request increased from \$100 to \$1,000.

Hodde stated that through Community Connections, they have had negative interactions with Spectrum and that Community Connections has been providing services to Bowdoinham residents that Spectrum would typically provide.

Joy summarized the discussion by stating that Board members held strong but mixed opinions on the requests.

Briand stated that based on the Board's discussion, she understood that the Finance Advisory Committee should re-examine the following areas: Legal Services, Historical Society funding, Public Works ditching and Organizational Requests

## VI. Action Items

### A. Act on Supplemental Assessment #2

**Favreau moved the Board approve FY26 Supplemental #2, as presented; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 5-0.**

### B. Act on Supplemental Assessment # 3

**Favreau moved the Board approve FY26 Supplemental #3, as presented; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 5-0.**

### C. Act on Bucklin Appraisal Proposal

The Town received a proposal from Bucklin Appraisal LLC to appraise the market value of four parcels located on the remaining portion of Hatch Road in Bowdoinham. As part of the discontinuance process the Town must have these properties appraised to bring the road discontinuance to Town Meeting 2027.

**Favreau moved the Board approve the Bucklin Appraisal Proposal for the Hatch Road parcels, as presented, and authorize the Town Manager to execute the agreement; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 5-0.**

### D. Act on Navigational and No-Wake Aids

**Favreau moved the Board approve the placement of the navigational and no wake aids for 2026; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 5-0.**

### E. Act on Personal Property Tax Abatements

**Acker moved the Board approve Personal Property Tax Abatement # 1 through 23, as presented; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 5-0.**

## VII. Town Manager's Report

Town Office – Closures

Friday, April 17th – Attic Clean-Out  
Monday, April 20th – Patriots Day

Browns Point Road Bridge will be closed the week of April 20th - To perform a geotechnical evaluation, DOT has scheduled soil boring with a drilling company. These soil borings require that the bridge be closed to traffic during the duration of the drilling.

The Town submitted CDS applications to both Pingree and King's Office. The Town was encouraged to repackage our BUILD application for the design and engineering of the Merrymeeting Trail, from Gardiner's Waterfront Park to just south of Bowdoinham Riverfront Park for the Congressionally Direct Spending applications; no match is required for these applications.

MDOT has submitted their CDS application to Collin's Office. They removed the paving of Maily Park from the package as paving parks is normally outside of MDOT's scope of work. However, they included the sidewalk to Wallentine Road, the realignment of the Maily Park Entrance, the sidewalk extension to Riverfront Park, the crosswalk between parks and the three gateway treatments; our project and match limit (\$2,500,000 and \$25,000) did not change. We originally included the sidewalk extension to Riverfront Park and crosswalk in our ATPI application package. Unfortunately, MDOT determined that portion of the project would require a 40% match, not the 20% previously discussed, so we removed it from that application and asked MDOT to include it in the CDS application (which if funded would require a 10% match). The ATPI application package is now limited to the crosswalk from Main Street to Lower Main Street, which qualifies for the 10% match.

#### VIII. **Announce Future Select Board Meetings**

- A. April 14, 2026, at 6:30 pm. – Regular Meeting
- B. April 28, 2026, at 6:30 pm. - Regular Meeting

#### IX. **Comments from the Select Board Members**

Acker requested an update from Briand regarding the Pratt Road property owners. Briand reported that all paperwork had been submitted. She also stated that letters had been sent to Blanchard Road residents, and that she has received one response so far.

Hodde informed the Board that he would be on vacation from April 30 through May 22 and asked if the Warrant could be completed before he left.

#### X. **Comments from the Public - None**

#### XI. **Executive Session**

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

Convened 9:00 pm. Adjourned 9:53 pm.

**Acker moved the Board enter Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6) (C) to discuss the acquisition of property interest; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.**

**Acker moved the Board leave executive session; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 5-0.  
No action was taken.**

#### XII. **Adjourn**

Adjournment was at 9:53 p.m.

Select Board  
Town of Bowdoinham, Maine

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Joanne Joy, Chair

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Mark Favreau, Vice Chair

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Jason Hodde

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Allen Acker

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Shelley Hooper

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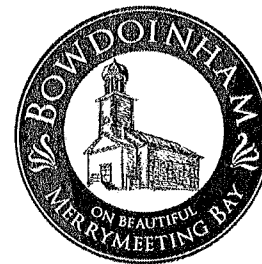
Respectfully Submitted,

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Lisa-Marie Curtis, Administrative Assistant

# TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM

## SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: April 14, 2026

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, Mark Favreau, Jason Hodde, Allen Acker, Shelley Hooper and Nicole Briand, Town Manager.

### II. Amendments to the Agenda

Tabled Riverview Building discussion until next meeting.

### III. Comments from the Public

Joy opened the meeting by thanking attendees for bringing items and issues to the Board's attention. She stated that the Board works to hear all comments and understand community input. She noted that, at times, the Board may have additional information and may act differently than community input might suggest; this does not mean the Board was uninformed or not listening. She added that the Board sometimes must make difficult decisions based on the information they have.

Benjamin Brewer addressed the Board regarding speeding on Bay Road and elsewhere in town. He reported that he created a website ([slowdownbowdoinham.com](http://slowdownbowdoinham.com)) to record vehicle speeds near his home. He stated that he has raised this concern for approximately nine years and has contacted the Sheriff's Office multiple times; he noted that the department cited limited staffing.

Mr. Brewer stated that he believes speeding has become a significant issue in town, that traffic signs are frequently disregarded, and that enforcement is limited. Joy agreed that speeding is a concern and noted that others have raised similar comments. She suggested contacting the Sheriff's Office to inquire about holding a community meeting to discuss the issue and potential options for the Town.

Hooper told Mr. Brewer that she appreciated the data he collected and noticed spikes in criminal speeding during certain times of day. She suggested he share that data with the sheriff's department in hopes that they could have a presence during those times.

### IV. Approval of Consent Calendar

#### A. Meeting Minutes

1. March 24, 2026

#### B. Warrants & Financial Reports

1. Treasurer's Warrant #19
2. March 2026 Financial Reports

#### C. Reports and Communications

1. Sagadahoc Sheriff's March Report
2. Lisbon Emergency's March Report

Favreau moved the Board approve the Consent Calendar, as presented; seconded by Hodde.

Acker requested that the minutes be amended. Disputing his comments on page two, paragraph two. Motion was then amended.

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

## V. Licensing

A. Cannabis Business License – AE, LLC  
Cannabis Business License Application for Medical Cannabis Cultivation  
Applicant: AE, LLC  
Property: 205 Carding Machine Road (Map R06, Lot 040)

**Acker moved the Board find AE, LLC's application for a Cannabis Business License complete; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.**

**Acker moved the Board schedule a public hearing for AE, LLC's application for a Cannabis Business License on April 28, 2026 at 6:30 pm; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 5-0.**

## VI. Action Items

A. Act on FY26-27 Municipal Budget  
The Select Board reviewed the proposed Town Meeting Warrant budget articles. The Board voted on which articles to place on the warrant and whether to recommend those articles.

**Favreau moved the Board approve and recommend the FY2026-2027 municipal budget, as presented; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 5-0.**

Bowdoinham Public Library - \$30,000

**Favreau moved the Board approve and recommend the Town Meeting Warrant Article for Bowdoinham Public Library in the amount of \$30,000; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 5-0.**

Bowdoinham Historical Society - \$4,000

**Favreau moved the Board approve the Town Meeting Warrant Article for Bowdoinham Historical Society in the amount of \$4,000; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-1.** Favreau opposed.

**Favreau moved the Board recommend the Town Meeting Warrant Article for Bowdoinham Historical Society in the amount of \$4,000; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 3-2.** Favreau and Hodde opposed.

Spectrum Generations - \$1,820

**Favreau moved the Board approve the Town Meeting Warrant Article for Spectrum Generations in the amount of \$1,820; seconded by Acker. Vote was 4-1.** Favreau opposed.

**Acker moved the Board recommend the Town Meeting Warrant Article for Spectrum Generations in the amount of \$1,820; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 3-2.** Favreau and Hodde opposed.

The Life Flight Foundation - \$762

**Hooper move the Board approve and recommend the Town Meeting Warrant Article for The Life Flight Foundation in the amount of \$762; seconded by Acker. Vote was 3-2.** Favreau and Hodde opposed.

Kennebec Behavior Health - \$1,000

**Acker moved the Board approve the Town Meeting Warrant Article for Kennebec Behavioral Health in the amount of \$1,000; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-1.** Favreau opposed.

**Acker moved the Board recommend the Town Meeting Warrant Article for Kennebec Behavioral Health in the amount of \$1,000; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 3-2. Favreau and Hodde opposed.**

New Hope for Women - \$280

**Favreau moved the Board approve and recommend the Town Meeting Warrant Article for New Hope for Women in the amount of \$280; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 3-2. Favreau and Hodde opposed.**

Sweetser - \$1,000

**Acker moved the Board approve the Town Meeting Warrant Article for Sweetser in the amount of \$1,000; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 4-1. Favreau opposed**

**Acker moved the Board recommend the Town Meeting Warrant Article for Sweetser in the amount of \$1,000; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 3-2. Favreau and Hodde opposed.**

**B. Act on Land Use Ordinance – Proposed Amendments**

There were four proposed Land Use Ordinance Amendments.

- Address the Requirements of LD 427, “an Act to Regulate Municipal Parking Space Minimums.”
- Waive Permitting Fees on Town Owned Projects
- Address the Requirements of LD1829, “An Act to Build Housing for Maine Families and Attract Workers to Maine Business by Amending the Laws Governing Housing Density.”
- An Ordinance to enact housekeeping amendments to the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance

Due to ongoing changes in legislation, the Planning Board asked the Select Board to remove changes regarding LD1829.

**Acker moved the Board approve and recommend “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to LD427 an Act to Regulate Municipal Parking Space Minimums.” be placed on the June 10, 2026 Town Meeting Warrant; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 5-0.**

**Acker moved the Board approve and recommend “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Waive Permitting Fees on Town Owned Projects” be placed on the June 10, 2026 Town Meeting Warrant; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 5-0.**

**Acker moved the Board approve and recommend “An Ordinance to enact housekeeping amendments to the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance” be placed on the June 10, 2026 Town Meeting Warrant; seconded by Hodde. After discussing attorney recommendations new motion was made.**

**Favreau moved the Board approve and recommend “An Ordinance to enact housekeeping amendments to the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance” as amended by attorney, be placed on the June 10, 2026 Town Meeting Warrant; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 3-1-1. Hodde abstained due to his help with housekeeping amendments. Acker opposed.**

**C. Act on Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Application**

**Hodde moved the Board approve and recommend the following question for the June 10, 2026 Town Meeting Warrant: “To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer to apply, on behalf of the Town, for federal financing assistance under the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, Public Law 88-578 for the development of Waterfront and Recreation Improvements; authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into the Land and Water**

**Conservation Fund Project Agreement with the State subsequent to federal approval of the project; further authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate up to \$805,000 from the CMP/Riverfront TIF Fund and Rideout Memorial Reserve Fund for all or part of the local share of the project cost; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.**

**D. Act on Pratt Road Acceptance Warrant Article**

**Favreau moved the Board approve the following question for the June 10, 2026 Town Meeting Warrant: Shall the Town vote to accept a section of Pratt Road beginning at the end of the public portion of Pratt Road, which public portion begins at Post Road and ends at a point adjacent to the northern boundary of Map R03, Lot 52, and ending at the northern edge of a turnaround installed in the summer of 2014 on the eastern side of said Pratt Road and measuring approximately 24 feet in width and approximately 50 feet in length which is approximately +/- 0.19 miles from the terminus of said public portion of Pratt Road. The +/- 0.19-mile section of Pratt Road proposed to be accepted is depicted on Exhibit A attached hereto; seconded by Acker. Vote was 4-1. Favreau opposed.**

**Acker moved the Board recommend the following question for the June 10, 2026 Town Meeting Warrant: Shall the Town vote to accept a section of Pratt Road beginning at the end of the public portion of Pratt Road, which public portion begins at Post Road and ends at a point adjacent to the northern boundary of Map R03, Lot 52, and ending at the northern edge of a turnaround installed in the summer of 2014 on the eastern side of said Pratt Road and measuring approximately 24 feet in width and approximately 50 feet in length which is approximately +/- 0.19 miles from the terminus of said public portion of Pratt Road. The +/- 0.19-mile section of Pratt Road proposed to be accepted is depicted on Exhibit A attached hereto; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 2-2-1. Favreau and Joy opposed. Acker and Hooper for. Hodde abstained.**

**E. Act on Blanchard Road Warrant Article**

**Acker moved the Board approve placing the following article on the June 10<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting Warrant: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to conduct winter maintenance on Blanchard Road for the 2026-2027 winter season; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 4-0-1. Hooper abstained.**

**Acker moved the Board recommend the following article on the June 10<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting Warrant: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to conduct winter maintenance on Blanchard Road for the 2026-2027 winter season? seconded by Favreau. Vote was 4-0-1. Hooper abstained.**

**F. Act on Town Meeting Warrant Articles and Recommendations**

**Acker moved the Board approve and recommend the following question for the June 10, 2026 Town Meeting Warrant: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$200,000 from the UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE for the Public Works Reserve; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.**

**Favreau moved the Board approve and recommend the Business Articles to pass; seconded by Acker. Vote was 5-0.**

**G. Act on Waterfront Park Change Order**

The Town received federal approval of our Land and Water Conservation Grant Amendment. The two remaining change orders to be approved, now that funding has been approved is:

1. Paving of the pathways in the park. The pathways were constructed with the proper base and do not need to be reconstructed to be paved, however they will need to be shimmed (re-graded).

2. Streetlights. Due to budget constraints our original change order for streetlights was for all the site work and bases and only four lights. This amendment allows us to complete all the streetlights in the park (so that they all match).

The Board felt they needed more information on the streetlights before approving that portion of the change order six. They did approve paving change order five.

**Acker moved the Board approve Change Order #5 for Waterfront Improvements Phase 2, Contract No. 2; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.**

H. Act on Waterfront Water Service

The Town is proposing to complete the water service for the new park. This project proposes to install a new 2" water line in place of our existing ¾" water line from the water main to the yellow building, install a 2" water meter and complete internal plumbing so the park service is a 2" water line from the new meter and the building would continue to be served by a ¾" line.

**Hodde moved the Board approve expending up to \$ 15,000 from the CMP TIF to complete the installation of the water service for Bowdoinham Riverfront Park; seconded by Favreau. After discussion it was decided to table this item. No vote was taken.**

I. Act on Summer Concert Series

**Acker moved the Board approve the Summer Concert Series and authorize the Town Manager to contract with Watersong Music; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.**

J. Act on Town Hall Committee Bylaws

Town Hall Committee asked the Board to remove '250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary' from the committee's name and update wording now that the Town Hall has been restored.

**Acker moved the Board approved the Town Hall Committee Bylaws, as presented; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 5-0.**

K. Act on Planning Board Appointment Corrections

The Planning Board appointments are five-year terms; the corrected appointments are to accurately reflect the members' proper term lengths.

**Acker moved the Board approve the corrected Planning Board appointments for R. Reeve Wood, Chris Vonderweidt, Nathan Drummond, and Justin Schlawin, as presented; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.**

L. Act on Municipal Quitclaim Deed

**Hodde moved the Board approve the municipal quitclaim deed for property Tax Map R12, Lot 039, as presented; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.**

M. Act on Warrant and Notice of Election – MSAD 75 & Region 10

**Hooper moved the Board approve the Warrant and Notice of Election Calling both Technical Education Region 10 and MSAD 75; seconded by Favreau. Vote is 5-0**

N. Act on MDOT Contractor – Overweight Load Limits Permit

The MDOT asks for construction overload permits when they are placing construction projects out to bid. This permit would allow overweight construction vehicles to travel on town roads. The project area is Route 125 between Route 201 and Route 138, both of which are State Roadways.

**Hodde moved the Board approve the overweight load limit agreement for Project No. 027666.00; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.**

O. Act on MaineDOT Infrastructure Adaption Fund Grant Application

The Town is requesting authorization to apply for a MaineDOT Infrastructure Adaptation Fund grant for the design and replacement of the Stone Bridge culvert on Ridge Road. The existing culvert is over 70 years old and has experienced recurring erosion along the roadway during heavy rain events. The grant requires a 5% local match; a \$50,000 match would leverage up to \$1,000,000 in grant funding.

**Hodde moved the Board authorize submission of MaineDOT Infrastructure Adaption Fund Grant Application and approve the use of the Public Works Reserve to meet the required local match, up to \$50,000; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 5-0.**

P. Act on Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program Award Acceptance

Bowdoinham was selected for the Rural Tribal Grant for the planning and final engineering of the Merrymeeting Trail from Bowdoinham Waterfront to Tulip Street in Richmond!

**Hooper moved the Board accept the Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program Award and authorize the Town Manager to sign the contract; seconded by Hodde. Vote was 5-0.**

Q. Act on Village Cemetery Work

The Town is requesting up to \$5,000 from the Maxwell Trust to complete grading work at Village Cemetery to reduce erosion along the back of the cemetery.

**Acker moved the Board up to \$5,000 from the Maxwell Trust for the Village Cemetery project; seconded by Hooper. Vote was 5-0.**

## VII. Discussion Items

A. Riverview House Reports

Tabled until next meeting.

B. Personnel Policy – Proposed Amendments

Proposed changes addressed benefits for part-time employees and guidelines for four-day work week.

**Acker moved the Board approve the Personnel Policy amendments as proposed; seconded by Favreau. Vote was 5-0.**

## VIII. Town Manager's Report

Town Office – Closures

Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – Attic Clean-Out

Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> – Patriots Day

Browns Point Road Bridge will be closed the week of April 20<sup>th</sup> to perform a geotechnical evaluation, which consist of soil borings with a drilling company. These soil borings require that the bridge be closed to traffic during the duration of the drilling.

National Work Zone Awareness Week is next week, from April 20<sup>th</sup> to April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Go Orange Day: Please encourage your teams to wear orange and use the hashtag #Orange4Safety on social media.

Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Social Media Storm: Please share your own reasons for taking the pledge and introduce your social media audience to the people on your teams who work just feet from moving traffic.

Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> – Moment of Silence: Take a moment to reflect and pay tribute to those workers who have been killed in work zone incidents.

This year's Trek Across Main will be coming through Bowdoinham on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, please see the attached letter. The Town will be sharing their event information.

Restrooms have been fixed and will be opened once Maily Park is ready for the season.

The Center Street Retaining is scheduled to be replaced this week as soon as our contractor CMP approval to start the work.

MDOT is currently working on the Town's speed limit requests, additional information will be provided once they complete their process.

The Town is expected to go out to bid for Back Hill Road and Spring Street reconstruction at the beginning of May. Funding for this project will be contingent on Town Meeting budget approval.

The Town will be sending out our fuel bids after we have the results of GPCOG's bid process. They have postponed their bid opening until May 22<sup>nd</sup> for transportation fuels and June 15<sup>th</sup> for heating fuels due to recent events in the Middle East and price uncertainty in global oil markets.

After the report members of the Board had a few comments:

Favreau asked Briand which roads the Town had requested that MDOT review for speed-limit changes. Briand said she would send the letter they had submitted as a refresher for the board.

Acker asked if the speed sign the Town owned recorded speeds. Briand said it did. He suggested deploying the Town's speed sign and comparing its data with Mr. Brewer's data.

Acker then stated his frustration with the Town's attorneys stating that CEO has been waiting for three months for a letter that he still does not have. Briand said the attorney previously handling the matter is no longer with the firm and that a new attorney is reviewing it.

**IX. Announce Future Select Board Meetings**

- A. April 28, 2026, at 6:30 pm – Regular Meeting
- B. May 12, 2026, at 6:30 pm - Regular Meeting
- C. May 26, 2026, at 6:30 pm - Regular Meeting

**X. Select Board Member's Comments and Request**

Hodde informed the Board that last Thursday the Sagadahoc Budget Advisory Committee sent an estimated budget to the County Commissioners with a 9.9% increase. The contributing factors were cost of living increases for non-contracted staff and mandated wage increases for contracted staff, increases in health insurance, faciality maintenance and IT upgrades. A public hearing for the County Budget is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

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

**XII. Adjourn**

Adjournment was at 8:35 p.m.

Select Board  
Town of Bowdoinham, Maine

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Joanne Joy, Chair

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Mark Favreau, Vice Chair

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Jason Hodde

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Allen Acker

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Shelley Hooper

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Respectfully Submitted,

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Lisa-Marie Curtis, Administrative Assistant