

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM
TOWN MEETING WARRANT MINUTES
June 10, 2026**

**Sagadahoc, ss
State of Maine**

To: Preston Hughes, a resident of the Town of Bowdoinham, in said County of Sagadahoc, State of Maine.

GREETINGS: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Bowdoinham, in said County and State, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at **Bowdoinham Community School on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 6:00pm**, then and there to act on Articles 1 through 46 as set out below.

ARTICLE 1: To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Tyler Washburn was sworn in as Moderator.

ORDINANCES

ARTICLE 2: Shall an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Address the Requirements of LD 427, an Act to Regulate Municipal Parking Space Minimums." be enacted?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board recommends this article to pass, 5-0.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 3: Shall an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Waive Permitting Fees on Town Owned Projects" be enacted?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board recommends this article to pass, 5-0.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 4: Shall an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to enact housekeeping amendments to the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance" be enacted?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board recommends this article to pass, 3-1-1.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT & FUND BALANCE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 5: 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.

Explanation: The March 13, 1978 Annual Town Meeting approved Article 46, which discontinued the portion of Dingley Road (now known as Pratt Road) from the northern boundary of Map R03, Lot 52 to the southern boundary Map R04, Lot 017). Eight parcels abut an approximate 0.19-mile previously discontinued section of (now) Pratt Road that is located north of Map R03, Lot 52. The Town has maintained this section of road since 2014. The portion of Pratt Road proposed for acceptance is the same portion of said road approved for winter maintenance pursuant to Article 3 of the Town Meeting Warrant dated November 4, 2025. All abutting property owners have made the written offer required under Maine statute (23 M.R.S. § 3025) stating that they are voluntarily transferring any interest they have in the described portion of Pratt Road without any claim for damages.

If the Town accepts this section of Pratt Road, then the Town will be responsible for all road maintenance and any future road upgrades.

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board’s vote to recommend this article to pass was 2-2-1.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$200,000 from the UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE for the Public Works Reserve?

Explanation: The \$200,000 is recommended from the Undesignated Fund for the Public Works Reserve for the following:

- The replacement of the Dodge RAM Pick-up Truck - We’ve saved \$25,000 in the Public Works reserve for the replacement of this truck.
- The Public Works reserve has paid \$220,053.35 in unplanned expenses to: 1) repair the roof and replace the insulation at the public works building and 2) rebuild the retaining walls along the sidewalks on Center Street and Ridge Road.

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$650,000, as itemized below, for the CAPITAL RESERVE Budget?

Capital Improvements:	\$2,000
Town Hall & Town Office:	\$14,000
Cemetery Maintenance:	\$20,000
Solid Waste & Recycling:	\$10,000
Public Works Reserve:	\$525,000
Fire Reserve:	\$77,000
Electronic Equipment Reserve	\$2,000
Total	\$650,000

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 8: 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.”

Explanation: The Town of Bowdoinham is seeking federal grant funding to improve both Maily Waterfront and Bowdoinham Riverfront Parks. At Bowdoinham Riverfront Park, the project would include a pavilion with solar power, a natural play area, a skating rink, public restrooms, and a new septic system. At Maily Waterfront Park, improvements would include paving the parking lot and realigning the entrance to the new park. The project also includes a pedestrian connection between the parks and shared utility infrastructure for the parks.

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends this article to pass, 5-0.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

EXPENSE BUDGET ARTICLES

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$852,698 for the ADMINISTRATION Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$14,500 for the GENERAL SERVICES Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$696,656 for the DEBT SERVICES Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$436,387 for the FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$132,850 for the TOWN FACILITIES MAINTENANCE Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$37,713 for the ANIMAL CONTROL AND HARBOR MASTER Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$973,410 for the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$239,073 for the SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING DEPARTMENT Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$180,774 for the COMMUNITY SERVICES Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$158,758 for the PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND CODE ENFORCEMENT Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION REQUESTS

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$30,000 for Bowdoinham Public Library?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$4,000 for Bowdoinham Historical Society?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (3-2) and Finance Advisory Committee (4-2) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to amend the total to \$0. The amendment was not adopted.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$1,820 for Spectrum Generations?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (3-2) and Finance Advisory Committee (5-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to amend the total to \$0. The amendment was not adopted.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$762 for The Life Flight Foundation?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (3-2) and Finance Advisory Committee (5-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 for Kennebec Behavioral Health?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (3-2) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$280 for New Hope for Women?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (3-2) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 for Sweetser?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (3-2) and Finance Advisory Committee (5-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

REVENUE BUDGET ARTICLE

ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town vote appropriate the sum of \$1,276,420 from the ESTIMATED REVENUES ACCOUNTS (Non-Property Tax Revenues) to be applied to reduce the 2026 tax commitment?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board (5-0) and Finance Advisory Committee (6-0) recommend this article to pass.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

BUSINESS ARTICLES

ARTICLE 27: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to conduct winter maintenance on Blanchard Road for the 2026-2027 winter season?

Explanation: At March 13, 1978 Annual Town Meeting, Article 48 discontinued the portion of road (previously known as Hathaway Cross Road, currently known as Blanchard Road), which goes westerly from Denham Stream to the Bowdoin town line and is the southern boundary of property owned by Vyron N. and Carol Hathway in 1978; a public easement remains. Five residents live on this section of (now) Blanchard Road, which connect Post Road to Rt 201 in Bowdoin with Blanchard Cross Road. The Town has been maintaining this section of road.

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends this article to pass, 4-0-1.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this article. Article was adopted.

The Select Board recommends Business Articles 28-43 to pass, 5-0.

It was moved and seconded to group articles 28-43 in a single vote. Articles were adopted.

ARTICLE 28: Shall the Town vote to fix the second day of November 2026 and the third day of May 2027 when all 2026 real estate and personal property taxes shall be due and payable in semi-annual installments and to instruct the Tax Collector to charge interest at 7.00% per annum on all taxes unpaid after said date(s)?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town vote to establish the interest rate of 3.00% per year on the amount of overpayment to be paid to a taxpayer who is determined to have paid an amount of real estate or personal property taxes in excess of amount finally assessed pursuant to 36 M.R.S. §506-A?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 30: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept tax payments prior to the commitment of taxes?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 31: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Tax Collector to offer a 2026 Tax Club Plan to taxpayers who enroll no later than July 31, 2026, who pay the total amount of 2026 taxes by monthly payments from September 2026 to June 30, 2027, who abide by the requirements of said plan; who shall receive from the Town, in return for such payments, full credit for such taxes paid without incurring any charge of interest?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 32: Shall the Town vote to authorize the payment of any overdrafts that may occur in the Town's FY 2026-2027 budget to be paid out of the undesignated fund balance?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 33: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate funds from various reserve funds, as they deem necessary, in a manner that is consistent with the purposes for which said funds were established?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 34: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to transfer unexpended funds remaining in department expense accounts, which are appropriated by the town meeting for FY26-27 but which are not expended in FY26-27, to related reserve accounts?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 35: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to accept on behalf of the Town, monetary gifts, and donated equipment and vehicles, and to appropriate said gifts to supplement the accounts and departments as specified by the benefactor?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 36: Shall the Town vote to authorize the following actions on behalf of the town: (1) to authorize the Select Board to rent, lease, sell, or otherwise dispose of any real estate acquired by the town for non-payment of taxes thereon on such terms as they deem advisable and execute Municipal Quit Claim deeds for same; (2) to authorize the Select Board to keep any real estate acquired for non-payment of taxes or portion thereof for the use of the town when they deem it to be in the town's best interests; and (3) to authorize the Select Board to rent or lease town-owned real estate that was not acquired for non-payment of taxes when they deem it to be in the town's best interest and on such terms as they deem advisable?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 37: Shall the Town vote to authorize the municipal Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of a tax lien mortgage by recording a Waiver of Foreclosure at the Registry of Deeds in which the Tax Lien Certificate is recorded, prior to the right of redemption expiring, pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 944?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 38: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer, on behalf of the Town to sell or dispose of obsolete Town equipment, material, and commodities on such terms as they deem proper and place money from said sales into related reserve account, if the Board deems appropriate?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 39: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Treasurer to accept any donations, gifts or grants of money for the Heating Assistance Program reserve account and to expend available funds from the account for the designated purpose?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 40: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to enter into multi-year contracts necessary to provide services to the Town?

Explanation: Services for the town include but are not limited to ambulance service, banking, road maintenance, snow removal, curbside recycling and trash disposal.

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 41: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to accept and expend Community Development Block Grant Funds and other federal, state or private grants on behalf of the Town?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 42: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to periodically set fees for returned checks, copies of Town ordinances and other documents, and notary services?

Article was adopted.

ARTICLE 43: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to close any road or roads or portions thereof for winter maintenance and to annul, alter, or modify such decisions, pursuant to 23 M.R.S. §2953, and that such orders made by the Select Board shall be a final determination?

Article was adopted.

"Attest"



Tina Magno, Town Clerk

There were 154 registered voters in attendance.